

# ON DIT

Price 1d. PRODUCED BY THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

## BROWN OPENS FRONT

### STATE OF MEN'S UNION BUILDING EXPLAINED

In March, 1937, the Men's Union Building was opened and ever since destruction of Union property by Union members has been a source of wasted effort and worry to committee members, and others.

Until it was finally put under lock and key the library offered much opportunity for union members to give expression to their juvenile tendencies of pilfering and destruction. This had been anticipated by the committee at the outset, for the rules sub-committee report of October, 1937, included the statement—

"Any person damaging or mutilating any such magazines, newspapers, or other publications, shall pay the Men's Union the cost of replacement."

Subsequent experience showed how naive and ineffective was such an approach. Indeed no later than the 1937 A.G.M. report, the secretary wrote that "Apparently the interest was greater than anticipated, as the magazines disappeared almost faster than they arrived."

June, 1938.—Expulsion from Union of members caught removing magazines endorsed.

Secretary's Report for 1939.—Furnishings of building completed.

March, 1940.—"Lounge. The Chairman asked members to attempt to stop the growing practice of men putting their feet against walls of lounge." At this meeting a Mr. Disher was successfully dealt with for breaking a chair. However, in his report for the past year, the treasurer complained that "the cost of repairing damage will be quite considerable," and concluded with the advice to the incoming committee to take "firm steps." Unfortunately, he and those who ever since have deplored the sorry situation have not found any effective way of taking "firm steps." (Engineering Society, take note.)

#### Radio Boloney

Late in 1939 a radio was bought with a £20 grant from the Union which showed great foresight in providing for one of its members a set of free (not three, but five) radio valves, which he collected in July, 1940.

No letter of apology for the delay of six or seven months in collecting the valves was received by the committee, and it shows the restraint of the committee in not placing on record its disappointment for receiving no letter of thanks. However, ever willing, the committee purchased five more valves and to ensure that the next recipient would have to show

more initiative, covered the back of the wireless cabinet with a board securely screwed on.

May, 1941.—"Soap taken." Still is.

July, 1941.—"Secretary advised to collect 5/- from Mr. Roberts for damage to property"; 17/6 for repairs! How detected? Mr. Roberts owned up! The President suggested giving a gold medal for this.

April, 1942.—The secretary points out difficulty in replacing the broken fittings.

The annual general report for 1942 contains references to "unnecessary breakages, mutilation of chairs and lockers." Committee decided that persons responsible in each case should be penalised. It was not stated who was to bell the cat and to this day the difficulty of detecting the offenders has proved insurmountable.

Passing resolutions of condemnation in itself, will not get anything done in this matter. However, one successful sortie against the Medical Society for breakages was accomplished, though this conspicuous action was somewhat chilled by Medical representation successfully reducing the penalty.

#### Vice Rife

The more accessible parts of the Union Building having now been attacked by students and faculty, looked for new fields to conquer. Their forerunners in their innocence had not seen the potentialities of the basement but, quick to prevent the exploitation of the open spaces yet free from the hand of man, "Mr. Stain moved, and Mr. Anderson seconded, that the lavatory walls of the George Murray Building be cleaned up and that a notice be posted on the outer glass doors that unless the practice of uncleanliness ceased immediately, the lavatories will be closed." (March, 1943.)

The quick response was enviable and remarkable, though apparently two chairs provided suitable objects for retaliation.

July, 1943.—£10 was requested for repairs to wireless, though subsequently the wireless was handed to the Women's Union for safe keeping. The Men's Union Committee can reclaim this, if it is felt worth while, when the licence expires.

October, 1943.—"The subject of gambling in the Union Buildings was discussed in relation to damage to Union property." It was recognised that the stopping of card playing was essential to stop gambling, but rather than take such steps, Mr. Burston ex-

pressed that the feeling of the meeting in proposing that the matter be referred back to the Union Committee for recommendation that all steps be taken to protect the Union property and the position following the closure of the Union Buildings be investigated." (Carried.)

September, 1943.—"Prevention of hooliganism. Mr. Anderson moved a motion that the decision of the Chancellor concerning the use of these buildings be endorsed by the Men's Union Committee." (Carried.) The Chancellor had recommended the closure of the buildings.

#### Get Thee To a Nursery

The 1940 secretary's view on the care of buildings is to the point:—

"This should be the main concern of the committee this year. A tremendous amount of apparently wanton damage occurred, necessitating the spending of considerable amounts of money, which could otherwise have been devoted to improvements. While one expects a fair degree of wear and tear one can barely imagine this childish and wilful destruction to be the work of supposedly decently brought up University students. While we realise the possibility of accidents we refuse to look upon the George Murray as a nursery, and anyone without a sense of responsibility is neither expected nor desired here. If accidents happen it is the decent thing to report the matter to a member of the committee.

"It is only a small group of persons which is to blame, and we appeal to the rest of you to see that your property is properly treated.

"Remember that it is your money which is used to maintain and improve these buildings."

The absence of books on the library shelves is the result of thieving and mutilation. It was thought necessary to put the remaining books under lock and key. This process of taking the suffering objects away from the students has now, it seems, reached such proportions that only the committee is left to attack. And, if given time, the present highly successful researches being carried on in the chemistry and physics departments will result in the committee being able to "camouflage itself away" and catch the two-legged offending objects unawares.

When this is done you will be able to have more chairs (because they won't be broken), and a wireless (because parts won't be stolen), and a well-lit basement (with soap), because globes and soap won't be taken, and a bigger and better library (for men only).

W. D. BROWN,  
Chairman of Men's Union.

Commencing  
FRI. JUNE 9



SEAS ABLAZE!!  
WITH ADVENTURE AND ROMANCE!!  
TYRONE POWER, MAUREEN O'HARA  
in Rafael Sabatini's

"THE BLACK SWAN" (A)

Plus—WHAT WAS HER SECRET?

"THE FALCON  
STRIKES BACK" (A)

With Tom Conway.  
On Stage: John Stevens in  
"MAGIC SUPREME."

### Coming Events

Monday, June 12 (King's Birthday holiday).—10 a.m., Railway Station (top of ramp). Hike, Labor Club, to Sturt Gorge.

Tuesday, June 13.—1.20 p.m., George Murray Hall: Labor Club, Prof. Goldby, "Planning of Science." 8 p.m., Lady Symon Hall: Arts Association, Max Harris, "Contemptible Australian Poetry." 8 p.m., Law Students Society: Debate and general meeting.

Thursday, June 15.—7.45 p.m., George Murray Hall: Hockey Club, Lecture on Tactics, Claude Downs. 8 p.m., Physics Lecture Theatre: Science Association, "Tyranny of Reason," D. B. Kerr, and "Synthetics," R. W. Beckwith.

Friday, June 16.—8 p.m., George Murray Hall, Labor Club: "Juke Box Friday Night."

All Secretaries, please communicate with "On Dit" each week.

### A.U.L.C.

The Labor Club has been called a baby. Very well, it shall be a very precocious baby; on a super-vitamin D diet it shall learn to walk and talk with tremendous rapidity.

The revival of the A.U.L.C. this term is due to the fact that several old members decided that it should be revived, and were so enthusiastic that they did something about their desires.

A programme of first-class lunch-time addresses for second term is now almost complete; week by week they will be published in "On Dit." Advance information can be obtained from any of the old A.U.L.C. members.

Next Friday night we are holding a dance in aid of I.S.S. This has nothing to do with politics; in any case, there may not be room to talk! That the A.U.L.C. is convening the hop is a sort of social accident, the accident being that Labor Club members were the first to whip up sufficient energy to get the business pushed on. Roll up and relax! Anybody who can trip over his or her own feet should be there.

We also draw your attention to the hike being held on the holiday. It is suggested that A.U.L.C. hikes should be compulsory for Botany I students, although others may come, too.

Finally, and most important. We want dozens of new members. Once upon a time Labor Clubs used to be tiny little groups of frightfully intelligent bohemians; these days, we hope, are gone. Be you labor, socialist, pink, striped, or just plain red, you should join the Labor Club. Help with the printing of "Uni," with the planning of meetings, hikes and dances. Make the A.U.L.C. what it should be—the biggest and most active club in the University.

D. K. CAUST.  
W. W. MANSFIELD.

### Local Poet to Speak

A provocative and interesting address is expected for next Tuesday evening, when Mr. Max Harris (famous for his "Vegetative Eye") will speak at the Arts Association on "Contemptible Australian Poetry." As the Arts Association is open to any faculty, all who care to can go to the meeting. Lively discussion is assured and supper provided. Be early and secure a good seat! Lady Symon Hall at 8 p.m.

### AT LAST! FIRST FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE

At 8 p.m., JUNE 16  
IN THE GEORGE MURRAY HALL

DANCE TO THE BEST BANDS IN THE WORLD!

Convened by the A.U.L.C.  
(Adelaide University Labor Club)

In aid of I.S.S. Admission, 1/- (Single)

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FIRST RELEASE PROGRAMME!!  
"STORMY WEATHER" (G)  
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LENA HORNE—BILL ROBINSON.

Plus—  
"THEY MET IN THE  
DARK" (A)  
With JAMES MASON.

# OPINION

## Petrified Sherwood Forest

The Editor, On Dit,

Dear Sir,—Your reviewer criticised the players but left the Selection Committee alone.

Petrified Forest had all the necessary qualities of a Good Rep. play, and it should have been left to the Rep. It was one of those plays meant to Make You Think, a Problem Play, and therefore a Good Play, one dearly beloved by the moral, middle-class, middle-aged, ear-ring bedecked matrons of this city. It touched daringly on subjects one shouldn't talk about; and there was culture talk for those who read books which are Well Written. The play, moreover, gave the audience a chance for self-identification and justification: the characters were failures simply because circumstances were against them. "If only I were in France," says Gabby. "If only I had been an actress," says another dame. "If only I were articulate," says the Poet. "You have something to say to the world—you must go to France," the Poet says to Gabby, and then shoots himself to realise his insurance policy, and to escape from his own problem. Each of them, therefore, throws aside the responsibility for making his own destiny, and joins the chorus of Unrecognised Geniuses; a chorus for audience as well as for players. Such a play is indeed well worth seeing.

The play appears to be philosophical, but the philosophy does not bear scrutiny. The opening revolutionary speech, echoed by that of the old man, postulated the idea of revolt; but, as the play proceeds, this idea is not attached to anything: it remains revolt in vacuo, out of context, and therefore meaningless. In fact, he contradicts himself by later preaching escape, escape justified by the mystical doctrine of the Unexpressed Genius. Another Important Question meant to "make you think" was the "Shall I or Shan't I" theme of the women. ("Up and at 'em, girls," was the answer, "where's the nearest hay?") The men in the meantime piously agree that a woman is something to live (or die) for: this saves them from having to find another reason for living. To supply even more profundity there is mystical talk about aiming at the stars, or going to the Petrified Forest "where I belong"; and Culture Talk of poor quality ("Have you read the Hollow Men? Then don't"—a middle-brow wise-crack). The play is pernicious because it is pretentious and insincere. With its pseudo-philosophy, it is vacuous, inane, and sententious.

The characters likewise cannot bear scrutiny—the heroine least of all. She reads Villon (passionately), but is trite. She presumably is far from picture shows, yet her idea of France is pure Hollywood: people dance in the streets and are happy. (See Hollywood on Vienna, Maurice Chevalier onwards.) She paints pictures which are not photographic (Hurrah for Modern Art), but she wants to go to France to see hills, rivers, moonlight and Beautiful Things (like in Picasso?).

The gangsters are pitiful because they were perpetrated by someone who did not enjoy gangstering, who did not create the characters from the inside, by sympathetic identification. The writer evidently thought it would be effective to bring on some queer "characters." As a contrast, see any Hollywood low gangsters: they have some virility and gusto, and would not be shocked by a poet's talking roughly to an old man, nor would they be "understanding."

Sherwood evidently felt shaky about his powers, and so found it necessary

to tell the audience what was going on. "We are all tense, like characters in 'All Quiet on the Western Front,' or 'The situation has made us all biographical.'" It might have been simpler to have hung out a notice: THIS SCENE IS TENSE, etc.

Thus, Mr. Editor, I suggest that this play is Upper Class Bullshool. It is false, incompetently written, anaemic and decaying. In other words, it stinks—mighty high!

MARY MARTIN.

## Friday Dances

To the Editor, On Dit,

Dear Sir,—Something must be done about the proposed informal dances on Friday nights! If this matter is left to the Union Committee, it might as well be forgotten.

The University consists of four main groups: Meds, Scientists, Engineers, the other consists of Arts, Economics, and Law students. Let each group in turn be responsible for running the dance, i.e., clearing the Refectory, etc.

This scheme would have the following advantages: (1) It is easier to collect volunteers when they are united in one faculty than when they are scattered throughout the Varsity. (2) The work would not fall on the same people each dance, as would be the case under any other system. (3) The competitive spirit so aroused between the faculties would help to ensure the success of the evening. (4) The amount of work to be done by any one group would be very small—if dances were held every fortnight each group would be responsible only once in eight weeks, or probably only twice more this year.

There has been a lot of criticism of the faculty societies lately; so here is a chance for them to redeem themselves.—Yours, etc.,

THROG. (JUN.).

## "UNI" Corrected

To the Editor, On Dit,

Dear Sir,—The impression given in the "Uni" report that the lecturing methods in the Engineering faculty are "very unsatisfactory" needs correction. The position is that the lecturing on the whole is satisfactory, but is unsatisfactory in regard to reform in the unsatisfactory lectures. This is due to apathy by the authorities, who could improve the position.

As implied by the report, the position in the Science faculty is very unsatisfactory on both counts.—Yours, etc.,

W. D. BROWN,  
Local Treas.-Sec., N.U.A.U.S.

## I Was There!

The Editor, "On Dit."

Dear Sir—As a news item in the last issue of "On Dit" dealt with only one aspect of a recent meeting of Engineers, a general statement as to the business conducted at that meeting might tend to clarify the situation:—It was, briefly—

1. A report of the Men's Union representatives was read and received.

2. Discussion followed on (a) The above report; (b) Faculty representation on the Men's Union and University Union committees.

Without enlarging on the discussion, it can be stated that the general feeling was that the present method of selection of Men's Union and University Union committees was the most suitable.

It was felt, also, that it was most necessary for the affairs of the Men's Union to be run efficiently and to

schedule under the present system of selection of that committee, otherwise those students favoring the election of independents would have excellent evidence upon which to base their claims of disinterest and apathy on the part of the committee.

Near the end of the meeting a motion was passed—concerning the Men's Union, but that has already been reported.—Yours,

J. P. M.

## Tory and the Hare

The Editor, "On Dit."

Dear Sir,—Your noted columnist, "Tory," in the issue of May 19 (1st Term), made some rather startling allegations about the willingness and the ability of University men to contribute practically to the nation's war effort. He says that the most apathetic aspect of the place is the large number of medically fit fellows displaying their fitness at the sports. Does he repudiate the decision of the 1939 Government to allow sport to continue? The Government encourages athletic sports as being necessary to morale and the high standard of fitness required in war time. Sport still forms a large part of the Englishman's life. Does he deny that the English people have shirked their responsibilities? His statement on "humbag" is nothing short of ludicrous. The man power authorities are not Mandrake, and try as he may, "Tory," I fear, could not produce trained scientists, engineers, doctors, out of mid air. "Tory" alleges that "these fellows" had freedom of choice between service and University. But did they? There are such things as parental control, and the refusal of military authorities to accept people under a certain age without their parents' consent. Continuing, "Tory" says there is something lacking in a fellow who will not offer his life to his country. Is this the age of reason? The present war is total war, and the number of lives given does not win battles. (He should study battle casualties in the S.W. Pacific area.)

In short, "Tory" has made a serious charge against every man in the University. Do you think he should get away with it? Have this matter out, and prove our so-called apathy. Finally, I ask him to reveal his identity, instead of sheltering behind a pen-name for his attack.—I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

D. T. BARNES.

## Whist and Grist

Whist! The Labor Club has shown itself as a live association by its publication of the first issue of "Uni" this week. While not retracting our opinion that the A.U.L.C. is the most progressive club in the University (it has taken the initiative regarding Friday dances), the anonymity of the paper is rather baffling, no names being mentioned. We do not blame the club, but let us rather suspect the freedom of our life at the Varsity where radicalism of conviction has to pass shrouded in a blase cloak of mock convention. Radicalism forms an essential part of public opinion, and there must be something wrong when University radicals, bold as they are, fear to append their names to their publication, remembering the Fascist tactics used on Laborites a few years ago at this University.

Grist! Wednesday was a day of sensation; for not only did "Uni" and the second front appear, but also "Grist," a literary paper for young writers—especially in Leaving and Leaving Honors at school—edited by D. A. Dunstan, a Law I student. This was the first issue and we were suitably impressed, both by the idea and Mr. Dunstan's initiative. The staff consists of first year students and the paper has the blessing of Prof. Innes Stewart and Mr. E. Allen (Superintendent of Secondary Education), besides the backing of members of the University staff. A critical review will probably appear in next week's "On Dit."

## Echoes From Afar

Dear John—All your letters have at last reached me, together with copies of "On Dit," which I see they have started again—hope its life is not too stormy. Yes, as you say, we now have something else of common interest to talk about, and I agree that we should devote a portion at least of this correspondence to discussing some of the points concerning University life that your letters raise.

I wonder if it will be any more interesting for you than reading time after time monotonous accounts of my monotonous activities! I don't know that I altogether agree with your suggestion that the Editor of "On Dit" might be persuaded to publish parts of my letters, but if that idea should mature, you'd better sign them for me with some "nom de plume"—I'll leave that to your ingenuity.

I won't dwell too long on your description—conditions apparently are not very different from the past several years, with Presidents resigning "a la South America," special general meetings, letters in your local press screaming "Apathy is rife in our midst"—and having screamed, the writer recedes into his shell for the winter.

Although it's important to recognise the signs of "something rotten" in your midst, that's not very difficult in this instance. But how many of those who, from the columns of your "On Dit" and elsewhere, are so vocal, for instance, about "apathy," have really stopped to ask themselves "Why? What is causing these recurrent disturbances? How can we avoid them in future?"

You see, it's not even enough to ask why unless you follow it up with some action designed to eliminate the sick condition. And action does not consist in drawing attention to the apathy of the other fellow. The right of criticism is certainly valuable, but I'm afraid it's only cheapened by its present abuse. Nothing seems to me more important at the moment than setting your own "brainhouse" on a firm foundation before trying to rebuild the other man's.

We mustn't labor this point, John, but I bring it up now because before I start discussing "why?" you should start thinking along these lines too, so that our analysis of the position might have the advantage of an interchange of ideas instead of being too one-sided. It would probably be easier if I gave you some broad title as it were, which would cover the general direction in which I intend my thoughts on these points to be directed—the difficulty of course, is to find something sufficiently simple. We really need to try and find a sounder basic approach to the various problems that confront us as students—you, anyway—and particularly those related to student self-government and the part it plays in the general purposes of a University.

This will be rather too heavy for the air mail, and I must close down. Until next time.

"THE UMBRELLA MAN."

Editor's Note.—As "The Umbrella Man" raises some interesting points here, the Editor intends to cash in on this column—send your ideas direct to him or to John, c/o the Editor, who will forward them on to "The Umbrella Man" for discussion.

## NOTICE

Owing to the extra amount of work entailed in straightening up the Refectory after Lunch, MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO MOVE THE TABLES.

K. T. HAMILTON,  
Secretary.

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# I.S.S.—WHAT IS IT?

There's a war on, and in many parts of the world students, just like us, are suffering. Would we like to change places with our fellow Australian students who now stand despairing behind barbed wire? Would we care to study under the same conditions as present-day Chinese students? Are we thankful that we don't have to starve with Greek students? Do we recognise our responsibilities as students of a free University, and have we full sympathy with all these other students? The amount raised by this I.S.S. appeal will be the answer. But then, you now want to know, "What is this I.S.S.?"

### I.S.S. and W.R.S.

I.S.S. means International Student Service. It is the body which seeks to raise funds to alleviate some of the hardships being suffered by students throughout the war-stricken areas. Established in 1924, it has, during this war, combined with Pax Romana (the Roman Catholic student relief organisation) and the World Student Christian Federation (of which the Australian S.C.M. is part) to form European Student Relief, which has done wonderful work. The European Student Relief, which has its headquarters in Geneva and New York, has now changed its name to World Student Relief (W.S.R.), to denote its wider scope and aims.

### The Problems.

To us all this must inevitably seem rather remote. We can't quite see what could be done to alleviate the suffering. "What can W.S.R. do?" This can best be answered by trying to outline some of the problems, and by giving a few examples of the assistance given.

Let me quote from the I.S.S. pamphlet, "Student War Victims," of 1943. "The steady stream of reports and cables from Geneva and Chungking gives pictures of thousands of destitute students in China, thousands of student prisoners of war, waiting for more books, of students living in inhuman conditions in internment camps. There are stories of students who are destitute and starving in France, Belgium, and Greece, and of refugee students in Switzerland, cut off from all means of support. And always the cables end characteristically, 'Can you help with more funds?'"

### Typical Stories.

In 1943, when the last of France with some measure of freedom disappeared, 7,000 refugees, including 200 students, crossed illegally into Switzerland. Their situation was desperate when they appealed to I.S.S. for help. They were provided immediately with food and clothes, and were placed in camps, where I.S.S. is providing books and study material, and endeavoring to arrange for the best of them to continue to study at Swiss universities.

A cable from Geneva, January 3, 1944, tells of the arrival in Switzerland of over 30,000 Italian, Greek, Yugoslav, and British refugees, and calls for more support. I.S.S. needs money, and more money!

### And Greece?

Then from Greece we hear: Many of the 15,000 students remaining at the Athens University are in urgent need of food, and some are actually starving. A considerable group of students in bad health needs especially nourishing food and medical supplies. The rector of Athens University appealed to I.S.S., and considerable supplies have been sent. The rector, in a letter, says: "I am anxious to convey my feelings of intense gratitude both towards you and the

organisations which answered your appeal with such alacrity." Such supplies must be continued and augmented!

### What About Prisoners of War?

Then there are the student prisoners of war, and here the aim of the work of I.S.S. is: "Each student prisoner must feel that we are interested in him personally, and that behind us there is the force of student solidarity." I.S.S., working in collaboration with the International Red Cross, has had individual contacts with more than 10,000 student prisoners (in 1943), and the work for them is fully organised. Boos are sent. is fully organised. Books are sent. 145,000 volumes. Classes are organised, and examinations are held. Post cards received at Geneva show a picture of lonely young men behind barbed wire, making valiant efforts to relieve the dreariness of endless camp days with the aid of constructive intellectual work. A South African writes: "I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter and books. I am entering upon my seventh month of internment, and yours is the only mail I have received." From a Pole: "We lead a depressing life, but we have faith in you." Let us back that faith!

Work has been done among German and Italian prisoners of war. German students (in Canada) who, on their arrival, had little but distrust for an international movement centred in Geneva, have now been brought to understand the spirit of real solidarity in which the I.S.S. aimed at helping them. Thus they have been dug out from their national isolation; international co-operation has become a reality for them—a fact which they certainly will not forget.

### Courage of Affected Students.

All reports received make up a story not so much of the help given and received, but rather of the grit and inventiveness of our fellow students in adverse circumstances, and a challenge to those in the free Universities to redouble their efforts in support.

### What of China?

It is probably to Chinese students that we must look for the greatest example of courage and triumph of the human spirit over adversity. The work in China is becoming more and more difficult owing to the rapidly rising costs of living. In many cases, however, the aid given to students enables them to continue their struggle for education and future leadership. Living subsidies are provided, student service centres are established (even a bamboo swimming hut has been built at Chengku), and winter clothing is a large item on the relief budget.

Kiang Wen-Han writes: "Students are undoubtedly suffering from under-nutrition. The students have three dishes per table, usually bean curd, bean sprouts, and cabbage—with no oil. T.B. is spreading. It has become the deepest concern of the University."

### New and After the War.

Then there are also new tasks for W.S.R. in Russia. The work grows as the war goes on. The present phase is to give succour wherever distressed students can be reached, but, when the war ceases, big reserves will be needed to rush into places where W.S.R. could not go during the war—reserves for reconstruction of universities and encouragement of students.

### A Student Appeal: It's Up to Us!

We have tried to show what I.S.S. and W.S.R. are, and what your money donated to I.S.S. can do. This is a student appeal, a direct challenge to

everybody. I.S.S. appeals to each of us, whether we be white, black, or green, atheist, Buddhist, or Christian. Let us unite on this!

The S.C.M. is the body in South Australia which holds the licence for collecting for I.S.S. within the University. I.S.S. receives whole-hearted support from N.U.A.U.S., and from our Union Committee. The appeal will take the following form:

Collection box in Refectory porch.  
Friday, June 16: Meeting in George Murray Hall.

Monday, June 19: Badge day.  
Saturday, June 24: Dance in Refectory. Tickets (3/- single) obtainable at Union Office.

As this is the first appeal since 1941, let us unite and make it a record!

## Brown Strikes

If the report in "On DIT" be true, the sudden enthusiasm and interest taken in Men's Union affairs by a Faculty Society is remarkable and commendable.

However, the Engineers would do well to remember that the facts should be ascertained before criticism is levelled against anyone or anything. They might bear in mind that the Men's Union A.G.M. was not the only meeting of the committee; the A.G.M. was in order, and it was not a "riot." Since this committee has been in office (from Jan. 1), relatively little vandalism has occurred, hence there is no pressing necessity for immediate investigation. Neither are the Men's Union affairs "in a hopeless mess," so there is at least "hope" of clarifying the position.

In point of fact, the Engineer critics should have directed their attention to the custom of having A.G.M.s after the Christmas vacation, during which period some of the outgoing committee who are expected to give their reports at the A.G.M. have left the Varsity, leaving the incoming committee to answer for them. It is not surprising that this incoming committee should give the appearance of "apathy and negligence" if, under these conditions, it is called upon to supervise the A.G.M. of its predecessor. It would seem desirable to hold an A.G.M. immediately before, or after, the elections (which occur towards the end of the year). This is being looked into.

"On DIT's" report of the A.U.F.S. meeting in question gives the impression that there are people in the Society ostensibly defending student interests, while really seeking some cheap applause. Who these people are, or whether they exist at all, is for the student to judge. Noise and "hot air" are not constructive activity. When this Society wishes to correct faults, make sure the faults exist, determine why, and give suggestions for improvement. These suggestions should be given to your representatives, who do not exist for the purpose of spoon-feeding the society they represent.

I would remind the Engineer representatives that their first duty is to help that committee function effectively as an administrative body, and not to hand out premature impressions to those desirous of criticising for its own sake. Prior to the report of these representatives to their faculty, no approach was made to myself or to other committee members. The unwarranted criticism that resulted shows the desirability of more co-operation in committee affairs. Nevertheless, I must say that I regard the

Engineering Faculty reps. as being quite capable. It would be most unfortunate if a split should arise in committee over this issue.

The obvious discrepancy between the report of the A.G.M. on page 3 and that on page 1 should not have passed uncorrected by the editor of "On DIT" in view of the fact that both were written by "On DIT" reporters for "On DIT."

In reply to several correspondents: 1.—No librarian was appointed at the Men's Union Committee meeting, as it was not possible for any member present to accept. An absent member accepted two days later, as requested by that meeting.

2.—The Men's (and Women's) Union Committees exist for the specific purpose of administering purely men's (or women's) affairs, and though these are not so great as to require frequent committee meetings, the General Union Committee has enough to do, thankless as the task is.

3.—It is true, F.S.B., that the Union Committee as a whole, rightly or wrongly, adopted a lukewarm attitude towards lecture note proposals, but this merely reflects the attitude of the students themselves, who criticise some lecturing methods, but adopt a fatalistic attitude. In many respects I agree, F.S.B., that the committee does not defend student interests, but the fault lies fundamentally in student apathy itself. This results in progressive elements not getting student support, resulting in discouragement (vide the last president), and eventual success for those who wish things to remain much as they are.

4.—What is this more democratic method of election, F.S.B.? Even UKMk3a is more explicit on this point. [This is Mr. Brown's formal reply to his critics.—Ed.]

## Varsity Short Wave

At the last N.U.A.U.S. conference, the big shots decided that amateur radio stations in Australian Universities after the war were definitely the thing. Such a hook-up would facilitate inter-Varsity debates, development of national student life, and international contact with students by hook-ups with stations under student control outside of Australia (e.g., America). This is in accord with the N.U. policy of broadening and deepening student life.

Recently, the Adelaide secretary of the N.U.A.U.S. (Mr. Warwick Brown) approached Professor Kerr Grant on the matter. The professor gave complete assurance of his support in the scheme—an idea that he had anticipated many years ago.

So there might be some use for the Engineers, after all! (Don't take it to heart, J. P.)

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# Teams Win and Lose

## AIR FORCE DEFEATED AT MALLALA

In view of present circumstances, it is most gratifying to note the number of University teams fielded each week in all avenues of winter sport. Men's hockey, three teams; baseball, two teams; lacrosse, a team and a half; football, two teams. The women are also well represented with hockey and basketball teams. In this issue, also, we have a report of the first 'Varsity golf day for 1944. A few years ago, these golf days used to be regular features of the University year, and were always well attended. Let us hope that this year sees a resumption of these functions, with, possibly, the inclusion of a competition for women, provided, of course, that a sufficient number of women golfers signified their intention of being present.

In addition to quantity, the quality of 'Varsity sport is high. This is shown particularly by the "A" lacrosse team. Premiers of their grade in 1942, runners-up in 1943, and this year unbeaten and at the top of the table after the first four matches. A pretty good record! The "A" football team, while not playing in any definite grade, generally proves too strong for the opposition, and two weeks ago, the "A" baseball team turned in the first errorless game of the season. However, results are not everything, and while it is good for the morale to win every match, an occasional loss does a lot of good to a team. To play the game for the game's sake and to take a win or a loss with equal grace, should be the aim of every team.

After the above mentioned bouquets, might I venture to add a few words of criticism. The number of players, while good, could be much better. Many people, to my knowledge, do nothing on Saturday afternoons when they should be out forgetting their work and getting some exercise to brush away the cobwebs. Heaven knows, we devote enough time to work as it is (or we should!) without spending Saturday afternoon worrying about it. At the 'Varsity, we have almost unlimited facilities for sport, and the small Sports Association subscription enables us to take advantage of these facilities if we wish. Those who, for some reason best known to themselves, won't play or are unable to play, should do their bit by coming along and barracking for those who do play. It's no fun playing to empty stands or deserted boundary lines (or, worse still, to stands and boundaries packed with opposition supporters), and the presence of even a few friendly faces has a great tonic effect. The sooner the apathy displayed by quite a large number of people is broken down, the better will things be. After all, it is your University, and all its activities should concern you intimately, so, if you don't play sport, be interested in those who represent your University, and at least lend them your moral support by coming along, if possible, and cheering them on to victory.

## Football

Last Saturday the "A's" had something of a field day. Eighteen players and Long'un managed to catch the 7.50 train for Mallala—several by the skin of their teeth, though this can hardly be imputed to them as a fault, the platform numbers being as yet indistinctly outlined in the cold grey light of dawn. Soon after arrival, several Air Force trucks drew alongside the platform, and the team packed into the last of them. Rela-

tive silence on the truck announced that Kerr Grant was not yet aboard: it was found that he had been accidentally locked in the restaurant.

The main part of the morning was spent at the Air Force station, watching a "wings" parade, eating lightly, and then taking a flight in the Link Trainers (there were plenty of imaginary casualties). We take this opportunity of thanking the Air Force for their hospitality.

The match began at 1.30, after some waiting round on our part without a football to kick. The game was all the time willing (but without the antipathy that sometimes goes as well) and scores were pretty even until the last quarter. Their team was stronger than the one they fielded before, and this seemed to stimulate our team to better play than in the previous match. Tregoning and Douglas took command of the centre line, and the forwards kept in front of their men well, though the short passing was over-used at times. The one goal lead at three-quarter time was increased to six by the end. This seemed to be the result of better stamina.

For most of the team the afternoon ended here. Not so with Cullity, who, on the train journey down, showed what shy men CAN do when they really set their minds to it. Or, maybe, as one of the bridge players conjectured sedately, he didn't have much of a say.

Scores: 'Varsity, 13 goals 13 behinds; Mallala Air Force, 8 goals 6 behinds.

Goalkickers: Cullity, Stalley (3), Day, Basedow (2), Eldridge, Kerr Grant, Dohnt (1).

Best Players: Tregoning, Douglas, Stalley, Day, Eldridge, Rilstone.

## Baseball

During the vacation, the A team had one win and two losses.

On May 20, Sturt made an early start and had four runners across the plate before 'Varsity "got together" and held Sturt on the bases and got two runs themselves. Kenny and Wyllie were the best batters.

On May 27, Port Adelaide was "white-washed" to the tune of 7 runs to nothing. 'Varsity batters bunched their hits well and became stronger as the game proceeded. Beard gave one of his best pitching performances by holding Port batters down to two hits and leaving 10 of them standing in the batting box. Not a single error was made by 'Varsity fielders, a feat which had not been attained by any League teams this season.

Last Saturday, 'Varsity began well and were leading 4-1 at the end of the fourth, when two wild pitches by Beard started a series of mistakes, and Goodwood Ramblers gained the lead and held it until the end of the match. Batting was good, but Goodwood outfielders covered much ground to turn several "safe-hits" into catches.

For three weeks, University is fortunate in having Noel Johnston, on leave from the A.I.F., in the line-up, and he is handling his old position on third base capably.

The B team also won only one of the three holiday games, but they should have won all games, careless fielding errors and faulty base running proving costly.

This side has experienced players like Manning and Vidale and promising players from last season—Kohler and Maddison, and when they learn to play for the side and go for sacrifice

hits occasionally, instead of swinging for a "homer" every time at bat, it will be a premiers-ship-winning combination. Results:—

University def. Goodwood, 10-6. Goodwood Ramblers def. University, 11-8. A feature of this match was a fine catch by McLeay at left field.

East Torrens def. University, 12-9. In this game, fine batting, led by Miller, Sharpe and Hyde, was marred by poor fielding.

Next Saturday, the A team—Fahey, Ball, Slade, Beard, Kenny, Johnston, Wyllie, Page, Brokensha—will play Police on 'Varsity Oval at 1.15.

The B team will play Y.M.C.A. at Sturt South at 2.45, and on Monday at 9.30 a.m. will play Sturt at Goodwood West. It will be represented by Manning, Vidale, Wicks, Miller, Kohler, Maddison, Paull, Sharpe, Rowe, Hyde, McLeay.

## Lacrosse

### UNIVERSITY A STILL UNBEATEN

On Saturday, June 3, we played against West Torrens on the West Parklands, and finished up 5 goals in the lead after a hard, evenly-fought game.

In the first quarter we threw 6 goals before they had scored, thus giving us a very welcome lead. Hallett played brilliantly in the early part of the game, getting 3 goals in the first ten minutes. In the second quarter, with the score 7 to 2, West Torrens showed a distinct improvement and kept our forwards well out of the goal; at the same time their forwards passed our backs several times, with the result that at half-time the score was 8 to 5 our way.

The third quarter was pretty even and the play throughout was fast, but though we managed to get the ball at centre they intercepted a lot of the passes by the forwards and kept our score down to 2 while they scored 3.

In the last quarter we showed our superiority both in forward and back lines. The backs held their men and cleared well and were ably led by Clark and Hunter. The forwards, keeping well out of the goal and passing accurately, put on five goals in quick succession. This made the final score 15 to 10.

Goalthrowers.—Hallett 5, N. Wallman 4, Kenihan 3, I. Wallman 2, Freeman 1.

Best players.—Kenihan, I. Wallman, Hetzel, Clark.

### 'VARSITY SECOND TEAM

Although they were beaten 20 goals to 7 by Deaf Adult, the Sturt-'Varsity team showed great improvement. The forwards opened the goal, covered up leads, and led out much more than usual. As usual, the attacks, centre and defences were so keen on throwing goals that they allowed Deaf Adult to have one or even two spare forwards. This greatly embarrassed the backs, who made the best of a bad job. Ward picked up the ball well in the centre, but stuck to it too long when attacked by two backs, instead of passing to the forwards. Harbison dodged well in front of goals, Russell and Oldham played well in the backlines.

Goals: Harbison (4), Russell, Oldham, Cocks.

### 'Varsity Golf Day

About 30 'Varsity golfers met at Kooyonga on Friday, June 2, to compete in a bogey and four-ball against bogey. They played the individual bogey in the morning, and this was won easily by Maddern, who finished 8 down on bogey. Robinson finished second.

In the afternoon, after a very good lunch, which was provided by the Kooyonga Club House, Maddern and Robinson seemed to have the four-ball in their pocket by handing in a card of 1 up on bogey. Wilson and Judell, after a very brilliant second nine holes

in which their combined effort beat bogey, finished equal to the first pair, 1 up on bogey. On a count back, Wilson and Judell won.

We had another trophy which was to be for an eclectic competition, but on account of the large number of contestants, time prevented us from competing for it. It was decided to give this trophy to Robinson, who had finished second in the bogey and with Maddern tied for the four-ball.

To all these winners we offer our congratulations and hope to see all and even more golfers at our next Golf Day. Handicaps will be reviewed before next day.

## Rifle Club

On Sunday, June 11, the Rifle Club starts its official competition shoots. After five practices, the handicappers, Glen Dunstone and Viv. Hawke, professed themselves satisfied and drew up the first official list of handicaps (based on at least 3 practices), which is printed below.

There are five competitions, four to run throughout the year, and the fifth to be shot for before June 30.

The following are the official handicaps as determined up to 4/6/44 (these will alter with each week's shooting, of course).

D. H. Bromfield, 10; R. Carter, 23; J. D. Copley, 11; G. D. Dunstone, 10; G. V. Harry, 6; L. J. Hawke, 10; V. L. Hawke, 8; Helman, 30; R. W. Holden, 28; C. H. Johnson, 30; LeMesurier, 25; Lewis, none given; P. S. Roper, 10; F. Russel, 18; A. N. Shephard, 12. These are based on a total of 160.

## Women's Hockey

This year it has been necessary to raise the registration fee from 2/- to 5/- in order that the hockey members and not the Sports Association may cover affiliation fees and war levies. The Sports Association has reduced our sports fee from £1 to 15/-, and consequently we are expected to meet our expenses ourselves. Many still have to pay this fee to the treasurer, and we should like these paid as soon as possible. Sports subscriptions are also due at the Union Office and players are reminded that a club letter will not be awarded unless this is paid before the first Friday of this term.

Since the last issue, the "A" only played one match, against Wirrawarra. We were only just successful, the score being 6-5 after an exciting match. The "B" was successful in its match against Teachers' College, but in its match last Saturday against Y.W.C.A. lost 7-2.

## Roving Reporter Reports

Congratulations to Jack McNeil (affectionately known as "Mac"), who this month celebrates the 25th anniversary of his appointment to the post of caretaker of the Physics Department! Here's luck, Mac!

Why has Yvonne Hussey changed her position in Physics I. We suggest that J.A.F.S. will realise when he finally becomes a dentist.

Discovery at Adelaide University: Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and Prescott (GH<sub>4</sub>) are is Morphus: Gor', How He Hates Himself.

Bluey Brown, the dental color scheme, has also changed seat in Physics. Either he is hungry for knowledge, or he is a wolf.

Thought for last Tuesday: People who live in rathouses should never eat stones.

Results of Holidays at a Well-known Seaside Resort.—Rounsvell is recovering from Army movements by going a-Begg-ing. Koch's theme song is now "Roma in the Gloamin'." Main scandal is the behaviour of one of the scientists with the garage skirt. Another did some very effective "gate crashing." Good fishing was reported by all concerned.

## Sports Secretaries

Sporting notes for "On Dit" must reach the Sporting Editor on Monday of each week if possible, or Tuesday at the latest.

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