

# UNRULY STUDENTS

## COMMEMORATION NIGHT

### POLICE COURT SEQUEL

As the result of the scenes in Sydney on University commemoration night, a student was fined £2 in the Police Court, and the charge against another student was adjourned.

Sydney, May 27.

The conduct of students on commemoration night had a sequel at the Police Court to-day when Thomas Temperley (19) was charged with having behaved in a riotous manner.

The police stated that at 10.40 p.m. Temperley knocked over three signs. He was with 70 or 80 students whose conduct was disorderly.

The evidence stated that the accused had no direct hand in the desecration of the Cenotaph.

Temperley admitted that the evidence was correct. He said with other students he had been to the Tivoli and they then went to an hotel, where the manager refused to give them drinks.

Evidence given by the landlady where Temperley lodged and by C. H. Curry, lecturer in history at the Teachers' College, was that Temperley was a splendidly behaved boy.

The magistrate, Mr. Gates, said conduct of that kind could not be tolerated. He exonerated the defendant from any desecration of the Cenotaph. The defendant was fined £2, with 8/ costs, in default 14 days' imprisonment.

A summons matter concerning Verfil Loschiavo, another student, was adjourned to enable the accused to get into touch with those who were in his company on the night the Cenotaph was desecrated. Counsel for Loschiavo said he was an Italian by birth and his family had sustained losses in the Great War. It could not be suggested that he was anything but a law-abiding citizen.

The matter was adjourned till June 13.

## HONOR CORPS SUGGESTED

### TO PRESERVE DISCIPLINE

Sydney, May 27.

A suggestion has been made by Mr. Hugh J. Ward that an "Honor Corps" be formed within the University of Sydney to prevent the recurrence of such scenes as recently disgraced the University in connection with the Commemoration celebrations. The object of this corps would be to foster the University spirit and promote respect for discipline on festive occasions.

Mr. Ward bases his suggestion on an experience he had about eleven years ago. He was approached by a group of students for the use of his theatre for a University night. With previous experiences in mind he demurred, but one of the men told him that 200 of them had just volunteered in a body for active service, so he told them they could have the whole theatre. The Armistice prevented those boys from actually serving. When the Prince of Wales visited Sydney Mr. Ward had heard rumors of the possibility of his being playfully slapped on the back by students. He approached the lads who had volunteered for active service, and was assured that nothing of the kind would occur, and they had proved as good as their word. He thought it would have been a fine thing if some concerted action could have been taken by the better class of students on the recent evening to suppress the wilder spirits. The existence of some corporate body, such as the Honor Corps, which he proposed, would have made this possible.

## STUDENTS' APOLOGY ACCEPTED

### Expressive Wreath On Cenotaph

SYDNEY, Thursday.—Mr. H. E. Tuck, whose wreath was thrown from the Cenotaph on Tuesday night by an undergraduate, placed another wreath today beside that of the undergraduates, with these words on it:—

"In memory of my two sons who laid down their lives for their country. I accept your apology.—E. Tuck."

University Club members today expressed indignation at what they described as "the disgraceful behaviour of certain undergraduates," and regretted that a more generous and responsible spirit was not displayed towards the Vice-Chancellor and officials in their efforts to revive Commemoration Week.

A motion moved by Mr. R. Hutchinson (New South Wales) and seconded by Mr. W. H. Bray (Queensland), entering an emphatic protest against the desecration of the Sydney Cenotaph, was carried unanimously at a special meeting of the Federal executive of the Returned Soldiers' League today.

# THE NEWS

ADELAIDE: THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1929

## UNIVERSITY HOODLUMS

The disgraceful conduct of Sydney University students at their commemoration celebrations, which culminated in the desecration of the Cenotaph in Martin place, has aroused feelings of intense indignation throughout the Commonwealth.

Returned soldiers and parents, wives, and children of men who made the great sacrifice have been deeply offended and distressed by this wanton outrage.

The larrikinism at the Tivoli Theatre, when performers were pelted with decayed vegetables and rotten eggs, was sufficiently culpable, but the sacrilege which followed it has wounded so many people in their tenderest feelings that the authorities—University, civic, and State—will be compelled to take immediate steps to sheet home the responsibility and severely punish the offenders.

Nothing worse was ever perpetrated by the notorious gangs of hooligans which terrorised Melbourne in the late 'nineties and the early years of the present century. These youths were drawn from the poorest classes in the industrial suburbs. Few of them had had any educational advantages, and the home life of most had not been conducive to the inculcation of the ideals of good citizenship.

Those responsible for the Sydney outrage are in a vastly different position from the "pushes" of earlier times. They have been reared in comfortable homes and belong to that stratum of the social fabric which should give a lead in decency of behaviour to those less fortunately circumstanced. They have had the advantage of the best educational training that the State can provide.

It is not suggested that commemoration celebrations should be made serious or gloomy. The community is always prepared to make some allowance for the exuberant spirits of youth, and in the past a certain measure of latitude has been given.

However, people who could find anything funny in grossly insulting the memory of the dead and wounding the feelings of the living must have a perverted sense of humor. Undergraduates must not mistake the tolerance shown by the community toward eccentricity as giving them licence to overstep the bounds of decency. A few such incidents as those which occurred in Sydney will result in the complete prohibition of public revels by the students.

The University authorities have adopted the right course in cancelling the arrangements for other gatherings this year and apologising to the public. However, they must go farther and see that the ringleaders are adequately punished.

## UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN DISGRACE

### Vice-Chancellor Apologises

## FESTIVITIES BANNED

### HEALTH OFFICER SAYS WORKERS ENRAGED

SYDNEY, Wednesday.—All University commemoration festivities, including tomorrow's public procession will be cancelled, and two University students will be prosecuted, as a result of last night's scene in the city.

During a disturbance in Martin place wreaths were torn off the Cenotaph and trampled underfoot.

The State secretary of the R.S.L. (Mr. Staggs) said today that the secretary of the Undergraduates' Association (Mr. Connolly) had expressed abhorrence of the happenings of last night. The association Mr. Connolly said, would place a wreath on the Cenotaph.

While the students were pelting performers and orchestra at the Tivoli Theatre a woman was stunned with a pineapple.

Jack Barty, London comedian, appealed for order on behalf of the performers. "Don't be goats," he said. "We have travelled thousands of miles to entertain you. Surely you can keep reasonably quiet."

### TOMATO IN EYE

Barty was struck in the eye with a tomato. "Don't be dogs," he yelled. A second tomato hit him on the shoulder. "Carriage," roared Barty, and in one leap cleared the footlights and orchestra pit, landing in the central aisle.

He punched a man sitting several seats back, and then went back to the stage. Today representatives of returned soldier employees of Sydney municipal departments inspected the Cenotaph.

"Had their wreath been despoiled," said the City Health Officer (Dr. Purdy) tonight, "720 employees of Bunnerong powerhouse would have moved in a body against the University. No one can imagine what the consequences might have been."

### POLICE GUARD CENOTAPH

Tonight two policemen guarded the Cenotaph. It was feared the undergraduates' wreath of apology might have been attacked.

The vice-president of the Undergraduates' Association (Mr. Bayldon), at a special meeting today said, "You have broken the heart of the Vice-Chancellor."

The hall was packed. More than 1,000 students passed votes of confidence in the president and the Vice-Chancellor. A letter purporting to be from the Surry Hills branch of the Returned Soldiers' League, received by the undergraduates festival committee, demanded the names and addresses of the "Gentlemen's Sons" who played such a "valiant" part at the Cenotaph.

The Vice-Chancellor has issued a letter for publication expressing regret for the whole University, including the undergraduates, for the unseemly conduct of a section of the student body.

Two students Vergel Loschiavi, 19, of Darlinghurst, and Thomas Temperley, 19, of Glebe, will be prosecuted.

# SYDNEY STUDENTS

## A DREADFUL OUTRAGE

## DESECRATION OF CENOTAPH

## News Received With Horror and Anger

The display of hooliganism by Sydney undergraduates at the Tivoli Theatre on Tuesday night was followed by a much worse offence—the desecration of the Cenotaph.

Sydney, May 22.

It was stated to-day that, early this morning, after the University students had created unprecedented scenes of hooliganism at the Tivoli Theatre during their "commem." celebrations, some of them went to Martin-place and desecrated the Cenotaph.

It was alleged that they seized wreaths reposing on the sacred shrine, and hurled them in the gutter.

### A Disgraceful Crime

The Acting Premier (Mr. Buttenshaw), the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Professor Wallace), and others have expressed horror at this disgraceful crime.

Mr. Buttenshaw said such conduct would not be tolerated. The Government were opposed to vandalism that amounted to sacrilege.

### Vice-Chancellor's Apology

Writing to the press, Professor Wallace expressed profound regret for the unseemly conduct of a section of the students. Words could not express his pain and distress. As Vice-Chancellor, he offered no excuses for the students, but could only apologise for them. All the students shared in the bad conduct in the theatre, but only a few found their way to Martin-place. If it was shown that there was any disorder round the Cenotaph, any student to whom it could be sheeted home would be summarily dealt with. All gatherings for festival week, including the evening smoke concert, students' procession and ball, would be cancelled, and lectures and classes would be held instead. "Ragging" in the University ground would not be allowed, and any attempt to hold a procession through the streets would be dealt with by the police.

### Indignation of Patriotic Leagues

Patients at the Prince of Wales Military Hospital, Randwick, have written to the press, demanding a public apology for the desecration of the Cenotaph. They would not brook such an insult to the eternally silent. No reparation could ever be made, but such as could would be demanded.

The Mothers, Wives, and Widows' Association has expressed indignation at the desecration, and the Returned Soldiers' League has voiced strong indignation. Returned men stated openly to-day that if the "commem." procession were held the following day they would smash it.

It is understood that the Vice-Chancellor of the University held an enquiry to-day at that institution regarding the whole affair, and numerous students were closely questioned.

### Act of Contrition

A number of the students to-day, as a sort of apology, assembled at the Cenotaph and, wearing their gowns, reverently placed a wreath on the Cenotaph as an act of contrition. It was inscribed, "From the Undergraduates Association as an apology for its insult to our glorious dead."

### Meeting of Undergraduates

Later a special meeting of the Undergraduates' Association was held, when feeling ran very high. It was stated at the meeting that one man had been so foul as to remove a wreath from the Cenotaph, and a father of a dead Anzac, who had placed the wreath there yesterday, saw it this morning lying in a nearby gutter.

Speakers said the heart of the Vice-Chancellor had been broken. They had promised to co-operate with him, and he had trusted them, with the result that was known.

A resolution was passed that the undergraduates as a whole regretted the scenes in the theatre, and particularly those in the street afterwards, and expressed regret, not only to the Vice-Chancellor, but also to the public.

Drink is believed to have been the cause of the whole disgraceful affair.

## MORE CONDEMNATION

### TWO STUDENTS TO BE PROSECUTED

Sydney, May 12.

Mr. Bennett, the Civic Commissioner, said to-night that the whole thing was a disgrace. Every year University commemoration was becoming worse. Students were given an inch, and they took a yard. Next year he would not be surprised to see students standing on the base of the Cenotaph trying to impersonate the figures.

The State Ministry to-day decided that two students, said to be responsible for most of the trouble at the Cenotaph, would be prosecuted.

The soldiers at the Prince of Wales Hospital have demanded that the whole student body should march by the Cenotaph in a procession of solemn

## HOOLIGAN STUDENTS

### "COMMEM." DAY IN SYDNEY

### OUTRAGEOUS SCENES IN THEATRE

### PERFORMERS PELTED WITH TOMATOES

Sydney, May 21.

The management of the Tivoli Theatres to-night stated that it would never again be at the services of University undergraduates at commemoration. The students displayed unprecedented hooliganism in the theatre.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University (Professor Wallace) was howled down, and the President of the Undergraduates' Association was pelted with crackers.

Jack Barty, a well-known comedian from England, who provided one of the star turns of the bill, leapt from the stage during the uproar and punched a student on the nose. Other artists declined to proceed.

From the outset, before the curtain rose, carrots and bits of pineapple rained down into the auditorium from the "gods." One student hung the head of a rotten Jewish on a string, and dangled it among those in the stalls below. A woman in the front row was struck with a bad egg. A stray turnip struck the conductor of the orchestra behind his ear, and he and his musicians retired.

Arthur Mayes, in the first turn, managed to get through two verses of his song, but then retired. He was fortunate, for, although missiles rained upon him, he dodged them.

Mr. Barty, the English comedian, who followed, could not keep his temper. He shrieked to the students that he had come 13,000 miles to entertain them, but, before he could conclude the sentence, he was struck in the eye with a rotten tomato. After calling them carriage, another tomato was thrown at him, and he then jumped into the auditorium, and, having planted a terrific punch on the nose of a student, asked for a fair hearing, and was promised it; but, when the turn had begun, showers of tomatoes and turnips were pelted down.

Mr. J. M. Cooper, Vice-Chancellor, then addressed the students, but was greeted with tumultuous boo-hoos. The actors then all retired. A performing dog, which strayed on the stage, was hastily rescued, and the show terminated, after an ineffectual attempt to restore order.

Mr. Barty, the comedian, later said he would see that the students paid him 15 guineas for a new suit of clothes. They could rely on that.