

PRAHRAN TECHNICAL ART SCHOOL.

The city of Prahran has every reason to be proud of the new and noble institution that has been opened in its midst. We refer, of course, to the Prahran Technical Art School, of which the opening ceremonies were so successfully conducted. The Director, Mr W. R. Dean, is an Associate of the Royal College of Architects, London, and is a gentleman in every way suited to the important position to which he has been appointed. Mr Dean was born in Prahran, and then to rise to the height of presiding over the destinies of one of the same city's

foremost institutions is a special feat in itself. In choosing the art of technical work for his future career, Mr Dean went abroad to continue and complete his studies in the chief English and Continental centres and in this respect the younger generation of Victoria are fortunate in having the services of such an eminent master. It will be an advantage to Australia generally, for it is now rightly recognised by observant authorities that no country can become really great if it does not give sound and practical attention to the work of technical education. Great things are anticipated from the Prahran Technical Art School. It is an ambitious building, built on lines to embrace a distant future. It will not fail in its object. It is situated in the centre of a thriving district, and with the aid of the network of railways and tramways which we now possess it is brought within comparatively easy distance of pupils from the south suburban

within comparatively easy distance of pupils from the south suburban areas of Melbourne. Mr Dean, the Director of the School, displays the greatest interest in his work, and looks ahead with the most sanguine anticipations. In himself, he does not appear to be a man who is intent upon walking along any particular narrow groove of life. He is moulded on different lines. He has within him, we believe, the true democratic spirit; that is just the right sort of man to have at the head of a Technical School, whose work is primarily in the interests of the democracy of the times. Unassuming, courteous, and a sincere enthusiasm for his work are other attributes of a genial nature possessed by Mr Dean. He glories in the science of the technical art, and by instilling this feeling into the hearts and minds of our youths, for them to carry it forward in after years, the practical good that will result can well be set down as incalculable.