

Advertiser 13-8-31

THOSE WERE NOT THE DAYS

Rising Generation Wins VARSITY DEBATE

So those were not the days after all. It was all thrashed out by University debaters of Adelaide and Oregon (U.S.) at the University refectory before 1,000 people last night.

The jury of five lawyers decided, without a dissent, that they had every confidence in the rising generation.

The Oregon debaters spoke against the motion of "no-confidence," and the Adelaide speakers, hiding every thought and action which would leave suspicion that they had only lately and temporarily joined their elders, pointed out the sins of omission and commission of the rising generation. They seemed glad they lost.

The Adelaide leader, Mr. A. M. Bills, sternly indicted his generation for slumbering in the comforts of a machine age. Laziness would lead them into all kinds of problems which would become deeper and deeper. Everything was made simple for them.

They invested their pet politician, for instance, in a glorious glamor upon which the politician played. "Vote for me; I am it," the politician said, and in he went. "Your rising generation," Mr. Bills sniffed, "buys a garage first and then his house, all the time hoping that a fortune will be made for him while he is sitting down."

Hoop Skirt Ideas

It seemed to Mr. R. A. Pfaff, the leader of the Oregon team, that the old generation was living in a Zeppelin age and meeting it with horse car and hoop skirt ideas. "Everybody is stepping on the gas now, and if you don't get out of the way you will be run over."

The trouble with the old generation—the Victorian age people, whose cause the other side was espousing—was that they could not differentiate between those days and these days. Picture grandpa hitching up the old grey mare and driving off to meet grandma. He would tie the old grey mare to the rail, walk to the door, say "Hullo, Mary!" and they would go inside and sit by the fireplace and watch the sparks go up the chimney.

The little old cuckoo clock on the mantelpiece would say, "Take Your Time, Take Your Time." Not so today. The rising young fellow had to jump into his car, race down the street at 60 miles an hour, and sit with Mary before a radiator, while the swift little clock on the mantelpiece murmured, "Get Together, Get Together."

Yes, those days and these days could not be compared. Son's nature and father's did not differ much, but there was all the world of difference in their technique.

Like a Basket of Puppies

This rising generation reminded Mr. P. C. Greenland (Adelaide) of a creche of babies or a basket of puppies. He took the case of the women of the ages who "visibly expressed the spirit of leisure and distilled its finest essences." He took a look at grandmother's album and delighted in the picture of a pet aunt's magnificent Junoesque beauty, all pompadour, jewels and throat, and compared her with the "slender breathless creature of today, with her will of the wisp wit—fragile, vivacious, chic, supple, willowy, uncontented." "Will she be able to bear the burdens of the future?" he asked.

And Uncle Norbert. What could the rising generation produce in the way of the whistler, "that many institution?" "When I look at these white, hairless, sexless creatures of today my confidence is shaken," Mr. Greenland said.

Mr. R. T. Miller (Oregon) argued that all the whistlers, the bustles, the leg of mutton sleeves, and grandma's five petticoats were mere methods the Victorians adopted to avoid facing the facts of life.

The Victorian was the age of manners, when grandpa spent years looking for his affinity—his soul mate. And when he had found her he spent another five years courting her—five years of tea and superfluous lip service. Then, when he put the question, grandma, in surprise, murmured, "But this is so sudden!"

"They say the rising generation is speed mad. Grandpa, when he was courting grandma, could tie the reins to the buggy whip and let the old rattled bay saunter on. I can't tie the steering wheel to the dashboard. I have to face the problems of life," Mr. Miller said.

Lacks Sterner Qualities

Mr. C. Badger (Adelaide) said the rising generation, like puppies, lived for the day and for the day only. It was too selfish, and lacked the stern

qualities of the Victorian age. He had no confidence in its ability, its airy culture, nor its butterfly pleasures. This habit of throwing mud at the rising generation went back to the days when Adam and Eve left the Garden of Eden with clothes, conscience, and a keen sense of moral turpitude. Mr. D. G. Wilson (Oregon) said. It was not long before they started to raise Cain as well as Abel. They soon were saying that this first rising generation was going to the devil, and the habit of hurling bricks at the "rising radicals" had stuck; but there would always be a rising generation because the risen would never be able to deny themselves the great pleasure of finding fault with it.

VISITORS KEEP UP TO DATE

On Eight Months' Tour

The members of the debating team who arrived from Melbourne yesterday believe in keeping closely in touch with Australian affairs while they are here. They brought with them a big bundle of Australian newspapers to read.

They are three very busy young men, for beside the debates they have had with Australian teams since they arrived from New Zealand near the end of last month, they have attended many luncheons and receptions, and have given illustrated lectures.

In New Zealand they won three of the four decision debates in which they were engaged. In Australia they have had slightly the better of the teams they met. In their leisure moments, which are few, they keep up a big correspondence. They are taking their own motion pictures at every town they visit, and will use them, together with those provided by the official agencies in each country, in lectures on their experiences when they return home.

Mr. Wilson, who plans to enter journalism, is also writing for American newspapers and periodicals en route. By that means, it is thought, they will do valuable work in improving reciprocal knowledge and friendship between the countries they visit.

Long Tour

The visitors said yesterday that their tour, in which they estimated that they would travel about 35,000 miles, would take them about eight months. After leaving here, they would spend a few days in Perth, and then go to Colombo, arriving there on August 27. Then would follow a tour of India, the Strait Settlements, Manila, Shanghai, China, Korea, Japan and Honolulu. They expected to reach home about the middle of January next year. In Shanghai they would attend the conference of the Institute of Pacific relations.

"We have offered our hosts the choice of six subjects for debate," said Mr. Miller, the manager of the team. "In each case we have taken the side which we feel the opposing teams would rather not have, but that does not indicate that we have any profound convictions in that direction."

"We are prepared to argue the negative side on—That the world has more to fear than to hope from the further development of the machine; that the foreign indictment of American culture is justified; that existing tariff barriers are an important cause of the present economic depression; that the cause of peace demands the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations; and that this house disapproves of the rising generation. We would argue the affirmative on the proposal that English should become the international language."

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Professor Grafton Elliot Smith, who is 80 today, is probably the greatest scientist Australia has given to the world. Born at Grafton (New South Wales), he is now Professor of Anatomy at University College, London. His name came prominently before Australians recently in connection with the Jervois skull controversy. He is one of the world's greatest authorities on comparative anatomy and morphology of the brain, and has solved many problems surrounding those subjects. He has contributed extensively to the study of Egyptian anthropology and has made many interesting observations in anthropology following on the Nile. He is president of the British Association and is a member of the leading European anthropological and other scientific societies. He has written more than a dozen important works on anthropology, the anatomy of the brain, and the evolution of man. Professor Elliot Smith re-visited Australia in 1924 as a delegate to the Science Congress.



Professor Smith

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CAREERS FOR GIRLS

Vocation Conference

FEW OPENINGS

Women made their first public attempt in South Australia last night to help to answer a question which has vexed men throughout the ages. "What shall I do when I grow up?"

About 600 mothers and girls—there were one or two fathers—crowded in the Teachers' College hall, Kintore-avenue, at the vocation conference, arranged by the Adelaide branch of the Australian Federation of University Women, and the seventeen speakers who represented about twice as many vocations, addressed themselves to the subject of keeping square pegs out of round holes.

The conference was enthusiastic and, judged by the enquiries made after the addresses, it was as successful as possible in days when jobs are scarce.

Mrs. C. E. Dolling, who presided, offered on behalf of the federation that if any girl did not find from among the many subjects treated one which she particularly wanted, the federation would provide information on farming, beekeeping, poultry-keeping, the stage, wool classing ("I believe girl wool-classers are quite the best," she said), Y.W.C.A. secretarial work, and motor mechanics.

Where There Is Work

The only speaker who would guarantee plenty of work was Mrs. Lavington Bonython, who spoke on voluntary social service. Girls who had left school and were not faced with the need to work would want to do some good in the world, she said.

Mrs. Bonython spoke of the many organizations which always needed the help of dependable and reliable people, who would "stick to their job."

The Prospects

All speakers dealt carefully with the various positions which are open to girls, from teaching to being doctors. None, with the exception of nursing, offered any great prospects at present. Many frankly admitted that there were no openings. The Education Department, for instance, which hitherto has absorbed many girls, will be taking on no more for training for the next year or two.

For Kindergarten teachers prospects apparently are better, that is for those who desire positions as governesses in the country. They must be prepared to accept a salary which is now down to £50 with board.

The best age for girls to start their training as nurses is from 19 to 21. The course of training lasts three years in the public hospital and four years in a private hospital. There are always openings.

Domestic Science

In domestic science there is a three years' course of training. There are no openings in the Education Department at present, but qualified girls can find positions as demonstrators with wages of £3 to £4 a week. There are also openings in small shops for good milliners and dressmakers, and girls who could write could find a market for articles in women's magazines.

There is no demand for female pharmacists just now. The four years' training costs about £100. As for veterinary science, there are only three qualified women veterinary surgeons in Australia. One is a border inspector of stock in New South Wales, another a specialist in canine work in Melbourne, and the third is engaged in Sydney on laboratory work.

Social Secretaries

There are very few openings for private or social secretaries in Adelaide, and it was pointed out that these could be obtained only by chance or by influence. Not many women found openings in journalism, although magazines were always wanting good articles. Neither was there much prospect in library work, for which there were more applications than positions.

Those present heard of the fees needed to train a doctor, a dentist, and an engineer, and a better understanding of work for women was given.

The speakers were:—Miss Phebe Watson (teaching), Miss Dorothy King (kindergarten), Sister Sinclair Wood (nursing), Mrs. Gilmore Reid (massage and physical instruction), Dr. Helen Mayo (medicine, dentistry, and dental science), Mrs. I. Park (domestic science), Miss Wilkinson (pharmacy and veterinary science), Miss Leworthy (accountancy, commercial and secretarial work), Mrs. Esmond George (journalism and library work), Miss E. M. Cornish (gardening), Miss Gladys Good (decorative, commercial and photographic art), Miss Jean Barbour (music), Miss Barbara Pitt (engineering and architecture), Miss F. (policewomen).

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GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY MADE FASCINATING

"South Australia" ("A Geographical Study"), by Charles Fenner, D.Sc. Melbourne: Whitcombe & Tombs.

Dr. Fenner is lecturer in geography at the University of Adelaide, and Superintendent of Technical Education in South Australia. He is well known as an authority on Australian geographical matters, and the winner of the Syme prize for Australian geographical research. Hence his qualifications for producing such a book as this study are well established. He approaches his subject from a thoroughly modern standpoint. Geography, when dealt with by him, becomes a fascinating subject. The old-fashioned method of mere recital of names and facts, so wearisome to schoolboys of a generation or more ago, happily is now dead. It had a little to commend it beyond its value as an exercise in memory. Dr. Fenner has proceeded on the more scientific principle which "includes the study of the face of the earth, and the distribution and adjustment of life thereon." The advantages of such a method are apparent. The student learns to grasp something of the significance of the facts brought under his notice, and he may from such a means of approach acquire the habit of tracing the relationship of noticeable effects to natural causes. Dr. Fenner reminds his readers that "human geography and history run closely parallel. History is the story of man's endeavors; geography aspires to tell some of the reasons why, and to enable us to compare the progress and development of one country with another, according to prevailing conditions." Sections are devoted to the discovery of South Australia, its "structure and physiography," the progress of settlement; Adelaide and its environments; and the natural regions of the State. An excellent glossary of technical terms will be of much assistance to general readers, and the large number of pictorial illustrations, maps, and charts form a valuable supplement to the text.

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Appreciation of the services of Mr. W. J. Young, who recently resigned the chairmanship of the Financial Advisory Committee, was recorded by the council of the Chamber of Commerce at its meeting yesterday. In a letter to Mr. Young the council states that his work with that of the other members of the committee, had been "one of the greatest factors in strengthening the confidence of the community and forwarding the ultimate rehabilitation of the State."

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South Australian Business

The Commonwealth Bank officials yesterday dealt with 1,133 applications for conversion of Commonwealth securities, representing £1,618,454. For State Treasury securities there were 269 applicants, representing £688,469.

On Saturday, when 566 applicants converted £1,165,682, the University of Adelaide converted its holdings of £180,000. The conversion of State securities on Saturday amounted to £1,914,867.

The total Commonwealth conversion in South Australia to date amounts to £8,163,232, representing 4,104 applicants. State security conversion totals £3,068,700.

Yesterday most of the business was with small bondholders.

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SERVICES OF MR. W. J. YOUNG
When Mr. Laffer (Lib.) suggested in the Assembly yesterday that the House should be given an opportunity to consider a motion recording its appreciation of the services Mr. W. J. Young had rendered as chairman of the State Finance Committee, the Premier (Mr. Hill) said the Government had already conveyed its thanks to Mr. Young. He would consider Mr. Laffer's suggestion.

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Doctors' Examinations

Melbourne, August 18. At the recent primary examination for the degree of Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in England, Melbourne there were 20 candidates, of whom 10 passed. The successful candidates were:—Bert Wilfred Butteforth, Edward Woodall Gault, John Isaac Haywood, Francis Patrick Morgan, Rutherford Kaye Scott, John Burstall Turner and Roy Douglas Wright, all of Melbourne, Murray Alexander Falconer, of Otago (N.Z.), and Reginald Angel Money and Douglas Gordon Radcliffe, of Sydney. The examination was in anatomy and physiology and it will be necessary for the successful candidates to pass the final examination in surgery and English.