

# On Dit

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

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# Elections Third Term?

## Proposed Alteration to Union Constitution

A general meeting of the Union has been called for next Thursday during the lunch-hour, for the purpose of amending the Union Constitution. General meetings this year have not met a happy fate, perhaps because they have dealt with matters not of general interest, but this one will allow no scope for the escape of surplus hot air on ill-defined political issues. It is a meeting that vitally affects the student body as a whole and one the outcome of which may affect the subsequent control of student activities.

The motion, to be moved by E. F. Johnston and seconded by A. P. Cherry, the president of the Men's Union, is as follows:—

In the matter of the Constitution of the Adelaide University Union and in the matter of a proposed amendment thereto.

We, Elliott Frank Johnston and Alan Percival Cherry, both members of the Adelaide University Union, hereby give notice pursuant to Clause 33 of the Constitution of the said Union that at a general meeting of the members of the said Union to be held on Thursday, August 10, 1939, at 1.30 p.m., in the George Murray Hall, we intend to move that the said Constitution be amended as follows, that is to say—

That Clause 12 thereof be amended so as to read thus:—

"12a. All elections to the Men's Union Committee and the Women's Union Committee shall be held not later than the 30th day of September of each year.

"b. All elections to the Union Committee pursuant to sub-clauses (h) and (i) of Clause 11 hereof shall be held within 14 days after the elections referred to in sub-clause (a) of this section.

"(c) All members appointed to the Union Committee shall hold office from the 1st day of January to the 31st day of December, provided that any member so appointed who at the time of his appointment is not already a member of the committee to which he is appointed should be entitled to be present at but not to speak or to vote at all meetings of such committee held after the date of his appointment and before the date of his taking office."

Dated this 2nd day of August, 1939.  
Proposer—Elliott Johnston.  
Secunder—Alan Cherry.

### EFFECT OF AMENDMENT.

The effect of the amendment is shortly this—that all student members of the committees of the Union, Men's Union and Women's Union, will be elected during third term. At present the practice as far as male candidates are concerned is to announce nominations at the annual general meeting of the Union held on the second Friday in term, and to conduct the actual voting week immediately thereafter. The committee is therefore not elected until at least three weeks after the beginning of the year.

Under the suggested system, all elections for Men's Union and Women's Union committees will be held before September 30 of each year. These two committees nominate representatives for the general Union committee (the women as a matter of practice, the men in accordance with the amendment to the Constitution passed at the last annual general meeting); these appointments would have to be made within 14 days

after the completion of the elections. All student appointments to the committee would then be completed by not later than October 14.

The committees so appointed would not take office until January 1 of the following year. During the period between their election and their taking office they will be permitted to attend but not to speak or vote at all meetings of their particular committee.

The proposed amendment has been suggested by Elliott Johnston, who wrote a letter on the subject to the secretary of the Union and which was considered by the last Union committee meeting. The committee expressed itself as being entirely in favor of the amendment, and left the proposer to take the necessary steps to put the matter before the Union. The president has directed the secretary to call Thursday's meeting.

In his letter Johnston set out the following reasons as being the basis of his suggestion:—

1. For obvious academic reasons Union activity should be greatest during first term. Under the present election system the first committee meeting is not held until about four weeks after term; no sub-committees are appointed until then, and the whole of Union affairs are unnecessarily delayed.

2. Even after elections have been held, most members are not sufficiently cognisant of Union matters to be able to do their work efficiently until they have had time to become acquainted with questions of policy, administration, etc.

3. Delegates to the National Union should be appointed from among those who are likely to be important figures on the next year's Union committee. At the present time delegates receive their instructions from a committee which is almost due to go out of office.

4. The position may frequently arise under the present system where there will be no president available until the new committee meets. This position arose this year, Mr. Bridgland having received an appointment at Canberra during the vac. His absence, coupled with that of the vice-president, Miss Helen Wighton, produced much confusion and delay.

5. The elections will be less difficult to arrange during third term, when there is little activity, than during first term, when meetings are as numerous as societies and clubs. The letter also adds that Melbourne University (which from the point of view of student administration is certainly the most advanced in Australia) conducts its elections in third term, as do Brisbane and Tasmania. The suggested system would allow members actually elected to acquaint themselves with Union files, policy, administration, current matters, etc., during the long vacation, with the result that from the first day of term the committees would be efficient, informed, and able to carry on without any waste of a four-week period.

## Wider Vacation Horizons

### Student Tours of Gippsland, Tasmania, and New Zealand

Three specially arranged student tours for the coming summer vacation were announced recently by the Travel Department of the N.U.A.U.S. after some quiet work with maps, calendars, and tourist bureaux.

Gippsland, Tasmania, and New Zealand are the locations chosen for what promise to be hilarious, strenuous, educative holiday trips at a minimum cost. Students who have seen the plans have already declared that these jaunts are just what's wanted for a vacation let-up.

Travel Department of N.U.A.U.S. makes its announcement at this early date so students can start saving for the trips. The ordinarily impecunious student will be able to manage the tour of Gippsland at £7/12/6 in December, 1939. The pick of Tasmania's mountain reserves will be available for 11 guineas in January, 1940, and the run of both islands of New Zealand is offered for £50 in February, 1940.

Full details of places to be visited, and of travelling arrangements will be released early next term. At present we are told that the parties will be formed of students from the different States, and will aim at giving students the chance to enjoy the camaraderie of undergraduate life while living as a holiday tripper.

This double-barrelled attraction is to be a feature of all N.U.A.U.S. tours.

### Camaraderie and Scenery.

Interviewed in Adelaide recently about the prospects of the tours, the N.U.A.U.S. Travel Department Secretary, Frank W. Coaldrake, said that he was very pleased that his department had been able to make this early announcement. The tours had been selected, he said, with a view to providing students with the chance to widen their horizons by travelling, and to widen their friendships by travelling in company with other students.

When asked to comment on the tours he said that the Gippsland tour for a mixed party of about fifty students soon after the annual examinations was very enticing, but he would prefer the mountain climbing for males only provided by the Tasmanian proposals. The Tasmanian tour had the additional advantage, he said, that the tourists would be able to attend the N.U.A.U.S. Conference in Hobart at the end of the tour.

"Only students with money will be able to afford the New Zealand trip," he added, "but with the co-operation of the New Zealand University Students' Association president, Mr. Jack Aimers, a very good tour has been planned.

"We have everything under control, and will publish full details about each of the tours during third term.

"You'll see our posters. We aim to make 'Travel' the talk."

These tours will be available to students of all Australian Universities. For further details write direct, or get your Union secretary to write, to the secretary, the Travel Department, N.U.A.U.S., the University, Melbourne.

## Introductions for Travellers

### NEW N.U.A.U.S. SERVICE

Are you going away with an inter-Varsity team? Are you planning to visit another State during the August vacation? If so take with you one of the new N.U.A.U.S. identity cards. These have nothing to do with the National Register or the Police, but they will provide you with an introduction to the students (and staff, too) of other universities, and it will enable you to obtain reciprocal membership privileges in the unions of other universities.

These N.U.A.U.S. introductions will be valuable; they cost you nothing, and you may obtain yours from the secretary, the A.U. Union. Apply now for your N.U.A.U.S. Identity Card. Present it to any student official or union officer in the university you are visiting and you can be sure of receiving every assistance and courtesy.

### Introductions Abroad, Too.

Any students who are going abroad to study or for a holiday can

obtain letters of introduction to the National Unions of Students in other countries by writing to the secretary of the N.U.A.U.S., Chester Wilmot, c/o University of Melbourne, Carlton, N.3, Victoria.

Mr. Wilmot knows personally the officials of the National Unions of Students, or other appropriate student bureaux, in England, Scotland, Ireland, U.S.A., Canada, and Germany. He will give any student travelling abroad letters of introduction and advice re travel, etc.

It is worth your while to have these introductions, for the National Union officials in Britain in particular are most helpful, and save the visitor much time and trouble in matters such as lodging, travel, post-graduate courses, and general student contacts.

If you want introductions, write and ask for them, and send full particulars of your course here, and your interests and objects abroad.

(Replica of Identity Card)

### NATIONAL UNION OF AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

Introducing MR. WURTZL FLUMMERY, a third year student of Science at the University of Adelaide, and a member of the N.U.A.U.S. Mr. Flummery is a member of the N.U.A.U.S. Council and the Adelaide Union Committee. He is visiting Melbourne as a member of the Inter-Varsity Poker Team.

K. Hamilton, Secretary, Adelaide University Union.

### NATIONAL UNION OF AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

To Staff and Student Members of Australian Universities—  
The bearer is visiting your University. The N.U.A.U.S. would be grateful if you would extend to the bearer the same help and privileges which you would extend to a member of your own University or Union.

R. W. W. WILMOT,  
General Secretary, N.U.A.U.S.

## Inter-'Varsity Contests

The second term vacation will see Adelaide striving in five capital cities to gain or retain inter-Varsity laurels. Our debaters and our basketballers were successful last year. "On Dit" hopes to be able to report victories in hockey, lacrosse, and football, as well as the other two. Teams so far selected are:—

Women's Hockey, at Brisbane.  
Misses J. Cleland (capt.), B. Irvine (vice-capt.), V. Szlich, P. Robinson, Helen Church, J. Edwards, E. Teesdale-Smith, N. Matheson, M. Close, E. Cavalier, C. Miller, J. Menzies (emergency).

Hockey, at Sydney.  
R. Motteram (capt.), G. M. Bowen, J. McBean, M. De C. Clarke, D. W. Wickes, P. C. Yates, B. R. King, J. M. McPhie, N. C. Hargrave (vice-capt.), B. M. Knight, D. B. Kirby, P. R. James.

Boxing, at Melbourne.  
T. W. Parkhouse (bantam), J. A. Roberts (feather), J. E. Jenkins (middle).

### Lacrosse, at Melbourne.

M. W. Nairne (capt.), M. G. Taylor (vice-capt.), J. M. Cottle, J. L. Duffield, D. I. Martin, D. C. Menzies, C. G. Nancarrow, I. L. Nicholson, B. Osman, R. A. W. Snow, D. Taylor, B. J. Ward, R. Ward.

### Basketball, at Hobart.

Misses J. Young, M. Cowell, B. Marshall, P. Viner Smith, M. Crook, E. Salter, H. Ferrer, B. MacIntosh (emergency).

### Debating, at Brisbane.

R. A. Blackburn, J. C. Matison, E. F. Johnston, and D. B. Kerr (emergency). The team will meet Brisbane in the first round, supporting the motion "That the present efforts of the press to control public opinion constitute a grave menace to democracy." If successful in that, we meet the survivor of Sydney, Melbourne, and Tasmania, supporting the motion "That Australia needs a Mussolini."

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# Student Representation on Council

## DR. PRIESTLY ON AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

Dr. R. E. Priestley, formerly Vice-Chancellor of Melbourne University, now Vice-Chancellor of the University of Birmingham, has given his frank opinions of student organisation and student amenities in the June number of the "New University." He has many good words to say for Australian students, and some helpful advice.

"My experience of student affairs in Australia was naturally chiefly related to Melbourne University for three and a half years. There, the relations between the University authorities and the student body was definitely good, and the students, through their representatives upon the University Council and through the Students' Representative Council, as one would rather expect of Australia, played an important part in the government of the University. It is an unusual feature of the constitution of Melbourne University that the students have two representatives upon the University Council, which is the supreme governing body of the University. This has been so for many years, but until two years ago it has been the rule for these representatives to be men of considerable seniority.

"To-day, for the first time, I believe, a student serves on the University Council. He is a man in early middle age with considerable experience outside the University who has, comparatively late in life, started upon a medical career. The choice of comparatively senior representation has been wise. It has meant, among other things, that the students' representatives carry considerable weight. It also adds to the homogeneity of the Council, and is, I think, one of the reasons why student representation on the governing body at Melbourne has been a success.

"This measure of student representation in University government has, so far, under Australian conditions, worked well. It has had no very important effect as measured in terms of legislation, though it has potentialities that way. It must, however, make for liberality in the consideration of measures affecting students. It has had a good psychological effect on student morale.

"At Melbourne the Students' Representative Council has disciplinary powers and responsibilities. It can inflict fines up to ten shillings for each particular offence. It values this power very much and, in my experience, it used it wisely and to good effect. But in Melbourne, as elsewhere, the greatest influence over the conduct of its own members exercised by the student body is that of public opinion. I sometimes felt that in this respect Australian student public opinion was not always as strong a force for good as it might have been. A little more emphasis on 'responsibilities' and a little less upon 'rights' would be a graceful and natural corollary to the measure of self-determination that Australian students have always been granted. So far as Melbourne is concerned, I am convinced that this is realised, and that reform is on the way.

"The latest advance in Australian student organisation has been the establishment of a very live National Union of Students. This had its genesis in a conference of Australian universities that was held in Adelaide in February, 1937, and to which student representatives were invited, with their expenses paid. I was at the conference and was impressed by the fact that during the week the students put in at least twice as much time as seniors did and did at least twice as much work. The universities were fortunate in their representatives and the new central organisation has had a good start.

"I think that the students of Australian universities generally would to-day give to Melbourne University the palm as a notable leader in the provision of student amenities and in the development of student organisation. Melbourne College development has reached a stage far in advance of that attained by the colleges of any other Australian university. Indeed, I think that the Melbourne Colleges are the nearest thing to Oxford and Cambridge Colleges that I have seen away from those two Universities, although in

some respects Harvard and Yale, with their lavish endowments, have outstripped them in recent years."

Dr. Priestley comments on the high degree of student activity before 1937, in spite of the lack of an adequate Union, and then writes:—

"To-day this liveliness has an adequate background of accommodation and equipment. By an unprecedented effort for Australia, in which graduates, staff, students, and council—as well as all its friends, took part, the University has equipped itself with a Union House that is certainly the second best in the British Commonwealth of Nations to-day.

"The furnishing of the whole building deserves some mention. The shell of the building, costing as it did £80,000, had strained the resources of the Union Appeal Committee. The women students organised the women friends of the University so successfully that they raised for furnishing no less than £10,000 by means of a single three-day fete. I should imagine that this effort is unique in British University history. It has ensured the furnishing of the Union on a scale that equals that of the colleges of the older universities. One notable feature of the Union at Melbourne is the degree to which the staff participate both in government, and in the use of the building. This is the ideal arrangement for the promotion of the free and intimate staff-student contact that is essential for the full realisation of University education of the best and broadest kind.

"The University authorities have done what they could, under difficult financial circumstances, to promote the ideal of university education by way of extra-curricular activities and through informal tuition. Melbourne, with the equivalent of 2,500 full-time students (actually rather over 1,750 full-time and rather over 2,000 part-time students) has an income some £30,000 less than Birmingham University, with some 1,700 students, most

of whom are full-time. Yet, in spite of this, the Council approved three years ago of the appointment of a senior officer of high academic standing as a full-time Warden of the Union. The idea behind this is the reduction of the period of mental acclimatisation that is the natural sequel to the transition from school to university. If he does his job properly—and the present Warden does—he will pay particular attention to those students who, from one reason or another, find it most difficult to settle down to the new conditions of life."

Regarding the tutorial system, Dr. Priestley says "Melbourne University has a fairly well-developed tutorial system even for its large extra-collegiate majority." It needs further development, but here again he sees finance as the obstacle.

"The next move on the University side, rather overdue, in fact, would seem to be the appointment of a woman officer of status equivalent to the Warden to foster the interests and look after the welfare of the women students. This has been recognised as a need for some years, but the University rightly put the Warden first and has not yet been able to face the expense of a second post."

Lack of money—not lack of will, ideas or ability—is regarded by Dr. Priestley as the main obstacle to University progress in Australia. By his own efforts he did more to augment the University's financial resources in three years than had been done in the previous fifteen. He brought new ideas and an energy and vision which has helped to build the "New University" in Australia.

—By Chester Wilnot; from the N.U.A.U.S. Service.

An important and unfortunate misunderstanding to-day is that of the value and scope of classical studies. Though it is a matter that touches me nearly, I shall not presume to solve the difficulty myself, but shall rely mainly on the arguments put forward by Professor D. S. Robertson, of Cambridge, in an inaugural address. Most of them apply to Greek alone.

The main charge brought against study of Greek and Latin would be its utter uselessness. What material good does it do anyone? What does it produce? It feeds no one, does not make motor travel any safer, nor an aeroplane more swift. We feel this shortcoming, especially to-day, when there is a great lack of the highest ability (which the scholar certainly has) in many parts of life. Medicine has a wide field before it, psychology one almost untrodden. There are the problems of economical relations to solve. On all this the scholar turns his back and devotes himself to studies which, as the years pass, make less and less noticeable advance. There is the further point that the absent-mindedness of a student is far from being a myth: immersion in his books severs him from everyday life, he becomes abstracted and difficult to understand, and sometimes, even, his temper and power of sympathy are reduced.

### Apology.

In answer to the last charge, we may say that it applies to all forms of study, though, perhaps, not least to the study of the classical languages. Then we might say that it is a sacrifice the student, and his family, must make. Then we are left with the question, whether the sacrifice is for a worthy object.

Translations are all that is needed to approach the literature of the dead languages, and we might countenance the studies of a few scholars provided they fulfil this task; others of their kind are superfluous.

Almost every translation is inadequate, for few people are blessed with a knowledge of classics and a perfect literary style. Supposing a man should combine these gifts to some degree, he will almost surely produce, if a masterpiece, a masterpiece widely

differing from the original. Add to what I have said the consideration that even the theory of translation is a matter of debate. And there is hardly a translation of a philosophical work for the understanding of which we are not forced back to the original text, such ambiguities arise.

But does the student misuse his time? Suppose he should spend it as doctor or psychiatrist. There might well be an increase in the numbers of the latter, and they might all live fairly comfortably. But a large influx of doctors would probably cause economic embarrassment at home, or they would be unable to find a living among the hopelessly poor of Asia and Africa. More economists? Has not our present number made the broth unappetising enough without additional cooks? The thought, that the economic system of more than one thinker to-day, applied honestly and without intermixture, could solve most of our problems, gives force to the argument.

Then accumulation of material goods is not the end of man's striving, but leisure and the best use of it. A nation's well-being is not judged by its trade balance, but by the progress of many other things, too, education, health, the advance of its learning and religion. For many thousands of years a class has existed producing nothing to feed, clothe, or propel man. The question again arises whether the scholar is doing something of the time given him.

### Pistis.

Should we feel gratitude to that which is dead, or need we point to the usefulness of this emotion. To Greece and Rome we owe the greater part of our civilisation: much of our language and literature, of course; most of the arts: nearly every science and branch of inquiry; many words from the Greek in -ic, -logy, -nomy bear witness. Gratitude apart, it helps our knowledge of the world to-day, perhaps is indispensable, to know how modern conditions developed.

Merely as a matter of interest Latin is not wholly dead, or at least, books have been written in Latin in recent years. It would be an immense boon to have a common

## Women's College School Debates N.Z. Debate Tour

### Things Go Ahead

Plans for the Women's University College in Adelaide are progressing rapidly. The movement now has a constitution either to guide or hamper it, but which nevertheless has been passed by the general committee and is now before a sub-committee of the University Council for consideration. That sub-committee consists of the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Angus Parsons, Dr. Helen Mayo, and Professor Campbell. Well equipped, as can be seen, to detect any legal flaws, they will read the constitution and report on it.

When that has been done, the general committee will launch an appeal for funds. It is proposed to select a site within comfortable walking distance of the University, somewhere in North Adelaide. A suggestion was put forward that since the committee is not yet in possession of enough money, and since there was no guarantee that they would be, it might be feasible to consider building a dormitory on to the Lady Symon Building. Apart from the humorous aspect of such a proposal, however, the plan was not at all favorably received.

Dr. Hart, the Principal of the Women's College in Melbourne, maintains that to be successful a college must be entirely self-contained. The glorified boardinghouse aspect must under no circumstances creep in; the college, when established, will have to be complete with principal, bursar, and tutorial staff—as to the latter it is hoped to effect some reciprocal arrangement with St. Mark's College. And, at any cost, the present situation—"ghastly," it has been called—where some women students are forced to live in hotels, must be remedied.

It appears, then, that the scheme will come to a head shortly. It is a question that affects University life as a whole, so watch the daily press and the "official organ of the Union" for further developments, and when the time comes be prepared to lend what support you can.

### Two Wins to 'Varsity

The debate against Woodlands at the University on Friday evening was of a good standard and very close. The motion, proposed by the Woodlands team, Misses N. Trott, M. Osborne, and J. Murray, was "That an alliance between Britain and Russia is desirable," the 'Varsity team in opposition being Miss Teesdale-Smith and S. J. Jacobs and W. A. N. Wells. Mr. E. F. Johnston was in the chair, and Miss Edith Irwin adjudicated. The debate was marked at times by personal sallies, Jacobs being described as "horribly conservative"—as usual—while he in turn referred to Miss Murray, clad in red, as the Red Terror of Communism. Certainly Miss Murray proved herself a very able debater, and all but caused the downfall of the 'Varsity side. The motion was put to the house and carried by twenty-six votes to seven, but Miss Irwin awarded the debate in the other direction by 267 points to 262.

At Prince's, F. J. Hawkins, P. P. A. Hopton, and D. B. Kerr successfully proposed the well-worn motion "That Australia needs a Mussolini" against the School team—Jorgensen, R. Wilson, and Edwards. The Rev. J. H. Crossley adjudicated, and M. W. Stain was in the chair. In this debate there was little between the two sides in the actual speeches, but the 'Varsity won on the reply. Kerr endeavored to lighten the debate up a little, but unfortunately put over the old "hooped skirt," which one of the opposition had heard at Riverton when a 'Varsity team was away last vac. "That has whiskers on it, Mr. Kerr," was the very apt interjection.

The remaining two school debates are against Scotch next Saturday and "The Wilderness" the following Saturday.

### Worth While Though Money Lost

Half the New Zealand debating team (to wit, Jack Aimers) has returned to Maoriland; the remainder in the person of Michael O'Callaghan is taking the sun in Broken Hill, hoping that the trains will soon start running again to take him to Sydney.

Owing to a strike on the Broken Hill-Condobolin line, no trains have run for some time. As a result, the debaters' scheduled visit to Orange had to be cancelled, and Aimers returned to Sydney from Adelaide via Melbourne. O'Callaghan was not in a hurry, and so went on to Broken Hill from Port Pirie, hoping to be able to get transport across to Condobolin with the aid of his thumb and an occasional haka (a "hitch-haka" perhaps). So far he hasn't succeeded in getting a lift, but he appears to be being well looked after in Broken Hill.

The enforced abandonment of the Orange debate, and Aimers' earlier illness in Brisbane has turned an expected profit on the tour into a small loss of about £7 for the N.U.A.U.S. This is unfortunate, but it is a considerable improvement on the £39 lost on the Le Moyne tour last year. In fact, with the University of Sydney taking virtually no part in the tour, this is quite a satisfactory result.

At a cost of £7 the tour was well worth while, for the team made a good impression, especially in the lectures which Aimers gave on New Zealand politics. His comments created much interest, and in every State they were given most favorable press publicity.

Next year a British team will tour all States, and there should be no difficulty about making that tour a great financial success.

**WEST END  
XXX BITTER BEER**

## Chinese Student Relief

### APPEAL LAUNCHED

At a meeting in the George Murray Building at 1.30 on Thursday, July 27, the case for assisting in the relief of Chinese students was put before the student body. Speakers were Professors Portus and Sir Stanton Hicks.

After both speakers had endeavored to shelve the responsibility of giving the details, or, at any rate, of putting it off on to one another, Professor Portus at length got under way. He announced that he was going to read two extracts from the "Advertiser" of 1947. The first extract described the capitulation of Melbourne to the invading Japanese army, which had pushed out an advance force as far as Warrnambool with the purpose of capturing Adelaide. The second extract was dated several days later and dealt in some detail with the evacuation of the Adelaide University by the students and staff, who proposed to set up the University at Alice Springs. All cars having been commandeered long since by the Defence Department, professors and students alike were compelled to walk the journey, with the exception of the Vice-Chancellor, whose car was, by good fortune, remaining to him. The paper drew rather a pathetic picture of the great ones of the University struggling along clasping their treasures to them. Professor Sir Robert Chapman carried a book of logarithmic tables; he was followed by Sir Douglas Mawson, who had a geological hammer; Sir Stanton Hicks bore a partly dissected rabbit, and others carried significant tools of their trade. Least of all (a most improbable position, by the way) came Professor G. V. Portus, supporting a rugby football and a bottle. It would take too long to describe the procession in all its grim details, but the extract served a very valuable purpose. It brought home to those present in a most vivid way the difficulties, often insuperable, confronting Chinese student bodies who have been forced to undergo very similar journeys to West China.

Professor Portus described one university in North China where the students were living in caves with no comforts of any description, very little food and clothing, but still carrying on with lectures. He concluded with a sincere appeal to those who could, and that means everybody, to give the price of "half a dozen packets of fags or a pair of silk stockings" to help these brave Chinese.

Professor Hicks supported Professor Portus, saying that he thought the appeal need by no means be confined to the University, as it was an activity in which the whole community should take part.

Dear Sir,  
What a pity that the statuesque beauty of the ornament outside the Lady Symon Hall is occasionally marred by its telling the time.

"WATCHLESS."

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## SNORTING

Dear Sir,  
I cannot agree with Mr. Hancock's suggestion, which appeared in your last issue, that membership of the Sports Association should be made compulsory. Nor do I think that the Sports Association subscription should be reduced. The benefits which we receive for our 35/- subscription are in point of fact astounding. Why, sir, to join a lawn tennis club alone costs £4/4! No man, or woman, in earnest could complain if the Sports Association subscription were raised.

I suggest that the membership of the Sports Association would increase if more interest were taken by the committees of the various sporting clubs in their lower teams. The committees of the majority of clubs are composed mainly of members of the A teams. The dominant attitude of these committees is one of incredible selfishness and conceit. They seem to think that if a man is not a member of the A team he is not worth bothering about. The B, C, and D teams of each club are far too often short of men and material, a fact which disheartens the less dazzling players to such an extent that a number of them do not think it worth while to join the Sports Association the following year.

Monday, 14th August

INTER-VARSITY  
FOOTBALL CLUB

DANCE

3/6—Refectory—3/6

Monday, 14th August

Added to this, Sir, is the fact that the number of coaches in the realm of University sport is almost negligible. Bearing in mind the fact that there is a constant stream of men passing through the Varsity teams, surely the necessity for coaches is too obvious to need stressing, particularly in the games which are played for the first time at the Varsity. I feel certain that there must be graduates who could and would willingly coach our teams if they were approached. If this were done, Sir, I believe our teams would rise up the premiership tables and the membership of the Sports Association increase.

The Baseball Club, as Mr. Hancock points out, is the only club with teams well up on the premiership table. This team, Sir, is coached by an enthusiastic graduate and each team has a representative on the executive. I am, Sir, etc.,

E. W. MILLS.



How the DEVIL  
do they DEVIL

their DEVILLED Nuts

At DITTER'S

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TRY THEM!

## SPORTING

Dear Sir,

May I express my extreme disapproval of the action of the general committee of the Sports Association in disqualifying J. J. Rice, captain of the football team, from playing in the coming inter-Varsity against Melbourne. The reason for this action was that Rice did not pay his 35/- subscription within the time allowed. As a matter of fact, he had paid it about a fortnight before he was penalised. It is practically common knowledge, however, that what really influenced the Association, or rather those who supported the action taken, was the fact that it was Rice that they were penalising. It was said by them that he was always late in paying and that, as captain of a club, he was doubly reprehensible. And so the captain of the football club was fined 10/- and made ineligible to play in the match of the year, when both this year, and in many other years, others similarly offending have escaped scot free, being reinstated (this is in all such cases necessary) without question.

Sir, this action is personal, petty, and vindictive, and as such is stands condemned. Further, it is indicative of a policy of disaster. To alienate a whole club and many others for the sake of punishing a tardy payer is short sighted. Our chances of winning the intervarsity are dimmed and one of the best advertisements the S.A. can have is victory. A sufficient punishment surely would have been the fine imposed, but, no, the powers that run the S.A. must have blood to impress the necessity of prompt payment. Its action is more likely to impress the necessity of leaving or not joining the Association.

The whole financial system of the S.A. is wrong, and badly managed. This petty debt collecting will not make the position better. There are, it seems to me, two remedies—(1) to make membership compulsory to Union members, thus increasing revenue by a great amount; (2) to

restrict grants to clubs that do not bring in proportionate revenue. Some clubs, mostly newly formed, get grants far in excess of the revenue they bring in, and older clubs have had their grants cut to pay for them. I do not instance any offending club, but I would like to give the position of one of these that has to stand the loss. I refer to the Lacrosse Club. It is the original Varsity sporting club, and it has a membership of over 40, of which at least 30 would not pay the 35/- subscription were it not for lacrosse. So this club contributes at least £52/10/- of its own to the Sports Association. In return it gets grounds and a grant of about £20. But grounds, it seems to me, should be paid for out of revenue from capital or the Council's grant, and only in the last resort out of subscriptions. The other £32/10/- could well be spent in paying, perhaps, the intervarsity expenses of members of the club or in providing sticks, which are, indeed, an expensive item. But, no—it goes to pay for some other club to remain on its feet while the fleeced lacrosseurs pay for everything they get.

The present system is inequitable, as income of the S.A. is not sufficient to provide adequate grants for all clubs. Unless income can be increased in some extraordinary way (e.g., by compulsory membership), those clubs which contribute most should have the largest grants, or perhaps some arrangement could be made whereby clubs would retain, say, 25/- of every 35/- they collect. Adjustments could be made where a member of the S.A. is a member of two clubs.

Some modification of the present system is urgently required, and it must be fundamental. Petty action, really pointless, such as that taken against Jim Rice, will not succeed in increasing revenue to any extent. Rather it will, by putting the S.A. in an extremely bad odor, have the reverse effect.

Yours, etc.,  
D. C. MENZIES.

## STILL FRESH

Dear Sir,—

At the beginning of the year we were informed at the Freshers' social that a notice would be placed in the Lady Symon requesting all those interested in debating to sign on the dotted line (so to speak). We are now at the end of the second term, and no such notice has appeared.

Not being an experienced debater, I feel a little too shy to approach a Union official about it, but at the same time I and many others who come under the category of "inexperienced" would like some practice in speaking. May I suggest that the "long promised notice" be placed in the Lady Symon, where it can be seen by all and sundry?

ARTS FRESHER.

[There was a notice on the Refectory Board for six weeks inviting all those who would like to debate this term to put their name down. About twenty-five students took advantage of the opportunity, and five debates against schools have been arranged.—Ed.]

## DOWN, JENKINS!

Dear Sir,

The report of the Law dinner that appeared in your last issue did credit neither to the Law Students' Society, the guests at the dinner, nor to your reporter. The headlines were ill chosen and inaccurate. Neither Mr. President Kelly nor Mr. Villeneuve Smith criticised the legal profession, as your headline indicated. Indeed, they were both loud in their praise of the learned profession, and their remarks were directed rather to criticism of opposing forces and the method of dealing with them. So far from criticising the legal profession, Mr. Smith's prayer was that it would ever remain free from the commercialism that was abroad today. I realise that something would have been included to supplement the headline about Boucaut had space permitted, but in view of the enforced restrictions the headline should also have been cut out.

I suggest that the press keeps well away from our dinners in the future, unless specific invitations are extended.  
D. C. MENZIES.

## To the Last Man for the Last Penny

Sir,—Sir Henry Gullet is reported in "The Advertiser" to have taken prompt and decisive action in rebuking the German Consulate for a statement made by a minor official that England was putting her finger into a pie that did not concern her.

Now, I disagree with both Sir Henry Gullet, and with the Consulate. There is no pie that does not concern England. The only qualification required is that the pie should be rich enough. I disagree with Sir Henry in his action, because this pie definitely is not rich enough.

We wisely kept our finger almost right out of the Tientsin pie, because there wasn't much profit in it. A few Englishmen, it is true, were stripped and beaten, but that, after all, is no more than plenty of them do to their wives at home.

One admires the purposefulness of a democratic country, which sends money and arms, and promises to send men to prevent a German city from being incorporated into Germany, as 96 per cent. of its people wish it to be. There must be good money in it. But is there enough? Is it worth spending millions of pounds and risking thousands of lives for it? Before one takes action one must carefully consider profit and loss. If one does so, one concludes that English interference in the Danzig pie is foolish.

People talk of prestige (a word which is almost synonymous with subterfuge). When I was in business I never bothered about prestige, and so saved much unprofitable risk. And, after all, England is too well established to have her reputation shaken by this.

In the early days before we settled here we plundered the old country itself. We were the great pirates of the Elizabethan age. And a country which in its time has grabbed America, India, Africa, Australia, and has even tried to grab Ireland, not to mention numerous minor countries, from their native inhabitants, need hardly fear that it is going to be overshadowed by a country which regrabs a few square miles of its own territory.

From every point of view, it would be unprofitable for us to spill our innards over Danzig, and so England should be urged by our Government to keep out of a war which would inevitably involve us.

NED KELLY.

## THINGS TO COME

Tuesday, August 8.—S.C.M., Mr. Col-drake, 1.20 p.m.

Science Association, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, August 9.—Arts Association.

Thursday, August 10.—Union General Meeting, 1.30 p.m.

Saturday, August 12.—Debate v. Scotch (at Scotch).

Monday, August 14.—Inter-Varsity Football Dance.

Saturday, August 19.—Debate v. Wilderness (at Wilderness).

# UNION GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, 1.30 p.m.

GEORGE MURRAY HALL

**Third Term Elections?** Proposed Amendment to Constitution

Proposer: E. F. JOHNSTON

Seconder: A. P. CHERRY

Chairman: R. G. WILLOUGHBY

# Sporting Page

J. M. McPHIE, Editor.

MARGARET COWELL, Reporter.

## RIFLE SHOOTING

**Albert Match—Brilliant Shoot Under Great Difficulties.**

Adelaide set out on Wednesday to retain the Frank N. Albert Trophy for another year, when the Albert match was fired at the Port Adelaide range. The match is a home and home shoot open to Universities in Australia. The prize is the handsome cup valued at about £50, which now reposes on the Professors' table in the Refectory.

Teams are of eight men, shooting ten shots at each of 300, 400, 500, and 600 yards on Bisley tin-hat bullseyes. As these bullseyes are considerably smaller than the normal size a high standard of shooting is called for.

Shooting started at 11 a.m. at 600 yards in a very dull light. This, coupled with the fact that the morning light at the Port is behind the targets, made the bullseye invisible, so we had to resort either to "framing," or else to aiming at the bottom of the target.

At 500 yards we caught our first glimpse of the bullseye, although it was none too bold. The wind on the whole was fairly easy to follow, and better scores were recorded at this range.

After the luncheon adjournment we returned to the attack full of spirit. Strange to say the bullseye was still visible, and we made good use of the temporary break in the clouds to put on our best range total.

We had left the 400 yards range till last to get advantage of the afternoon light. However, a drizzling rain

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had set in at the end of the 300 yards shoot, and continued without cessation during the afternoon. At times it was almost impossible to define the outline of the target against the leaden sky, and as the bullseye here was two inches smaller than the normal 300 yards bull it will be realised that we had a moderate amount of difficulty in hitting it.

The team was possibly the best the club has had for a number of years, and given good conditions would probably be unbeatable by any Sydney or Melbourne combination. The results speak for themselves—as a team shoot Wednesday's score was a remarkable effort, being 25 more than our last year's winning score of 1,405. This being so, we are still hopeful that the results, which should be to hand in about a month's time will show Adelaide the winner.

Individual Scores:

	600	500	400	300	Tl.
L. S. Burfield	47	47	44	47	185
G. P. Sandford	43	48	45	46	183
E. G. Robinson	47	46	42	46	181
A. B. Robertson	47	45	40	49	181
R. E. Brown	45	48	43	44	180
W. F. Scammell	45	47	37	46	175
T. A. R. Dinning	45	44	38	47	174
C. J. Starling	42	48	38	46	172

LACROSSE . . . 29/7/39.

On Saturday, 29th, the A's showed greatly improved form to defeat North Adelaide, 16-4.

The B's defeated North Adelaide 12-8 after an even match. Goalthrowers—Tilley (4), Tayler (3), O'Sullivan (2), Boucaut, Krantz, Plummer. Best players—Krantz, Tilley, Frayne.

In the final of the inter-faculty Meds. and Dentals defeated Law-Arts. Goalthrowers—Medicine: Snow (3), Martin, Krantz. Law—Boucaut (2), Thomas, Sampson. Best players—Medicine: Snow, Laycock, Martin, Porter. Law: Menzies, Wright, O'Sullivan, Boucaut.

## PROSPECTS for INTER-VARSITY

Six Inter-Varsity contests are to be held in the coming vacation—baseball (Sydney), football (Adelaide), hockey (Sydney), lacrosse (Melbourne), women's hockey (Brisbane), and basketball (Hobart).

In spite of Saturday's defeat, baseballers have grounds for some hope, as they have shown good form in several of this year's matches. If the footballers would grasp firmly the fact that they are a team and become infused with an invincible will to win, their chances would be doubled. Lacrosse have shown improved form in their last two matches; the men's hockey, having definitely defeated their B's, will perhaps be inspired to progress still further along the path of victory on which they have thus somewhat lately set out. The prospects for the women's hockey seem the most hopeful of any—the team has played excellently all through the season. We trust that the basketballers' hopes in their recent and future improvement are not misplaced. The prospects for Adelaide are, on the whole, not of the brightest order. It is, however, our ardent wish that every one of these gloomy predictions will be proved unjustified, and that Adelaide's name is upheld in a manner even more glorious than that established by tradition—in every field of activity!

### MEN'S HOCKEY

As there were no matches on Saturday, the Inter-Varsity team seized the opportunity to end the suggestion which, as the A's list of failures this season grew, the B's have been less and less backward in putting forward, to wit, that even they could beat the A's. In a good practice game, the Inter-Varsity team, assisted by one vacancy and one umpire (as a player), eventually overran the B's, assisted by two marathon C graders and another umpire, to the tune of about 7-1. Strange, too, a fine spirit prevailed throughout, though the game was punctuated by a profusion of pointed personalities and the many exhortations of Capt. Gold to his merry men. His continued assertion that given his proper team it would have been a different tale, will be put to the test next Saturday, when there will be a repeat performance (in all senses).

The C team played Argosy (instead of on August 19), and lost 5-2, Bob Jones this week being positively prolific and scoring two goals. Although "The Mail" overstates the case in adjudging the hockey of senior standard, it was undoubtedly one of their best performances. The younger players have settled down into a defensive combination which is quite as good as the opposition's. The failure in forward play is so rife in the club that we shall have to establish a "forwards' co-operative society." The C's many chances nearly all develop into the forward when the player, suddenly becoming alarmed at the distance by which he has outstripped his fellows, then loses the ball, or hits it yards ahead over the line, to escape his dangerous isolation. Best players: Irwin, Field, Camens.

### FOOTBALL

It is with sorrow that we write up the A grade match against Railways. Starting with a strong wind across the ground, but definitely in their favor, Railways amassed 7-7 to Varsity's one goal in the first quarter. Judging from the last match form one could hardly believe the lowering of the standard of play shown by all the team, almost without exception. It was definitely an "off" day for Varsity, the ball bouncing away from them all day and the vagaries of the ground upsetting what appeared to be many fine dashes. Varsity failed to use the wind to advantage in the second quarter, and poor shooting for goal handicapped the side still more. After half time the spirit of apathy became universal, and although Railways were attacking down the wrong wing, the Blacks allowed them to score again and again, and by the end of the quarter our opponents led by 17 goals to 3.

We come now to the one retrieving factor in the game. Although in an impossible position, Varsity players pulled themselves together somewhat and added 7 goals to 7 to Railways two points. Even then the football was not inspiring, and it seems that with a little dash and determination at the start, the Blacks could have won the day. Final scores: Varsity: 10 goals 16 behinds. Railways: 17 goals 17 behinds. Goalkeepers: Gurner (3), Ligertwood (3), Elix (2), Rice, Betts. Best players: Phil Goode, Young Dunstan, and Betts.

### LACROSSE NOTES

Last Saturday was the most successful day for University lacrosse for the last two seasons, and it is to be hoped that at last we are emerging out of the depression of the last few years. The A team followed up last week's victory by defeating Port Adelaide 11-7. The forward line, particularly Snow and Martin, have shown a great improvement in recent weeks, and on Saturday proved too fast and clever for the Port backmen. Behind centre University has been very strong throughout the season, and had the forward weakness been remedied earlier in the year the team would almost certainly have been in the four. Goalthrowers were: Snow, Martin (3), Krantz, Nicholson (2), R. Ward. Best players: Snow, R. Ward, Menzies, Osman.

The B team, although without four of their most experienced players, defeated S.A.R. 11-5. A pleasing feature of the match was the fine play of Len Wright and Geoff Hall, two comparatively new members of the team. John Gooden, the club's most consistent forward, scored 5 goals, Hall 3, Tucker and Boucaut 1 each. With only five more matches to be played the B team is almost certain to finish the minor round in second position, which is most important, as the second and fourth and the first and third teams play off in the semi-finals. This should bring us into the final, where we may be able to defeat Legacy, who have not lost a match.

The C team received a forfeit, which is as good as a victory, and so for the first time for two years every team gained two premierships points.

### ENGINEERS VICTORIOUS

The Engineers once again threw out a challenge to the women basketballers, and were apparently all out to prove, by fair means or foul, that they are occasionally as good as the opposite sex in getting what they want. For they won. (The score has, unfortunately and quite by accident, been forgotten.) We are forced to come to the disheartening and little short of incredible conclusion that the power of the women must be on the wane. It is bad enough to be beaten, but it is infinitely worse to have to record that not one single man had the gallantry to play on the side of the women. Our two staunchest supporters, Neuenkirchen and Hamilton, had definitely gone over to the other camp. If our gentlemanly instincts are, we hope, not a thing of the past, though it must be admitted that they were much less obvious this time than last; if King has any chivalrous traits, which we doubt, they were entirely confined to the benefit of his immediate opponent; Stewart and Espie must have been severely neglecting their other pleasures in the last few weeks to put so much concentration into their secret practising of goalthrowing—Espie up one end and Nairne up the other just stood there and simply grabbed hold of anything and everything they could lay hands on, which usually seemed to amount to a good deal. The silence rule was admirably observed!

## RUGBY

Varsity played much improved football to defeat North Adelaide 17-4. Smith and Fairweather were the best of the backs, although Lindsay, Jeffries, and Napier made many determined runs and backed up well. Richardson did a lot of good work in tackling Portus practically every time he got the ball.

The forwards dominated the line-out and loose rucks, but only broke even in the tight scrums. They are at last learning the advantage of coming out behind their backs to act as a second line of defence.

Lindsay scored the first two tries, after the ball had been thrown around well. Fairweather dribbled the ball for half the length of the field, with a couple of the opposition in full cry after him, to score the next try. This gave us the lead 9-0 at half-time.

Norths were battling hard at the beginning of the second half, and although they pinned us in our twenty-five for some time, they could not score. Jeffries got our next try, and Osman, at last, managed to convert it. After a good deal of skirmishing near our line, the opposition scored a field goal. Just before the bell, the backs broke away, and Espie, following up well, took a pass and crossed for a well-deserved try.

In the B grade match, we were several men short and could not clean up Navy in our usual manner. They beat us 21-6.

Anderson, playing once again, did a super-fine job, and held the backs together well. Martin made several good runs, but is still inclined to hang on to the ball too long. The tackling in this match was surprisingly good, as was the battering tactics of our outstanding centre, Oliver. The forwards were generally a long way behind the play and did not seem to be interested in the game.

McMichael was first to score for us after a nice run from the centre line. In the second half, Smith used his weight to score a try. Neither of these was converted.

### WRESTLING RESULTS

J. Cornish d. M. G. Jansen, two falls to nil, in 4½ minutes; A. Wheethman d. J. Roberts, two falls to one, in 6½ minutes; T. W. Parkhouse d. J. Roberts, two falls to one, in 7 minutes. A cup for the best and fairest wrestler was awarded to Roberts.

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### BASEBALL

THREE LOSSES AND ONE WIN.

Our first team was whitewashed by Goodwood Ramblers, whom we beat so decisively earlier in the season. Sharpe pitched well, and that accounts for our loss. We had the same number of safeties as Goodwood (3), but they could manage two runs.

West Torrens defeated our B team by one run. Our safetymen were Daly and Johnston (2), O'Brien, Kerr, Schwarz. Noack allowed only four safeties to West Torrens.

The one win came from our third team, playing in Metro B, 16-2 against Adelaide. Fahey, Green, Randall hit twice each, Stratton, Slade, and Anderson once. Their opponents did not score a safety.

In Metro C division Glenelg beat Varsity 13-1, each side recording two safeties. Potter got ours. How many errors we made can be left safely to the imagination.

Finally, it should seem that our A team has little or no chance of staying in the four; the B's will be second in their grade; the C's have a chance of reaching the final round. The D's seem right out of it.

## Jan Vermeer in the Chamber of Horrors

WHO'S JAN VERMEER?

A New Day lecture was given by Professor J. I. M. Stewart in the Anatomy Theatre. Subject: The painting of Jan Vermeer of Delft.

Those legion who failed to attend this talk would still do well to examine the work of this delightful contemporary of Pieter de Hooch, and who is considered one of the greatest Flemish masters. The slight attendance shows what ignorance attends the arty flights of our hordes of Refectory-intellectuals and cloister-connoisseurs. All those who were asked if they knew Vermeer said, "Oh, a painter wasn't he?" Yes, and so is Braque! O shades of Nichterlein and Cezanne!

The audience was subjected before the lecture to a glorious display of bone-rattling and movie-thrills as skeletons were hastily removed and disembodied feet and wax horrors concealed. But with the theatre presentable again the suitable frame of mind was soon regained.

Professor Stewart described Vermeer's life, the extent and nature of his painting—then to the greatest joy of Vermeer, his light and shade, his composition, and edging. His love of his window and map and jug and lion-head chair were illustrated in a series of prints handed round.

His "Head of a Young Girl" and the "Lacemaker" are among his finest, although in his "window paintings" he has used his light with even greater brilliance. But in these he has caught that element of transient beauty. His "Verweide doch, du bist so schon" seems to be contained in the glistening lips, red and subtle, in his "Head of a Young Girl."

In these two his perfection of technique and perceptual concentration of shade and light, played rightly rather than truthfully, are lightened a little and the pictures are more personal—"the case," as Professor Stewart said, "of not having to admire his brilliance so much." But far beyond these two is his "Lady Reading a Letter" in this respect. As one would expect when the precise Flemish artist wishes or is unconsciously personal, as he very rarely is, he does it through his color, his form and light, rather than through his subject or the emotional handling of it. The use of the central blue of this picture seems a feeling for the "human values." The professor suggested the technical parallel of the "Blue Boy" coloring and its rare use as a central theme. To me it somehow suggested that modern master of color (but how different!), Van Gogh, particularly in his "Reaper." In this he uses a similar shade of blue to lighten, and play his feelings for men upon the ape-like, ugly, raw figure of the reaper, contrasted with the slashing vitality of his corn and dust red sky. The fine liquid blue there lightens his comment. The personal element later drops out in Van Gogh—his supreme subjects are his landscapes in "Provence," and his bedroom chair and sunflowers, for he was painting this picture in his transience from mining subjects and missionary life to yellow suns. Or at least in that fluxing attitude of mind which he abandoned at the missionary stage.

So with Vermeer. Perhaps these pictures were among his earlier paintings, and his technical loveliness a later development. But nothing is definitely known of the chronological order of Vermeer's paintings.

As Professor Stewart indicated, the opening point, and possibly the closing point of a survey of Vermeer is his "View of Delft." It has been hung in the Refectory in the course of the year.

This was an excellent semi-formal lecture, but one supposes that what the eye doesn't see the heart doesn't long for, and the heart is indeed unfortunate to have no longings.

M.L.

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