

No. 809.

1904.

The University of Adelaide.

From H. M. Joscelyne.
Perth W.A.

Subject Complaint re Primary
Examination

Enclosures

Dated 13 | 10 | 1904

Acknwlgd. | | 190

Received 19 | 10 | 1904

Answered 20 | X | 1904

Vide L. B. vol XXIV pages 651.
+ 667.

Referred to Chairman
Public Examinations
Board.

CMT

The University of Adelaide

(WEST AUSTRALIAN CENTRE).

THE OBSERVATORY,

Perth, 13 October 1904.

The Registrar.

The University. Adelaide.

Dear Mr Hodge.

G.W. Simmonds' full name is

George William.

I enclose a letter, published in the West Australian from an irate parent. The school he refers to is the Christian Bros Perth, who sent up 23 candidates & didn't get one through.

Yours faithfully.

H. M. Jorcelyne.

Asst Secretary.

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.—The following are the number of West Australian candidates who have entered for the public examinations of the Adelaide University, commencing on November 15:—Junior public, 151; senior public, 50; higher public, 21. The numbers last year were 100, 25, and 16 respectively.

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
EXAMINATIONS.

Warratracan. 13.10.04.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The results of the Adelaide University Primary Examination, after considerable delay, have at last come to hand, and I think most of those concerned, as far as I can make out, are not a little bit disgusted. It was understood that the standard of examination would be altered this time, and, speaking as a father, and one who has undergone a University career, besides passing the highest scientific professional examination in one of the branches of the allied sciences, I unhesitatingly state that the papers set at the late primary examination were too severe, and were more fit for a junior University examination. How far my statement is correct is to be found in the results just to hand, showing that more than half of the candidates were rejected. Some of our leading schools and colleges have only one or two successful out of some ten to twenty scholars sent up for examination; and I learn that one of the leading colleges had not a single success. Now, Sir, this shows that there has been a trifling with the youthful University aspirants of this State, or an indifference on the part of the Adelaide University people to inform the teachers here of what was actually required by the new standard of examination, for no one can attribute carelessness to our teachers, who have always shown a great desire that our children, when sent up to the examination, should be successful. It shows, also, if there was a necessity to do so, that we should have our own University, and not be left to the caprice of a University outside our own State. I am a father of six children. My two youngest for their first time volunteered the ordeal. Their morale, like that of most of their fellow students, has been very much damped, but when I saw the papers I was partly prepared for the result, though I hoped that allowance would be made by the examiners for such stiff questions. All my other children have had to face University examinations, both in this and the other States. My two youngest, who faced the late examination, are the smartest of my family. They were carefully trained and prepared, and both passed, at different schools, the local test examinations, and yet both have been plucked by the Adelaide University—a result I would not have had for £100, for I too well know what a bad effect it has on students when they compete at subsequent examinations. However, I am done with the Adelaide University, and if our teachers cannot induce the Sydney and Melbourne Universities to set examination questions here, although I regret the separation, I will send my two youngest children to the Sydney University, which commands my confidence, both for its fairness and stability and its examinations.—Yours, etc.,

A.B.

Perth, October 12.

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