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# ON DIT

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PUBLISHED FOR THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY S.R.C.

Vol. 15, No. 4.

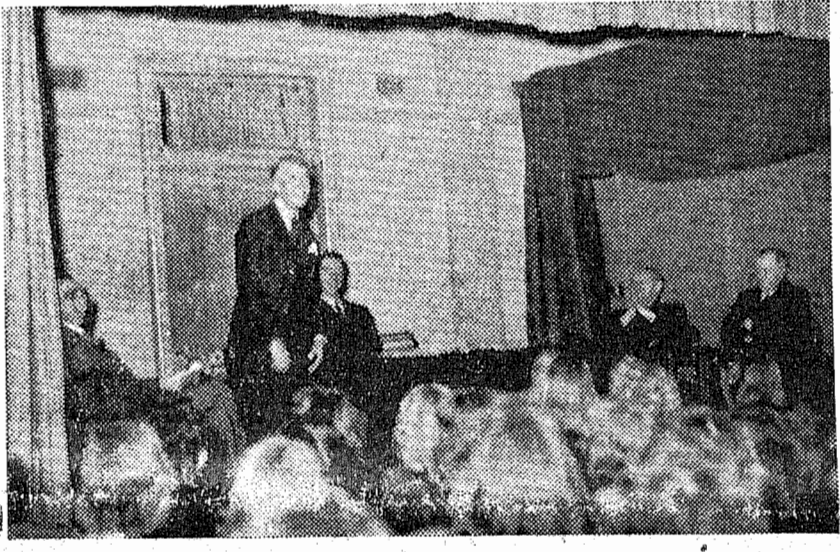
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1947.

Price 1d.

PROFESSORS LET THEIR HAIR DOWN  
— See P.3

## AUDIENCE WALKS OUT ON "WOMEN FOR CANBERRA"

## UNDERGRADS PREFER JAZZ TO WOMEN Ms.P.



Left to right: Sir Kerr Grant, Prof. Cornell, Mr. K. Magarey, Sir Stanton Hicks, Prof. Jury.

AT 1.20 p.m., Thursday, 17th, two suppressed male "On Dit" reporters timidly approached the Lady Symon Hall. The reason—a dialogue talk inanely entitled "MISS & MRS. M.P.," arranged by the "Women for Canberra" movement.

To our utter amazement we found approx. 40 males and 2 women already seated. An intellectual atmosphere of expectation pervaded the hall. A few minutes later, a startling revelation shattered the peace. Len Perkins strode to the fore and announced, "Ladies and Gentlemen—the Jazz Appreciation Society meeting will be held in the George Murray lounge." The hall rose as one man—and 2 women.

However, a few further misguided jazz lovers arrived and were constrained to remain. When Miss E. Walker, the president, and Mrs. G. Sarre, the secretary, finally consented to address the meeting, we were not quite sure whether we were attending a lecture to University students or had inadvertently dropped in to the Infant Teachers' Training School.

**BRIDGE EVENING, MAY 17**  
REFECTORY  
SEE SOCIAL NEWS

"VAL AND SAL" FARCE  
With touching tenderness, they asked all to call them "Sal and Val," and the dialogue began.

The recent election of 30 women to the Japanese Diet was acclaimed. "On Dit" now realises why Australians have been warned that Japan may again arise as a major military power.

Val told Sal that women are especially fitted (biologically) for members of legislature, as the control of a nation is basically the same as the control of a large household. To the polite amusement of the student audience (now ten) Sal pointed out to Val that "what affects the man affects the woman, and what affects the woman affects the man," and "all the problems of the modern world will be solved when men and women get down to earth together"!!

### CHILDISH CHATTER

Questions of fundamental policy were evaded or ignored. Questioned as to whether the standards and wages of the working class would be improved they replied negatively.

From their girlish prattle it is evident that the "Women for Canberra" would reduce that city to an even greater state of bizarre intellectual and administrative chaos.

The world to-day needs clear, level-headed thinkers and organisers, not drawing-room gossips and petticoated tea-drinkers.

At this point, the 2 "On Dit" reporters realised that their proper place was at the U.J.A.S. meeting, and began to slink out of the hall.

Before we left, however, our souls were roused by a touching finale. Sal and Val rose amidst a thundering ovation from the remaining five students. "Let us stand up and say it. Yours is the future, but no future will last unless you, both men and women, work together."  
R.I.P.

### Scoop!

## President Sent Down

### Result of N.Z. Varsity Sex Stir

(By Special Cable from N.Z.)

On Dit (14/4/47) quoted a speech made by John Child, president of Otago (N.Z.) University Students' Association, at the Freshers' Ball. This speech and the freshers' handbook advocated free sex life and experimental promiscuity.

On Dit discussed the president's statements and the possibility of licence in the Adelaide University, which report was published in New Zealand.

The following day, Tuesday, April 15, John Child, in writing, accepted the following stipulations of the Otago University Council:

- That he resign from presidency of the Students' Association.
- That he undertook not to seek re-election in that or any other student association office.
- That he would make public apology in such form as the council decided.
- Finally, that he be excluded from the University till the end of the present term, which concludes in May.

So concludes what was evidently an irresponsible and thoughtless prank and effort to vivify the Otago University, which evidently is experiencing the same moribund doldrums as our Adelaide University.

## OPINION POLL 2/- SUB. FAVORED

IN an endeavor to ascertain the feelings of students on the subject of an increase in the price of "On Dit," we conducted a 3-point poll among 260 students.

- The three points were:
- The price to remain the same.
- The price to be increased to 2d.
- "On Dit" to be distributed free throughout the University and lecture rooms: A statutory subscription of 2/- being paid with payment of fees each year.

The latter would mean that students would pay the same amount as now, only more of them would pay.

"On Dit" could then carry on without a grant from the Union fees which could then be used for other student activities.

In other words the student, instead of being "socked" twice for "On Dit," would be only charged once.

- The results were:
  - 186 in favor of 2/- subscription.
  - 54 in favor of no charge.
  - 20 in favor of increase to 2d.
- Thirty-six were in favor of the 2/- sub. being extracted from the £3/3/- Union fee.

### LARGER GRANT NEEDED.

Increased printing costs due to labor conditions and increase in circulation, and the increase in size and frequency of all other University papers, have caused "On Dit" to request an increase in Council

grant from £120 to £200 to keep "On Dit" at least on the same level as papers in other Universities of the same size. Even this increase is not enough.

The grant before 1939 was between £70 and £100.

In 1939, when there were 2,627 students, the grant was £105, and 25/- Union fee was collected from each member of the Union.

In 1946, when there were 1,310 students, the grant was £120, and 3 guineas were collected from each Union member. Two guineas were collected from those doing two subjects, and one from those doing one subject.

In short, in a period when printing costs had doubled, Union fees increased by 152%, the size and circulation of "On Dit" doubled to cope with the increased volume of students and their activities, the grant for "On Dit" was only increased by £15—or an increase of 14.3%.

We are awaiting the publication of the balance sheet before mentioning financial figures, but, even if "On Dit" were given the same percentage of total Union fees as in 1939 when the fee was only 25/-, we would still be justified in asking for more than £200.

## On Dit

Published for the Adelaide University Students' Representative Council

VOL. 15. MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1947. No. 4.

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"On Dit" is published fortnightly. All articles, contributions, etc., for publication should be typewritten or legibly written in ink on one side of paper only.

Contributions should be left in the "On Dit" box in the Union Building, or addressed to the Editor, Box 1557 M, G.P.O., Adelaide.

## Gender Engenders Bender!

IN the two preceding issues of "On Dit," an editorial, "Extraordinary Elections," and an article on student morality were so written that to understand them would require thorough reading.

The vast number of people who precipitated into print, who formed conclusions without basis, and who indulged in personal attack, God-fearing criticism, and asinine assumption, on most unwarranted premises, after the most cursory and superficial of investigations, was as staggering as it was expected.

The University was tried and found wanting; moronic tendencies prevail.

The following is a quotation from "Australians Can Read, But Are They Educated?" ("On Dit," 14/3/47.)

"Understanding (what we read) is the important thing." There are people "who learn and then abuse that ability by cluttering their minds with pulp or pornographic periodicals. . . . There are the people who learn the ABC and then apply it to the racing acceptances, totalisator dividends, and beer bottle labels."

If this is true of students at our University, which is alleged to be a seat of learning, what hope is there for the rest of the community?

Surely an attack or criticism should arise from thorough examination, not from the hasty, preconceived notions of people too blind or too stupid to see beyond their own noses.

The atrophy of mind displayed by several alleged leaders of University thought in attacking the false construction, which, though nothing more than nugatory fantasy, they attempted vainly to read into my statements, is ominous.

Do not identify yourself with morons by the rash publication of your impetuous impressions. Remember the maxim "Read and rate, before you slate."

### "NEWS" FAILS TO PUBLISH REFUTATION

FOR those people who are too lazy to read thoroughly, here is an extract from a correction forwarded to "The News" (published 22/4/47). This letter corrected "The News" report of the "Student Immorality" story.

"Until we . . . return to a system of life based on a faithful pattern of Christian principles and ideals, we cannot expect to eradicate this immorality."

Due, no doubt, to lack of space, and not, of course, to the fact that it refuted their story, "The News" omitted the whole point of the letter contained in the following two paragraphs which evidently went astray somewhere between postal delivery and the printer.

"Your report, which contained an unfortunate ambiguity, omitted to state that the Varsity stalked by sex was the Otago and not the Adelaide University. Under the further heading 'Disgusting Statement,' the irresponsible statements of the Otago Students' Association president on sex were condemned."

"Furthermore, the undercurrent of undergraduate immorality applied to all Australian universities, not one in particular. Under the heading, 'It Can't Happen Here,' the danger of student immorality at the Adelaide University was discussed, and preventive measures recommended to obviate the danger of such a position arising."

The letter as published without these two paragraphs was but a repetition of previous statements made to the daily press.

DON THOMPSON.

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## A COUNTERBLAST TO CATATONIA

WITHOUT PRELUDE TO THE POLICY OF "ON DIT"

THE word 'apathy' is becoming, possibly, one of the hardest worked expressions in the English Lexicon. At least, in this University. Wherever student affairs are discussed—at meetings, in the refectory—even in the pages of "On Dit"—one may expect to hear complaints against student inertia.

To some extent, it must be admitted that hebetude has from time immemorial, been a characteristic of the Adelaide student; but a cursory survey of the field shows that the vice (and vice it certainly is) is increasing. The Theatre Group, which once flourished, has only a handful of members. The P. & I.R.C. has, or seems to have, fallen in desuetude. The Arts Assn., which opens its doors to ALL undergraduates, has, I think, about 20 financial members. Candidates to the S.R.C. are elected unopposed. And these are only a few examples of what is happening.

Against this, we have the certain facts that the student body has increased 100 per cent. over its pre-war figure, and that the average student is older and more mature than his predecessor.

If this lack of interest in extra-curricular affairs merely leads to the extinction, say, of the Debating Society, one would not be greatly distressed. A tributary tear, perhaps, for the death of something beautiful.

### BUT MUCH MORE IS INVOLVED THAN THAT

Adelaide, unlike most other Australian Universities, is a graduate, a staff University. Its activities are directed by AND FOR graduates. Our brand-new S.R.C., even, is, in practice, subordinate to the Union Council, whose line it seems to toe pretty thoroughly. That is one case in point, and the point is this: that students, who have few enough rights at the moment, are likely to have less soon. Students should, and could, be asking why non-sportsmen must give financial support to the sports clubs; or why, since such support is given, sportsmen are continually being faced with paucity of equipment; why refectory service is so erratic; why the Union secretary, a paid official, adopts so dictatorial an attitude; whether the Union balance sheet is readily available for inspection; why, when the Union is said to have considerable funds in hand, the George Murray is allowed to fall into disrepair. Such questions (these are only a few) have been asked, but only by one or two crusading spirits. They are all affairs which affect the student body immediately.

I have said that the decline of the

Debating Society would call merely for a "tributary tear." That, perhaps, was only justifiable casuistry. There is a list of associations in the Freshers' Handbook. Although the list is not complete, it might justify examination. These clubs do not exist for the encouragement of stamp-collecting, or folk-dancing. They are an integral part of University life as we have come to know it; a complement to the pure swotting which, in most cases, gets degrees but circumscribes the spirit. Without the broader contacts that such groups offer, a University (except, perhaps, for the Arts part of it) might well close down, and transfer its function to the trade schools.

### "LEADERLESS LEGION"

Two explanations have been offered for this lack of interest.

This first is that there is a tremendous "leaderless legion" ready and willing to take part in any movement if only someone will start it. That hypothesis, though widely held, is not tenable. The movements are already afoot, and the response is disappointing. If the "leaderless legion" is not interested in either the Socialist Club, the Aquinas Society or the nascent Liberal Group (all tastes are catered for) can we hope that it will support, say, a revue, where concious effort will be demanded of it?

The second theory is weightier. It is mooted that our 1,300 C.R.T.S. students, who get a tacit respect from the younger generation and so define the current ethos, are, in many cases, men with strong extramural attachments, perhaps with wives and children. In the words of a "New Statesman" writer on Oxford "they feel themselves rather too old to be there, and they are impatient to have done with their examinations and go." That may well be the case.

"Apathy" at that rate, was the wrong word. "Pre-occupation" would be a better. On present showing, at least 90 per cent. of students here are anxious to "have done with their examinations and go." Is the University so unattractive a place? Let them be warned that they are welcome to go, but they do so "damned, like an ill-roasted egg, all on one side."

GOLIATH.

THIS IS WHAT WE WANT





# FISHLIGHT RETURNS

"Insidious pressure groups in University."  
—ON DIT.

Rap! Rap! Rap!  
The noise directed my attention to where two bloodshot eyes glittered strangely at me over the bottom of the closed window.

Rap! Rap! Crash!  
With a sound as of a charging bull in a china shop, a burly figure entered the room backwards through the now open window. Even though the broken window paned me (I thangu!), my thoughts centred on the identity of the arch-villain before me. He had a glassy look in his eyes—no doubt due to several flying splinters—and his clothes were in tatters—although they had been less tattered before he made his shattering entry. He wore gum-boots—obviously Russian—and a beard—obviously horse-hair—and smoked a samovar, held firmly in his teeth (I thangu again!). A mop of matted hair was covered by a moth-eaten top-hat, while in one hand he held a huge spherical bomb, and in the other a hammer and sickle—a rolling Cossack gait completed the picture.

Through the haze of smoke and whisky fumes, I tried to imagine who it was. Could it be—my lips could scarcely frame the words (take your teeth out, mate)—Fishlight (I got a clue) Fraser?; and yet who else could carry off such a disguise with such savoir faire.

The deathly silence, which only the belching of the samovar disturbed, was shattered by familiar words—

"I haf a glue, gonnrade—I mean, I got a clue, boss."

Yes, it was Fishlight Fraser, arch (very) — investigator and general dill-pot, who, unfortunately, had returned alive (?) from his most dangerous mission—the latest meeting of the University Anarchist Club.

He flung the bomb, samovar, top-hat and the hammer and sickle in the gold-plated cuspidor (wot, no expektoration) and himself into a chair, whereupon all its springs collapsed. ("When Fishlight comes, can springs be far behind?")

"These guys have the whole thing taped, boss. They invited a couple of wharfies' representatives along and look!"

He produced a carton of Lucky Strikes and two bottles of export whisky, which he proceeded to sample.

"Being on the up and up, I got the low-down from Dirty Dick—he's the leader of the mob," he continued.

"Foist, they intend to hoist the control of the Uni. on to an Anarchist Party council—with 'On Dit' as their mouthpiece instead of being Thompson's (who said that?). Necessarily, all students will be 'voluntary' members of the Anarchist Party Club. Professors will be examined for their sentiments, and degree courses standardised, the sexes will be equalised and the dames will be able to do everything the guys do—within limits, necessarily. As well as a whisky and vodka bar in the Refectory, cigarettes will be distributed evenly there, with special allowances for Party officials. The Union three guineas is to be used for deposits of Anarchist Party candidates—they never get them back. We never get them back from the Uni. Council, anyway, so who cares?"

Fishlight was nearly breaking his spine trying to slap himself on the back—

"Howzat, boss? Am I any good? They never even suspected me in my get-up. Me, I never made a mistake—"

**BOOM!!**  
A loud explosion rent the air—and my office.

When I returned to earth—"You thundering ass, Fishlight, you must

# EXCLUSIVE OVERSEAS NEWS BULLETIN LARGE INFLUX OF STUDENTS AT DUTCH UNIVERSITIES

The wounds which five years of German oppression have inflicted on Holland's academic life, have left scars which it will take many years to heal. Few were the efforts the German authorities left untried to instill a teutonic viewpoint in university and college students. Forced labor service, the extermination of Jewish students, dismissal of many professors, the closing of universities, and the demand that students sign a "declaration of loyalty" before being allowed to attend—all these stagnated university education. Most of the institutions were only attended by a handful of students. The great majority of students preferred to go into hiding.

Though not attending university courses, many non-registered students living under false names or possessing faked exemptions from forced labor, continued to study with the assistance of coaches. University professors, whether still in regular function or dismissed, conducted examinations and duly registered these for future validation. Consequently, many of the students matriculating after liberation, were already well on in their curriculum. Now that liberty has returned, Dutch youth is attending university in greater numbers than ever before. The total number of undergraduates has risen from 2,644 in 1938-39 to 12,315 in 1945-46—an increase of 366 per cent.

The Central Bureau for Statistics has released the following figures on undergraduate attendance on April 1, 1946:

Subject:	Undergraduates.	Per cent.	
A. Universities—	1938-39.	1945-46.	Increase.
Theology .....	162	440	172%
Jurisprudence .....	408	1,300	219%
Netherlands-Indies Law-Indological Studies .....	133	403	203%
Medicine .....	569	3,442	505%
Mathematics and Natural Science .....	297	1,140	284%
Geography .....	24	294	1,125%
Literature and Philosophy .....	166	747	350%
Economics .....	73	354	385%
Veterinary Science .....	26	228	777%
B. Colleges—			
Technical Sciences .....	401	2,374	492%
Agricultural Sciences .....	144	586	307%
Economics .....	241	1,010	319%
Total .....	2,644	12,315	366%

(These figures do not contain duplications; students of more than one subject have been counted but once.)

The total number of students at all universities and colleges, as at April 1, 1946, was as follows:

Universities:	1938-39.			1945-46.		
	Men.	Wo-	Tot'l.	Men.	Wo-	Tot'l.
Leyden .....	1,759	599	2,358	1,935	633	2,568
Utrecht .....	2,198	465	2,663	3,689	680	4,369
Groningen .....	773	155	928	1,308	303	1,611
Municipal University, Amsterdam	1,817	573	2,390	3,040	1,015	4,055
Free University, Amsterdam	597	41	638	783	100	883
Roman Catholic University, Nijmegen .....	324	92	416	522	86	608
Total .....	7,468	1,925	9,393	11,277	2,817	14,094
Colleges:						
Technical College, Delft .....	1,878	33	1,911	3,910	54	3,964
Agricultural College, Wageningen	442	20	462	1,039	38	1,077
College of Economics, Rotterdam	529	47	576	1,115	38	1,153
Catholic Economics College, Tilburg .....	242	8	250	595	20	615
Total .....	3,091	108	3,199	6,659	150	6,809
Total of all Students .....	10,559	2,033	12,592	17,936	2,967	20,903

# "WHAT SUBLIME NONSENSE" PROFESSORS REVEAL

IN a welter of wit, wisdom and wallowing in adolescent history, four well-known "profs" discussed their attitude to Arts to the immense hilarity of more than 200 students who crammed the Lady Symond Hall on Tuesday evening, April 22.

## PROF. CORNELL SWOONS BOBBY SOXERS

"It was just like falling in love": aptitude and interest led him to choose Arts as his career, said French Lit. Professor, J. G. Cornell, opening the Arts Association Symposium.

There was no rhyme or reason to his interest—"I just drifted along; if I hadn't, what would have I have taken? Science? There had been too much of that at school. For instance," and he paused impressively, "I did Inter. Chem.!"

It is to be suspected that the Professor was "rather bucked" at his ability to tell us that the content of the foot-warmers in railway-carriages in Victoria (so ably described by Sir Stanton Hicks as that obscure part on the map which has no

have lit the bomb. Get out, dopey, before I throw you out—"

I looked round for him—but the bomb had done the work for me.

Watch for Fishlight! Will he be back?

(Not unless he attaches the signature of "Basil" as a sign of good faith.—EDITOR.)

Note for Guilty People.—There is no Anarchist Club at the University, nor is the Editor a member of it. Characters, beside D.E.T., are not specific—not that he's ever specific either.

"BASIL THE RAZZLE."

climate at all, only weather) was "a super saturated solution of sodium acetate."

## NEW ZEALAND'S RIP VAN WINKLE

Sir Stanton, feeling like Rip van Winkle, due to his prolonged absence from the Lady Symond Hall, saw the past roll before him as he wallowed in his childhood. We were permitted glimpses of such parts of it as were not "too uncomfortable."

One inducement to do Medicine, he explained, was the wonderful command it gave one of the polysyllabic words. The fact that the study of very, very dead languages provided Medicine with these polysyllabic words whose meaning is as obscure to people to whom they are applied as it is to the people who use them, is sufficient justification in itself for Arts.

Sir Stanton Hicks concluded by saying: "If the study of Arts leads to a better knowledge of human nature, then it is infinitely to be preferred to a study of Science which doesn't help anyone to understand all these things which are plaguing the world."

## "NOT ASHAMED I TOOK ARTS"

Wilting before the statement by Sir Stanton, "As for Arts, well, people who went in for that kind of thing were that sort of people, any way," Professor Jury rose and com-

menced, with becoming modesty, by explaining that, "I was a very clever boy. I know it, I had it from other people. I was a very clever boy. My headmaster was given to understand that I was a very clever boy, but knew nothing. My father desired that I do a Science subject. I was quite innocent; I had no objection. Unlike Professor Cornell, I have not passed Inter. Chem. I attempted to read 'Introduction to Mathematics.' I believe I understood the first line."

Professor Jury's one regret, apparently, is that if he had been born a physicist he might one day be dwelling in the palaces which are now being built.

## SIR KERR GRANT SUCCORS SCIENCE

Sir Kerr Grant "foolishly and reluctantly consented to speak," to the immense delight of all present.

"At first, I suspected a sinister motive, but I was assured by Mr. Magarey that 'it would not be expected of me that anything I should say would be taken seriously, and if I did say anything serious it would be taken as a joke.'"

Fortified by this assurance, Sir Kerr proceeded to astound everybody with his vast knowledge of literature. Another scientist once said to a friend who was viewing his well-stocked library: "You will

(Continued on Page 8.)

LETTERS TO  
THE EDITOR

## "SIC TRANSIT

## OUR COMIC STRIP

To the Editor,

Sir,—I should like to make a few remarks with reference to the spate of black type which you appended to my letter in the last issue of "On Dit."

My "attempt" to find arguments against you (which was not, as you imply, limited to criticism of your syntax), can hardly be called "vain," as you have in no way refuted these arguments. The fact remains that your editorial was a nonsensical outburst, repeating or manufacturing rumors which had no factual basis.

The suggestion that I was an insidious pressure group came from that editorial—since I was the only member of the Socialist Club involved in the elections (Mr. Scott having, for private reasons, retired from the field), and since the editorial had a distinct political flavor, the allegations of insidious workings were apparently levelled against me only. The idea that I am a group, working insidiously within the University, is fantastic—but not more so than the editorial, which you say was concerned with the S.R.C. elections and apathy on the part of the students. So it may have been, but bound up with your remarks on elections and apathy happened to be your remarks about the Socialist Club and, as a member of it who had been elected, about myself. I can hardly be called an egotist for defending Mr. Scott, the Socialist Club, St. Mark's, the Student Theatre Group and myself against your remarks—but I have no intention of denying that I am an egotist, am happy being so, and have no intention of stopping at the command, however peremptory, of the Lord High Thompson. (Bravo! —Ed.)

I must apologise for calling you a Conservative—in future, I shall take care merely to call you conservative.

I must take an exception to my remark that no other member of the Student Theatre Group knew of my nomination—it appears that Miss Petch knew of it before the result of the election was announced publicly—you told her! (Denied.—Ed.)

As to syntactic quibbling—even accepting the existence of the word "disinterest," it still doesn't mean "lack of interest," and moreover, the final phrase of my previous letter was not a "high order abstraction" — apparently you don't know the meaning of that, either.

It will be diverting to see what specious comments you are able to concoct on this occasion — though doubtless your ingenuity is becoming somewhat taxed by now.

Yours faithfully,

D. A. DUNSTAN.

(Mr. Dunstan's obstinate inconsistencies would be enough to tax the patience of Job himself.)

In a frenzy of frivolous frustration, Mr. Dunstan descends to the doubtful political practice of applying misleading labels to suit his own particular bias.

From the editorial statement ("On Dit," 28/3/47), "The whole affair is unpleasantly reminiscent of the deplorable pressure group tactics which have been insidiously working in N.U.A.U.S. activities of late," Mr. Dunstan, in a plethora of inspired revelation, which puts the Scriptures to shame, concludes that

he is an insidious pressure group. Well! Well! My advice is that he learns a little more about the language on which he deems himself an infallible authority. Then, perhaps, he will not feel so guilty when reading the editorials.

Mr. Dunstan is still happily playing "ducks and drakes" with the word "disinterest." As he is the only person to apply publicly the meaning "lack of interest," I fail to see why I should intrude on his own private little argument.

Whether Mr. Dunstan means that I do not know the meaning of the final phrase of his previous letter or the meaning of "high order abstraction," is somewhat obscure. The only person who can, or has to, follow the involved labyrinth of Mr. Dunstan's mind on these matters is, thank goodness, Mr. Dunstan.

As with his previous letter, I merely correct Mr. Dunstan's errors—(there are no arguments to be refuted.—EDITOR.)

## FROTH

I have a plan, a noble plan  
I'll make all good men cheer,  
To empty out the reservoirs  
And fill them up with beer.

Of the unemployment problem  
We'll no longer stand in dread.  
We shall not go upon the dole—  
We'll all make beer instead.

And when the landlord comes around  
No longer shall we fear.  
We'll smile, and pat him on the  
back,  
And pay him off in beer!

So fellow members, one and all,  
I beg you, rise, and let me hear,  
Three noble cheers, three rousing  
cheers  
For frothing, friendly, beer!

## ENVOI

Let bombo drinkers come and go,  
Let whisky drinkers jeer.  
I'd like to move a motion  
That we ever swear devotion  
To that handsome, healthy potion,  
A frothing pot of beer!

PABLO.

"BO"-PEEP HAS FOUND  
HIS SHEEP!

To the Editor,

Sir,—Your correspondent, "Bo," has placed before us once more the worn-out cries and cat-calls of the 'twenties against the Christian religion. We would like to point out to him certain things, and have no option but to do so thus publicly, since he chooses to shelter behind anonymity. Being members of E.U. and S.C.M. respectively, we are perhaps in a position to voice the thoughts of many people, although it must be made clear that our remarks are in no way to be interpreted as the official voice of these organisations.

Your correspondent falls into the error, so commonly made, of confusing Christianity with "a rut of religious or secular orthodoxy." Of no true Christian can it be said that he is stuck in a rut or bound by "clanking chains." What of St. Paul, Martin Luther, John Wesley? —the great leaders of the Church through the ages, and revolution-

aries every one, in the sense that they refused to be satisfied with a world that did not measure up to God's standards. But in a rut?—it must be known to everyone that these three men, in their own times, pulled their nations 'out of the sloughs into which they had fallen.

"The fundamental purpose of a University is the impartial and disinterested pursuit of truth"—ultimate truth, like ultimate beauty, is found in God, and Him alone. Dogma, you say? No—the experience of many men through many ages.

Your correspondent further states: "No true scholar can suffer an intrusion upon the liberty of the mind. No religion can refrain from such intrusion." Since he did not see fit to mention his year or faculty, we can make no comparisons, but probably he would consider our junior status as undeserving of the term scholarship. Then what of Albert Schweitzer?—that man of huge mental stature, 4 times a doctor, and brilliant in each capacity? Is he worthy of the name of scholar? This doctor of music, medicine, philosophy and divinity has spent many years of his life in missionary service. Has that "intruded upon the liberty of his mind?" Is he not rather broader in his sympathies and understanding, and more tolerant in his judgments?

Finally, Sir, Christianity does not consist in "the ethical teachings of Jesus." It was never included as a set of rules, and never so interpreted by true Christians. Was it for ethical teachings, or for secular orthodoxy that the early Christians faced torture and death? It was not. Christianity is a way of life, governed not by ethical laws, but by a great Law of Love. It is a gift of full life from God to everyone who, believing in it, simultaneously accepts it. It has been made available through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of the only true and living God. Your correspondent need not fear "the detrimental effects of religious denomination" due to Christianising the University. Religious denomination or orthodoxy is not Christianity. True Christianity cannot, by its very nature, be forced upon anyone, but he who has found and accepted it is one of the most blessed of men.

If "Bo" wishes to carry the matter any further, we would suggest that the study circles of E.U. and S.C.M. are a more appropriate place than the columns of "On Dit."

We are, Sir,

Yours, etc.,

VALERIE ELMS, Med. 2,  
DENISE HINE, Science 2.

## RACKET FOR RACKETS!

To the Editor,

Sir,—Every year the Union collects £3/8/- from every student. A large proportion of this goes to those who play sport. Surely it is strange that in a University, which is supposed to be a place of freedom of action, that such an undemocratic thing as compulsory con-

tribution to the Sports Association, should be practised. For many students have neither the time nor the inclination to play. Why make them pay for something they don't want to do?

Let those who play sport, pay their own way, and not carry on with extorted funds.

Yours, etc.,

FABLO.

## "THE MELODY LINGERS ON"

To the Editor,

Sir,—Brian Claridge's unwarranted attack on Dr. Swan in the last issue of "On Dit" would rather make it appear that he was biting the hand that fed him.

Conditions in the University of Adelaide have long been not all that could be desired, and it has taken this outspoken statement by Dr. Swan to bring matters to a head. It could not possibly have been made, as was suggested, from personal reasons, for Dr. Swan stands to gain nothing by it. But to the many young research workers, whose careers are just beginning, it is of the utmost importance. I can only presume that your reporter has no intention of taking up research upon completing his course.

I am, yours faithfully,

CECELIE MOORE.

ERRATA IN N.U.A.U.S.  
COUNCIL REPORT!

To the Editor,

Sir,—In the report on N.U.A.U.S. the following statements occur: "However, it seems that the I.P.C. was conducted in a most disorderly and generally undemocratic way," and, "It was decided to send another observer to the I.P.C. in August." Both stand in need of correction. The I.P.C. means the International Preparatory Committee—the body which met together to draw up provisional plans for the formation of an International Union of Students. Thus the first statement quoted should read—"However, it seems that the I.U.S. meetings were conducted in a most disorderly and generally undemocratic way."

The second statement quoted above, should, of course, read—"It was decided to send another observer to the 1948 Congress."

In correcting these statements, I should like to point out that this report was not written for publication, nor was it checked over by a N.U.A.U.S. representative before going into print. Moreover, had I realised that the report was to appear in the previous edition of "On Dit," I should have made the necessary corrections before the material was published.

ROSEMARY L. FITCH,

Local Secretary-Treasurer,  
N.U.A.U.S.

"What work did you do formerly?"  
"I was caretaker at an observatory tower."

"Why did you give it up?"  
"There were no prospects."

## W.E.A. BOOKROOM

TEXTBOOKS, STATIONERY, AND DRAWING  
MATERIALSSTUDENTS' REQUIREMENTS ARE  
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## Just Arrived!

Macbeth: Organic Chemistry

Gray: Textbook of Anatomy, 1946. Lemon &amp; Ference: Physics

BROWN &amp; PEARCE, 227 North Terrace



# GLORIA MUNDI" RELIGION DEFENDED

## BO—OR "B.O."

To the Editor,  
 Sir,—Last week's front page splash revealed some sensible views, but they floundered in the mire of cheap sensationalism which must for some obscure reason adorn every prominent article. After wallowing at unnecessary length in the "turbulent undercurrent of undergraduate immorality," your "mender of gender" was approaching the crux of the matter when you stated, "the remedy is more Varsity spirit and more energetic student activities"; but your conclusion, "therefore we need a Varsity Parade and Revue" is surely specious if not illogical. Such a function would no doubt be good fun, but it cannot be seriously accepted that it would have an effect on "this virus which is attacking our national existence."  
 That the problem (N.B., this paragraph is boring) is a serious one, cannot be doubted; and it is probably true that "sexual frustration and emotional conflict ruin more careers than it is polite to mention." The success of an attempt to "adopt an interim code of morality, and analyse the whole sex business from that standpoint" obviously depends on what code of morality is adopted. "Don't hesitate to experiment with caution," then, can be a dangerous cry; but it may be a valuable one if "experiment" means an attempt at social living on a certain moral plane—both the proverbial atomic bomb and penicillin are the result of experiment.

There's a group of students who maintain that they get a big kick out of Varsity life even without the Varsity Parade and Revue which Mr. Perkins considers essential to vary the "hackneyed routine of lectures and the occasional faculty ball." They have an opportunity to "adopt an interim code of morality," to discuss it with others who are doing the same; and what is more important, experiment with it. The fellowship of the S.C.M. offers, I think, a solution to the problems of living together in the community.

In lighter vein, may I be permitted, while on the job, to reply to BO (—who knows when he is offending?). I need hardly point out that his conception of Christianity is childish in the extreme; indeed, that his statement: "the Christian religion still remains a form of spiritual fascism with its cry, 'Believe and be saved,' its curse, 'Believe or be damned'" is pure fiction. The fact that Christianity has been misused (not surprising considering its 2,000 years' existence) is, of course, no argument for its abandonment. I agree that "the fundamental purpose of a University is the impartial and disinterested pursuit of truth" (looks good on paper, doesn't it), but I feel that many who act on that principle are to be found in S.C.M. study circles.

However, I fear I am encroaching on the space of the social news. If, BO, you are still keen to throw

mud, you can be sure of an audience at 1.20 on Tuesdays on the George Murray balcony—never fear, let the S.C.M. be your lifebuoy! Hallelujah.

I am, Sir, etc.,

J. B. WEST.

(Varsity parades and revues are not as illogical and specious as would appear on first consideration. An enterprise in which the energies and initiative of the ENTIRE University are combined would do more of itself to kindle Varsity spirit than the activities of purely LOCALISED phenomena, such as the S.C.M., etc.—EDITOR.)

:o:

## POLY SEXUAL BEDROOMS?

To the Editor,

Sir,—With righteous fervour, the leader of a religious organisation has recently condemned University life, with all its vicissitudes, in no uncertain manner.

Such statements, coming from a man whose tolerance and understanding are known throughout Australia, cannot be allowed to pass without further comment. Obviously exhaustive enquiries must have been made before these damning accusations were hurled at the hearts of the murky and miry Universities of Australia.

A Brand plucked from the Fire, I move through the lecherous grounds of the Adelaide University, my eyes averted from the revolting sight of couples talking, smoking or eating together.

It is too distressing.

So distressing that even our own God-forsaken, never-to-be-forgotten

## HOW ABOUT IT, GIRLS?

To the Editor,

Sir,—The other day there was a report in the "News" of a girl who walked down Hindley Street with her Christian name and telephone number embroidered on her hand-bag.

Might I suggest that it would be a good idea if some of the Varsity lasses followed this excellent example? It would be a benefit for all the males, but especially for the shy ones, who haven't got the nerve to calmly bowl up to some winsome wench and ask for her name and telephone number.

Also, it would let one know which women want to be asked out. At present it is difficult to tell the difference between those seething with frustration and those who religiously shun the joys and pleasures of this wicked world and all the sinful lusts of the flesh.

Trusting this suggestion will be seriously considered,

Yours faithfully,  
 CANDIDE.

:o:

## VERBAL BURBLE

To the Editor,

Sir,—Mr. Thompson asks us ("On Dit," 14/3/47) "Are Australians Educated?" and promptly gives us the obvious retort, that they are not! So what!

Among other things, we are told that education is not merely a cramming of facts and passing examinations, but the ability to think.

These reforms which you would

higher education, and some who are not, are receiving it. Even if the Australian Government does expend a tenner less than Scotland per head on education, it does make the way of education, to those whose parents cannot afford a secondary or University education, a tolerable financial path. In our schools, we have free books, travelling allowances, etc., Federal assistance in the Universities, aid to ex-service-men, etc.

In short, Mr. Thompson, in attacking the educational policy of this country in the manner you have, I think you are "barking up the wrong tree!"

"ACK-WILLY."

:o:

## PARS AND JARS

It's a wonder that the local rags in their all-out blitz on world-wide Varsity immorality hadn't spotted this item. Sydney press was wide awake, though. Cambridge headed the list of places in Britain with most drunkenness in 1946. Oxford, where liquor consumption evidently doubled, was next.

According to Paula Walling, Sydney's "Sunday Telegraph" Hollywood hack, "Orson Welles is pleased with his selection as the 'worst actor of the year' by Harvard University magazine, 'Lampoon'." Charmed by Orson's statement that the award had more public service value than the Academy Awards, it is rumored that "On Dit" prepares yet another "Gallop" Poll. I can hardly wait to find out if Lassie's still the most popular bitch on the silver screen.

In the days when the Varsity overlooked the brewing sex storm, and had nothing to worry about but problem child Maxie Harris, this really appeared on the front page of "On Dit": "Published free by Reed and Harris in the interests of Australian culture."

After reading the last edition of this rag on the subject of "Sex Licence at the Varsity," one demure innocent damsel was heard to comment: "My goodness, do they have a licence for it, now?"

William ("Calling the people of Australia from San Francisco") Winter reports an old Chinese philosopher as saying: "God in His inscrutable wisdom that passes all understanding, made the white a minority race with a majority complex."

With the recent ban on the import of Australian fiction and children's books into the so-called Mother Country, but hardly a benevolent mother in this case, Australian authors and artists are finding it harder than ever to make a living. To add to their hardships, the Commonwealth is issuing more licences to American firms to reprint in full, special Australian editions of certain magazines. Already printed in Australia without using one Australian author or artist, are "Time," "Newsweek," "Reader's Digest," "Photoplay," "Motion Picture" and two sex-filled monstrosities, "True Story" and "True Confessions." Every week an average of 42,000 words are thrown on to the Australian market from this source.

## NOTE

ALL letters for publication must be limited to 300 words, and the name of contributor included, not necessarily for publication, but as a sign of good faith.

rag "On Dit" rises to the occasion. Screaming headlines, only equalled by those of another local rag, and in the same category too, echo my sentiments. Remember, bisexual bedrooms are only the first step. Man was never really monogamous. Soon, there will be an outcry for poly-sexual bedrooms.

Will we take this lying down? Never!

With our backs to the wall we face our Fate. There can be no evasion.

As for those students who come to further their education, to make a contribution to civilisation; those ex-service men and women who, no longer adolescents, but men and women of our country, often take a course at some sacrifice. Surely they do not exist, or perhaps this "vice-ridden, polluted house of harlotry" (words no stronger than those used at a Religious Congress in Adelaide), the Adelaide University, has been done a great and injurious wrong.

Sin-Free and Sincerely,  
 "HELLFIRE MAC" COOPER.

## SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

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# FLANNELLED FOOLS . . .

## INTER-VARSITY TENNIS

### ADELAIDE NARROWLY LOSE FINAL

In the Inter-varsity tennis held in Sydney recently, Adelaide defeated Sydney in the first round, 18 rubbers to 3. Then went on to defeat Hobart in the second round, 15 rubbers to 3. Because of rain, the final between Melbourne and Adelaide had to be played in Melbourne.

Diggle, Battye and Hann won their singles, but Astley, Welch and Brookman lost theirs, the latter two being particularly close games, and running to three sets each.

Diggle and Battye then won their three doubles, while Brookman and Mann lost theirs, after winning the first set of each match in convincing style. It then all depended on Astley and Welch. By them, the team won or lost. After a most gallant struggle, they were defeated in their three doubles, 7-9, 2-6; 1-6, 6-3, 2-6; and 3-6, 12-14.

Melbourne thus won, 9 rubbers to 6.

The Adelaide University team was Diggle, Battye, Hann, Astley, Brookman, Welch and Bills.

## WOMEN'S TENNIS

First meeting for the year was held on Tuesday, April 15. Barbara Laurie was elected as secretary with Muriel Fricker as assistant secretary.

A practice was held the following day to select a team to represent the University in matches to be held in Melbourne early in June.

The team selected is Barbara Laurie (captain), Helen Crowe, Muriel Fricker, Marguerite Barlow; the emergency is to be chosen from Diane Basse and Judy Hancock.

It is proposed to have a dance sometime in second term.

## BASKETBALL

On the 17th, an enthusiastic group of freshers and old hangers-on from last year gathered on the luscious green courts, and once again the ball (the one and only left from last year) was set rolling. The number and ability of the freshers was particularly gratifying. Many should gain a place in the teams.

Practices are to be held on Thursdays at 5 p.m. and Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. sharp. Teams will be picked from those at practice.



MICK HONE,

Slow right-arm bowler, who took 24 wickets in the season just ended at an average of 22 runs each.

players making a re-appearance after a number of years' absence. Those who come readily to mind are John Day, captain in 1944, Jack Ryan, and Bill Solly.

Injuries were of a minor nature, except for Dick Dunstan spraining his ankle rather badly, which will probably keep him out of the game for several weeks. The A and B teams commence their competition games on May 3, in the Amateur League, while the C's, playing in a division of the Students' Grade, commence on April 26.

Murray Holmes, 4th year Med., is secretary of the A's, Ross Duffy, the B's, and John Sweeny, the C's, while the only captain selected so far is Alec Tregonning, for the A's.

The selection committees wish to point out that it is no easy task selecting teams, and if at first you are placed in a team lower than what you expected, please don't be disappointed. Members of teams are sure to fluctuate, there are sure to be injuries, and we realise that we haven't seen the best of you yet. So stick at it, and remember there's a State team playing Victoria on August the ninth. You can be in it, if you make the effort.

## HOCKEY

The first of a series of practice matches was played on Saturday, 19th. There was an unexpectedly good turn up, but everyone managed to get a game. The standard of hockey was very poor and the matches were very scrappy affairs. This was probably due to the very poor example set by the A's. Their match began as a farce!! They were in practically full strength, and set out to give a demonstration to the new players. They were playing a last year's D grade team from North Adelaide, but at half-time the A's were three goals down and it was a relief to see Tregonning (the practice captain) change the entire forward line. From then on the match was even, but it was only too plain that a lot more practice is necessary before they can hope to hold their own in the competitive matches.

As a welcome change, the rest of the practice matches were played with a little more vim. But even here the lack of practice was evident, for the most outstanding displays were those of B. D. Ellis and Rofe, the opposing goal-keepers!!

From among a very tired and sluggish bunch, Gill, West, Bade, Bayliss, Radoslovich and Maddern showed glimmerings of their true form.

There is quite a promising list of new players this year, both new to the game and new to the 'Varsity, and it is to be hoped that we see some welcome changes in the last year's teams. Hockey at the 'Varsity has been rather in the doldrums but now that we have some competition we hope to see it sailing again.

So look to your laurels, you old-timers, or you may be sitting on the side-line.

# RANDOM HARVEST

—Winnowed by "Sport"

For the last three Saturdays, hockey enthusiasts have been playing make believe. They started with no lines or goals, at last have goals and a very faint marking that is rapidly vanishing. Reason? — The groundsmen were too busy fixing up the oval for the amateur athletics to worry about 'Varsity sport. They've used all the white marking on lanes, etc., and there's no more in Adelaide. Hockey players now just use their imagination. This happens every year, and a lot of people are inconvenienced. One wonders at times just whose oval is it?

\* \* \*

All for an idea suggested at the boxing A.G.M. the other week, to hold exhibition bouts during the lunch-hour between well-known professionals and also leading amateurs. Small sum charged to help pay the expenses for the Inter-varsity brawl. Believe it possible the ping pong people may work the same stunt. They are sure of a good attendance, for anything to watch would be an improvement on the present dullness of the lunch-hour. I think the main reason this is read is because there is nothing else to do.

\* \* \*

The rugby team, visiting the nearest pub after their first match last Saturday, disturbed one of the locals. He surveyed the tall toughs who walked in, caked in mud, sweat dripping from their brows. Mick Hone, Jim Mellor, Clem Love, John Phoenix and others, all hefty lads, pushed their way past him. "You've certainly got to be big and dumb to play rugby," he said. And in walked Lionel Mofflin, a skinny 5 ft. 3 in. He took a long look and added, "Well, just dumb, then."

\* \* \*

Rushing around trying to attend two sports meetings, running late and not knowing exactly where they were. Dived into one room, and slid to a stop a few feet from a man and a woman in a passionate embrace. Just paused long enough to sigh, whistle and pant a little, and slid out again. Saw a lot of men's heads through the back window of the Lady Symon, so with a "this is it," charged in. Yanked out a notebook in the approved style, and opened my ears to what the man standing up was saying. "The trouble is that far too many people are disregarding the commandment, 'thou shalt not commit adultery' — good heavens, I thought, this can't be the A.G.M. of the Basketball Club! I glanced around, saw a prickly fence of knitting needles, wielded by untidy-looking women. I resigned myself to the inevitable, and I never did find where the basketballers got together!

\* \* \*

Jo Kelly, apart from Pat Hill, who came third in the long jump, was the only woman competitor for 'Varsity to gain a place in the recent State athletics, coming second in the high jump. The half-dozen or so 'Varsity women who competed in the sprints, were unplaced. But I still maintain there are plenty of fast women at the 'Varsity.

\* \* \*

Overheard from the third seat downstairs: open air deck tennis courts, on the road between Lady Symon and George Murray, for the sporting overflow.

## STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

MAY 15—LADY SYMON

All entries to Pam Cleland as soon as possible.  
LET US SEE YOUR FORM.

# . . . AND MUDDIED OAFS

## RUGBY START WITH WIN

The afternoon sun blazed down with mid-summer heat; one half-expected to see two white-coated gentlemen saunter sedately out to the wicket, followed by the openers, padded and gloved.

But it was April, not December, and not cricket but rugby. Fifteen men from West Torrens charged out, for a brief moment in disciplined file, to break out as a fan unfolding, with the practice ball speeding from man to man, and light-hearted banter between them.

Straggling and shuffling, they were followed by fourteen men from the University, like old, old men, with feet as heavy as lead. A scattered word here and there; for the rest, silence. From one end of the field, a minute figure detached himself from a group of women, and to the cries of, "Don't get hurt, Lionel," trotted over to the others, now mooching into position.

West Torrens won the toss, and kicked off. A 'Varsity forward fumbled, knocked on, and so the game began. Ten minutes later, some one from West Torrens fell over the line, and we were three points down. The forwards cursed the backs, the backs swore at the forwards, and all swore at the full-back. He blamed the umpire, but sotto voce.

From a line-out, Hone walked a few yards and lay down, with half of West Torrens on top of him. And so we scored our first try. Characteristically, we failed to convert. A welcome whistle brought half-time.

Love moved to outer centre, Mellor to inner. J. Mellor was hooking well, but the second row forwards kept tapping it back to the front row, or at their peak of activity, just letting it lie, an inert oblong, between their straining feet.

But once, from a loose scrum, it came out safely to Birdseye, who pivoted and passed on the blind side. The five-eight ran, drawing the opposing winger. He, silly boy, tackled, but by then the ball had been safely gathered by Carter who, with exultation in his heart, sped for the promised land.

Several dangerous rushes by West Torrens found us forgetful of the art of falling on the ball. They made many mistakes, for they should have scored. We would have yet

come the rest. Waterman's long kicks for touch, and a handy injury to Robin, saved us from further exhaustion. Once more, a blind side pass from scrum-half to five-eight to Carter gave him the ball. He did the rest, sliding over inches from the corner. Later, he combined with tireless Williams, for our fourth try.

Score: 'Varsity A, 20 (4 tries, 1 convert, 2 penalty goals), W. Torrens, 3 (1 try).

## B Rugby

N. Adelaide 13, University 5.



DON BEARD,

Varsity's opening attack. Helped win the inter-Varsity by taking 10/60.

## FOOTBALL

### KEEN PRACTICE MATCHES

On Saturday, April the nineteenth, the University Football Club held its first set of trial games. Over sixty players stripped and endeavored to impress the selection committee. Two games of two quarters each were played, and although the size of the oval and the heat of the day were not encouraging for fast open football, many showed surprisingly good form for so early in the season.

Many new-comers, on form shown so far, will be well in the running for the A team, and for a few definite positions the competition will be very keen. Also, many of last year's C team are sure to receive promotion.

It was pleasing to see several



# SPIRIT INVASION!

# HONKY TONK MEN!

# S.R.C. News

## STUDENTS STORM WINERY

By Special Grape Vine from Sozzled Scientist!

The potential drunks' parade gathered at the Varsity gates at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, and were safely shipped to McLaren Vale, the finest district for bottling sunshine (or is it moonshine) in the world.

The prime object of the excursion was to obtain some first hand information concerning the process of wine-making as seen at Tintara, the Hardy's famous winery. Messrs. Tom and Dave Hardy conducted parties around the winery, the students leading the way with their tongues out.

Before he could get too unsteady, the president, Colin Hocking, delivered a pretty little speech of thanks to Mrs. Hardy. Mrs. Hardy replied, saying that it was the fifth time the Science Association had conducted excursions to Tintara, and gave us the old "come again," and told us to hop in again. Some took her literally and dived into the nearest vat.

Well, we did the lot, or nearly. Sherry, sweet and dry, hock, with and without lemon, Reisling, Sauterne, and even Gold Label Port.

A few of the more noisy ones were periodically commanded to walk the dotty line and say "Britissseh Conshittushun" in the approved manner. When the bus driver could be declared sober, some climbed into the bus while the diehards filled 'em up again with the Gold Label. Never again will we drink from wine glasses while there are butchers to be filled.

The president and secretary were the last to get into the bus (can't think where they could have been) and this time the mad horde shouted thanks to Mrs. Hardy. That old rosy glow had now enveloped the whole bus, and with the words "Tintara forever" on our lips, we stopped the bus at the local pub and drank West End.

## SCIENTIFIC BY-PLAY

The first meeting of the Science Association was the freshers' welcome at which Prof. Sir Kerr Grant delivered a few kind words to all. The business took the form of a fancy dress parade, followed by plays acted and produced by freshers.

The first play was a modern variation of "Little Red Riding Hood" written by freshers, Bruce Jephcott and Lofty Lehmann. Lofty was the wolf who was making a pass at Red Riding Hood, Marg. Jeffrey, and as the story goes the wolf gets off second best and winds up with Grandma Stockbridge. What a blow—Red Riding Hood was married.

Next there was a play of A. A. Milne's produced by King Suter and Bronte Bunney. This was good, but many of the sleeping audience missed the point.

Then followed supper, and dancing to the plaintive wails of Len Perkins' Jazz Band.

The second meeting was held in the Physics lecture theatre, on April 10. Dr. S. W. Pennycuik was the speaker, his subject being: "Are too many people doing Science?"

He convinced us that for the good of the world, the scientific mode of thought should be fostered. If this era did become the scientific age in which the mind overruled the body it would remove all unpleasantness, but wouldn't it be dull.



Breaking with Intent! And the Aftermath  
Science Association indulges in a quiet cultural pastime.

## Philosophically Speaking

### A CHALLENGE TO OUR INTELLECTUALS

The history of philosophy can be briefly traced from its origin in Aristotle's analysis of change, through the effective synthesis made in the 13th century by St. Thomas Aquinas, to its sharp decline beginning soon after his death. The Renaissance completed the process, and in a time of vast widening of horizons, this tradition "had lost its power to assimilate new facts," and the most competent minds were engaged in purely theological speculation and controversy. Came Descartes, "born" in the words of Voltaire, "to discover all the mistakes of the ancients and to replace them by his own." With him came the Cartesian revolution, and modern philosophy was born—no visitors for three centuries.

The following contentions can be made:—

- A. That philosophy has a function in the world, of unifying the whole range of experience and in supplying true common standards for action, which, without common standards in incoherent, and without true standards is hit or miss.
- B. That modern philosophy has failed in its function to provide a set of true and commonly accepted standards. This failure could be easily documented—by a statement by a practitioner of contemporary philosophy to the effect that "no philosophical congress is complete without a paper on the confusion in modern philosophy"; by a study of the chapter, "The Crisis in Systems of Truth" in Sorokin's *Crisis of Our Age*; by a reading of Harvey Wickham's too little known *The Unrealists*, in which the big names of contemporary philosophy are subjected to merciless satire; by a criticism of the Empiricist school in England, from Hobbes to Hume, leading by fusion with post-Cartesian dogmatism to Kant, since whom "it is the accepted task of philosophy to prove that anything exists and that we can know it"; by a criticism of French Positivism, and the contemporary Logical Positivism

### S.R.C.

FACULTY Societies and Students are advised that Notices for exhibition in the Refectory must be left at the Union Office.

of the Viennese school and elsewhere, which gives away more successfully than any of its predecessors the values by which Europe has (precariously) lived; by the general attitude of the rest of the faculties to the philosophical faculty in any University—remote and ineffectual word-spinning—for which attitude Descartes has gone on record for the Sorbonne.

In view of this situation it was contended that Thomism, as rehabilitated in the last 50 years, was capable of offering a valid solution to the epistemological problems of post-Kantian philosophy; was regaining its power to assimilate new facts; had a valid metaphysics; had the added advantage as it was put by a good Aristotelian, W. R. Thompson, F.R.S., and that this philosophy "allows us to maintain the traditional methods of thought." Harvey Wickham has asked a pertinent question: "What is the sense or dignity of a philosophy that cannot be put into practice; or rather, isn't that the real philosophy that is put into practice, and the rest mere moonshine?" This tradition of philosophy has therefore a contribution to make to a very pressing need. Its rehabilitation has progressed farthest on the Continent; in English speaking countries it still has to develop really competent exponents, but Etienne Gilson was the Gifford lecturer of some years ago, the current series is to be given by Christopher Dawson, both of whom are within the tradition, and the Jewish professor, Mortimer Adler, teaches this philosophy in Chicago. As a living tradition, it is practically unknown in professional philosophical circles in Australia. There are indications in some Australian Universities of a faint awareness of the contribution this tradition might make.

This is one of a series of discussions on philosophy organised by the Aquinas Society every alternate Friday evening in the Lady Symon.

### EXTENSIONS TO REFECTORY

The S.R.C. meeting, Thursday, April 10, recommended that the reports prepared by Messrs. Sangster and Claridge, concerning extensions to the Refectory, and ways of improving the George Murray Library be considered by the Geo. Murray House Committee.

### DEBATING

A meeting of those interested in debating and in the coming Inter-Varsity debates to be held in Canberra in August (middle week of holidays), was held on March 31. It was decided that inter-faculty dances would be arranged each week, beginning on April 29. All interested see notice boards for further details, or contact Mr. Roger Opie, the debating secretary.

### SPEAKERS FOR VARSITY

This year the S.R.C. proposes to ask any interesting people who are in Adelaide to come and speak to students. Watch "On Dit" for notification of this and other S.R.C. activities.

### "ON DIT" TO CHARGE?

The editor of "On Dit" asked permission to charge each faculty 2/6 a column inch for the advertisement of the dances, which each faculty usually holds during the year. No charge would be made for advertising charity functions. This was to assist the meagre grant given "On Dit." The grant was too small by itself to produce the paper, and was anything from 120-1,200 per cent. less than that granted in other Universities.

### LAW STUDENTS' GRIEVANCE

The subject of the length of the time that law students are required to be articulated, was brought up by the Law Faculty representative. It was suggested that a report be submitted by the Law Society to the S.R.C., so that the matter could be brought before the Union Council.

## Tutti Frutti

Believe it or not, a collection of "sincere misguided people" (definition in "On Dit") gathered in the Lady Symon last Wednesday week to find out what sort of a thing this S.C.M. is. There was a galaxy of 14 speakers, members of the committee outlining branches of the Movement's activities.

The president, David Dunn, said that the Movement existed for those who feel that a University course of lectures and football and dances leaves something to be desired.

To those who want to know how to get the best out of life, whether there is anything in life worth aiming at, what sort of a creature man is, and what life is about, the S.C.M. recommends a good look at Christianity.

Joan Chadwick, a travelling secretary, told us that the S.C.M. in Adelaide University is a branch of the Australian Student Christian Movement, itself a unit of the World Student Christian Federation, an international family in over 40 nations, which, though sorely battered by the war in Europe and in Japan, has withstood the test.

Other speakers gave details of the Movement's work, the club for girls at Port Adelaide, the Easter camp for the mission boys, the Missionary Service Fellowship, the "Intercollegian"—the monthly journal of the A.S.C.M.—the library, the hikes and socials, the study circles and lunch hour addresses, the devotions on Tuesday mornings in the Conservatorium South Hall, and of the other branches of the Movement at the Teachers' College; theological colleges; boys' and girls' high and private schools; and senior branch.

### STUDENT DANCE SUCCESS

On Friday, April 18, at 8 p.m., the first of a series of fortnightly student dances was held in the George Murray Hall.

Some of the University's most glamorous lovelies danced to the strains of Adelaide's leading dance band, the seven-piece "Southern Jazz Group."

The dance which promises to be a huge success, is open to students and their friends, and is sponsored by the U.J.A.S. to promote 'Varsity spirit and co-operation in a friendly atmosphere not subject to propaganda.

For those attending after lectures at 9.30, a concession rate of 6d. is charged.

#### U.J.A.S.

At the last meeting of the University Jazz Appreciation Society, the following committee was elected: D. E. Thompson (secretary), Bob Wright, R. L. Forss, A. H. Spry, W. Dow, Len Perkins, John Rippin, Iris Letheby and Helen McLeay.

**AQUINAS BALL**

**Refectory**

**SATURDAY, MAY 10**

PROCEEDS IN AID OF AQUINAS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

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Dancing, 8-12 (midnight). Supper Subscription, 5/-

### WHEEL-BARROW DERBY

The proposed inter-faculty wheelbarrow derby is to be held on the last day of the term, Friday, May 23, which is also the last day of the Food-for-Britain Appeal.

It is proposed to hold the wheelbarrow race in aid of the Food-for-Britain Appeal. Arrangements are being made to put the affair on an official basis.

All faculties are advised to get their wheel-barrows oiled, and "On DIT" will cover all their secret trials.

For further details, consult "On DIT" staff.

### ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION MOOTED

A representative gathering of Architectural students on Wednesday, 23rd, indicated unanimously that it was considered that the time was ripe for the formation of an Architectural Students' Association.

Jim Hodge, who opened the discussion, briefly indicated the pros and cons of the proposal. The department certainly has, at the present time, at any rate, sufficient students to warrant such a move, but whether, after these abnormal times have passed, there still will be, was a matter to influence the decision of the meeting as to whether or not an association was desirable.

It meant work, and work means time, of which, in the Architectural Department, there is little to spare.

Mr. Laybourne Smith, head of the department, was in sympathy with the idea "provided that it was not ambitious" for a start.

But the general feeling was that the need for "a voice" was long overdue, and that a lot of good could be done if the students were brought together.

Some form of affiliation with the S.A. Institute of Architects was suggested, so that the knowledge and sympathy of experienced men might help the association in its aim to give the students a wider view of the profession than is indicated in the course. Also, such affiliation would

### STRENUOUS BASKETBALL MATCH

Highlight in social activities for St. Mark's College was a basketball match played against St. Ann's last week-end.

Jim Harley and Bert Bailey were co-captains, and the other players were Mick Kemp, John Remildon, Ray Allen, Ewart Smith, John Burdett, Tony Jose (— an expert footballer!), David Steele, etc. . . .

The girls were Nadeen Ross, Yvonne Hutchinson, Margaret Honey Ruth Keynes, Judy Aitchin, Elizabeth Crowe and Jane Allgrove who threw a succession of goals with careless ease. Ruth Keynes was a creditable defence and played with courage against tremendous odds.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Grenfell Price were among the spectators and Mrs. Price thought that the boys' heights were an unfair advantage, for they won 13-11 goals. Unfortunately, Betty Porter who organised the match was unable to come because she had a heavy cold, but Joyce Sampson acted as an umpire.

A debate between the two colleges has been arranged for Saturday, May 10. The subject chosen is "That State Parliaments should be Abolished."

St. Mark's is also organising a variety show, but details are obscure yet, nor are the details of the Anzac Day celebrations at the college official, or likely to be so.

### WOMEN GRADUATES HIKE

On Saturday, April 12, there was a hike arranged by the Women Graduates' Association, whose president is Mrs. Ray Hone. The hikers drove to Mt. Lofty to the home of Dr. Sandford Morgan where the so-called "crocks" were entertained for the afternoon, while the energetic members walked for about six miles

# SOCIAL NEWS

through those particularly lovely roads around Mt. Lofty.

A visitor of particular interest was Miss Esther Skoubou, a graduate from Denmark, who is collecting political data in Australia.

### SCIENCE ASSOCIATION BRIDGE EVENING

An energetic committee headed by Mrs. Ray Hone and Mrs. J. Skinner have made plans for the bridge evening sponsored by the Science Association on May 17, in the Refectory. A junior committee is being formed to help with decorations and the supper, and to sell sweets to raise money for the Science Association.

Andrew Keaves, the secretary of the Science Association writes: "The history of the Science Association dates from 1891. Since its inception, the prime object of the Association has been to promote the study of science; to bring before students and the community some perspective view of science. For many years, particularly during the war the Association has been sympathetic towards charitable institutions and has donated several hundreds of pounds for such purposes. However, a very lamentable state of affairs has happened—We are now in the depths of debt, as last year the Association Journal was not for sale until late in the third term, and consequently we had no chance of efficiently disposing of the Journal."

The proposed bridge evening will help to re-establish the Association on a financial basis and it is hoped that many will co-operate.

Tables for May 17, are ten shillings each and can be booked by telephoning Mrs. J. Robertson (M7253) or Mrs. H. Hugal (M1567).

The next committee meeting is on May 7, at 2.30 p.m., in the Lady Symon Hall to which the younger set are also invited.

### BARR SMITH GOSSIP

My reporter from the "Barr Smith" library writes: "In the 'Barr Smith' library this year the possibilities of the Reading Room, not to mention the Periodicals Room have gone unnoticed by the freshers. Although we have not observed much studying done (having been busy ourselves) there have certainly been none of those tender scenes which to the discerning eye were so common last year.

The atmosphere of the library I have noticed has been considerably brightened by smart and pretty dresses. There seems a singular lack of tasteful originality amongst most of the male students, with the exception of a dashing pair of earth brown corduroy trousers.

### FASHION PARADE

Among some of the most attractive dress schemes have been Carol Wills' floral linen of pink and blue tones on a white ground, highlighted by the "cerulean" blue of her eyes and a fashionable cyclamen lipstick; Yvonne Hutchinson has also worn a gay and attractive floral, signed with a white necklet. An unusual color combination has been worn by Margaret Blackburn—a lemon yellow coat over a lemon green dress, checked in sepia. Pat Grose's choice of a "rust" tone was original and added smartness lay in the embroidered yoke of the dress. The deep petunia of a coat Rosemary Fitch has worn has struck a note of smart attractiveness; very smart also has been Rachael Simmond's coffee-colored "Mitz" suit, and Judith Wood's striking ensemble of blues, she has topped a tri-striped skirt with a simply designed jumper in matching shades. Very tastefully dressed has been Pat Hill in a frock and coat of a lovely slate-grey; the silk dress spotted in white with a tiny white peter-pan collar. Mrs. Roberts looks very attractive in her voguish "off the face" hat of vandyke brown felt, and it seems that the autumn and winter fashions beginning to appear are equally attractive as the summer dresses.

—PAMELA.

### SUBLIME NONSENSE

(Continued from Page 3)

be surprised to see that I have a complete set of English poets. You will be more surprised to learn that I know every word in them. You will be even more surprised to know that there is nothing in them."

Sir Kerr eventually decided to "change from Engineering to Arts —yes, Arts, you understand, Mathematics!"

### LANGUAGES IN SCHOOL A WASTE OF TIME

"Languages as taught in our secondary schools would be not," said Sir Kerr, when describing his experiences overseas.

Sir Kerr continued: "I spent five years of hard study, finally taking top-prize in the top-class in French. This was no good in France."

On the other hand, Sir Kerr went to Germany with little knowledge of the language, lived in a German household, and studied for a year at a German University. The result of that year in Germany was that today Sir Kerr reads German as German, and understands it without translating it.

"Of course, I can translate French books readily," Sir Kerr continued, "but this, as you know, is different from reading it."

So concluded the patter of true confessions, childhood revelations and witty wisdom. If all Arts meetings are as interesting and provoking as this, they should be well worth attending.



### HOW ABOUT IT?

create a mutual interest between the Institute and students.

Immediate action seemed to be a wise move, and an interim committee was nominated to collect together definite views and aims to submit to a general meeting of Architectural students to be held on the last Wednesday evening of the term (April 30) in the design room at the School of Mines.

The committee nominated was G. L. Parker (convener), W. A. Gilbert, V. J. Miller, D. E. Thompson and B. Claridge.

Written suggestions may be handed to any of those on or up to Friday, May 1, for consideration.

### Medical Students

We carry full stocks of Medical Books, Haemocytometers, Schli Haemoglobinometers, Head Mirrors, Stethoscopes, Mercurial Sphygmomanometers, Slides, Cover Glasses, Surgeons' Gloves, Ophthalmoscopes, Auriscopes, and Surgical Instruments. Journals, Periodicals, Locums Arranged.

### Malcolm McNeil

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