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On Dit

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY
UNION

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J. L. Gough (Assoc. Ed.).
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G. W. Irwin.

Social Reporters: E. McDougall, M. Yates.

P. M. Viner Smith (News Ed.)
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REX

THIRD TRIUMPHANT WEEK.

"Spawn of the North"

With GEORGE RAFT, DOROTHY
LAMOUR, and HENRY FONDA.

Associate Feature:

"CAMPUS CONFESSIONS"

Vol. 9

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1939

No. 3

Evidences of Profound Unrest Music in the Air

ART COMMITTEE MOVES

The first move has been made this year towards making better use of the excellent collection of prints and pictures given to the University by the Carnegie Corporation. Miss M. J. Harris, from the School of Arts and Crafts, has agreed to write a series of articles on art for On Dit. These will be illustrated by a number of prints to be hung in the Refectory each week. The first article appeared last week, but owing to lack of organisation the pictures were late in appearing. It is hoped that this will not happen again.

The pictures hanging in the Union buildings will be changed within a few weeks. Changing pictures is a bigger and more responsible undertaking than most people realise, and it requires a lot of thought and careful consideration, hence the delay.

Although an enthusiastic group of students has succeeded in unearthing the Carnegie gramophone in the bowels of the Conservatorium, where it is found that it may rumble at certain specified times, the art collection remains practically unknown. Candidates for the Union elections who were questioned about it, generally admitted that they had heard about it, and had the impression that it was buried somewhere under the foundations of the Barr Smith Library.

They can easily verify for themselves that this is not so by looking for it on the ground floor of the library.

The collection comprises about 50 framed colored prints, hanging in the Union buildings, about 2,000 mounted prints, many in color, in an elaborate cubical contraption near the middle of the main reading room in the library, and a collection of about 200 books on art just behind the desk on the shelves of the main reading room—all easily enough accessible, but practically unknown to the students for whose use they are intended.

Students are remarkably apathetic towards the non-physical luxuries of life. Food and sport get their due, but things of the mind are almost completely neglected. And yet we like to think of ourselves as the cream of the community—an absurd fiction indeed.

However, lack of interest in art and culture is almost an Australian national characteristic. There is an almost complete lack of modern music at our concerts—and the programmes reflect public taste, and little or no interest in modern art. A "modern" art show in Melbourne, featuring work of the period of Cezanne and Van Gogh, was a failure. Admission was free, but no one went to see it because the work of fifty years ago was too modern for the sober inhabitants of Melbourne. No style later than Rembrandt's would satisfy Adelaide.

It seems a pity that children are not taught more music and art in the schools. The Art Gallery is making a good beginning by giving lectures to school children. But why not make the history of music and art and the principles of music and art subjects for the intermediate and leaving examinations. They would be worth a great deal more in the lives of most of us than the doubtful advantage of being able to conjugate irregular Latin, Greek, or even French verbs. Perhaps they might even outweigh dynamics and trigonometry, if those gruesome subjects are still taught.

At the University the history and appreciation of art and music cannot count towards what is called an Arts degree, though subjects ranging from comparative philology to geology are considered fit and proper to make up part of such a degree.

Plato, in the Republic, gives music a very high place. That in itself means nothing beyond that Plato him-

self thought highly of music. It does not necessarily mean, as some have supposed, that the Greeks thought highly of music. If Plato had considered the Athenian Republic satisfactory, we may be sure that he would not have wasted his time describing an ideal republic, and it is also probable that in the Republic he most strongly emphasised those aspects of culture which he felt were most deficient in the Athenian Republic.

So we can conclude no more from Plato's statement than that one of the greatest Athenian thinkers thought very highly of music. And even he regarded it as having a practical rather than a purely aesthetic value, i.e., one can control one's moods by music. Nowadays we can do this so effectively with alcohol and aspirin that that justification for music no longer exists, and that perhaps accounts for the decline in the status of music.

In the mediaeval universities music was a compulsory subject for anyone taking a master's degree. Those were the Dark Ages. Now, unhappily, we have progressed to such a pitch of civilisation and enlightenment that music can no longer be included in the study for a master's degree.

Hannah More, 150 years ago, got much nearer to the modern attitude towards music and art when she pointed out the waste of time incurred by one of her friends, "now married to a man who dislikes music." She calculated that her friend, practising four hours a day, Sundays excepted, devoted to music practice, from the age of six to eighteen, three hundred days per annum for twelve years. That made a total of 4 x 300 x 12, or 14,400 hours, all wasted, the husband being what he was.

Of course, the real moral is, if you don't like art yourself, don't study it from the age of six onwards on the off chance that you may please a hypothetical husband or wife by your accomplishments.

Art must be regarded as a pleasure existing in its own right; those who get no pleasure from art and music are deficient either in training and education, or mentally. If the former, there is no excuse for further neglect. The Carnegie collection of pictures and books is there for you. If the latter, God spare you from further distress.

CONCESSIONS FOR LEHMANN CONCERT

On Dit is pleased to announce that it has been able to arrange with the A.B.C. for exceptionally generous concessions for University students.

Concessions are available to bona fide students, who should leave their names, before May 1, with one of the following:

K. Hamilton (Sec. of Union)
P. M. Viner Smith
G. L. Amos
O. E. Nichterlein.

Concessions available are:—7/6 seats for 5/- plus tax; 5/- seats for 3/- plus tax.

Returning to Australia after an absence of two years, Lotte Lehmann, the world renowned dramatic soprano, demonstrates the love these great international celebrities have for Australia. All visiting artists are asked how they like Australia, and most artists feel that they should say something gushing to such a question, but Lotte Lehmann, speaking from her heart, will tell you that next to America she likes Australia the best in the world. When recently asked why, Lehmann said that her feelings had been influenced by the responsiveness of the public. Australians constitute a most understanding public. She confessed that she had been pleasantly surprised on her previous visit in 1937 to find that Australians had such a genuine partiality for serious music, and she was also agreeably impressed by the musical standards of this country. The visit of such an artist as Lehmann to Australia means considerable advantage to the students of this country. It is to them that



we look to the future of our national development, and it should be remembered that no artist is more encouraging to students than the great Lehmann. From time to time Lehmann has sponsored the progress of many students on the other side of the world, and she continues to do so. By this we do not mean that Lehmann is anxious to hear everyone who may possess a good voice, but if a musical authority acclaims a voice and approaches Lehmann for her opinion, the great prima donna is not lacking in giving that sound and helpful advice which can be so appreciated. Throughout her travels, Lehmann is inundated with hundreds of compositions by unknown composers. She spends considerable time with her accompanist reviewing these works, and it can be expected that she will sing some of these new compositions during her Australian tour. An interesting aspect of Lehmann's life is that at one time she was not considered to have a voice worthy of further training, and was advised by one professor to discontinue her studies. It seems extraordinary that a person who has risen to become probably the world's leading singer, should have been so carelessly misjudged.

To-day Lehmann is considered to be at the peak of her profession. She is complete mistress of her vocal and dramatic resources, and gives an exceptional demonstration of the wide range of her emotional sympathies and unique responsiveness.

No music-lover could desire a more enchanting experience than to hear this great artist. The Australian Broadcasting Commission will present Lotte Lehmann in the Adelaide Town Hall on Tuesday, May 9, for a short season of recitals. This will mark the opening of Adelaide's concert season for 1939. Readers of On Dit and students of the Adelaide University are asked to communicate with Miss Primrose Viner Smith if they wish to form a party to hear Lotte Lehmann. Special concessions will be granted to University students for a party of twenty or more. Plans will be open at Allan's on Monday, May 1.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission will again this year present a

CELEBRITIES

EDITH IRWIN

Now in her fifth year at the Varsity, Edith Irwin presented a most attractive figure when interviewed. She is here for the ostensible purpose of decorating the Science faculty and specialises in Botany.

Most know her as president of the Women's Union. In addition to this busy position, she is on the Publications and Carnegie Art Committee, both Union affairs.

As well as Union affairs, Edith finds time to devote to affairs of State, and is also not entirely dumb in matters of opinion concerning moral and political issues. Conscious of the part to be played by women in the event of an outbreak of hostilities, she was last week appointed officer in charge of the University V.S.D. As one of Adelaide's representatives at the National Union Conference in Melbourne last January, she supported vigorously the scheme for a voluntary register of students throughout Australian Universities, and she now considers, like our new Prime Minister, national service to be the only hope for the country's safety.

Of Varsity publications, she thinks that Phoenix is superfluous, and On Dit (we shamefully admit it) horribly dull. The first is too much the product of a literary highbrow few, and is of that much interest to the student at large. Widen and color its horizons more richly, revive the lost Adelaide University Magazine and the recently defunct Med. Students Review, combining the most interesting stories, the most chatty gossip, the most salacious witticisms into a bigger, better, and brighter Phoenix. Like a critical member of the head-table, she deplores the spinelessness of On Dit, and naturally thinks the personal touch given it by last week's reviews of prominent personalities—she admittedly failed to discover the noble effort on our Chancellor—a hopeful idea.

At Girtton she played many sports, but now confines herself to tennis and hockey, although basketball was once an attraction. Her tastes lie in more refined recreations, for she worships Lawrence Olivier in the "Trial of Lady X." "Pansy" Taylor she can-

not tolerate. Ballet, as is fashionable, she adores; but being lowbrow is non-committal about which she prefers.

As you see, she takes the flippant view, looks at life through rose-tinted



spectacles. One of her greatest regrets is that the drive some years ago to kill off "social butterflies" was so effective. If they are a distraction to serious-minded intellectuals, if they offer temptations to our lusty Rhodes Scholars, they are also one bright feature of the average students' dull academic routine. Let us have more of them. Give us enough of them, so that we may brighten up and live. Altogether she is a woman of diverse talents, and one whose liberal opinions and tender sympathies make her a leading light in Varsity affairs.

The Directorship of Education

Some time ago the Government was urged by the W.E.A. to advertise the vacancy of the Directorship of Education throughout the English-speaking world and to offer a salary adequate to the position. Now "The News" of April 17 tells us "The Gov-

ernment does not contemplate going outside South Australia for a new Director of Education to succeed Mr. W. J. Adey, who will reach the retiring age on May 27." We think this decision most regrettable. There is no more responsible position in the State than the directorship, and it is our business not to choose South Australians first, but to select the best possible man available; as we choose now so will our schools be for a generation to come. After all, our minds are as important as our bodies, and if we were choosing a manufacturer of aircraft, or a surgeon to cut our legs off, we should consider ability first, and the place of residence of the man who had it second. Why not observe the same excellent principle in education?

To say this is not to reflect upon the abilities of those who we are told are likely to be considered for the position. We have said that the position should be advertised, so that all suitable men could apply. This means that local men would be eligible. Present members of the department could thus apply. Let them. And if one of them is the best available man let him be appointed. Otherwise not. We invite an expression of opinion on this subject before it is too late.

Sir William Mitchell Anton Dolin Speaks

(By J. L. G.)

We are to deal in the second of these weekly articles with Sir William Mitchell, Vice-Chancellor of the University. As his influence spreads so widely through this institution as to affect each one of us, if only in an indirect way, we should all know something of his life, his work, and his character.

Sir William Mitchell comes from Scotland. He was born in Banffshire and educated at Elgin and Edinburgh Universities, where he received the degrees of M.A. and D.Sc. in philosophy. For some time he lectured and examined in the United Kingdom in ethics, theory of education, and philosophy. There is an interesting anecdote of his lecturing days. An enthusiastic attendant at his lectures explained his regular attendance—that he felt sure he would find great originality in a lecturer who wore such vivid ties. The color of the ties was a brilliant shade of red. Sir William, who is red-blind, thought they were a chaste grey.



In 1894 he was appointed Hughes Professor in Philosophy and Economics at Adelaide University, a position that he held till 1923; he received the status of Emeritus Professor. He had already been Vice-Chancellor since 1916, and that position he still holds today. In 1925-26 he went abroad as Gifford Lecturer in Philosophy at Aberdeen. In January, 1927, after the celebration of the jubilee of the Adelaide University, he was created K.C.M.G.

His publications are "Structure and Growth of the Mind" and "The Place of Minds in the World." The value of these books as work in psychology few of us can appraise with any accuracy: as light and easy literature few of us would tackle them; we can only follow the high esteem in which they are held in academic circles.

A short sketch of a man's life often helps us to understand the man. To the few remarks, then, that I have made. I shall add that Sir William is very greatly liked by those who have worked with him or under him, and by all those to whose welfare he sees as Vice-Chancellor. He is proud of his Scottish extraction, but happily he does not speak the language of his forefathers: still, in his own person he supports the contention of Doctor Johnson upon the subject of Scotchmen. Let it also be said that Sir William is not very fond of publicity.

The Vice-Chancellor has made many benefactions to the University, among which those that bulk most largely are the iron gates leading in from Frome Road and the £20,000 which endowed a chair of bio-chemistry. But we may be pardoned in considering as his greatest benefaction his work as Vice-Chancellor to the University since 1916. This position in Adelaide is entirely an honorary one, and entails a great amount of work. In most of the universities this position is a paid one.

Sir William Mitchell's position is of the greatest importance in the administration of University affairs. His work brings him to the University nearly every afternoon and often for the whole day. At least twice each year he attends interstate conferences of Chancellors of Australian universities, where questions of importance to all Australian students are discussed.

Those who have had any dealings with him all testify to his scrupulous fairness and impartiality. He is ready to discuss any problems, and his suggestions are always both wise and helpful. In his position he has done more for students than any other man in the University.

Sir William Mitchell has been at the University of Adelaide for more than forty years, and in that time, as my short survey of his life must have shown, both his work and the great majority of his interests have lain in this place: this is so to-day, and may it be so for many more years.

Mr. Anton Dolin, celebrated dancer of the Covent Garden Ballet Company, spoke on Thursday last in the newly created Art Gallery above Black's Shoe Store in Rundle Street. The main object of his speech was to give some explanation of the numerous photographs displayed, which had been taken during the recent season in Sydney by Miss Nanette Kuehn.

Mr. Dolin told us he was "not a speech-maker," but he misled us. Neither too technical nor too vague, the talk he gave, though following no direct lines, was valuable as well as interesting.

Mr. Dolin considers photographs of ballet as parallel with gramophone records of singers and music. Photographs are valuable, obviously, to the dancer as well as interesting to the lover of ballet. Speaking of drawings of ballet, Mr. Dolin was far less enthusiastic. He had always failed to understand why ninety-nine artists out of every hundred made "the poor dancer exactly as he or she wished not to appear, made shoes size three look size thirteen and every leg a specimen of elephantianis."

He spoke highly of the work of Leonide Massine and David Lichine, especially of Massine's work in "Symphonie Phantastique," the original choreography of which was by Berlioz. Mr. Dolin maintained that the greatest good fortune he had had was the opportunity to work under Serge Diaghileff, whom he spoke of as one of the greatest assets ballet has ever had.

Mr. Dolin's speech lasted barely thirty minutes, which was indeed a disappointment. This report may sound bare and may contain nothing but a few well-known facts—if so, it is regrettable that I have failed to reproduce the charm and the intrinsic value of the address.

The photographs were extremely good, on the whole, especially several taken of "Les Sylphides" and "The Prodigal Son," and a few of David Lichine in various dances which afforded some faint conception of the great dancer we are unfortunate not to have seen.

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OUT OF JOINT

On Dit this year has been criticised for lacking continuity. It is quite true that there is no single purpose behind consecutive issues of the paper. That is necessary by circumstance, and is in any case desirable.

The present system divides the editorial work fairly evenly between four people, none of whom would have time to do all the work themselves. But then it also represents four different approaches to the publication of a student paper, and should therefore represent a wider range of student interests.

Each producer is urged by the editor to keep his purely personal opinions as much as possible in the background, the assumption being that a student's paper is not there as a propaganda machine for the views of any individual. Of course, when you have to write anything from thirty to fifty pad pages of MS. for the printer, it is impossible to keep the personal element right out of it. And it is not necessary to do so. But it is necessary, in our opinion, to restrict it as much as possible, and not to make the paper a sort of self-revelation of the editor. It must be emphasised that On Dit is the official organ of the Union and not of any individual. Hence it is desirable that as many people as possible, all representing different points of view, should be engaged in its production.

The last issue, by the way, which aroused much favorable comment, is the work of P. M. Viner Smith, who was too modest to put her name on the title page.

The Works of Michael Innes

Last Wednesday the Mr. J. A. La Nauze spoke to a large gathering of the Arts Association on the works of Michael Innes.

The lecturer explained that nothing certain was known about Innes and, he thought, never would be. There was some evidence suggesting that Innes had been done away with by the impostor who wrote "Lament for Maker." Attention would be confined to the only two works known to be authentic—"Death at the President's Lodgings" and "Hamlet, Revenge." These, though ostensibly detective stories, were really works of reflection and introspection, from which a good deal could be deduced about Innes's life and character. A careful examination of the texts showed that Innes was probably a clerk in a lawyer's office or a land and estate agency at Cambridge, and that circumstances prevented his achieving his dream, to be a member of the University. Among other evidence for this view were the slips he occasionally made in reporting conversations between academic characters, and the fact that the knowledge of English literature shown in the books, though wide, was not scholarly. After interpreting Innes's character at some length, Mr. La Nauze indulged in a flight of fancy. He made the supposition that the novels were really detective stories and examined their merits and defects according to the strict rules of that art, though he warned the audience that he had been called a fundamentalist. He gave warm praise to the style and manner, but suggested that the reader might sometimes be blinded by excess of style, and overlook elements which belonged to the thriller rather than the detective story. Particularly he criticised what he described as a breach of the "convention of narration" at the end of Part II of "Hamlet, Revenge." "Where the thud, thud of pointless red-herrings echoed through the reader's head." Much of Mr. La Nauze's argument on the art of the detective story was technical and parts of it, as he admitted, matters of personal taste. The audience showed some difference of opinion over his contention that there should be a corpse and a detective on the spot not later than chapter II.

Questions were fired at Mr. La Nauze afterwards and discussion was rife as to the identity of the author. It was decided in the end that Michael Innes was either dead or living in hiding.

DEBATING TEAM

Selected for country tour in the May vacation:—

- R. A. Blackburn
- G. W. Irwin.
- S. J. Jacobs.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

The ramifications of the management of the much-vaunted Commonwealth physical fitness campaign are comparable to the elaborate and intricate manoeuvres of not two, but numerous, armies. In spite of this, headway is being made, and at present it is most probable that a course in physical training will be established at this University, and that it will be conducted by the Teachers' College.

State delegates have recently been in conference with the Federal Minister of Health. As national physical fitness must be regarded as an integral part of national preparedness for a military emergency, further money and Government support should be forthcoming. At present the Commonwealth is offering £1,000 a year for three years. As, however, equipment is expensive, that is not as magnificent a sum as it sounds.

It is stressed in some quarters that the aim of a physical fitness campaign should not be to make supermen out of our athletes, but to make the unfit fit, that is, to raise them to ordinary standards of fitness. This will involve attention, not only to daily exercise, but to such points as habits of life, diet, etc.

It is to be hoped that extension of the anti-tuberculosis campaign will not be overlooked as a vital part in the physical fitness campaign.

New Day, April 19

"MODERN CIVILISATION KILLS PERSONALITY"

Mr. Jacobs (pro) defined personality as being synonymous with individuality. He deplored (1) the modern trend towards authoritarianism, (2) the submerging of the average individual in the modern economic machine, and (3) the personality of film stars being merely their ability "to grow sideboards half-way down their faces and to make a meal off Myrna Loy's lips."

Mr. Irwin (con) emphasised the word "kills." If personality is dead there must be no difference between, say, Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Kerr. On the contrary, however, personality is created and built up by modern civilisation. In the last fifty years the Great War has dealt the most crushing blow to personality, but afterwards the nations settled down to make, in theory at least, a treaty, the ideals of which have never been seen in history before.

Mr. Kerr (pro) maintained that personality needs for its development the possession of absolute values and these were impossible to hold in countries such as Germany and Italy. For present conditions he blamed the dictatorial method of press, radio and pictures. "Everything," he concludes, "is subjected to worship of the witch-goddess, success."

Mr. White (con) pointed out the growing abundance of leisure since the machine age began. America, the most industrialised of all countries, is, with its Mormons and Judge Rutherford, the most divergent. "Personality is always popping up!"

Mr. Gough (pro), speaking of American personalities, referred to them as "freaks who sit on poles and do funny things round Hollywood." He perpetrated a few outrageous puns, cast forth bitter aspersions on all and sundry, and spent most of his time refuting the arguments put forward by the opposition.

Mr. Price (con) argued that the very existence of concentration camps in and refugees from Germany proves that totalitarian States cannot crush individuality. His support of the machine age was based on the fact that machines do all the monotonous work and leave human beings time to do intellectual work.

Mr. Irwin (con), in his delightful, friendly style, summed up the arguments of his team. He made one remark which astounded himself as much as his listeners. Mr. Irwin later compared Mr. Gough's arguments with that part of the Almighty which "passeth all understanding."

Mr. Jacobs (pro) also made use of his summary for a brief outlet of fippancy. The only semblance of truth, he affirmed, in South Australia was in "Smith's Weekly." In reference to Mr. Price's statement that one "does not come out of the pictures entirely blank"—Mr. Jacobs suggested that it depended on whom one went in with. (!Eds.)

The motion was put to the house and defeated. "The NO's have it," said Mr. Johnson from the chair.

LISTER PRIZE

The Lister Prize for 1939 was won by H. B. Holmes. Holmes, who was hot favorite for the event, is a well-known member of the Union, having figured prominently on numerous committees during the past three years. He is secretary of the Med. Society this year, and amidst his numerous official and unofficial jobs and enterprises, he takes prizes in his stride. The Lister Prize is given for the examination of surgical cases.

The rest of the year were shrewd enough to make a pact that whoever won the prize had to turn on a keg of beer for the year. Holmes couldn't very well say that the arrangement was unfair, so he had to come in on it.

Congratulations, Henry, for winning the prize, and congratulations to the rest of the year for diddling him out of half of it.

Should We Have a Diploma in Journalism?

The calendar of the University of Western Australia recently came into the hands of the Editors, and we were able to study the syllabus set for the Diploma of Journalism. The fame of this course and of its material, mental and moral values have travelled to Adelaide a great time ago, and it is high time indeed that this University turned its eyes for a moment away from the East and threw a cursory glance Westward.

- The syllabus for the diploma is:
- (1) Political science.
 - (2) Economic geography.
 - (3) Australian history.
 - (4) Contemporary literature and English composition.
 - (5) Technical journalism, A and B.
 - (6) Four units selected, with the approval of the Director of Journalistic Studies, from the regulation Arts subjects.

The course is to take four years and two years newspaper work must be done before the diploma can be received. An essay is set every year apart from the prescribed course, and three of these must be handed in.

For those who already have a Bachelor of Arts degree and wish to take up journalism, special arrangements are made. Such a person must do the courses in technical journalism, two years newspaper work, and two of the special courses set out above.

The Editors can see no reason why there should be any difficulty in establishing such a course in the Adelaide University. We do not suggest that the above curriculum be strictly adhered to. Instead of doing political science and Australian history, perhaps the course could contain History I and II and Political Science. This would definitely be of more value and would necessitate no changes in our present system.

The only difficulty would lie in gaining the necessary co-operation of the morning and evening newspapers. As it would be to their advantage to have at their disposal young journalists trained in the State, this should not present any real difficulty. It should be quite easy to find someone to lecture in technical journalism. (Might we suggest that two years' work on On Dit would teach anyone all the technical journalism they could desire to know?)

Such a diploma would be extraordinarily welcome here in South Australia. Other universities have already made a tremendous success of the course, and the excuse cannot be made that we would be treading untrodden paths. The Adelaide University has a widely spread reputation for its high standard and progressiveness, and it would be a great pity if we lagged behind, or lagged still further behind, in this important and necessary development.

WOMEN LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The annual general meeting of the above association was held on Tuesday, April 18. There was a good attendance, practically all students being present. Four freshers have joined the ranks of the society, the membership of which has decreased within the last few years.

The annual report was not altogether satisfactory. Most of the debates had to be cancelled, and the attempt to amalgamate with the men's association was not successful. However, it is hoped that we will be able to attend their debates.

The question of debates within the association itself was raised, and it was decided that a more determined effort should be made to arrange them.

The following officers were elected:—President, Professor Campbell; hon. secretary, Miss G. Woodger; treasurer, Miss S. Anderson; committee, Misses J. Beaton, G. Rhodes, E. Teesdale Smith (freshers' representative).

On Saturday morning the association entertained Miss Lillian Lovick, who had been admitted to the Bar earlier, at morning tea. There was a large attendance, and the gathering was most enjoyable.

WEST END
XXX BITTER BEER

Change to
ARDATH SPECIALS
CIGARETTES
10 for 9d. 20 for 1/6

CORRESPONDENCE

THE EDITOR

Sir,—Walking along North Terrace last week and observing the floral decorations so beautifully arranged, it was rather an anti-climax to see in front of the University nought but an expanse of green lawn. Do not think that I abuse the lawn! I think it an excellent specimen of its kind. But I do think that the University could have organised something in the way of supporting Flower Day. We expect a certain amount of support from Adelaide's citizens; if there weren't any citizens our fees would probably be about double their present rate. So it seems to me that in return we should support their movement. It is really deplorable that Sir Samuel James Way should be decorated by people who have probably not the slightest interest in him.

Not expecting that anything will be done in this direction.

Yours, etc.,
"FLOWER-POT."

THE VAPORS

Sir,—As one of about 140 first year students who three times a week find their weary way to the Rennie Lecture Theatre for enlightenment in all matters pertaining to the chemical science, I feel obliged to express my pent-up feelings on the following matter.

For one hour each lecture we sit crammed together in a theatre with all windows shut and blinds down. All types of vapors from the laboratories diffuse into the theatre, and we are forced to inhale ethereal odors, mainly composed of H₂S, acid fumes, and about four times as much CO₂ as is healthy for us to do. I appreciate the fact that the theatre has to be darkened when the epidiascope is in use, but this is not wanted every lecture.

On emerging into the light of day and into an atmosphere containing a normal amount of carbon dioxide, viz, about 0.04%, it is like breaking the surface of a pool after a lengthy dive.

Besides the unhealthiness of the air, is there any reason why we should be forced to write notes under electric light when by the mere operation of raising the blinds we may save our eyesight by working under normal light? Yours sincerely,

CLAUSTROPHOBIC CUTHBERT.

DISPLAY OR USE?

Sir,—On entering the Murray Hall the other day, shortly after midday, I looked up at the electric clock to see exactly what time it was. To my astonishment it read twenty minutes past eight. I have observed the clock several times, but even my imagination cannot persuade me to record its time as anything like correct. On casting round in my mind for possible causes of this strange unchronometrical behaviour, it occurred to me that a possible cause is that the electric power is switched off during the day, with the result that the poor clock has to labor all night in a hopeless attempt to catch up to time. And time, as we all know, waits for no man, and absolutely ignores clocks.

In the interests of fair play and accuracy, I would suggest that the clock be given a chance of exhibiting normal behaviour, and that it should not be cut off from its vital supplies at any stage of the day or night.—I am,
GALLILEO.

YOUNG LADIES' PROBLEMS

Sir,—Fathers who are cajoled into lending their cars to their daughters would surely be very grateful if my suggestion were put into force. I would suggest that a weekly feature of On Dit should be a column devoted to the elucidation of such problems as might worry young ladies totally ignorant of the internal workings of the cars they are butchering.

I was led to make this suggestion after a most amazing reply I received last week. I observed a black fluid dripping from the exhaust pipe of a female's car. On being told that her mixture was too rich, she replied, "It can't be. I had it oiled and greased this morning." Such ignorance, naive or otherwise, is scarcely compatible with the motto "Lumen sub cruce" which I have seen somewhere in this place of enlightenment.

Could not something be done about this? I am, sir,
"DISGUSTED."

THE HARD HEART OF THE UNIVERSITY

Sir,—We like to think of Adelaide as the University City, because, for its size, it has a fair University and because the citizens of Adelaide take a pride in their University. This pride is in several ways less obvious within the Varsity itself.

For a University where lectures play so prominent a part and are regarded as so vital, lecture room accommodation is shockingly poor.

Generally each student is provided with a rickety nursery chair and a swaying table precariously suspended on crossed legs (that is, the table), or if he is lucky enough to be in one of the more "modern" lecture theatres he has to sit on a hard and unyielding step designed by an architect with singularly little imagination, still less fellow-feeling, and a complete ignorance of the shape of the human buttock and back. And in this same theatre he has to rest his notebook on an old paling, held up by tottering wooden or iron supports, and vibrating sympathetically to the movements of a long row of pens. In addition, its slope is subtly designed so that the value of G is kept just above the value of frictional resistance, with the result that books, if not held in position, slowly slide to the edge and then make a stately dive for the floor.

The lower part of the student's back is occupied by the boots of the student immediately behind him. A little higher up, at a point judiciously chosen to produce the maximum discomfort, his back is suddenly impinged upon by another paling which is in a state of perpetual motion as it also serves as a knee-rest for the row of students behind him. With some of the quite recently built theatres as models, it is a wonder that the authorities still tolerate these archaic monstrosities. It surely would not be too ridiculously costly to rebuild some of the old theatres and bring them up to modern standards.

The acoustics of many of the old theatres, too, are so bad that it is a continual strain to listen to the lecturer, and often even straining is of no avail. Frequently the lecturer's respect for his vocal cords may be partly to blame for this. On the other hand some well-meaning lecturers bellow so loudly that there is nothing but a chaotic confusion of echoes, and the bewildered student does not know whether he is hearing the last sentence or the next.

But, worst of all in this country of extreme climates, ventilation and temperature control are often either lacking completely or else totally inadequate. So many of the theatres preserve the fine old air of many decades ago, and with windows and blinds secure to keep out the light, also keep oxygen at a minimum and carbon dioxide at a maximum. In the winter the student freezes in a dank and musty atmosphere, and in the summer—well, it is indelicate to talk about some things, even to your best friends. Yours,

PRESPIRATOR.

'VARSITY BALL

Sir,—In the last edition of On Dit my attention was drawn to the column about the Varsity Ball. Through it I learnt that up to the present the ball has been a flop owing to poor attendance and also that they wanted much better support.

This year also the ball will be a flop on account of the date chosen. I say this knowing that I have many to support me. How can the secretaries hope to make the show a success when they choose a date right in the middle of the exams, meaning that some two hundred members will be unable to attend because they have a Physics I examination next day.

Do you think that it would be possible to postpone the ball to a later date? Yours disappointedly,

PHYSICS I.

**SUPPORT
OUR ADVERTISERS**

Orchestral Concerts for 1939

Following is the list (subject to alteration) of celebrity orchestral concerts for 1939:—

June 17.—Georg Szell (conductor), Edmund Kurtz (solo artist).

June 24.—Bernard Heinze (conductor), Artur Schnabel (solo artist).

July 15.—William Cade (conductor), Marcel Dupre (solo artist).

August 5.—Malcolm Sargent (conductor). The name of the solo artist for this concert has not been released.

Prices of single tickets, inclusive of tax, for each of the concerts will be:

"A" Reserve	9/4
"B" Reserve	7/-
"C" Reserve	4/8
Unreserved	2/4

Subscribers' Season Tickets.

Subscribers will benefit by considerable reductions on the prices for single tickets. It should be noted that all prices shown below include tax and booking fees. Following are season ticket rates for subscribers:—

"A" Reserve	£17/7/2
"B" Reserve	£10/0/9
"C" Reserve	13/9
Unreserved	7/4

Students' Concessions.

The Commission is anxious to give musicians, and particularly students, the opportunity of benefiting by the visits of world-famed artists, and 1939 will mark an innovation in the

shape of special students and teachers' subscription concessions. The following special concessions will be granted to a strictly limited number of bona-fide music students or teachers:—

"A" Reserve	£10/0/9
"B" Reserve	14/11
"C" Reserve	10/8

Reserve "A."

(1) Subscribers in Reserves "A" may in future retain their seats from season to season. 1938 subscribers who desire to occupy the seats previously held must intimate the fact on the application form, which should be forwarded to the Commission's office not later than Wednesday, May 24.

(2) The plan will be available at Allan's, 51 Rundle Street, from May 25 to 31 inclusive, for 1938 subscribers who may wish to change the position of their seats.

(3) The box plan will be available at Allan's for new subscribers from June 1 to 8 inclusive.

Reserves "B" and "C."

No guarantee of the same seats can be given to the 1938 subscribers to the "B" and "C" reserves. These seats must be re-booked. The box plan will be available at Allan's from Monday, June 1, to Thursday, June 8 inclusive, after which date it will be thrown open to the general public.

The Future of the Footlights Revue

After a lapse of two years the Footlights Club revived the erstwhile annual revue, which was presented for a season of two nights in December, 1938.

From the outset the committee was confronted with several obstacles, foremost of which were those of comparison with the highly successful and talented revues of the past and the lack of performers to make possible a revue for 1938.

However, a band of players was eventually formed, the greater majority of whom had little or no previous experience, and the revue went on.

From this experiment, two facts emerged with startling clarity.

Firstly, the company played to two well-filled houses. Probably this was the most sincere tribute the public could pay to the confidence it placed in members of the University in putting on a good night's entertainment.

Secondly, the good work done by the entire company despite the fact that in most cases it was a first attempt.

Criticisms were given quite freely after the show had run its season, but in practically every case it was agreed that the spade work in reviving the revue had been successfully accomplished.

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 26: Swing Club meeting in Lady Symon Hall at 1.30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 26: Science Association in the Refectory at 8.00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2: Footlights Club in the George Murray Hall at 1.20 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2: Aquinas Society (Women) in the Lady Symon Hall at 8 p.m.

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By the kind permission of the Conservatorium we may use our gramophone at the following times:—

Mondays: 12.00—2.30 p.m. and after 4.30 p.m.

Tuesdays: 12.30—2.30 p.m. and after 4.00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 12.30—2.00 p.m. and after 4.30 p.m.

Thursdays: 12.30—2.30 p.m. and after 4.00 p.m.

Fridays: 12.30—2.30 p.m. and after 3.30 p.m.

The gramophone is incarcerated in the South Hall of the Conservatorium.

GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY

Be early on May Day and hear the "Eroica" Symphony of Beethoven at 1.20 p.m. in the South Hall (Conserv.). This is the first of a series chosen by popular request, and held every Monday lunch time. Remember May 1—and all roll along.

TO-DAY

IS THE LAST DAY FOR ENTRIES FOR THE

ANNUAL SPORTS

TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 5.

THE VALUE OF EMOTION IN PICTORIAL ART

[This is the second of a series of articles on art by Miss M. P. Harris, of the School of Arts and Crafts. These are part of the aesthetic fitness campaign being conducted by On Dit.]

II.

Rupert Brooke astonishes us with the simple beauty of everyday things, "plates and cups, clean, gleaming, ringed with blue lines" and "the strong crust of friendly bread."

Chardin in a splendid still life picture in the National Gallery shows a loaf of bread, a bottle, a glass, and knife so finely portrayed that we are made newly aware. The disposition of the objects is as beautiful as the depths and subtlety of tone values and contrasts.

Our tendency is to search for imitative and literal truth, the rendering of surfaces, textures, and accidental appearances. But we must look for the deeper truths, the underlying qualities of structure and movement: from which, in a figure, we infer the intentions, or in a tree, the nature of its growth. In everything that grows, that moves, or has life of any sort, from a figure to a flower unfolding or a tree bending in the wind, something is conveyed by that life and movement; if we do not get this we fail, however expertly we may finish the details of the work. "A work of art is only a work of art when it is created by the spirit of the person himself."

What we see in the greatest works is the artist's perception of nature—and the greatest men see farthest.

In pointing out to a student some obvious defect, one often hears the reply, "Well, I did it from nature;" and we make reply, "Is that all you see in nature?"

No two artists copying the same scene will give the same interpretation of it. Even as Chardin chose to portray the life of the poor when Fragonard and Boucher were displaying the artificiality and splendor of the court prior to the Revolution, so did Millet nearly a century later depict the life of the peasant, when all sign of labor was expected to be hidden underground. Millet's pictures, now acclaimed as masterpieces, were at first despised and rejected because of public distaste for their subject matter and what was then considered a coarseness of technique and sad quality of color. True art, it was then considered, should have a smooth and academic finish, aping the beauty of a thing born and not made. The ideal was a lady so perfectly turned out that she had never done a day's work in her life!

When a man of independent mind is born he creates a new school. Reynolds, Gainsborough, and Hogarth revolted against the tradition of Kneller and Hudson. The great eighteenth century school of portrait painters gave place to the doctrine of the Pre-Raphaelites. This again was superseded by the modern movements.

It is not enough for a work of art to bear a likeness to nature. Personal experience must be summed up and emphasised in terms of decoration.

In the art of the Japanese no attempt is made to copy nature. Their painting inspired by nature is in itself creative. For beauty of pattern and exquisiteness of technique it remains unsurpassed.

An ancient artist says:—"When a picture seems to be alive with motion and breath, as though of heavenly creation, it may be called a work of genius. When the touches are above the ordinary and the washes are in accord with good taste, a fertility of motif controlling the whole, it may be called a work of excellence. When there is a correctness of form and a general observance of rules, the result may be called a work of ability."

With the breath of the four seasons in one's breast, one will be able to create on paper. The five colors well applied enlighten the world.

Note "The Potatoe Planters." Horizontal lines suggest peace. An arc which may be drawn embracing the two figures is symbolic of unity.

"The Gleaners." A rhythmic composition may be traced in radiating curves of the backs, hands, and feet of the three figures. "He is where the tiller is tilling the hard ground and where the path maker is breaking stones. He is with them in sun and in shower, and his garment is covered with dust."—Tagore.

The Sporting Page

J. M. McPHIE, Editor. MARGARET COWELL, Reporter.

FOUR BASEBALL TEAM WINS. FOOTBALL, SOCCER LOSE

The baseballers had a day out on Saturday, when all four teams won their matches. This is a very promising start for the season, and we hope that it will be kept up.

Both football teams were easily defeated—the A's by Exeter and the B's by Banks.

Trial matches were played in rugby, lacrosse, and men's and women's hockey in preparation for their first matches next week.

The annual sports will be held on the Oval on Friday afternoon, May 5, and everyone should endeavor to run in at least one event. Entries must be handed in to-day.

CLUB SECRETARIES

If you want to keep your club on the map make sure that you send in your reports to On Dit each week. They must be left in the Sports Editor's box at the front office before 10 a.m. on Mondays. Match results, with brief resumes and any other matters of interest, should be included.

Anything up to 250 or 300 words is almost sure of inclusion intact (although the Editor reserves the right to delete any matter as he sees fit). More lengthy reports may be sent in, and will be printed if space permits, as will frequently be the case.

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HOCKEY

On Saturday the A and B teams played trial matches against Parkside and Teachers' College respectively.

The A's have had to be reorganised this year owing to the loss of six of last year's team, and the result proved more satisfactory than expected. This was in part, however, due to our good fortune in gaining two new players transferred from other A grade teams. Ted Smith, a former interstate player, has come from Centaurs, while Wickes, from Teachers' College, previously played with Parkside. With these two and Frank Fenner, last year's captain, a probable starter, a good combination should be developed.

As to Saturday's trials, the results were quite pleasing, although both teams lost—the A's 6-5; the B's 3-0. The A's, playing together for the first time and without Hargrave, suffered from an almost complete lack of system as well as, in some cases, an apparent lack of training.

Motteram was unusually subdued as a result of a recent operation, but we hope that he will soon be his usual playful self! Whether his experiment at half-back was a success we leave to him, but his absence from the back line left a weakness which could be ill-afforded.

Although Clarke and Yates played sound games independently, they lacked co-operation, nor did they give the goalkeeper as much help as they should.

Cocks says that he has given up the grog, but if this is so he should be advised to go right back to it. Although he did some sound saves, and, as stated, was overworked, he was not up to his usual high standard.

The halves, too, need practice, although Ted Smith played very well in the later stages of Saturday's game.

The forwards, who had not played together before, naturally lacked system. Fenner, however, at centre forward, did a wonderfully good job, and kept them on the move. In addition he hit two goals without much assistance. The remaining three goals were hit by Knight, who did the right thing whenever he got a chance.

The B's had a number of players new to the game in their team, and under the circumstances their defeat was not discouraging. In fact, the displays of some of the recruits, including James and Camens, augers well for the future.

RIFLE CLUB

On Saturday the fifth M.D.R.U. match was held at Port Adelaide. A.U.R.C. entered three teams as usual. The No. 1 team shooting in A grade put up an excellent performance, their score of 528 being only two behind Metro. No. 1, whose score was top of the range. No. 11 team also had a good shoot, and reached the limit in the handicap event. This team is now well up in both championship and handicap aggregates.

The No. III team, however, did not fare so well, and dropped back several places in the aggregate. However, this team provides good match practice for the new members, and we would urge those who have not taken up any sport yet to join the rifle club or at least become efficient, which requires three attendances at the range.

Two "possibles" were scored on Saturday; one by A. B. Robertson and one by C. J. Starling. Best scores for the day were:—

A. B. Robertson	40	39	79
A. E. Welbourne	39	39	78
W. C. R. Brooke	38	38	76
L. S. Burfield	39	37	76

On Tuesday the team travelled to Goolwa to meet the local team.

'VARSITY WOMEN'S AWAKENING

Last Monday the first meeting in connection with the University Women's Voluntary Service Detachment was held. In order to give some idea of what was expected of us and the unlimited possibilities, etc., of the movement, Miss Phyllis Crompton came down and addressed a large and enthusiastic gathering in the Lady Symon Hall. So the female students of the Varsity have at last (and admittedly a bad last) begun to sit up and take notice of the imminent international situation and do something about it!

Lectures are given on the St. John Ambulance course, home nursing, and air raid precautions, as well as there being sections for transport, cooking, and catering. At the end of each course a voluntary examination may be taken by all those who have attended five out of the six lectures.

Before the close of the meeting elections were held for officers of the V.S.D., the results being:—Officer in charge, Miss E. Irwin; second officer, Miss Joy Tassie, and quartermaster, Miss B. Warhurst. The committee were to arrange in the near future a time for the weekly two-hour lectures. Monday eventually being chosen.

INDIVIDUAL OUTPOURINGS

Dear Sir (whoever you are this week),—I had intended to write you after your issue of April 4, but decided not to waste more of my energy. The issue of April 18, however, has not only repeated but aggravated the offence of which I must complain.

I must protest against your hypocrisy and apparent insincerity. In your pages for the two previous weeks, as for several years back, you have exhorted club secretaries to send in reports, etc., but what you do not give publicity to is the fact that in practice individual outpourings are frequently preferred to secretarial reports, which are usually composed and delivered in time only after considerable effort.

About April 3, the position of sports editor seemed to be in a state of flux on the vital day before issue, but with the assistance of the previous sports editor I managed to deliver to the right quarter at our printers the University tennis tournament's ties for the week.

On Tuesday, April 4, On Dit, unfortunately, duly appeared, and you, sir, who implore secretaries to send in reports which after all mainly affect one club only, had the temerity—

(1) Not to print matter relating to the one event of which the Sports Association compels the annual occurrence and which affects members of all clubs throughout the association.

(2) To print in its place three letters, more valuable I admit than the spate of individual grievances on the third page, but all of which could have been deferred for a week.

(3) To positively fill space with half a column of unsigned drivel entitled "Affection, Dogs, Etc." which bore every indication of being a product of the editor who informed all the world that he produced the edition, and reiterated that it is not his practice to intrude himself in print. For every one that read, understood, and was amused at that, Mr. Editor, ten berated me for not having the ties published.

Baseball Has a Day Out

FOUR TEAMS OUT OF FOUR HAVE GOOD WINS

Saturday, April 22.—The A team played a very fine and steady game to beat Port Adelaide 4-1. The most noticeable feature was something that wasn't there, the collapse around about the fifth innings.

Varsity batted first, without success. Port Adelaide followed with their one run, the result of well-bunched hits. The second innings saw no runs. In the third innings, after some bunched hitting, Gough just failed to reach the plate for Varsity. The fourth saw our first run, when Catt crossed the plate after hitting his second safely for three bags and taking the fourth on short-stop's error. In the fifth innings Johnston, third up, swatted a home run tailing away from left-field. Our last two runs came in the seventh innings from safe hits, aided by wild pitches from Neaylon, who had been brought into the box in place of Howard. We scored no more runs, but managed to hold Port Adelaide off by tight fielding, with one exception, in the last three innings.

Rose pitched very well and steadily, his ground fielding was very cool. Kilgariff caught safely, in spite of his self-mutilated finger, though his throw-over was not very formidable; however, not many of our opponents gave it a trial, Catt being on second. Swan at first base took two very nice foul flies and was otherwise good. The scorer kindly recorded no error in the infield, which was working smoothly. Of the outfield, Lewis dropped a catch, but only because it was too easy to take. The batting returned eleven hits, three to Catt, two each to Johnston, Lewis, Kilgariff, one to Rose and Gough. There were only two K2's, to Swan and Kilgariff. On the whole a very successful match.

The B's had a fine win, almost a whitewash, 9-1, defeating Adelaide,

who started with seven players and ended with five. Noack pitched well, getting five K2's and no hit against him. There was one error and a wild pitch, both in the fifth innings, bringing the Adelaide man across the plate. Our score came from five runs in the third, one in the sixth, and three in the fifth. There were seven hits, evenly distributed, Noack and Schwarz alone failing to get one. Unfortunately there were only five innings played, and our team was not extended, Adelaide not fielding the full nine. Still, it is a happy start to the season, and with the number of men that the Baseball Club has at its disposal the standard should be high and the B team come near to winning the premiership.

The C team downed West Torrens, 11-8, playing in the Metro B grade. Our safe-hitters were Statton and Johnston (each 3), Miller-Randle (2), Backhouse, Alderman, Britten-Jones, and Anderson (1 each). In all we hit twelve times to West Torrens four times.

The D team, playing in Metro C, gave us our fourth win for the day by beating Railways 6-5. Arthur hit two safeties, Southcott, Todd, Slade, and Hughes each one. The opposing side had only three hits: our pitcher, Slade, on the mound for the first time ever, hurled well and gave little away. The game was close, and as the record of hits shows, our batting must be improved.

So for the first time (we think) in its history the Baseball Club had four wins on the same Saturday from a similar number of teams. Our club shows the way to the rest in number of teams, if not in membership, and has had a magnificent start to the season. All teams are to be heartily congratulated.

SOCCER

The A team played Cheltenham on Saturday and unfortunately lost by 4 goals to 2. Our forwards time and again missed good chances of scoring, and it is felt that much more practice is needed.

Those worthy of mention are Kuchel and Parsons. Goals were scored by Harris and Luscombe.

TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The finals have been played in most events, and those remaining will be decided this week. Neil Hargrave is to be congratulated on the efficiency with which he, almost alone, has conducted the tournament. It has been completed in little over a month, and so the clash with winter sports usually considered unavoidable has been practically eliminated.

Ross Lock defeated Polly Moran to win the open singles championship and Luscombe to win the open singles handicap.

Barbara Welbourne won the women's singles handicap from J. Chamberlain, and with B. Mills defeated N. Walker and E. Teesdale Smith in the women's doubles.

Dick Snow was successful in the club singles handicap, with Luscombe runner-up.

The mixed doubles was won by Hammil and J. Tassie from Hargrave and B. Welbourne.

Finals of the invitation mixed and the club singles championship have yet to be played. Results:—

Open Singles Championship (final): Lock R. d. Moran J. F., 6-1, 6-1.

Open Singles Handicap: Semi-final—Lock R. d. Rolland B., 9-5. Final—Lock R. d. Luscombe K., 9-4.

Club Singles Championship: Semi-final—Gurner C. M. d. Ward K. H., 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Club Singles Handicap: Semi-final—Snow R. A. W. d. Hargrave N. C., 9-5. Final—Snow R. A. W. d. Luscombe K., 9-6.

Women's Singles Handicap: Final—B. Welbourne d. J. Chamberlain, 9-4.

Mixed Doubles Handicap: Semi-final—Hargrave N. C. and B. Welbourne d. Cleland P. F. and E. Irwin, 6-3, 6-5. Final—Hammil R. D. and J. Tassie d. Hargrave N. C. and B. Welbourne, 5-6, 6-5, 6-4.

Women's Doubles Handicap: Final—B. Welbourne and B. Mills d. N. Walker and E. Teesdale Smith, 6-5, 6-3.

Invitation Mixed Doubles: Semi-finals—Lock R. and J. Edwards d. Laphorne C. and S. Macpherson, 6-5, 6-0; Hargrave N. C. and J. Stuckey d. Menzies D. C. and P. Whitford, 6-2, 5-6, 6-5.

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Your sincerely,
P. B. SEC.
P.S.—This week your sports editor is to be obliged to write the results, etc., himself.
[For sending this much we thank you.—Ed.]