

Nov. 19. 11. 55

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE.

A meeting of the Senate of the University of Adelaide was held on Wednesday. The conditions governing the Alexander Clark Memorial prize were amended by the repealing of clause 7, and the substitution of a provision that if a scholar did not elect to take the diploma course he should be required to pass an examination in his principal subject at the end of the first year of his course.

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OPERATIONS ON CHILDREN.

In the House of Assembly on Wednesday the Leader of the Opposition (Sir Henry Barwell) referred to the remarks made by Dr. Swift at the annual meeting of the Adelaide Children's Hospital on Tuesday in the course of which he said the work of the outpatients' department had increased lately owing to the number of children sent there by the Education Department.

Nov. 17. 11. 55

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RHODES SCHOLAR.

Although Victoria and Western Australia have selected their Rhodes scholar for 1925, no announcement regarding the successful candidate in this State will be made until after the results of the examinations now being held are known.

NEWS. 12. 11. 55

Professor F. Wood-Jones, of the Adelaide University, has been appointed an honorary commissioner by the Government to enquire into and report upon the methods of conducting fauna reserves and the marketing of their products in Great Britain and Europe.

REG. 13. 11. 55

DAME CLARA BUTT ENTERTAINED.

Dr. and Mrs. A. E. V. Richardson are entertaining Dame Clara Butt, Mr. Kennerley Rumford, and party at Urbrac on Sunday afternoon. On four previous occasions Mrs. Richardson has been one of the hostesses associated with others in entertaining Dame Clara and Mr. Rumford, notably at the Austral Salon receptions in Melbourne.

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REG. 18. 11. 55

Professor W. A. Laver (Director of the Melbourne University Conservatorium), who has been in Adelaide conducting the annual music examination for degrees and diplomas, left for Melbourne by the express on Tuesday evening. He stated that the standard of the candidates this year was very commendable, and about the highest he had observed as examiner. The talent was really excellent.

REG. 13. 11. 55

At a meeting of the Medical Board on Thursday, the following were registered as legally qualified medical practitioners of South Australia:—E. W. Rivett, M.B. (Sydney, 1920), Ch.M. (Sydney, 1921); W. J. R. Mabin, M.B., B.S. (Melbourne, 1925); and J. E. Dunn, M.B., B.S. (Melbourne, 1924). The additional qualification of F.R.C.S., Edin. (1925), was added to the name of Dr. A. T. B. Jones.

REG. 10. 11. 55

Attention is directed to a free public lecture, under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association, to be delivered in the Prince of Wales Theatre, University, to-night, when Mr. E. G. Biaggini, B.A., will speak on "The mentality of Europe; the need for a reformed statesmanship."

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A GREAT BOTANIST.

Tribute to Mr. J. H. Maiden.

By Professor T. G. B. Osborn, D.Sc., President of the Royal Society of South Australia.

Through the death of Mr. J. H. Maiden, I.S.O., F.R.S., at Turrumurra, New South Wales, on Monday last, Australia loses one of her most distinguished men of science and the world at large a systematic botanist, whose knowledge of the Australian flora was unrivalled.

Joseph Henry Maiden was born at St. John's Wood, London, in 1859. He was educated at the City of London School. At the early age of 22 he came to Sydney as the first director of the Sydney Technological Museum. The fine collection of economic plants that this institution contains owes its genesis to his indefatigable industry.

An Outstanding Figure.

The history of Maiden's activities from the Sydney Garden is for many years the history of botany in New South Wales almost, in deed, in the continent itself. At that time there was no chair of botany in any Australian University, and after the deaths of von Mueller in 1896 and Tate in 1901, Maiden was for many years the outstanding figure in Australian botanical science.

Valuable Publications.

It would be impossible to mention in this article the many contributions to botanical literature made by Maiden during his active work at the garden. Two are outstanding because of their size, and neither of them, alas, is completed at the time of his death. They are the "Forest Flora of New South Wales" and the

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"Critical Revision of the Genus Eucalyptus." The former contains descriptions of and notes on the occurrence and uses of the various trees and shrubs in the New South Wales forests. The purpose of the latter is explained in its title. The eucalyptus, which might well be called Australia's national tree, are not only very numerous in species, but the species are extraordinarily difficult to define. None but a specialist in the group is qualified to name some of the more critical species.

Numerous Activities.

It is surprising that one engaged in so much administrative and research work could find time for the numerous other activities to which Maiden gave of his best. For 21 years he was hon. secretary of the Royal Society of New South Wales, afterwards being its President. In 1911 he became permanent hon. secretary of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, an office held for 10 years.

The history of botanical science in Australia always made a strong appeal to him, and no one had a better knowledge of the life and doings of the various botanists and collectors who have worked upon her unique flora. This historical bent partly explains the book he published in 1909 on "Sir Joseph Banks—The Father of Australia," a book which is astonishing for the amount of detailed reference to original sources that it contains.

The universities of Australia do not grant honorary degrees, so Maiden could not receive academic distinction. In 1916, however, there was conferred on him the honour most highly valued by all British men of science, that of election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of London. In the same year his services to the State were recognised by his admission to the Imperial Service Order.

A Charming Personality.

In physique Maiden was a slight man; his health was far from robust; in fact, for many years past he was a crippled invalid. But though the physical strength was often lacking the spirit was indomitable. While he could on occasions be a "fighter," he also had a charming personality, and was always ready to show a kindly interest in the work of younger colleagues.

THE GOSPEL 26. 11. 55

Student Opera

For some time the musical world of Adelaide has been talking opera and, what is more point, singing it, and much interest has been taken in the first production of English Opera by the students of the Elder Conservatorium under the direction of Mr. Clive Carey.

Much was expected, although the opera class has been in existence only since last March and no one was disappointed, for a really wonderful amount of work has been done in the time.

The chief feeling one has about this new development at the Conservatorium is that Mr. Carey has not aimed at producing opera in quantity, but in quality, and every movement of the members of the casts in the scenes of the operas presented on Friday and Monday evening was studied and perfect.

The setting was aesthetic and the work, from beginning to end, refined; and considering that the students were not only Mr. Carey's own pupils but had been recruited from the pupils of every singing teacher in the Conservatorium, a remarkable unity of purpose was gained. Everyone worked in harmony with the interpretation and while several stood out as having special talent, there was no false note struck in the general conception by any instances of egotism on the part of any one performer.

Good team work is an essential in productions of this kind, and from Mr. Carey to the members of the chorus this was apparent.

The music of "The Magic Flute" is well known, and to it the orchestra did full justice.

As Tamino, Mr. Reginald Thrush was excellent; and as Papageno, the bird catcher, Mr. Gerald Moyse showed that he had fully grasped the humor of the role.

On Friday evening Miss Ida Burton was successful as "The Queen of Night," and Miss Margorie Walsh's beautifully clear and sweet soprano was heard to much advantage in that part on Monday evening.

The Three Ladies attendant on the Queen should be specially mentioned, their trios being particularly delightful. On Friday evening they were the Misses Vera Hanron, Barbara Howland and Jean Sinclair, and on Monday Misses A. Burke, Lilian May and Beryl Counter.

"Dido and Aeneas."

From a spectacular point of view "Dido and Aeneas," the first English opera ever composed, more interesting and the performers were able to show that histrionic ability is by no means lacking amongst the students.

In the first performance Miss Valda Hill was Dido, Queen of Carthage, while in the second Miss Vera Hanron interpreted the part.

Both were good, each in her own way, but Hanron appeared to have grasped the idea of character more fully and her voice was very and sweet, and her acting very natural.

The Misses Enid Besanko and Phyllis T. were "Belinda," the Queen's attendant, on the first and second nights respectively.

Miss Edna Lawrence was excellent both as Aeneas and as the Sorceress, and shows much promise, while Miss Jean Sinclair's fine voice showed to great advantage as Aeneas on Monday evening. On Friday evening Miss Doris I. interpreted the role of the Sorceress.

The Witches scene was the piece de resistance of the opera, and the effects were especially good, the witches' chorus being almost startling in realism and artistry. Their movements were in keeping with their characters, and whole production of this scene was a triumph of artistic skill.

The Witches were Misses Lilian May, Margaret Peters, Ethel Greenwool, Ida Burton, Doris Graves, and Lois Thomson.

The part of a "Woman" was taken by Misses Alice Burke and Jean Catt, and that of a sailor by Misses Phyllis Tonkin and Beatrice Kauper.

The three dancers who were at first "Furies" then "Cupids," and last of all "Sailors," were Misses Phyllis Leitch, Peggy Leitch, and Beryl Anne Hill, and to them much praise must be given for their delightful work.

Those responsible for the productions are as follows:—Mr. Clive Carey (producer), Mrs. Catherine Neill (assistant producer), Mr. Frank Johnston (stage manager), and Mr. Jack Lathle (assistant stage manager).

The dresses, designed by Miss Erica Stewart, were in excellent taste, and the curtains lent a touch of beauty which the stage needed to produce a really charming scene.

The lighting was very effective and produced an atmosphere of romance which appealed to the imagination of the artist.

Miss Sylvia Whittington lead the orchestra in her usual efficient manner.