

Perth Evening Technical School,
Perth. W. A.

12.3. 1900

The Registrar,
Adelaide University.

Sir,

As you are doubtless aware the above school sent forward three candidates for your Higher Public Examination last November. These candidates entered for that examination with the idea of ultimately taking their Arts degree. I notice by your amended regulations, however, that the regulations governing the Higher Public Examination have been repealed; consequently, I would like to obtain from the Council an expression of opinion as to what is the position of students wishing to study for a degree in Western Australia.

On becoming Superintendent of the above School last year, I at once took up this higher work, and, with the consent of the Department of Education, formed regular classes for carrying it on. The classes were modelled on the Evening Lecture scheme of the colonial Universities - the object being to give a number of students who were engaged during the daytime, an opportunity of taking up a higher course of study; and, if possible, of ultimately obtaining a University degree.

As the best means of carrying out this idea, I selected your Higher Public Examination. The principal difficulty now is regulation II, sections "a", "b", "c" of the amended regulations of.

of the B.A. degree Course. If this regulation were carried out and made to apply to our case, of course, it would be an impossibility to carry on the work in connection with the Adelaide University: whilst, if this regulation were not enforced, and Western Australian students were permitted to sit for the first examination without having matriculated — as is done in the case of evening students at Sydney and Melbourne — and, if successful, placed upon the same status as those students who have passed their matriculation before passing their first year, then I am quite certain, a fair number of students would always be found taking up this higher work.

I would ask that West Australian Students should be exempted from the operations of Regulation II sections a, b, & c in accordance with Regulation VI. My principal reason for asking for this concession is that the majority of our students have no knowledge of Greek whatever, consequently to enforce the passing of the Senior Public Examination and Matriculation would mean that the course would be extended to at least 6 years. And, as the students are, for the most part, engaged during the daytime — having only their evenings to study — the enforcement of Regulation II; and the consequent lengthened course, would press very heavily upon them.

I would ask that this matter be brought before the Council as soon as possible; as I would like to know in what position we stand.

Have the honor to be,

Sir,

Yours faithfully
Hugh Sturt,
Supl.