

# ON DIT

PRODUCED BY THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

### On Dit Vindicated

"On Dit" has appeared this year for the first time since its suppression in 1941, when it was the object of much criticism in the University. We are fortunate in having secured an able and industrious Editorial Committee, headed by Mr. Leaney, and I wish them every success in their venture.

There is a particularly difficult task, for several reasons, chief of which are that they are reviving "On Dit" after a long lapse, and have had little or no previous experience of their work. Production of "On Dit" has, in the past, been a rather thankless task, inasmuch as, although it is the official publication of the Union, almost all the material for it must be provided by the Editor and his assistants, very little matter being directly supplied by the Union Committee.

The decision to republish "On Dit" was made last October, when our difficulties appeared almost insuperable. Not the least of these was obtaining a permit for the necessary paper, but

with this granted, an Editor had next to be appointed. No one on the Union Committee was able to accept this position, and until February of this year it seemed we would, after all, be unable to publish "On Dit," when Mr. Leaney offered to act as Editor. However, it was not until a week before the day fixed for the first issue that arrangements were completed. It is therefore a tribute to Mr. Leaney that "On Dit" appeared to schedule, and this despite lack of correspondence, and a complete absence of matter, through having as yet no activities to report from the women.

Much criticism has been levelled at "On Dit," especially on the grounds that paper and money are thus wasted in war time. These are controversial questions, and I do not wish to discuss them here; but the primary reasons for republishing "On Dit" are:

1.—"On Dit," as always, advises Union members of Union, Faculty, Societies, Sports, Staff activities.

2.—"On Dit" is available to Union members for the publication of original matter which could not otherwise be published.

3.—"On Dit" will advise Union members on policy and activities of the Universities Commission.

4.—"On Dit" will publish resumes of important activity in other Universities, both at home and overseas.

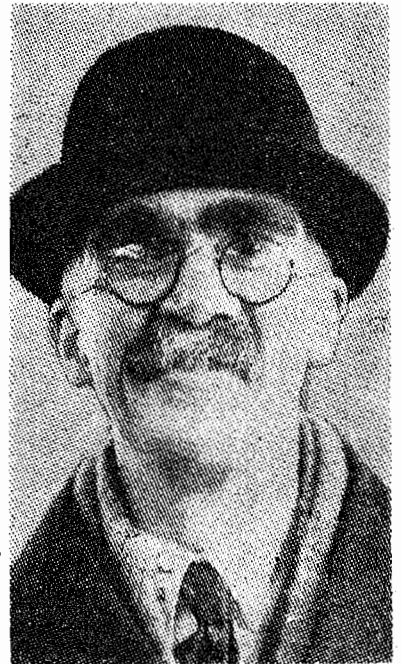
5.—"On Dit" will report on N.U.A.U.S. activities, which are becoming increasingly important in these days of educational changes.

The first issue of "On Dit" compared favorably with similar publications in other States, and, considering the adverse conditions, the Editorial Committee are to be congratulated.

With the above points as part of the general editorial policy, "On Dit" cannot fail to regain the important place it once held in University life.

M. W. STAIN,  
President, A.U.U.

The University Council in Melbourne last year decided that "intending entrants must stay at school another year, and, as well as having the Leaving Certificate, they must pass a new matriculation examination. The minimum age of entry to the University will then be 17." When asked to comment on this, Prof. Kerr Grant said that he was of the view that the average man or woman of 16 years of age should be eligible to enter the University. He preferred to take a long-range view of the matter, and thought that the student who entered the University at 17 entered life a



PROFESSOR KERR GRANT

year later than was necessary. Considering the problem not merely in its 'Varsity aspect, but from the view of life in general, he said: "There is a deal to be said on not entering the University too late. It is questionable whether the educational value of University studies is greater than that of actual participation in the profession that is to be undertaken."

In answer to the Council comment that "the present standard of admittance was too low. Many students . . . proved unable to make any progress in a University course," (when we remember the results of many last year, this seems probably to apply in Adelaide also), the Professor said: "Other factors must also be considered. For instance, the 'Varsity year consists of about six months' actual work, and this is definitely too short. The time factor in the gaining of knowledge is very important. Knowledge cannot be assimilated too rapidly."

The Council further decided that "the new Matric. examination . . . will include a new compulsory subject—English expression." Concerning this point, Prof. Grant said that there is nothing more valuable than an infinite knowledge of fine literature, not only of England, but of other countries as well, the same going for a knowledge of any fine arts, but at the same time, the fact that an individual has not had an opportunity, or, maybe, the bent of mind, to assimilate this knowledge, is no reason why he should be barred from a useful career. "It would be criminal for an engineer to be debarred because he could not write a sonnet in the style of Keats." "In fact," said Prof. Grant, "I have always felt that I should like to be a great musician, but there is no reason to bar me from being a Professor of Physics because I cannot play a Beethoven sonata."

The Professor admitted that he had noticed the women students in his Physics I class; he also stated that they lent a distinct charm to the lecture theatre. He declined, however, to state whether the general standard of beauty and/or brains had risen or fallen as a result of the influx of larger numbers of women students to the University in general, or to his Physics I class in particular!

### Notice

In order to allocate the Book Lockers in the basement of the George Murray Building, those who at present occupy lockers are asked to give details of the number of such locker, their name, faculty and year, at the Union Office before March 27, 1944. Non-compliance will mean confiscation of locker.

—CHAIRMAN OF THE MEN'S UNION.

The reviews of Mr. Talbot Smith Have lots of pith: Sometimes they hit, But mostly myth!

—(Schickelgruber.)

## THEATRE GUILD WANTS STUDENTS' INTEREST

Among other matters discussed at the A.G.M. of the University Theatre Guild was the apathy of 'Varsity students to this vital organisation, which produces good standard plays, and holds other interesting evenings at the Hut during the year. There are good opportunities for keen students to act and experiment in play production. Dr. Campbell (Dean of Dentistry), Miss Barbara Howard (Conservatorium teacher), Mrs. Bruce Williams, and Mr. Brian Elliot (English department), are among those who are willing to help and advise on all stage matters.

When it came to the question of Guild membership fees, it was moved by Mr. Elliot that students be admitted free. In the discussion that followed, Dr. Eugene McLaughlin said he would support this motion IF the Union would grant the Guild £20. Eventually this amendment was rejected, and the motion failed. The students' interest was questioned—in a previous year Dr. McLaughlin had tried to dispose of 30 invitations to students, and not one was accepted.

In an attack on undergraduates, Dr. McLaughlin said that in his day Ade-

laide University had no real social life, and was the home of apathy. There had been no advance (as far as he could see) on our social aspirations (culturally) since then.

Later, when this subject had been exhausted, a motion was carried that students pay five shillings membership, and others ten shillings.

A committee was elected, precluded by a discussion as to whether Miss Teesdale-Smith and Mr. Leaney should be the two Union reps or not: it was decided that they remain as committee members, and the Union be invited to elect two others from the students. A representative committee resulted:

Dr. T. D. Campbell, Mr. B. R. Elliot, Miss B. Howard, Mr. B. Williams, Mrs. B. Williams, Mr. R. K. Leaney, Miss C. Teesdale-Smith, Mr. H. Kollosche, Dr. E. McLaughlin, Mr. A. Sierp, Miss E. Petrie, Miss Walsh, Miss P. Hackett, and Mr. S. Downie.

The student play already in production, "Blithe Spirit" (Noel Coward) will be recognised as a Theatre Guild show, and will be performed later this term. The first production for the year will be "The Petrified Forest," produced by F. H. Day.

### FOOD

Supply of cakes from Balfour's is limited. Mrs. Clyde gets six (6) dozen, i.e., seventy-two eggs per week, and only a few pounds of butter.

Starting to-day, there will be notices at strategic points (look for them!) in the Refectory, "Put Trays Here!" This is an emergency measure which will continue, however, throughout the year. The idea is to remove your food from the tray, place it in front of the notice, and return to your meal. Don't make Ada and others tour the Refectory looking for stray trays!

At a Union Committee meeting it was disclosed that the Refectory was in hard straits for its butter and eggs with the increased influx of students; Mrs. Clyde states that about 600 are served between 12.30 and 1.30 every day. Milk has to be bought in bulk, and bottled by the staff of the Refectory, as insufficient bottles are allowed, and this means extra work.

Commencing Friday MARCH 24 4 Shows Daily. Love's Spiciest Hour Comes After Dark!! "LIFE BEGINS AT 8.30" (A) With MONTY WOOLLEY and IDA LUPINO. Plus—The Year's Most Baffling Murder Mystery!! "THROUGH DIFFERENT EYES" (A) With FRANK CRAVEN, MARY HOWARD, and DONALD WOODS. On Stage: PERKINS' NOVELTY ACROBATIC TROUPE. FOR RESERVATIONS, C 8899.

Commencing Friday MARCH 24. 4 Shows Daily Rousing, Roaring, Adventure in Technicolor!! "THUNDERBIRDS" (G) With GENE TIERNEY & PRESTON FOSTER. Plus—Their Laugh Hit of Hits!! "MEXICAN SPITFIRE'S ELEPHANT" (G) With LUPE VELEZ and LEON ERROL. FOR RESERVATIONS, C 4455.

# OPINION

## Don't be Soaked

To the Editor, "On Dit."

Sir,—Back to the padded cell is certainly where "Schizophrenic" should be taken. His letter, printed in last week's edition, on the class of radio programmes that we have to listen to from the radio stations, commercial or otherwise, was the most gigantic piece of nonsense that I have ever read from a University student.

"Schizophrenic" said that the recent controversy in one of the local papers left him baffled. No doubt it did, if his writings are any indication of his state of mind. He implores the music lovers of our 'Varsity "to do something about it," but he does not make any attempt to solve the problem of radio programmes.

I agree with him (but please don't think that my thoughts are as disarranged as his) that many of these so-called "soap operas" should be removed from our programmes; but I do not say that swing should be abolished, nor do I say that the classics of music should be abolished from our radio programmes.

Let the respective lovers of swing and classics listen at their own choosing to the music that they like best, and then turn off the radio, if they do not wish to accompany "Schizophrenic" "back to the padded cell."—Yours, etc.,

"TURN IT OFF."

## "On Dit" Defended

The Editor, "On Dit."

Dear Sir,—I recommend your correspondents, "Rank and File," to retire for a period of decent obscurity in order to take a course in Clive Bell. Their intolerance is appalling, their premature attack on this publication detestable. Their attitude towards it stinks, and they are to be congratulated on their choice of non-deplumes.—Yours, etc.,

"RANKLE AND RILE."

## Freshers' Stomp

The Editor, "On Dit."

Dear Sir,—Through your columns I wish to ask the Union Committee

## Scientific Charivaria

(Conducted by H<sup>2</sup>S)

At the time of going to press Science Freshers are eagerly awaiting the opening meeting for the year of the Adelaide University Science Association. We could indulge in some post-dated reporting (because we have a fair idea of the programme), but since events have a habit of waywardness that confounds prediction we intend to leave a report of proceedings till the next issue. One thing on the agenda, however, we feel could be mentioned.

The Association intends pressing for the establishment of a class in Elementary Scientific German, which we feel is long overdue. The case, which will be conducted through appropriate channels, has as its foundation some of the following facts:

- (1) A knowledge of German is, in effect, compulsory for Honors Science students.
- (2) At least a reading knowledge of the language is essential for any science student.
- (3) Present facilities for teaching Scientific German are quite inadequate and cause considerable inconvenience.
- (4) Such courses are conducted in other Australian Universities.
- (5) A cross section survey of Science students has been taken and the number of students who would take advantage of such a class is sufficient to justify it.

We realise, of course, that a first essential is the availability of a suitable teacher, and unless such can be found we would be better without.

We would like to hear some opinions on this, either personally or through On Dit.

when the Freshers' Ball will be held. Since our arrival here we have had no official welcome from the Union, and is this year to be any exception? The noted columnist, Mr. Brock, would not comment on 'Varsity dolls till after the dance, then, Sir, when can we take the floor with the above-mentioned, and judge for ourselves, as well as Mr. Brock? Surely, Sir, we have not come to this University to enter upon a Puritan existence. So, then, I ask the Union Committee (who do all things—see Handbook) when will the tables be pushed back, and the Freshers be allowed to bunny-hug, college-trot, or what have you?—Yours, expecting a reply,

"STOMPY JONES."

## These Politicians

The Editor, "On Dit."

Dear Sir,—I feel that a little timely advice to freshers on the subject of politics is called for. Last time "On Dit" died it was under heavy fire, and we must all be very careful to see that this doesn't happen again.

You see, in a democratic country fighting a war for freedom—e.g., freedom of speech and freedom of assembly—the Universities, which contain the best intellects of the country, make it their business to use, and thereby preserve, their freedom. There are therefore some things which you are strongly urged NOT to do, particularly if your politics are at all leftist.

1.—You must never write to "On Dit" any letter which will arouse any feeling at all among students.

2.—You must never join any club or association in the University which has any axe to grind. Always sit on the fence.

3.—Never stand on top of the piano in the Refec. during lunch time and exhort the mob to give their last ounce of effort for Mr. Dedman.

Penalty: The University will turn against you, and you will have a hard time for your remaining years within its cloisters.

So—BE CAREFUL!—Yours, etc.,  
D.M.M.

## COMMENTS ON B.Sc.(Eng.)

In an interview, Professor Robin said that the present three-year course, B.Sc.(Eng.), was sufficient training for Army purposes (i.e. for the R.A.E., etc.), but did not give a good training for civil engineering work. He thought that the shortened course had served its purpose as a war-time exigency, and it was time now to revert to the four-year B.E. course. The Engineering Faculty is at present considering how the move could be made, either gradually or sharply. The Professor thought that students would be favorable to the reversion, although there was not a great deal of overloading.

Concerning the manpower attitude, Professor Robin agreed that it was not uniform throughout the Commonwealth: Perth reserves a small number for fourth-year work, Melbourne has a B.Sc.(Eng.), instituted two years before the war, as well as a B.E.: at Adelaide a very small number of students (under military age) were doing fourth-year Engineering.

Concluding, Prof. Robin said that his personal view was that the sooner Adelaide reverted to the B.E. degree the better.

Mr. Farrent (lecturer) thought that engineers were graduating at a younger age and were consequently immature. It put a greater demand on students whose results indicated something of that nature, especially in the second year. In his opinion it was desirable now to revert to the better course.

## Sports Secretaries!

You have a page to fill. Hand your Sporting News to the Sporting Editor, R. A. Kenihan, every Monday.

# EDITORIAL

THE University starts again in the fifth year of World War II.

Most of us do not remember the Varsity as it was before the struggle began, but we have glimmerings of those gay times when someone mentions the Varsity Revue or annual procession or any other symbol of our tradition of high independence and good spirits. Everyone feels the tightening, which has had a tendency to render students apathetic and less outspoken on human affairs in general. In the past, it was the custom to regard the University as the abode of genuine freedom (sometimes licence, too)—of all the priceless freedoms of a way of life that is now threatened.

The war is intense and world-wide, and has had another effect on the Varsity besides a subduing and tightening of spirits: I am thinking of the great claws that reach over into our places of study and recreation from Europe and the Pacific and take our friends, some undergraduates, some fresh graduates, to be trained to use their abilities in many of the different ways of war. It is a melancholy business that draws out our affections into a network covering the whole world. Many have left the Adelaide University and hardly any of the present students are not affected in some way by this loss.

Henry Vaughan, a seventeenth century poet, expressed some of the emotions prompted by similar circumstances: here are two of his stanzas:

They are all gone into the world of light!  
And I alone sit ling'ring here;  
Their very memory is fair and bright,  
And my sad thoughts doth clear.

I see them walking in an air of glory,  
Whose light doth trample on my days:  
My days, which are at best but dull and hoary,  
Mere glimmering and decays.

## S.C.M. Notes

S.C.M. activities start in earnest this week with the first address by Rev. J. H. Crossley on "Christianity Out-dated?" This takes place TODAY (Wednesday), at 1.20 p.m., in the George Murray, so put aside On Dit and come along.

Study circles begin next week:—"Science, Christianity and Truth"—Monday; "The Awakening of Human Nature," which will be primarily a study of St. Luke's Gospel—Tuesday;

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**PUT TRAYS HERE**

See Notice in Refectory  
To-day.

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"The Social Implications of Christianity"—Thursday; and "Why Christianity?" on Friday, all of which will begin at 1.20 and will be held in the Lady Symon.

The first moonlight hike comes off on April 1, concerning which you will hear more anon. Keep the date free.

Remember! Firstly, today's address. Secondly, study circles for freshers and others next week; and the hike on April Fool's Day.

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Notwithstanding the difficulties of obtaining books, limited supplies are available and others are arriving at the W.E.A. BOOKROOM, where University Textbooks and other books may be procured.

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## EDITORIAL STAFF

- Editor: Roy Leaney.
- Sub-Editress: Ninette Trott.
- Associate Editors: David Kerr and T. S. Brailsford Robertson.
- Exchange Editor: David Barnes.
- Social Editress: Joan Matthew.
- Business Manager: David Drew.
- Sports Editor (provisional): R. A. Kenihan.

## MEDICAL STUDENTS

We carry full stocks of MEDICAL BOOKS, Haemocytometers, Sahli Haemoglobinometers, Head Mirrors, Stethoscopes, Mercurial Sphygmomanometers, Microscope Slides, Cover Glasses, Surgeons' Gloves, Throat Torches, Ophthalmoscopes, Auriscopes, and Surgical Instruments. Journals, Periodicals. Locums Arranged.

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# Madame Woo Hears-

First, many best wishes and lots of happiness to Ninette Trott and Betty Marshall on their engagements to Geoff Dutton and Rocky McEwin respectively. We can't say, "My dear, what a surprise! Do you know, I saw her out with Alfonso only last week!" No. These couples have been old faithfuls for many moons, and we're very glad to see them so happy.

Well, it's the first week, and so as yet there is not a great deal to report, but we were vastly amused when that tall, dark, and handsome embryo dentist was heard to exclaim loudly and eagerly as he rushed up the steps into the Barr Smith Library: "I must go in. I haven't looked the freshers over yet!" Never mind, Johnny. As a matter of fact, we don't blame you a bit, because the freshettes this year are of a singularly glamorous variety. There are tall ones, short ones, dark

ones, blonde ones, slim ones, plump ones—take your pick, boys, but don't forget the allegiance you owe to your old loves, and recall the long-distant or non-existent days when they, too, were slashing freshettes. In view of the many bashful beauties among the freshers, the initiation ceremonies this year should prove amusing, and very pleasant. Especially in the Med. School, where a certain dark-eyed young Methodist lady will do her best to emulate Gipsy Rose Lee.

## WOMEN'S UNION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING To-day, at 7.45 p.m.

in LADY SYMON HALL

The Meeting will be preceded by Freshers' Welcome Tea at 6.30 p.m.

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The long vacation has in no way impaired, the deep feeling which so patently exists between our Spanish importation and his chosen wench. "You see him here, you see him there, you see Pereira everywhere. Is he like heaven? Or is he like hell? Margaret Christie alone can tell."

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## Army Education at Work

THE scheme was begun last year as a war-time measure to help students who had enlisted in the forces. It already has 110 men and women from the Navy, Army, and Air Force on its list, and the numbers are increasing almost daily.

They are students who were doing courses at the University, and had them interrupted by enlisting in the forces, or would-be students who had matriculated, and were going to take up first-year subjects.

The lecturer in philosophy (Mr. M. M. S. Finnis) is liaison officer between lecturers and service personnel, and handles the correspondence.

### BY AIR MAIL

Men and women wanting to keep on with their University studies are put in touch with Mr. Finnis through Army Education officers, and from then on correspondence is personal and direct, by air mail, so that it can get to them in the shortest possible time.

The scheme is not a correspondence course in that it only sets out to help students in every possible way with information, data, and notes on lectures. The rest is up to them.

They can take University examinations while away in the services, supervised by Army Education or senior officers.

"But the scheme can't be measured in terms of examinations," said Mr. Finnis.

### FACULTIES

The important thing was that these students were sufficiently interested to

## A.U.E.S.

The Committee of the Engineering Society welcomes On Dit on its return to print, and expresses the hope that Engineers will help, by their contributions, to realise the high standard which we believe was promised by the first edition. We are pleased that there is an Engineer, David Drew, on the staff

Ours has always been a bright Faculty, and some of the yarns told of initiations, dinners, vacations, and other occasions are really priceless. We only wish we could recount a few of them here. While not trying to discourage these doings, we feel that the Engineers as a whole do not enter fully into the life and activities of this University. We hope that On Dit will provide some stimulus in this direction, and that it will be widely used for the exchange of "knowledge, news, and notions." We know we have a very high standard, especially so, we trust, with the quota system, and look forward confidently to some activity from these large numbers.

One explanation of this apparent lack of interest is that we have been kept very busy in the last few years by the short course. For this, as well as more natural reasons common to us all, we look forward to the time when we can return to the four-year course. (We might add, here, that the exception was the last Physics I lecture in 1943. We are led to believe that the Engineers were well to the fore there. Good old Queenie!)

An alteration in programme has occurred since the last issue of On Dit. Due to difficulty in obtaining accommodation and supper, the date of the Freshers' Welcome has been changed from Wednesday, March 22, to Monday, March 27. It will be held in the George Murray Hall at 7.30 p.m. Freshers are reminded of the 1/- supper fee.

The Social is to be held on Wednesday, March 29, at 7.30 p.m., in the Engineering lecture theatre. Before the professors and lecturers arrive at 8.15 p.m., a short general meeting of the Society will be held, at which Mr. W. D. Brown, Chairman of the Men's Union, will discuss the N.U.A.U.S. For those doing Practical Physics on either of these nights, Mr. Fuller has said they will probably be able to leave, with his permission, at 8.00 p.m. Please be punctual, so that proceedings can be terminated reasonably early.

want to keep on with their studies. And they were keeping their brains active, and keeping up with their work to some extent, so that when they came back to the University they would not have a big gap to make up. Most distant student is an airman in Dutch New Guinea.

The scheme can cover almost any subject under the Faculty of Arts, including mathematics, languages, history, economics, psychology, logic, ethics, and education; subjects for the diploma of commerce and social science, and there are some law students.

It doesn't cover such things as science, engineering, and medicine, where the need for practical work puts it out of the question. The scheme is still in its early stages, but is steadily gaining a foothold.

### EDUCATIONISTS

"We don't want more crooners in education. We don't want more Bing Crosbys. What we want is William Dobells, who can state old truths in modern clothes."—J. D. G. Medley.

## Save This

FOR YOUR

## Girl Guide

(or Something)

## Save Paper

## MR. MEDLEY AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

The first address in the "Education To-day and To-morrow" series was given last Tuesday by the Vice-Chancellor of Melbourne University in the Bonython Hall. Mr. Medley outlined educational facilities in Australia, and stressed his belief that a much wider programme for adult education be instituted. These lectures (there are three) are organised by the W.E.A., and should be attended by all progressive-minded students. Professor J. I. M. Stewart spoke last night on "Literature and Popular Education," and his address will be reported in next week's "On Dit."

Mr. Medley, who was introduced by Sir William Mitchell, said that respect for learning in Australia was, and had always been, precarious, and bounded by economic considerations. Real foundations were insecure, and could well fail to withstand the strain of orderly reconstruction if the country concentrated solely upon the material and economic aspects of their problem.

The first and toughest reality of reconstruction to be faced in the democracies would be that its basic raw material, by which it must stand or fall, would consist of young and middle-aged people who sprang from a background of puzzle, of frustration or passive indifference, or active discontent.

The majority would view the future with the suspicion that came of complete disenchantment. There would be fertile ground for all manner of disorder. He had no fear of Great Britain; America had a spiritual toughness, sometimes difficult to discern, that would surmount the next 20 years; but he was afraid of Australia.

### AUSTRALIANS WANDERING.

Australians had been wandering between two worlds for long, and they had little in the way of counter-weight to oppose to the forces that would confront them. That counter-weight would have been supplied by education; and it could only add to the apprehensions that must be in the minds of all thoughtful people that they were not at present able to do more than palter with its future.

There were certain general conditions which were, to his mind, clearly prerequisite for the continued existence of the democratic citizen in the world of to-morrow: An efficient technique of "quality control" must be developed; a genuine communal effort for the ordinary person should be made possible; a living culture, that was relevant to its particular environment, must be actively fostered; and a scale of ethical values which was based upon firm foundations, and not only taught, but practised, must underlie the whole structure.

They had some of the finest human material in the world in Australia, and they could not afford to waste

one iota of it, the most essential of all their resources.

### FREE EDUCATION UP TO 21.

There should be a permanent continuance and an extension of the principle of educational subsidy which had been introduced by the Federal Government as a war measure. His own view was that all education should be free and compulsory up to the limit of the capacity of the individual to profit by it. The school-leaving age should be raised, and compulsory part-time education up to the age of 21 be provided.

A really efficient system of adult education should be provided. So far, they had merely played with this all-important question. He believed that adult education should in future be largely a Federal matter, and, in close conjunction with the States, an organisation should be developed on a permanent basis out of the Army Education System.

### BREAD AND CIRCUSES.

He was no advocate of Federal control of their whole educational system, for it was increased decentralisation that should be the keynote of its future; but he doubted whether the problem of adult education was likely to receive adequate attention on any but Federal lines.

Mr. Medley said that the erection of community centres in both urban and rural localities should be encouraged by every available means. This would do much to counteract the spirit that cast its burden upon the Government, and waited about with its mouth open, a menace to itself, and a standing invitation for the provision of the bread and circuses that were the prelude to revolution.

Sir William Mitchell, opening the proceedings, said that Mr. Medley was the boldest of the numerous writers and speakers who sought to reform education. He was also the outstanding scholar among them.

### HOCKEY CLUB

### A.G.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

# Freshers' Dance

Freshers Free

Others, 4/- Double

# Friday, March 31

In Refectory

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# Varsity Victorious

## Baseball Club

The A.G.M. advertised in the last issue to be held on Monday, March 27, will be held on Friday, March 24, at 1.20 p.m., in the George Murray Hall. Anyone wishing to play baseball this year is asked to attend.

## Cricket

### University v. West Torrens, at University Oval.

The last match of the season began on Saturday at the University Oval, West Torrens winning the toss, and batting on a perfect wicket.

Early success attended our efforts, two batsmen being run out, and the total stood at 3-23. Dodson and Dooland laid the foundation of a respectable total, but when the score was 5-110 our prospects still looked bright. However, the later batsmen collared our bowling, and Robertson and Woods added 70 runs in the last thirty minutes, to make the total 8-286 at stumps. Batting honors went to Dooland (49), Robertson (49 n.o.), and Woods (45 n.o.). Our best bowler was Brian Taylor (3-77). With 'Varsity to bat next Saturday, the issue is still open, provided our batsmen reproduce their best form.

West Torrens, 8-286. (Dooland 49, Robertson 49 n.o., Woods 45 u.o.). 'Varsity bowling: Beard 0-27, Bennett 1-46, Jose 1-45, Page 1-52, Rook 0-24, Taylor 3-77.

We extend our best wishes to Brian Taylor, one of our opening batsmen this season, who is being called up for the R.A.A.F. next Saturday. Good luck, Brian!

### B Grade.

The 'Varsity second team, playing in Adelaide Turf Association, played Collegians at Saints on Saturday. Scores: Collegians, 270. (Mansfield 70 n.o., Richardson 57, Doman 4-35.) 'Varsity B, 4-10.

## Boat Club

Last Saturday our eight was successful in a regatta organised by the Union of Old Oarsmen.

In the first heat the eight got away to a poor start, but soon picked up, and finished half a length in front of the Prince Alfred Old Scholars' crew. The finals were far more exciting. The three crews lined up, 'Varsity on the north side, and with the word "Go!" they got away to a good start. Torrens remained always within half a length of our crew, but Scotch College, on the other side, came up very strongly, and although the 'Varsity stroke, Bob Burston, could not see the Scotch crew, he commenced the final burst, and just as Scotch drew level near Mercantile shed, our crew drew away, and finished one-third of a length ahead at the bridge.

Once again we offer our sincerest thanks to Mr. Stanley Facy, who devoted his time three nights last week to coaching us, and instilled greater confidence in us—we did need it!

We add that it was a great relief to our crew to "break" training at the Adelaide Rowing Club Shed afterwards.

We say farewell and thanks to Doug. Guffy, who rowed with us for the last time on Saturday. We wish

him every success in his approaching exams.

Next Tuesday the trials for our junior eight commence. Will those concerned please find out from the Sports Association Notice Board when they are to row. Remember to be punctual—5 p.m. sharp.

## Lacrosse

Freshers! If you want to play the best winter game, you need look no further than this column.

For the last two seasons the 'Varsity team has been very prominent in lacrosse circles. In the 1942 season we finished at the top of the premiership table, and last year, in spite of injuries and illness throughout the season, we were runners-up, being narrowly beaten in the challenge final. Last year we also entered a "B" team in the competition, and as we hope to enter two teams again this season, all prospective members can be reasonably sure of a game.

Therefore, good freshers, if you want to play the game of the season, watch for the A.G.M. of the Lacrosse Club, the date of which will be announced soon, and roll along in your hundreds.

—A.K.

## Institution of Engineers Australia

(Adelaide Division)

### JUNIOR AND STUDENTS' SECTION

Next Meeting, Friday, March 24, in Engineering Lecture Theatre, at 7.45 p.m.

Mr. R. R. Morcom's Paper: "Resistance Welding Machines and Their Application."

All Engineering Students and those interested are invited.

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# THE NATIONAL UNION OF AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (N.U.A.U.S.)

The National Union, first established in 1937, is a federation of the student bodies of Universities of the Commonwealth.

### AIMS.

The general objects of the Union may be stated as follows:

- 1.—To represent all the University students of Australia, organised as one body.
- 2.—To act as a clearing house for the exchange of ideas, critical and constructive, between the students of Australia, on matters of common interest.
- 3.—To improve the material conditions of students by presenting a reasoned case, based on carefully collected facts, for reforms where student welfare requires them.
- 4.—To maintain a continuous contact with national student organisations in other parts of the world, and to bring Australian students as much as possible into contact with the students and student organisations of other countries.
- 5.—To bring together in annual conference students interested in student, University, national, and international problems.
- 6.—To unite student efforts to secure the continuing advancement of Australian standards of education.
- 7.—To encourage research into student problems, and to publish the findings of these researches, and to resist inroads on student liberties of enquiry and discussion.
- 8.—To help to build up amongst University men and women a sense of fellowship, based on their common intellectual responsibility to their country.
- 9.—To establish a number of services for students—e.g., cheap travel tours, cheaper books, introduction cards giving students of one University membership privileges in the Unions of other Universities, a news service covering matters of student interest in Australia and abroad.
- 10.—To organise the annual inter-Varsity debates, and to bring overseas debating teams to Australia, and to send Australian teams abroad. To organise an annual National Student Drama Festival.

### HISTORY.

After many attempts to found a National Union during the last years of the third decade of this century, an opportunity presented itself in 1936, when Adelaide University invited student councils to send delegates to a student conference in conjunction with the Australian Universities Congress, held at Adelaide University, and subsidised by the Carnegie Corporation.

As a result of this, a five-days student conference, February 15-19, 1937, was attended by sixteen delegates, representative of all States. The conference drafted a constitution, passed many important resolutions on the value of student autonomy and extra-curricula student activities, and produced a number of critical papers and reports. A provisional executive was appointed, with R. W. W. Wilmot, of Melbourne, the prime mover in the National Union, as general secretary. All States except Western Australia joined the Union in that year, and first conference was held at Sydney University. Since then, seven other annual conferences have been held, all of which followed the same general lines as the inaugural one—preparation and discussion of many papers and reports on student affairs, University matters, and educational reforms in general. During 1942 Adelaide broke away from the National Union, but re-entered it this year. Western Australia was officially represented for the first time at this year's conference, so that at last the National Union is truly national.

### ACTIVITIES.

The activities of the N.U.A.U.S. have been radically changed by the war, and now more than ever before it is dealing with matters which intimately concern each individual student. The Universities Commission, which administers the subsidy scheme, and which makes recommen-

dation to the Manpower on the number of students to be reserved, has recognised the National Union as an advisory body on educational matters, and has implemented about 75% of its recommendations over the past year. The cases of individual students have also been taken up with the Commission by the N.U.A.U.S.

Before the war the main activities were:

- 1.—The annual conference, which all students were able to attend.
- 2.—The arrangement of interstate and international 'Varsity debating—e.g., a tour of Canada, and another of Tennessee in 1938.
- 3.—The control of a book-buying scheme, whereby students were able to obtain books direct from London, at greatly reduced prices.
- 4.—The establishment of travel tours throughout Australia, and, in particular, planning for a National Union ski hut in the Southern Alps.
- 5.—The issuing of travel cards and letters of introduction to students travelling overseas.
- 6.—The furnishing of information on the courses in and the facilities of overseas Universities, together with publications of student news from other countries.

The war has resulted in the following changes:

- 1.—The conference is continued, but it is much more difficult for individual students to attend.
- 2.—Debating with overseas teams has ceased, but it is hoped to arrange, through the A.B.C., an inter-Varsity competition this year.
- 3.—The N.U.A.U.S. has tirelessly sought alleviation of the distressing position where text books from overseas are almost unprocurable in Australia.
- 4 and 5 above have virtually ceased.
- 6.—This service is now controlled by a publicity officer, and an endeavor is being made to publicise N.U.A.U.S. activities to the general public by radio and in the press.

Other activities taken up by the National Union include:

- 1.—Making recommendations to the Universities Commission on the implementation of subsidy scheme, and on assisting Universities to play the maximum part in the war effort. Most of these have been agreed to by the Commission, which has taken action along the lines suggested.
- 2.—Taking up the cases of individuals with the Commission. Such work has on many occasions been done behind the scenes, and the National Union has not won much credit which it deserves.

### ADMINISTRATION.

The Council is appointed by the governing student bodies in each University, which is entitled to elect members roughly in proportion to their numbers. Thus Sydney University at present is represented by five delegates, Melbourne by five, Brisbane by two, Adelaide by two, Western Australia by two, Tasmania by two, and Canberra University College by one. Hence every student is indirectly represented on the National Union Council, and can attend the congress, and the policy of the Council, as stated this year, is to have as much discussion as possible on National Union matters by students in open meetings.

When Council is not in session, the work of the Union is carried on by the executive, which consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, and the General Secretary, and which meets at least twice a year.

Detailed administration is in the hands of the General Secretary (Mr. E. C. Le Breton), whose headquarters are in Queensland.

Send this copy to your friends, if you have any, in the Services—it is printed by E. J. McAlister & Co., 24 Blyth Street, Adelaide. A Union Production!