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On Dit

PRODUCED BY THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

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 Savouries, Sandwiches

from
Balfour's

Vol. 10.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1940.

No. 6.

INFORMATION, THANK YOU!

It has been revealed that there are still a number of students to whom the National Union is only a name, and a name without a meaning. In the hope that such a state of affairs may no longer exist, we publish the following information for those who want to know. For further information and particulars, consult E. F. Johnston, who is the local secretary of the National Union.

1. WHAT IS THE N.U.A.U.S.? (For beginners only.)

These letters stand for the imposing title—National Union of Australian University Students. This body began its existence in January of 1937, when the first conference was held—in Adelaide, with the President of our Union as President of the National Union.

It is modelled on the pattern of the British N.U.S. and the N.U. of South African students. Credit for its inauguration must go to Mr. R. W. W. Wilmot, 1936 President of the S.R.C. in Melbourne, and who has been General Secretary of the N.U.A.U.S. since its inception.

2. WHO BELONGS TO IT?

There are about 14,000 University students in Australia, and it was planned that every one of these should be a member of the N.U.A.U.S. Unfortunately, the University of Western Australia has had to withdraw because of difficulties arising from the constitution of their Guild of Undergraduates; however, they may still send delegates to each conference. Every other University, i.e., Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney, Queensland, and Tasmania, belongs to the National Union, so that every student in these universities is a member of the National Union.

3. WHAT IS IT FOR?

We have read the constitution and this is, more or less, what we found. The objects are:

1. To represent the students of Australia nationally and internationally.
2. To co-ordinate the activities of the various organizations.
3. To study national and international questions relating to higher education.
4. To uphold the principle of freedom of speech, both inside and outside the Universities.

All very noble.

4. WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

1. It has established a central office in Melbourne.
2. It has worked out a book-buying scheme which has been investigated in Queensland and Melbourne, but the great difficulties in the way have prevented any substantial progress being made.
3. It has brought up the question of scholarships and, after much hard work has induced the Vice-Chancellors' Committee to follow it up.
4. The inter-Varsity debates and the tour made by New Zealand debaters were run under its auspices.
5. A system of identity cards has been initiated by means of which students from any Australian University may use the Union buildings of any other Australian University.
6. A tour of Australia by a team of English debaters was arranged, but it is not known yet whether this will now be possible.
7. It has organized travel tours for students—these, unfortunately, have been interrupted by the war.
8. A drama festival was arranged for

this year but, owing to term trouble, was abandoned.

9. A resolution was passed at the last conference defining the position of the Universities in regard to the war and requesting the Government's co-operation to ensure that the functions of the Universities will be in no way impaired by cuts in financial grants, etc.

5. WHAT IS THE NATIONAL UNION COUNCIL?

This Council is the governing body of the Union, comprising representatives from each constituent body according to the number of students in that body. In Adelaide, for instance, with something over two thousand students, we are entitled to four members on the Council, while Melbourne and Sydney, both over the four thousand mark, have six each. As the Council is the governing body, its powers are very considerable; they can appoint sub-committees, remove officers or appoint them, as it thinks fit, deal with any property, invest money if it's got any, authorize publications, and make regulations in accordance with its prescribed aims and objects. It also has power to make its regulations binding, but now we're treading on thin ice. Did you read your last issue of "On Dit"?

6. WHAT IS THE NATIONAL UNION EXECUTIVE?

The Executive consists of a President, a Vice-President, a General Secretary, and a Treasurer. In practice these offices, except the general secretaryship, are filled by men from the University which will hold the next conference. Thus Brisbane is the venue for 1941, and Mr. F. W. Coal-drake, who has visited this University on frequent occasions, is the President. While the Council is not in session, this Executive can exercise the Council's powers. It is mainly concerned, therefore, with the work of the National Union in between conferences.

7. WHAT ARE ITS EXPENSES?

These, we understand, have gone up some because the expanding work "of the National Union" has made it necessary to rent a small office in Melbourne and a typist—or, rather, employ her. This, of course, in addition to the salary or pittance of the General Secretary. Furthermore, conferences cannot be run for nothing, and, as a result, the budgeted expenditure for 1939-40 is £310, which includes a capital expenditure of £30, presumably on the typist.

8. HOW MUCH OF THAT DO WE PAY?

It is estimated that Adelaide will pay seventeen per cent. of this amount, i.e., just over £50. On what basis we should pay this has not yet been decided—you remember, it would have been finalized at the A.G.M. if the A.G.M. had been finalized. But we are of the opinion that this amount is quite reasonable when it is considered that Melbourne and Sydney pay £200 between them.

A.G.M. of Men's Union

N.B.: For those who were not there. Held last Wednesday in the George Murray, the usual enthusiastic crowd was there, that is, most of the committee, and no refractory Law students. However, press gang tactics succeeded in raising a quorum of men who were too inexperienced or too lazy to keep out of the way. After a few false starts, the Secretary decided which minutes to read, and thereafter the business proceeded rapidly. The various reports were psychological masterpieces in view of the restlessness of the audience; and Mr. Hutton consequently had no difficulty in persuading the meeting that although several receipts were missing, the financial statement was quite open and above board. Mr. Pilgrim proposed votes of thanks to everyone he could think of, and the meeting closed at 2 p.m., having decided to leave everything to the new committee.

We express our regret to anyone who did not know what meeting it was they attended, but remind them they are all invited again for next year.

Labour Club Becomes Radical Club

At a meeting, amazingly large for the Adelaide University, the Radical Club came into being. Due to the widespread misconception that the club under the name of Labour had political aspirations, the name was changed to Radical, but the aims still remain the same. The meeting was purely formal, involving the reading of a constitution drawn up by the founders, and the election of a committee. The motion that a Radical Club should be formed was put forward by Mr. Harris and seconded by Mr. Quinn-Young, whereupon Mr. Johnston, as chairman, read the proposed constitution. It was accepted unanimously. The committee, consisting of Mr. Johnston (President), Miss Teesdale Smith (Secretary), Mr. Quinn-Young (Treasurer), Mr. Harris, and Mr. Gent, was elected. It now rests with the committee to arrange a programme of activities for the year. These should include talks by Adelaide people and visitors to the State, study circles, and, possibly, debates.

Information, Please!

Maybe that you have not heard yet of the Department of Information set up by the Commonwealth Government. Its methods of delivering its goods is through the medium of group committees, and the Union is represented on the Education Committee. We propose to run a fortnightly column in "On Dit" devoted to answering through the Department any question over which you are losing sleep, be it political or otherwise—but don't confuse us with Madame Wu. In this way, it is hoped that the true function of the Department may be furthered without the obtrusion of that hateful word, Propaganda.

Therefore, anything you want to know will receive the attention of His Majesty's Government if forwarded in writing either to the editors, "On Dit," or to Mr. F. A. Dibden, of the Union Committee.

And So On UNION BUILDINGS.

We have been asked to give prominence to the fact that the Union buildings close on Saturday mornings at twelve noon, which does not mean that the goodly Mr. Goodall is available until 1.30 p.m. to unlock the buildings because little George left his Physics notes downstairs or big Bill forgot to put on his underpants after Rugby practice, and they have to go to the wash on Monday. In future, therefore, observe that twelve noon means twelve noon (we were never in doubt about it), and play the game by Mr. Goodall as he does by you.

SCOOP!

Congratulations! There's been a hook-up! This time Gwenneth Woodger and John Stokes have decided to plough the seas of matrimony. John is in England, or, rather, at Oxford, whither he has taken his goodly record, and we guess he must have done the big business by cable. Gwenneth is now in the last year of a very successful Law course, during which she found time, among other things, to be Vice-President of the Women's Union, and co-editress of "On Dit." She says that as far as she knows they will not be married by cable. Anyhow, congratulations, and best of luck.

W. D. ALLAN, B.Sc., Ph.D.

Doug. Allen graduated in Honours Physics in this University in 1934 after a very brilliant course. He continued his work in the physics department and in 1937 went to Oxford with a Rhodes Scholarship to his credit.

At Oxford he continued to find out more about physics. Recently he married Genevieve Thomson, an Adelaide girl not unknown in Varsity circles, and has now received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy for his research work.

Swing Club
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17
 Recordings presented by Jim Hodge

Coming Events

- Tuesday April 16.
 Science Association meeting in the Physics Lecture Theatre at 8 p.m.
 Meeting of Men's Aquinas Society in the Lady Symon Hall at 8 p.m.
- Thursday, April 18.
 S.C.M. talk by Mr. Frank Engel on "The University and the War Situation," in the George Murray Hall at 1.20 p.m.
 Meeting of Medical Students' Society in the George Murray Hall at 8 p.m.
- Friday, April 19.
 Parliamentary Debate, "The House Approves the War Policy of the Menzies Government," in the George Murray Hall at 7.45 p.m.
- Monday, April 22.
 Carnegie Gramophone Recital, the "6th Brandenburg Concerto" and the "Little Fugue" of J. S. Bach will be presented in the South Hall of the Conservatorium at 1.10 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 23.
 Women's Debate in the Lady Symon Hall at 1.10 p.m. Subject, "That Butterflies Are Essential to Varsity Life."

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Ways to Peace

If one were to voyage through the second of Mr. Duane's infinite number of time dimensions observing the four dimensional space time world, and stopped at (12,000 A.D., London), we should be able to read in history textbooks of that time the history of the war 1939—? It is in what we should see there, and in what description would be given of the peace that followed, that I am interested. I have a suspicion, which grows stronger month by month, that it would be like this:

"The Allies began the war with the express purpose of crushing Nazism and releasing the German peoples from the yoke of the oppressor. As the war emerged from its first seven months of hibernation, and slowly grew in ferocity, these pious aims quickly changed. Free speech and liberty of action were suppressed, the dominant desire became again the old one of security and of a crushed Germany incapable of ever again raising her head. After a long and terrible struggle the Allies were 'victorious,' but under the thinly veiled dictatorships which continued from the war period the few sane people left had no hearing. A peace treaty, even more vindictive than the Treaty of Versailles (1918) was drawn up and forced on the conquered nations. In 1969 war once more broke out . . ."

It is my firm conviction that if the present drift of opinion on the war and ensuing peace continues, the course of events will be very similar to those described in the future textbook of 12,000 A.D.

The only ray of hope which existed at the beginning of this war was that we entered it with a surprising absence of flag-wagging and aggressive "patriotism," with the firm and apparently unshakable intention of discriminating between the German people and their rulers. In the early months of the war these were certainly our published "war aims" and I believe they were sincere. But at the present moment things are changing rapidly. We started to fight Nazi rules and methods, but it becomes plainer every hour that we ourselves are beginning to use the same methods.

Examples are easily found. It is debatable whether we were justified in laying mines in Norwegian waters, but I am afraid for our democracy when I read this comment: "The objection that it would constitute a technical breach of neutrality was not allowed to weigh. In a death struggle law and war do not mix."

For a statement of war aims (new style) "The Advertiser" had a significant paragraph some days ago which stated that Britain and France had agreed that any peace treaty must make provision for the "permanent security" of Britain and France. As I shall indicate, there are in my opinion two ways of obtaining that security, but I strongly suspect the phrase in that context. It is too reminiscent of 1918. Coming nearer home, the proposed death penalty on active Communists in France, and the measures proposed in Australia, seem to me to be indistinguishable in principle from the measures taken to suppress unfavourable opinion in Germany. The only difference is that we agreed with the German Socialists and Democrats and do not agree with our own Communists.

To my mind, therefore, the only way in which a stable and lasting peace is possible is to learn from our mistakes and to forget the old tradition of vindictive treaties. These have at any rate always led to new wars, and it is surely an insult to the human intelligence to assume that we cannot profit by our former errors. And the only way in which we can preserve a sane enough outlook to make a sensible peace is to preserve that democracy for which we are supposed to be fighting.

Finally, in case you think I make too much of these points, I give you a test to apply. Take, for example, the quotation, "The objection that . . .," assume that you have just heard it from the German short-wave stations, and see what your reactions are. In this way you can, to some extent at least, get past the cloak of national self-righteousness which at all times blinds us, but never so much as in war.

"ON DIT" STAFF, 1940.

Editors:
P. M. Viner Smith, S. J. Jacobs.

Sub-Editors:
C. A. Price, G. W. Irwin.

Business Manager:
J. Mellor.

Sports Editors:

J. M. McPhie, N. Osman.

Editorial Staff:

E. Teesdale Smith, K. Sanderson, E. F. Johnston.

Self-Defence

Again "On Dit" has been criticized for devoting too much space to one topic — this time politics. While fully realizing that we must, to a certain extent, be obsequious and print what the majority of the students want — and for several articles and suggestions that have come to hand we are very grateful — yet, in all seriousness, we ask whether the criticism referred to can be fairly maintained.

If you decide to consider the question you will realize that just as the task of the politician and statesman has become increasingly difficult, demanding an expert knowledge on most diverse questions, so has politics begun to affect the lives of millions of people who would not in the past have given the slightest attention to the political machine. As a result, the demands of the political system upon the individual in the community have also increased. While in this country those demands have been so far mild, witness the efforts of revolutionary Russia to enlist, sometimes by force, the active co-operation of every citizen; Nazi Germany's method of bludgeoning its way into the lives of its people needs no elaboration; and we in Australia must shortly be concerned with our attitude to those who apparently desire to hinder the prosecution of the war. The man who professes no interest in politics must soon become as extinct as the dinosaur, or perhaps, like the traditional ostrich, he will bury his head in the sand in the hope that the storm will blow over his head. As a popular pamphlet remarked recently, "You may not think about Politics, but Politics thinks about you."

At this stage, we confess our indebtedness to Mr. G. D. H. Cole for most of the above remarks, and on his behalf we invite your criticism, opinion, or suggestion in the hope that "On Dit" may serve a more useful purpose than merely to keep the home fires burning.

UNION DEBATING NIGHT

Friday, April 19, in George Murray Hall

at 7.45 p.m.

MOTION: "That This House Approves the War Policy of the Menzies Government."

Speaker: Mr. R. W. T. Cowan

GOVERNMENT

Mr. T. C. Smale
(Executive Young Nationalists)
Mr. G. W. Irwin

OPPOSITION

A Visiting Speaker
Mr. E. F. Johnston

BRING ALONG WITH YOU ANYONE INTERESTED

On the Trail

By the Watchdog.

It looks as if the battles of Europe may be fought and won in Norway and Sweden. At the time of writing the German invasion of Norway has just been announced. The question arises, Why should Germany deliberately re-expose her flank to an Allied attack through Scandinavia, after the end of the Russo-Finnish war had made that flank safe? The answer can scarcely be that the Nazis wanted direct control of Scandinavian iron ore supplies, because, as things were, neither Norway nor Sweden could have refused to supply what Germany wanted. On the other hand, it may be that the action of the British Admiralty in laying mines along the Norwegian coast brought on the invasion, either (1) because the Nazis thought we were going into Norway, or (2) because Hitler had a brainstorm when he heard of our presumption, or (3) the Nazis intended to go in anyway.

The third explanation seems the most likely. It is probable that Russia and Germany have long had Scandinavia divided up on paper. And now the Germans are trying to get their first instalment.

Whatever the cause of the invasion, it seems deliberately and happily planned to give the Allies a foothold on the German flank. What is needed is a swift blow to drive the Germans from Norway. A little speed and determination now seem likely to pay big dividends in the future. So that even if the German move was merely intended as a feint, it may be turned greatly to our advantage.

A putty medal and the title of Year's Biggest Dope So Far go to the American press wizard who, when he heard of the invasion of Norway, asked what the British Navy was doing. Somebody should tell him that ships can't fly.

Hands together for Mr. Curtin, who expressed his disgust at the meagre amount of news served up by the A.B.C. direct from Daventry. After ten minutes, usually spent in recapitulation of earlier bulletins, the B.B.C. announcer is just warning up when the A.B.C. turns him off and proceeds with something really vital, like J. Strappe and his Elastic Band playing "No More Swing." Something should be done about this.

Explosive factory workers are asking for a twenty-five per cent. rise in wages. "Utter madness," grumbles a friend. Certainly. We won't work in a place like that for any money.

HEART-THROB.

"I could not help feeling a tug at the heartstrings as I saw those thousands of arms swinging and legs moving absolutely like one man."—Sir Harold MacMichael, "News," April 6, 1940.

PAPAL BULL.

"A white dove settled on the red velvet hangings of the papal throne during the Pope's address to-day to eight hundred newly-married couples. The dove stayed throughout the address, and flew off after the benediction."—"News," April 5, 1940.

Front Office News

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Applications are invited from female graduates for the position of Librarian at the Meteorological Branch of the Department, Central Staff, Melbourne. Preference will be given to those with some experience of library organization and a knowledge of French and German, together with an Arts or Science degree. Further particulars may be had from the Acting Registrar.

FROM JAPAN.

The Consul-General for Japan in Sydney has forwarded a set of handbooks, consisting of twelve volumes, called the National Language Readers of Japan. These will be made available to anyone interested in the Japanese language.

RESIGNATION.

Mr. D. A. Sinclair, research assistant in the Physiology Department, has tendered his resignation, to accept a position in the Supply and Development Department of the Commonwealth Government.

WARNING.

Watch this column! We'll shortly have some big stuff to deliver!

MEDICAL STUDENTS

We carry full stocks of

Medical Books, Leitz Haemocytometers, Leitz Oil Immersion Lenses, Leitz Sahli Haemoglobinometers, Head Mirrors, Stethoscopes, Mercurial Sphygmomanometers, Microscope Slides, Cover Glasses, Surgeons' Gloves, Throat Torches, Ophthalmoscopes and Auriscopes

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Oyez! Oyez!

Vestal Virgins are reminded that there will be a meeting of the Purity League in the basement of the George Murray Building on Wednesday, April 17, at 1.30 p.m.

(No one was eligible to become one of the Vestales except a spotless patrician maiden, perfect in all the members of her body, between the ages of six and ten, the child of parents free and free-born, who had been united in marriage—a ceremony at which the prospective husband and wife sat side by side on a wooden bench while someone smashed a cake over them . . . To return to the virgins, the office was not necessarily for life, the length of service being fixed at thirty years. During the first ten, a "Vestalis" was supposed to be occupied in learning her duties, during the second ten in performing them, and during the last ten in giving instructions to the novices. When the full period had elapsed, the Vestal might, if she thought fit, return to the world and even marry; but this rarely happened . . . They were superannuated spinsters by that time!

Should they, in the meantime, commit either of two offences, they were given stripes—three for a sergeant of the Vestals, two for a corporal. The two offences were either to let their fire go out or to break their vow of chastity.)

Don't say we didn't warn you!

Observe!

There have been a number of private people who in the past have received issues of "On Dit" from week to week; but the list has grown too big, and "owing to the war," etc., must be cut down. Those who still desire to receive it, therefore, are asked to forward 2/- to cover postage. Address all communications to the Business Manager, "On Dit."

LAW STUDENTS!

COMMERCE STUDENTS!

TEXT BOOKS AS SET

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Fairies in the Lady Symon

COTTON COMES GOOD.

The time was last Tuesday, April 9. The occasion was the A.G.M. of the Arts Association, and the sensation referred to occurred in the presentation of a play, "The Babes in the Wood," by John Gent (i.e., the presentation!), which initiated the proceedings.

A minute analysis of the delicacies of the plot, which was an extremely intricate one, was evident in Mr. Gent's interpretation. The curtain rose on an empty stage representing a woodland scene, and the first object to present itself to a startled audience was Mr. Bob Cotton as the Fairy Foxglove, clad in an impressive superstructure of some flimsy purple material, while the lower half of his anatomy was screened by a tubular mass of pink crepe paper in the form of a kilt—and a pair of Prince Alfred College football pants.

Mr. Gent was the villain of the piece, in a Hitler moustache and dark and sinister clothing, while his two wards were represented by Miss Elizabeth Carter and Mr. Bill Thomas. Miss Margaret Reed and Miss Alison Hogben, as two ruffians, completed the caste. But for several unfortunate "black-outs" in the lines, which were difficult, consisting as they did of rhymed couplets, the acting, particularly in the case of Mr. Gent, was very good. The play as a whole was a thorough success and a fit start to the year's programme of the Arts Association.

The formal business of the evening was then conducted. The Hon. Sec. for 1939, Mr. D. B. Kerr, read the minutes of the last A.G.M., his report, and, in the absence of Mr. Gough, the Treasurer's report. The latter led to a discussion as to whether Mr. Gent was an asset or liability to the Association, as his subscription in default appeared on both sides of the statement. The matter is unresolved, unless Mr. Gent has paid up in the meantime. Cad, sir! The elections were held in the form of a secret ballot. The officers for the year 1940 are as follows: President, Mr. D. B. Kerr; Vice-President, Miss P. Viner Smith; Secretary, Mr. S. J. Jacobs; Treasurer, Mr. G. W. Irwin; Committee: Miss Crook, Miss Hogben, Mr. Price. The position of Hon. Auditor to the Arts Association, one of the most coveted in the University, was again the excuse for the expression of the Association's surplus wit. Professor Fitzherbert and Mr. M. Quinn-Young eventually emerged triumphant after a sharp struggle with so noteworthy a field of contestants as Mr. John Gent, Mr. George Amos, Mr. William Morris Hughes, Professors Portus and Stewart, Mrs. Goodall, Mr. Jack Lang, Mr. Ned Kelly, Mr. Adolph Hitler, Lady Muriel Barclay-Harvey, and Mr. Doug. Wighton.

The proceedings closed with a general note of thanks all round on an excellent supper. The Treasurer is both willing and anxious to receive any and all subscriptions as soon as possible. These may be left at Mr. Hamilton's office.

Correspondence

RED LETTER.

Editor, "On Dit."
Dear Sir,

There has been lately so much talk about the Communists that a very necessary distinction has been neglected. "Democracy" is not so much a social and political system as much as a method of putting ideas into practice. It is a peaceful and constitutional way of expressing whatever opinions are predominant at the time. If any section of the community should have definite ideas on the nature of society and social policy they have a constitutional method for their realization and in a democracy have no right to realize them any other way. A democratic state has no justification to suppress opinion but it has so if that opinion includes a non-democratic way of fulfillment. Communists have a perfect right to express their social views but no right to attempt to realize them by force or other unconstitutional methods. The whole question of suppression is invalid if it is not tackled from this point of view.

C. A. PRICE.

NICE PEOPLE.

The Editor,
"On Dit."

Dear Sir,

Last Tuesday at about 2.30 p.m. I happened (?) to walk on to the refectory verandah and was amazed at the sight that confronted me.

There among the crockery, the paper bags, the papers, and the cigarette boxes (left, I presumed, by some Sunday school picnickers) were butterflies fluttering hither and thither. But it is not at the butterflies I am complaining. Let us have more of them. Weary students like to gaze at these strange native fauna, to whom time means so little.

Rather I would complain of the disgusting state in which the lawn had been left. It is rather revolting for people who find it possible to eat at tables to have to sit afterwards on the lawn surrounded by the dirty dishes of those who can't. On descending from the verandah to the lawn, it becomes not so much a question of mind the step, as mind the bottle.

I realize the impossibility of the Union Committee being able to prevent people leaving crockery about—the only line of approach is to ask those people who have been brought up right to take their trays, etc., inside, when they have finished with them, and to ask those who haven't been brought up right, to watch those who have and copy them.—Yours faithfully,

M.P.

A GOOD THING?

The Editor,
"On Dit."

Dear Sir,

There seems at present to exist too much deploring of the fact that we are

apathetic towards the war and too much discussion about some means of showing our support (it would be nice, wouldn't it?), and far too little being done about it.

There exists, of course, the usual 'Varsity standby—a dance in aid of Red Cross funds, etc., but why not something with greater potentialities, something in which those enlightened ones who do not indulge the "light fantastic" might participate; something in which all faculties and each year could take a part; something towards which all clubs, sporting and otherwise, could contribute; in short, a 'Varsity procession (in the May vac?), during which collections in aid of Red Cross, Comforts Fund, etc., could be taken up. You know the idea, nets held out from passing cars and lorries, and joyous throngs throwing in 2/- pieces and 10/- notes. To tempt the more tight-fisted our women students (veiled or otherwise) might wend their way, clothed in gala dress, through the crowds, bearing receptacles (for contributions), and wearing smiles fit to touch a heart of stone—or, preferably, a pocket of gold.

The last procession caused banishment for three years. The three years are now up. In any case, it need not be too crude (probably a censorship committee could see to that). If topical and slightly suggestive in spots, it should prove sufficient for Adelaide to open its purse, and for the council to shut its eyes.

There exist those who will say that it is against the constitution of the Union to support such a venture for such a purpose. If that is so, there is something wrong with the constitution. I suppose it does allow for the support of the Allies? and the gout? and the Red Cross? and the Comforts Fund? If so, why not the procession?

Others will say that fun and frivolity are out of place—that it is the wrong thing for the wrong time. But they cannot say the purpose is wrong. Do not let them hinder us. Let them stage a mock funeral with all pomp and ceremony and a five-mile cortege. Success to be gauged by receipts.

And yet others will say that we will get no support, arouse no interest (a) from within—yet I know of 130 or more blithe spirits already anxious to make a start; and (b) from without. The best answer to this is to refer your memory to the letters and articles in our papers after the last one in 1936. They certainly showed no lack of interest!

You know Adelaide is a funny little city, and John Citizen is steeped in middle-class morality, but in spite of this handicap, and the fact that he righteously repents of it the next morning, he will laugh heartily if you tell him about friend Adolf's secret weapon or that Hore-Belisha, and he is generous, you know.

So doesn't it look like a "good thing"?—Yours, etc.,

T. B. HUNTER.

Learn a New Word Every Day

1.
Prf. Gartrell will simply amaze yer
With his passion for paronomasia.

2.
Our purulent puss
Has pustules of pus.

3.
Have you tasted the bag of the bee?
Or the lymph
Of a nymph?

4.
A monk seldom uses a monocle;
'Tis thought insufficiently monachal.
But sometimes a hungry Dominican
Will fill up his belly with pennican.

5.
In heat waves I like my tongues jellied,
And not only jellied, but gelled.

6.
Regarding this Mr. Walker of Walker-
ville,
Does anyone reckon 'im
Worth such an eponym?
Speaking personally,
We cannot tell, because
We don't know who he was.

7.
There is not such a word as "adap-
tion,"

At least, to the best of our know-
ledge,
Yet we find this plebeian contraption
in use

In our Physical Cultural College.
(Seen on the blackboard in the hut.)

Noble!

"Incidentally, official University opinion is in favour of any activities run on behalf of the Red Cross or some similar cause. Surely that is good enough excuse and worthy enough to encourage us to continue our happy social round."—"On Dit," March 12, 1940.

Why not a super betting shop for cultured people, if "any activity"? The cause will justify it.

Why not admit that we dance because we like dancing, debate because it is stimulating and good fun? Of course if we are honest we lose the glow that comes from being noble; perhaps honesty is not worth the sacrifice.

Little Alf plays football with the gang to develop muscular co-ordination. We read the newspaper so that the journalist may be paid, and buy petrol to foster better trade relationships with U.S.A. Truly hath the poet bard spoken when he said—perhaps the editor can supply a couplet of suitable sentiment). N.B.—The editors couldn't.

On Reading "Boat Train"

i wonder what this modern art
is all about
i cannot tree
the mystery
the hidden chart

a capital is so de trop
you know
re punctuation
renunciation
is the go

ex latin quarter in paris
hearken clarice
it reached a peak
with our literary sheikh
Max H . . . is

who writes above our meagre brains
about boat trains
he knows it quite
i s'pose it's right
he's taken pains

he knows a sac re sex
so contra lex
his might and main
would reap a gain
boosting bex

and so for modern poets who Eheu!
the cap fits too
i think you'll find
from mouth to mind
they're foo' the noo

—Raben.

Youth in Chains

(An Australian university graduate, Miss Anna Dane, returned recently from a period of teaching in a German girls' school.)

Three months spent among the Germans last year left me convinced of odd contradictions among them, their decency as individuals, and their indecency as a nation.

I met with nothing but kindness from all Germans with whom I came in contact, and I found the average German hospitable, friendly, and charming, though perhaps a bit too sentimental for my casual Australian ideas. The whole nation is work-crazy, and although this is better than play-crazy, I should dislike very much to be wrapped up in work as they are. German thoroughness is famous, but they sometimes overdo it.

However, thoroughness and industry have always characterized the Germans, and in the "new Germany" I found a great deal both to admire and to deplore. I admired the national interest in health and physical training; at the school where I was the girls were kept wonderfully fit by sport and physical exercises.

Their diet was carefully chosen, but I suffered from the food, because I never seemed to get enough to eat, accustomed as I was to the good meat and butter of Australia and to plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables, none of which I could get here. I never saw cream in Germany, and butter had begun to be scarce even in May of last year; what there was of very bad quality. Meat was scarce and very expensive and eggs also. But the girls had been used to it for some time, so did not suffer at all.

Then there is the standard of domestic efficiency to which every German girl, whatever her age or class, must attain, and the fact that all girls serve their "duty year" on the land or as domestic help in a family; and their thrift: even the wealthiest girls in the school had no more than three shillings a month pocket money, and were trained to spend carefully and keep their own accounts.

As I looked at those young German faces I was puzzled for a long time to determine the difference between them and young Australians. At last

I found it. Those German faces wore a look of acceptance, and they were resolute with the sort of determination that comes from accepting what one is told without question. That is what I most deplore about Germany—that the youth of the country should grow up in this unquestioning obedience, this dreadful acquiescence, like cogs in a machine which can run smoothly only while all the parts are uniformly efficient. It is the sort of unquestioning obedience that turns people who are otherwise kind into people who are bestial to those others—Jews, Liberals, and Catholics—who do not agree with the official policy.

The Germans are more efficient than we are, but at what a price! The youth movements, the schools, the press, and the wireless all do their best to make youth conform to one pattern. They have everything, this "new Germany"—health, efficiency, industry, and enthusiasm. But they have lost the priceless human right of shaping their destinies in freedom. I can see in Germany the tragedy of a decent people, badly led; of wonderful possibilities misused.

'VARSITY SPORTS IN THREE WEEKS

Practice Matches on Saturday

N. Osman, J. M. McPhie, Sports Editors.
Barbara Kelly, Reporter.

It is now less than three weeks to the 'Varsity sports and even the less seriously inclined should start training pretty soon. Every taste is catered for and no one can complain that there is nothing they can run in.

Football, hockey, and lacrosse practice matches were played on Saturday. The footballers had a win against Walkerville, and the hockey one against Parkside, while lacrosse just got at each other. It is hoped that this promising beginning is a good omen for the season.

We have received a pathetic appeal from the lacrosse club, which sadly needs some new players. Freshers, it is worth a try if you are not playing anything yet.

Sandford was the outstanding shot on Saturday, when he topped the range with 29, 30—59.

As yet the women have been rather reticent about their activities, but we hope to hear more soon.

Hockey

Two practice matches were played on Saturday.

The "A's" played Parkside, while the rest played a very scratch match amongst themselves. It was hoped that the latter might serve to give new players an idea of the game, but, owing to a late start, things were rather rushed and there was little time to give advice to those who needed it. However, with about sixteen recruits, many of whom show considerable promise, there is little doubt that our "B" and "C" teams at any rate will be much stronger than last year.

In the match against Parkside (who had two 'Varsity players with them), the "A's" won 5—4. This, of course, cannot be considered an indication of our strength this season, as the game was merely a loosen up.

The backs were our most impressive combination. Park, having been tentatively transferred from forward, showed that he has an exceptionally good hit, while Wardman also was sighting them—and, what is more important, looking where he was hitting and hitting where he was looking.

Camens played tenaciously and defended well, but should follow up and feed his forwards a little more.

Yates and Clarke gave the forwards plenty of chances, though Chicken still insisted on lurking with the ball when he should have cleared it quickly.

The only good thing to be said for the forwards was their five goals which, compared with last year, were the result of reasonably accurate shooting.

Smith, playing his first game as centre forward, looked uncomfortable, but should soon settle down and his three goals on Saturday were promising. James, also a new forward, was quite fair. Kirby and Semmler were fumbling the ball, while McPhie, though he accidentally hit two goals, ran vaguely about the field, and neither he nor James rushed in enough when near the goal.

Basketball Club

The annual general meeting of the club was held on March 29 and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. H. V. Menz; Vice-President, Joy Tassie; Secretary, Betty Marshall; Assistant Secretary, Shirley McPherson, Mr. F. Drabsch is the coach.

Three teams have been entered in the association, in A, B, and C grades, and after two practices it is evident that the standard of play in each team will be considerably higher this year. The association will be very pleased to hear this.

The first matches will be played on April 27, when, with the help of the promising freshers who have joined the club, we are looking forward not only to the game (we always do this), but to a win.

Rugby

On Saturday twenty-two players turned out for a practice in ideal rugby weather. Our coach, Mr. Cooper, was with us for the first time this season. We are fortunate that both Professor Portus and Mr. Cooper can spare the time to coach us. Mr. Cooper gave a short talk for the instruction of new players, pointing out that they must never pass forward and always to gather the ball to the body. Then we had a run so that the new-comers would find their positions. Afterwards we had a ten-a-side match, the coloured jerseys playing the blacks. During the game, which was keen and fast, several good tackles were made, the best being when Rischbeith grassed Edwards. Those who are just learning the game must remember to go low and hard when tackling, and to run determinedly when they have the ball. When we changed ends at half-time our coach joined in the fray and Prof. Portus refereed. Frank Hamilton is quickly getting into form; he was seen loafing off-side a number of times, hoping for a dropped pass to fall at his feet. Flask's bustling tactics were very effective. Our captain, Paddy Edwards, had a run at five-eighths, but his hands are not quite safe enough for this position. Napier made several brilliant runs, outpacing his own backs as well as the opposition. We were thankful when the practice finished at 4.30 p.m.

Watch for the Rugby Ball

Boxing and Wrestling Club

The A.G.M. of the A.U.B. and W.C. was held in the Secretary's old office on Tuesday, March 9, 1940, at 1.30 p.m.

In the absence of the President, Mr. C. L. Abbott, Mr. Collins was elected to the chair.

Officers elected were: President, Mr. C. Lempriere Abbott; Vice-Presidents, Dr. E. A. H. Russell, Professor Campbell, Dr. A. Britten-Jones; Captain of Boxing, J. Jenkins; Captain of Wrestling, A. R. Weetman; Secretary, A. R. Weetman; Treasurer, A. R. Oliver; Auditor, R. E. Wegner; committee: W. I. B. Smith, F. Collins, P. Edwards.

It was decided to hold boxing practice on Mondays at 5.10 p.m. and wrestling on Fridays at the same time.

Rifle Club

Freshers, did you know—

1. That the U.R.A.C. is the crack University rifle Club of Australia?

2. That the A.U.R.C. has won the inter-'Varsity rifle match for the last two years?

3. That last year the A.U.R.C. won the inter-'Varsity at Hobart for the first time in history for a visiting team.

4. That the A.U.R.C. has won the Albert inter-'Varsity match for the last two years in succession?

5. That last year the A.U.R.C. No. 1 team, shooting in M.D.R.U. matches, topped the A grade aggregate for the year?

This is a fine record for any club and we are relying on you to help us maintain it. All new-comers are assured of gaining places in teams' matches. No previous experience is necessary. Free transport from Adelaide to and from the range, free ammunition, and rifles lent by the club. These are only a few of the many benefits to members of the live-wire club. Equip yourselves for national emergency. Our coaches can make you an efficient shot. What about it? Join now! See any member or official for details.

The club had a successful shoot at 800 yards on Saturday, outstanding results being gained by Sandford, who was top of the range. In a double six-round shoot he only dropped one point, to record 69 out of 70. R. E. Brown followed closely with 27, 29—66.

The purpose of the afternoon's shoot was to teach new members how to handle the gun. Next week a trophy shoot will be held for new members only. This will be a coached event, so all you have to do is pull the trigger. Everyone and anyone will be welcome and you will get a good handicap if you have had no previous experience.

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Athletics

This is a big year for 'Varsity athletics and anyone interested should be training now.

To-night (April 16) an open meeting is to be held at the Harriers' track and proceeds are to go to the Fighting Forces' Comforts Fund. Events include a 75 yd., 220 yd., and three-lap handicaps, broad jump, and mile relay.

On May 3 the annual sports will be held on the 'Varsity Oval. Lectures are generally suspended for the afternoon, so everyone who can hobble should enter for something.

Finally, there is the inter-'Varsity to be contested here on May 28.

To show how seriously the athletes are taking this programme we might mention that Secretary Spog is on the wagon. He is also to be seen with fairies apparently trying to improve his aerial technique (pole vault and broad jump). We don't think it matters.

Also our naturalist, Coe, while still interested in birds and fishes, is running a little.

Elliott Johnson has apparently talked himself into trying to run off some of his condition. We hope it can be run off.

Football

A practice match was played among twenty-eight members of the 'Varsity football team and twenty-five of the Walkerville team on the St. Peter's College Oval on Saturday.

In windy conditions an interesting if not a good match was seen, and in a hard-fought game the 'Varsity won by 2 goals 3 points.

The match was marred by bad handling of the ball, and also of the opposing side, many frees being given away.

John Shierlaw, one of the recruits, was probably the best man for the 'Varsity, his ground and overhead work being particularly sound, and he combined both with plenty of dash and determination. Another of the new-comers to show plenty of promise was Bruce Cowell, a tall ruckman, who needs a little more pace for this higher standard of football.

Of the old men Betts and Dunstan were the best. Betts set his team a good example by his untiring efforts throughout the match.

Page showed a welcome return to form by taking many marks above the crushes and kicking with some of his old-time accuracy.

Scores.—'Varsity, 10—11; Walkerville, 8—8. Goalkickers: Ligertwood, 5; Mayo, 2; Shierlaw, 1; Page, 1; Stevenson, 1.

Those who played well were: Shierlaw, Betts, Dunstan, Ligertwood, Page.

The remainder of the club had a practice match at Urrbrae and a fine game took place, with the following players often under notice Colwell, Evans, Corteledge, and Harris.

The first of the league matches takes place next Saturday, the "A's" playing St. Peter's Old Scholars. The "B's" and "C's" also have their first match and all players are asked to practise from now on.

Lacrosse

NEW PLAYERS WANTED.

A most successful practice was held on Saturday on the University Oval, under the guidance of our patron, Dr. L. O. Betts. One team, comprising the A forwards and the backs of the B's and C's, played a team comprising the A backs and the forwards of the B's and C's, every one player thus being opposed by another of equal standard. Twenty-six players took part. This was most gratifying when one considers that the season does not start until May 4, that three of last year's A's are still in camp, and that a few other players are building up reputations for themselves somewhere in the athletic world. Before the match Dr. Betts addressed the teams, stressing the importance of accuracy in throwing and catching and giving helpful hints and advice to both the older and younger members of the club. Dr. Betts then gave the new players some coaching in elementary stick-work, while the first quarter of the match was being played. They then took part in the remainder of the match and showed surprisingly good form. In between quarters our patron gave us two more brief talks on lacrosse tactics, which should prove beneficial in the coming year.

Players are again urged to come out to practice regularly. Matches start in three weeks' time, May 4, but there will be practice matches on the two intervening Saturdays. Owing to the absence of some of our players in military camps, and the fact that we have lost ten of last year's men, we are in great need of new members. Invitations are especially extended to Commerce and Pharmacy students, with whom we have great difficulty in getting in touch. Come down to the oval on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday after 5 p.m., or before if you can. We can lend you a stick with which you can practise while you are discovering what a great game lacrosse is.

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