

Enemies of Education.

Mr. A. L. Gordon Mackay, assistant lecturer on economics, spoke on "Fear and Repression as Enemies of Education," in which his purpose was to show that fear and repression retarded the development of educational work among both the teaching and administrative staffs of the various educational systems, particularly owing to bureaucratic methods resting on a basis of financial stringency. They had it first of all in the unsympathetic methods of the central office towards the teaching staff spread throughout the country, with which was coupled a whole series of petty economies both irksome and unnecessary. There was also the matter of low salaries paid to men for doing the highest work which the Creator had given to man, and on top of this, in the interests of discipline and good government, they had a system of restraint which muzzled the teachers with regard to their public utterances. Further, there was an inspectional system, which, though good in its way and necessary for efficiency, did not prevent the inspector from being a bloodhound, whereas his true function was that of a watchdog, or a guide, philosopher, and friend to the teachers. It was also a regrettable fact that teachers were allowed to grow old in the service of the State to such an extent that they got out of touch with the younger members of the teaching profession, and with the children entrusted to their care. This, in the main, was due to the fact that a system of low salaries and insufficient superannuation had prevented them from putting by enough to retire at a fit and proper age. Then there was the incubus of routine, and finally an organised system of pedantry, of unnecessary control and supervision, of a lack of faith and trust in the men who had been chosen to do the educational work of the State. If only some headmasters would realise that the true function of a headmaster was to co-ordinate the work of his staff and to act as their chairman and adviser, there would be less silent revolt against the domination of men with strong personalities. There were many exceptions to what he had said, and his strictures did not apply to many schools and to quite a lot of headmasters and inspectors. Defects of compulsion by fear and repression were due, not to the innate weakness of administrators or teachers, but rather to the fact that they were part of a grinding machine, whose driving power got its "punch" from the existing financial stringency. (Applause).

THE GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.

FORMATION OF A CLUB.

The third annual meeting of the Graduates' Association of the University of Adelaide was held at the Prince of Wales Theatre, University, on Thursday evening. Professor Brailsford Robertson presided over a fair attendance. The Vice-Chancellor (Professor Mitchell) was present.

The president reported on the events of the year in which the association had been interested. The annual luncheon in the Botanic Park on Commemoration Day had been a success. They hoped the association would have an increasingly good effect in the university. They had endeavored to discover what site was available for the union building, but had been unable to obtain information. They had sent letters to 685 graduates of the university, asking them if they were prepared to take up membership and debentures in a University Residential Club, and only 124 had replied. He did not think it was courteous on the part of the balance. Of those who replied, 82 answered in the affirmative, and about half were prepared to take up debentures. A meeting had been called, and a committee formed, which had been instructed to draw up a constitution and obtain all information with respect to the inauguration and conduct of a club. That committee would report to another general meeting. They believed the club would be successfully launched, and would stand upon its own feet. He mentioned that he had been president for three years, and felt that it was necessary for him to resign. He thought it would be wise to have a president who was not a member of the university staff, so that they could more easily bring about a fusion of the university and the community generally.

Mr. F. W. Eardley presented the financial report, which showed that there was a credit of £25 on the year, and a £285 surplus on the three years' operations. There were 244 members, of whom 37 were life members.

Officers elected:—Patron, Sir George Murray; president, Professor T. Brailsford Robertson; vice-president, Mr. L. K. Ward; treasurer, Mr. F. W. Eardley; committee, Miss M. L. Wait, Dr. Helen Mayo, Professor E. Harold Davies, and Messrs. D. W. Hollidge, C. T. Madigan, S. H. Skipper, and F. C. Cowell. Professor Robertson accepted the presidency on condition that he would be allowed to retire if pressure of work made it imperative for him to do so.

Measuring the Emotions.

Professor J. McKellar Stewart delivered an interesting lecture on "Some recent developments in psychology."

The lecturer said in the minds of most people advance in psychology was connected with the terms psycho-analysis, suggestion, and auto-suggestion, and the words "complex," "repression," and "unconscious" were frequently heard. He did not intend to deal with the psychological facts that might be behind those words, but rather with some of the psychological work that was being carried on more quietly, and which did not appeal so strongly to the popular mind. He regarded that work as of extreme importance, not only in the interests of traditional psychological theory, but also as necessary if order was to be introduced into the writer of fact, and theory which was beginning to pass under the name of the new psychology. It was safe to say that pathological conditions of mind with which the "new psychology" was mainly concerned, could be rightly understood only when they were viewed in the light of what was known of the normal functioning of the mind. He would deal particularly with some recent developments in the psychology of the emotions. In tracing the main stages in the development of the pathological theory of the emotions he mentioned that in James' well known theory the emotions were held to be identical with certain organic sensations. At a later date MacDougall connected the emotions with the operation of instincts defining the emotion as the effective, or feeling, aspect of the operation of the principal instincts, and more recently still Shand had worked out in great detail the theory that the emotions were the root forces of character. They were not merely feelings, but also impulses, and growth in character was conditioned by the organisation of those impulsive systems into harmonious and inclusive systems. But with the development of theory in those directions the presence in emotional experience of organic sensations upon which James laid stress, and probably

over-emphasised, was still recognised. In the psychological laboratories of Great Britain a method had been devised for the measurement of those organic sensations which it might be said gave the emotions their effective tone. It had been found that in all emotional experience certain functional changes took place in the skin. The precise nature of those changes had not yet been ascertained, but it was known that they included a polarisation effect in the skin. An electrical apparatus had been devised by means of which those skin changes could be measured. The subject experimented upon had a pair of electrodes placed in contact with his hand. Connection was established with a galvanometer, which was connected with a lamp that threw a spot of light on a graduated celluloid scale. The intensity of organic change in the skin of the hand, as it increased or diminished, caused a deflection in the spot of light. It was found that conversation with the subject produced a distinct emotional significance, and brought about a decided galvanometer deflection, the amount of the deflection being the measure of the intensity of the affective tone.

The lecturer was cordially thanked for his address.

Drs. H. M. Bourke and F. W. Hoopmann have been appointed resident medical officers of the Children's Hospital, in succession to Drs. Jones and Tomkin, who retire at the end of this month.

Methods of Control.

Most of the infection of the cities from the stables and garbage tips, tinues Professor Johnston. The fly would breed in almost any kind of fermenting matter. When they visited and fed upon this stuff, and then crawled over food, was it any wonder that there were human ailments. Flies also bred a great deal in fruit and vegetables, but they were species other than the house fly. Dry manure was not liked by flies—they mostly frequented the fresh matter. There should not be rubbish dumps near cities, unless so treated that they would not attract flies. Professor Johnston referred in detail to the stages of life of the fly. In speaking of the methods of controlling the insects, he emphasized the necessity to provide screens around the houses. It was also essential that screens should be to cover food, especially milk, for commodity readily attracted flies. For lin solution was also most useful as a means of their eradication. The way put the flies under control was to the breeding places; consequently had to take great care where refuse all kinds, especially fresh stable manure was concerned. The outhouses also also be properly screened. Other methods of control included the encouragement insectivorous birds. There were in Queensland some wasplike creatures, and similar species existed in Adelaide. Unfortunately, however, they were not sufficient common to be of any real use. There were also certain beetles, which in the larval stage, fed upon fly grubs. The last point to consider was publicity. "Make people hate the flies," concluded Professor Johnston, "for then strength will be given to the campaign."

Professor Johnston was heartily thanked for his address.

THE DANGER OF FLIES.

AN INSTRUCTIVE ADDRESS.

An interesting and instructive address was given by Professor Harvey Johnston at the monthly meeting of the Public Health Association on Thursday night on the subject of "the control of insects that spread disease." The meeting was held at the Lister Hall, Hindmarsh square, Adelaide, and Dr. Gertrude Halley presided over the gathering.

Work of Investigation.

Professor Johnston, in dealing with the eradication of flies, said he had ascertained that the insects were attacked by some species of wasps. That fact had been made use of in the campaign for the extermination of the fly which infested sheep. People spoke carelessly about flies, yet, probably, not one person in Adelaide could say how long it took the parasites to pass through the stages of their lives. There was only one statement published on that subject in Victoria, and the facts were ascertained casually by an investigator. Nothing was made public as a result of the research in Western Australia. In New South Wales one man wrote a paper, which only gave extra-Australian facts. He (the speaker) had hatched some flies in a laboratory, and that was the only published fact ascertained in that State. He had made closer observations in Queensland, and they constituted the only detailed public information in Australia. He and his fellow-investigators had followed up their work with regard to the blowfly, which was the only insect of which they knew much from observation. They did not know how the house fly, the commonest in Australia, bred, or where it had its breeding place. They had not known what its grub looked like until the fact was made known in Queensland. A similar thing occurred in America.

"Fifth Flies."

They must be concerned about the fact that they had a house fly in Australia, and should know something about its life, went on the speaker. Every one should get into the habit of calling those insects fifth flies, for they bred in nothing else but filth. The house fly was not the only species in the house, but it was the one they were most concerned about. Flies bred principally in horse manure, and the control of that matter meant the control of the house fly. It could be distinguished from other species, which had their wings spread at a great angle, and had veins to the end of their bodies. The fly did not wait a week to breed—it bred all the time; and experiments had shown that its eggs hatched 100 per cent. The negligent householder should be reminded of the dangers which existed regarding the spread of flies. Cow manure was not so great a breeding place for the house fly—it was more so for the black fly.

THE FLY MENACE.

At a meeting of the Public Health Association, in the Lister Hall on Wednesday evening, a report supplied to the Adelaide City Council on measures taken to eradicate mosquitoes was to have been read. It was, however, postponed owing to the illness of Mr. McEwin. A lecture on "The control of insects that spread disease" was delivered by Professor Harvey Johnston (professor of zoology, the University of Adelaide). Dr. Gertrude Halley occupied the chair.

Professor Johnston, who dealt with the fly, stated that work among mosquitoes was certainly interesting, and he had seen something of their destruction in Panama before the construction of the canal. He had slides illustrating the subject, and would show them on some other occasion. He had found that flies were the necessary transmitting agents of some parasites which were among his hobbies. He had ascertained that flies were attacked by certain species of wasps, which fact was made use of in the campaign for the extermination of the mass of the infested sheep. People talked glibly about flies, yet probably not one person in Adelaide could tell how long it took for them to pass through their life stages. There was only one statement published on that subject in Victoria, and the fact contained in it were ascertained quite casually by an investigator. There was nothing made public as a result of research in Western Australia. In New South Wales one gentleman wrote a paper which gave only extra-Australian facts. He (Professor Johnston) had hatched some flies in a laboratory, and that was the only published fact ascertained in that State. He had made more detailed observations in Queensland, and they formed the only detailed public information in Australia. He was ashamed that the known facts were so few. He and his fellow investigators followed up their work on the blowfly, and that was the only fly of which they knew much from observation.

If he put some fly larvae on the table he wondered how many of his audience could pick out that of the common house fly? He himself could not do it a few years ago. It they picked up the larvae of any fly and mixed it with those of other species only a specialist could elect it again, and then only with the aid of a book. They did not know how the housefly, the most common insect in Australia, bred, or where it had its breeding place. They did not know what its grub looked like until those facts were ascertained in Queensland. The same thing happened in America. When Johnston began his work on the fly in America he searched through the

All graduates are invited to the third annual meeting of the Graduates' Association, to be held at the University this evening. After the reading of reports and election of officers, Professor J. McKellar Stewart will speak on "Some recent developments in psychology."

MEDICAL COURSE.

A LENGTHENING RECOMMENDED.

SYDNEY, July 4.

The senate of the University of Sydney has decided, in view of the regulations of the General Council of Medical Registration:—1. That the medical course should be lengthened by one year. 2. That the first year examination candidates should produce evidence that they have passed in physics and chemistry, either for the intermediate leaving certificate, or the matriculation examinations test instituted at the leaving certificate examination, or the examination held concurrently with the matriculation examination, and equivalent to the standard required by matriculation candidates; or, finally, that they have passed the examination at the end of the trinity term of the first year, equivalent to the standard of the pre-registration examination in Great Britain.

It is reported that Professor Wood Jones of the University, will, at no distant date, resign his present position and return to England, where it is probable he will receive a very important appointment. Since the professor has been in Adelaide, the University of Sydney, has tried to secure his services.