

CONDIT

PUBLISHED FOR THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY S.R.C.

Vol. 15, No. 10.

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 1947.

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20 SEP 1947

STUDENTS' TEXTBOOKS I

Industrial Regulation in Australia, O. de R. Foenander, 17/6
Building Construction, Advanced Course, 15th Edition, Mitchell, £1/5/9

Organisation and Management, in Industry and Business, W. B. Cornell £2/10/-

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PROCESSION A SUCCESS

30,000 GREET 'MONTY'

Heralded by a hellish outcry, the 1947 University procession burst upon a startled Adelaide population at 1.30 p.m. on Friday, 25th. Local inhabitants, momentarily stunned with shock, soon rallied round and formed an appreciative audience of 30,000 as the procession really got under way.



Two heavily camouflaged "plain-clothes speedcops" led the way with the legend, "Simple but Catching!" above their motor cycle outfit. This apparently was too subtle for the onlookers, who displayed more hilarity at the appearance of "the result of Calwell's quest for migrants." Under banners of "Calwell's Chicks," "Wogs Galore," a more heterogeneous collection of villainous-looking cut-throats could not have been found at the docks of Marseilles (only at the University of Adelaide!)

Parodies on politics formed the main content of the procession, several prominent figures collecting their share of unexpected publicity.

The Prime Minister would no doubt have been highly gratified had he seen the Engineers' placard and pithy suggestion, "Ned Kelly for Prime Minister!" which was closely followed by one of the Dental displays of a formidable set of false teeth "to help 'Chif.' take his £500 bite!"

"Boycott Forbes for Treasurer!" the satirical comment on our renowned "financier," drew its share of laughs from the now highly amused spectators.

The Medical Faculty struck immediate response with their hospital bed, and patient wearing top hat, together with a huge jar of blue liquid with its notice, "Putting Blue Blood into Mr. McKell!"

The Big Four were impressively arrayed around a table, with the

troubles of the world weighing heavily upon their shoulders, deeply engrossed in a game of poker. Their notice, "Silence, Please" ensured freedom from interruption and permitted profound concentration.

A sinister-looking car bearing copious witticisms, e.g., "Moscow Trading Co," "Oil for the Lamps of China" and "Wot! No Vodka?" enclosed the Socialist fraternity, possibly plotting more clandestine outrages. The President, complete with cloak and dagger, clung precariously to the back (perhaps keeping "nit" for his comrades) and spent his time darting furtive leers thither and hence at the awed rabble.

Politics exhausted, students drew from other channels of their fertile
(Continued on Page 6)

General Iron-mongery investing the citizens of Adelaide with the Royal Order of the Heifer (R.O.Ox.)

—(Block by courtesy "Mail.")

UNION REPORT ON REFECTORY

THE House Committee of the Union Council has received from the President of the S.R.C., and discussed, a petition signed by about 600 students protesting against conditions obtaining in the Refectory at the present time. There is little or no ground for some of the complaints; the complaints that are genuine and substantial have their origin in the extreme difficulties under which the Refectory has been working during the last few years.

The difficulties arise directly from the large increase in the number of students who use the Refectory. The accommodation and equipment in the kitchen and servery are now totally

inadequate to the task of dealing with these numbers. Shortage of staff also has been a real difficulty. It has been almost impossible to get trained staff, and additional staff, if

available, could not be housed adequately.

The last extensions to the Refectory buildings were made at the be-
(Continued on Page 10)

On Dit

Published for the Adelaide University Students' Representative Council

Vol. 15. MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 1947. No. 10.

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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.

TILL THE END OF TIME

Those who won our independence believed that the final end of the State was to make men free to develop their faculties and that in its government the deliberative forces should prevail over the arbitrary. They valued liberty both as an end and as a means. They believed liberty to be the secret of happiness, and courage to be the secret of liberty. They believed that freedom to think as you will and to speak as you think are means indispensable to the discovery and spread of political truth. That without free speech and assembly, discussion would be futile; that with them, discussion affords ordinarily adequate protection against the dissemination of noxious doctrine; that the greatest menace to freedom is an inert people; that public discussion is a political duty; and that this should be the fundamental principle of the government. They recognised the risks to which all human institutions are subject. But they knew that order cannot be secured merely through fear of punishment for its infraction; that it is hazardous to discourage thought, hope, and imagination; that fear breeds repression; that repression breeds hate; that hate menaces stable government; that the path of safety lies in the opportunity to discuss freely supposed grievances and proposed remedies; and that the fitting remedy for evil counsels is good ones. Believing in the power of reason as applied through public discussion, they eschewed silence coerced by law—the argument of force in its worst form. Recognising the occasional tyrannies of governing majorities, they amended the constitution so that free speech and assembly should be guaranteed.

—Mr. Justice Louis D. Brandeis concurring in the Judgment in *Whitney v. California*, 274, U.S. 357, 375-76.

OUT OF THE DIM DARKNESS OF HISTORY

PAST PRESAGES FUTURE

THE following is an extract from the 1936 Union Handbook. Dignity compels us to refrain from comment on the concluding paragraph.

"On Dit."

"Except for a short-lived resurrection in 1934, the "Varsity Ragge" is now well buried and lost to the sight of man. In 1932 it was remodelled and rechristened, and a regular editor was appointed. The new product, "On Dit," now appears more or less regularly every fortnight, and though the subject of loud and long criticism usually deserved, but sometimes unjustified, it has continued to exist as the organ of public opinion.

"In truth, most of the defects are not due to the shortcomings of the editorial staff. They make constant acrimonious remarks concerning the appalling apathy of students, who are content to criticise without making any effort to put their remarks into practice. It should be remembered that the editor and staff are not there to compile each number in toto, although, unhappily, such is not rare; their job is rather to sift the volume of articles, etc., which ought to flood them.

"Towards the end of last year,

S.R.C. GENERAL ELECTIONS

Faculty Reps.

Nominations close on Tuesday, September 16, at the Union Office. Elections will be held during the week September 22 to 26.

Men's General Reps.

Nominations close on Tuesday, September 30, at the Union Office. Elections will be held during the week October 6 to 10.

Nominations must be made on the prescribed form, obtainable at the Union Office, and must be signed by the candidate, nominator and seconder. In the case of Faculty Reps., these must all be students in the same faculty, and in the case of Men's General Reps., they must all be men students.

K. T. HAMILTON,
Chief Returning Officer.

the editorial staff went on strike as the result of an altercation with the higher authorities, but there is reason to suppose that this brilliant publication will once more regale us with current topics."

APOLOGY

"On Dit" sincerely regrets that references to Mrs. Max Hill, in its issue for 21/7/47 are capable of a construction which is defamatory of her.

We wish to assure Mrs. Hill and our readers that no personal reflection upon Mrs. Hill was, in any way, intended.

The Editor and the writer of the article (Mr. Brian Claridge) offers Mrs. Hill an apology for any injury to her feelings occasioned by the article.

D. E. THOMPSON, Editor.
BRIAN CLARIDGE.

EDITORIAL DICTUM

The definition of the word "Refectory" given both by common usage and in standard dictionaries is "a room for refreshments and meals." Neither kitchen nor staff is mentioned in the definition.

The article "Storm in a (Chipped) Teacup," was not an attack or slur on the kitchen or staff, nor was an attack intended.

The Prices Commission, after a search of the records, said that no application for a rise in prices had been made to them. We saw no reason to doubt that statement. Prof. Campbell now informs us that permission was given.

In view of the above statements and definition we feel that the article was a fair criticism.

We feel that S.R.C. would have been willing to make a statement of the above nature had members of the executive given them the opportunity.

We published a letter from an Ag. Sc. student with a grievance about the statutory fee. Shortly before "On Dit" went to press this matter had been remedied.

After eighteen months it appears that students are gradually getting replies to their questions on the statutory fee!



Great mystery! Convener of procession subject to anguish. Ask the City Council.

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FOR STUDENTS ONLY

Are you satisfied with your lecturers?

What?

Someone said, "No!" Then the right place for you is Sydney University, where a quiz, designed to measure the efficiency of lecturers, will be presented to students sometime this year.

The official name of the quiz is the Purdue Rating Scale, which contains a series of simple questions to be answered "Yes" or "No."

Sample questions:—

- Does he (your lecturer) treat you in a democratic spirit?
- Does his general scholarship appear to be of a high order?
- Is he master of the class situation?
- Does he invite and welcome critical questions upon the subject matter of the course?
- Is his class work prepared thoroughly?
- Does he stimulate interest in the subject matter of the course?
- Does he relate the parts of the course and synthesise the whole into a meaningful progression?

In addition to questions like the above there is a list of traits, the student being required to indicate to what extent the lecturer gives evidence of the trait. If we are considering lecturer's self-reliance and confidence, student is provided with rating sheet scale, ranging from 10 marks to 100 under this heading. He is asked to assess lecturer on following:—

- Is he always sure of himself: meets difficulties with poise?
- Fairly self-confident, occasionally disconcerted? Hesitant, timid, uncertain?

When it first came out in America, professors objected that young and ignorant students could not pass a worthwhile judgment, and that they couldn't recognise good teaching.

Other red herrings thrown across the quest for knowledge of their ability included the objection that the professors said that some students would assess them carelessly, or with tongue in cheek—others would base their answers upon marks given them by their lecturers, or else seize the opportunity of expressing personal likes and dislikes.

The answer to the above is that in using the scale, students assessed something which to them was real, and about which their opinions are quite definite. Also student opinions as shown by the scale are remarkably consistent and stable.

This is due to the fact that students despise low standards, and are surprisingly quick to see through superficiality. They recognise and appreciate good teaching, and only in few cases do emotional attitudes tip the scale.

In every class you can always find one or two students who will reckon a lecturer as the world's best, and one or two who will note him as the world's worst.

But it was found that when you disregard these two extremes, the picture of the lecturer as presented in the scale by the others merited close study, for it was surely a good likeness.

Personally, I think the results of such a quiz conducted in Adelaide would be very interesting, but the possibility of the scheme reaching our University within 20 years or so, is rather remote to my way of thinking.

And don't forget, if you hold any views, strong or otherwise, write in and tell "On Dit."

THIS ARTICLE REFERS TO NO PERSON, LIVING OR DEAD, EXCEPT MAYBE THE AUTHOR, WHO IS MOSTLY DEAD ANYHOW.

THE first step in the production of "Mulberry" Harbor was the design and construction of the then so-called "Spud Pierheads." These floating pierheads had to withstand storm damage and the abuse of fast loading and unloading, and also had to be capable of constant raising and lowering to adjust the tidal action. This was explained during an Engineering Society address on "Mulberry" Harbor. This artificial harbor ensured the success of the invasion of France in June, 1944.

1923 EXPERIENCE USED IN "MULBERRY" HARBOR

The experience gained in the construction (at Renfrew, in 1923) of the dipper dredge "Lucayan" was invaluable, and the design of "Lucayan" did, in fact, provide the foundation of the design of the pierheads, said Mr. Hambleton, who was chief civilian engineer in the construction of "Mulberry" Harbor.

"Lucayan" was 110 ft. by 44 ft. by 11 ft., and was fitted with three spuds or legs, two forward and one aft, which could be moved up and down so that by mechanically pushing the legs into the sea-bed, the vessel would partially rest out of the water, and thus the vessel was stabilised and securely moored at the desired spot. The idea was most successful, and "Lucayan" gave remarkable service at its post in Nassau Harbor in the Bahamas. The "Spud Pierhead," "Lucayan's" direct descendant, was made 200 ft. long, 60 ft. wide, and about 11 ft. from deck level to its perfectly flat bottom. Into each of the four corners were fitted the "spuds," which were 90 ft. long and four feet square, and were controlled by enormous winches, each weighing sixteen tons, and driven by electric motors. Altogether, 22 pierheads were built, and the actual work of construction was distributed among shipyards in England and Scotland. One entirely new shipyard was built, and two existing slipways were considerably altered. Thirteen of the pierheads were constructed by Messrs. Alex Findlay & Co. Ltd., at Leith, near Edinburgh.

In addition to the pierheads, eight buffer pontoons which enabled very rapid unloading of tanks on to the pierheads were built. Eight floating dolphins, required for the tying up of ships, and constructed from steel tubes 45 feet in diameter and 50 feet long; concrete pontoons, measuring 80 ft. by 50 ft. used to connect the spud pierheads; the 80 ft. floating bridge spans which connected the pierheads to the shore, and the large steel or concrete floats on which they rested; the production of "Phoenix," the breakwater and concrete caissons which literally turned "Mulberry" into a harbor; "Mulberry" includes all these.

RACE AGAINST TIME

The buffer pontoons mentioned were of an unusual design. The structure measured some 80 ft. by 50 ft., and tapered off from about 11 ft. at the back to a few inches at the front. The interior was hollow, and cross sectioned like an egg box, the idea being that water could be pumped into required compartments to give any necessary slope for the unloading of different craft. The job of constructing two of the pontoons was given to the Dartford Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., on a site adjoining Dartford Creek, where the stream was too narrow to allow building at the water's edge, and so a dry dock was specially constructed. Both pontoons were to be built concurrently, and the river bank was cut away and the basin flooded at high tide to float both vessels out together. However, time was short after the preparation of the dry dock, and it was decided to concentrate all possible labor on one pontoon until it was completed. However, the one nearest completion was the one furthest inshore, so No.

States Chief Constructional Engineer

1 was dismantled and its components parked temporarily. The National Fire Service lent their aid, and pumped sufficient water from the creek into the basin to float No. 2, which was "man-handled" into position nearest the creek. The N.F.S. then pumped the basin dry, and the whole operation was completed in 12 hours.

The fitting of the spud columns presented considerable difficulty. Large floating cranes were used, and all the columns were fitted at a southern port, to which the otherwise completed pierheads were towed. Time was very short when the work began, and few facilities existed for workmen who were brought from all over the country. Living accommodation could only be found 10 miles from the fitting-out depot, and yet men worked 12-14 hours a day.

EIGHTH WONDER OF THE WORLD

It was pointed out before that the "Phoenix" project was one section of "Mulberry." The other section, known as "Whale," included the pier-

heads and all other landing equipment. One of the major parts of "Whale" was the construction of 10 miles of floating bridge equipment. No firm produced the complete bridge spans required, but the spans were made up of a very large number of smaller components which had to be capable of being fitted together like Meccano. Altogether some 35,000 tons of structural steelwork was involved, comprising over 200 different components, and yet production was so organised that all these parts went readily together on receipt at Army assembly sites.

The contract for the first "spud pierhead" was placed in the summer of 1942, and this was the first part of "Mulberry" on which work began. The construction of "Mulberry" was completed on May 25, 1944, and considering the size of the project, and the time in which it was completed, we who heard Mr. Hambleton could but agree with him that it was the "eighth wonder of the world."

It is hoped that this year's Engineering Magazine will contain the complete text of Mr. Hambleton's talk.



"Monty" (??) and the Lord Mare before venturing to Keswick Barracks where they received a salute, to a well-known renovated barn of snobocracy, and to St. Peter's College where they inspected the Library and signed autograph books.

W.E.A. BOOKROOM

Fisher: Design of Experiments	22/6
Roberts: Heat and Thermodynamics	51/6
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: Keeping Livestock Healthy (Agricultural Yearbook 1942)	15/9
Report of the Joint Committee on Standard Specifications for Concrete and Reinforced Concrete (with supplement)	13/6
Caunt: Elementary Calculus	15/3
French: Engineering Drawing	24/6

WESTERN DRIVE, UNIVERSITY C 3355

RESULT OF PROTEST MEETING

VICE-CHANCELLOR TALKS TO SRC EXECUTIVE

MATTERS relating to the motions passed at the Special General Meeting on June 26 were discussed by the President and Secretary of the Students' Representative Council with the Vice-Chancellor, following his invitation, on July 4.

Professor McKellar Stewart began by querying the phrase, "the method of imposition." We then explained the way in which the new constitution was introduced and he agreed that it might have been put before the students for their consideration.

He explained in some detail the origin of the statutory fee which arose from the decision of the University Council that there should be a general fee governing student activities: Universities in the British Empire and America were questioned concerning similar fees, their purpose, their amount and the method of levy, and after consideration, the University Council decided on a statutory fee of £3/3/-.

The income from this fee was considerable, and the University Council decided that it would require careful administration. This, combined with the fact that the council looked upon that income as Univer-

sity funds, led to the decision that something more permanent than the existing Union constitution was needed. The Union Council was therefore established.

In setting up this body, the University Council recognised the three interests—staff, students and graduates. The Sports Association was brought into the Union, the Students' Representative Council was evolved to meet student interests and the relationship with graduates was made more definite. The idea, to use Professor McKellar Stewart's own words, was to make the Union "one family."

The University Council thus set up the Union Council as the body administering the funds of the Union. However, the Professor was careful to point out then, and later in the day at the W.S.R. meeting, that really the Union had no money—that

money was part of University funds administered by the Union Council. The University, in granting part of its funds to the Union Council gave that body a completely free hand to use the money as it saw fit—no specific purposes for its use were laid down.

The opinions and feelings of the students were raised throughout the discussion and given full consideration. Professor McKellar Stewart concluded by asking that we bring forward the changes which we desired and assured us that they would be considered through the usual channels. In effect, this means that they will come before the Union Council, who will refer them back to the three bodies comprising that Council, and then if agreed upon, will be referred to the University Council.

P. S. HETZEL,
President S.R.C.

Baby Chatter

(By M. Caridge)

The following are just two reasons why you're in the wrong 'Varsity.

We quote—
"In future the Refectory will be open for refreshments and gossip until 10 p.m., Monday to Thursday, inclusive."

Obviously, you say, it must be one of the larger Unis—if so, you're wrong—it was Perth.

Re your 8-guinea touch, and don't all jump the first train to Brisbane.

"Men Day Students, whose fees are paid by themselves (not by C.R.T.S.) and who do not play sport may obtain such refund by applying on forms available after July 21."

The Labor Club over in Perth is definitely progressive. After a Toscanini film, sponsored by them, had been shown, some inquisitive character asked what was the big idea of the Labor Club going high-brow; aforesaid character apparently being under impression that Labor Club types had no culture or interest in same. To continue the good work, they are presenting in the near future the 1812 Overture and Swan Lake Ballet excerpts.

I haven't noticed any such cultural displays being put on by the Socialist Club, have you?

Memories of a child—namely, John Child, who was sent down by Otago Uni. Council for his rash statements.

Point not heard before was that he lost his job as an Economics Lecturer and forfeited a scholarship, in addition to his treatment at hands of Uni. Council. Total cost value of these two being approximately £300.

Apparently, this financial aspect of Child's "sentence" was too much, even for the Otago Uni. Council, and they relented, allowing him to retain his two original scholarships. The only monetary loss now incurred by Childs is some £40, the remainder of the assistant lecturer's salary, and a potential £10 from marking fees. And all this bother because—"out of the mouth of Childs—"

Personal.—Who was that chap we saw at the Engineers' Ball wearing that immaculate dinner suit with a spot of mud on each elbow. Pullease!

—:o:
ODD

There is a type who won't believe in God
For reasons various but uniformly odd.

It never seems to come into his head
That though he asks for stones he still gets bread!

—B.P.

BRITAIN'S "ECONOMIC DUNKIRK"

THE DOLLAR SHORTAGE AND AUSTRALIA

ADDRESSING the Political and International Relations Club on Wednesday, July 23, on the subject "The Dollar and Us," Mr. Ramsay, B.Ec., said that the critical problem facing England and Australia for the next generation would be the dollar shortage.

During the war, Britain lost £6,000,000,000 in credits and, along with most of Europe, she now found herself a debtor to the U.S.A. Great difficulty was now being experienced in effecting a change-over to a peace-time economy. The two main causes of this difficulty were: (1) the concentration of industry during the war on essential war production (to a far greater extent than in U.S.A.); (2) the mechanical decadence of several important industries, e.g., steel, textiles and railways.

New machinery and tools were needed from the "hard" currency (dollar) areas, but unfortunately little was forthcoming. This tendency was intensified by rising food prices in U.S.A. which were absorbing far more of the American Loan than had been intended in the purchase of food. The crisis was rapidly approaching as the Loan would probably run out at the end of this year.

Mr. Ramsay considered that it would take approximately ten years to complete the re-establishment of British industry. In the meantime, despite increased production, England could only pay for 25 per cent. of the food and raw materials which she had to import from dollar areas. Without these she would starve. The speaker expressed the opinion that,

while such an extreme contingency would hardly be allowed to arise, there was a grave danger of a gradual lowering of Britain's standard of living.

This would have serious repercussions in Australia because Britain was our best market and formerly took 52 per cent. of our exports. A lowering of her living standards would mean a decreased demand for our wheat, wool, fruit and other exports.

In the past, Australia's trading accounts with U.S.A. had only been balanced by Britain's surplus dollar resources in Malayan rubber and tin. This had now disappeared, and Aus-

tralia was confronted with a shortage of dollars

It was difficult, Mr. Ramsay concluded, for an economist to see a solution to the "Economic Dunkirk" which Britain was now facing. Some plan must be forthcoming. A Dominion conference would be of material assistance.

In reply to questions, the speaker said that a recession could be avoided if U.S.A. faced up to the dollar shortage and made overseas loans quickly. The United States would have to learn to be a creditor nation gracefully and to let in large quantities of imports just as England had done in the past.

SOCIALISM AND LABOR

THE PROBLEM OF THE TRANSITION

THE Director of Public Relations, Department of Post-War Reconstruction (Dr. Lloyd Ross), addressed a well-attended meeting in the Lady Symon last week on the subject "Socialism and Labor."

Dr. Ross pointed out that in implementing its Socialist objective, the Labor Party was faced with the master problem of bridging the gap between the two lesser problems of the theory of Socialism and its organisation. It was necessary to remember that when the Labor Party was founded in 1891 it was a mass party, representing all the progressive political elements of its day.

While there was some ground for purist criticism of the Party, both the purists and Labor had failed to achieve the bridging of the gap between the Socialist theory and the Australian problem. Labor remained, however, the only mass expression of the Australian people. The Australian Labor Party's ability to win election after election, its stability and its power of recovery was prob-

ably unparalleled anywhere in the world.

In 1921, when the Party's objective had been changed from Nationalisation to Socialism, there had been a true realisation of the problems of the transition. The tragedy was that nothing was done.

Dr. Ross criticised the absence, inside Labor, of any urgent desire for Socialism. The party's objective was like a text which had been turned to the wall, despite the threat of depression in America. In England, Mr. Attlee was setting about the construction of a Socialist State, but in Australia there were no proposals to nationalise steel, coal or liquor. The new Commonwealth Bank was not enough.

It was an unfortunate fact, Dr. Ross concluded, that Labor seldom

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COMMERCE BALL REFECTORY

Friday, August 9

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planned ahead to solve its problems, but waited, instead, until it bumped up against them. The final test would be whether it could rally its forces, when the time came, to solve the problems which the next depression would produce. If Labor failed in this task no one else would succeed. There would only be further disintegration or victory for the Right.

AT LAST

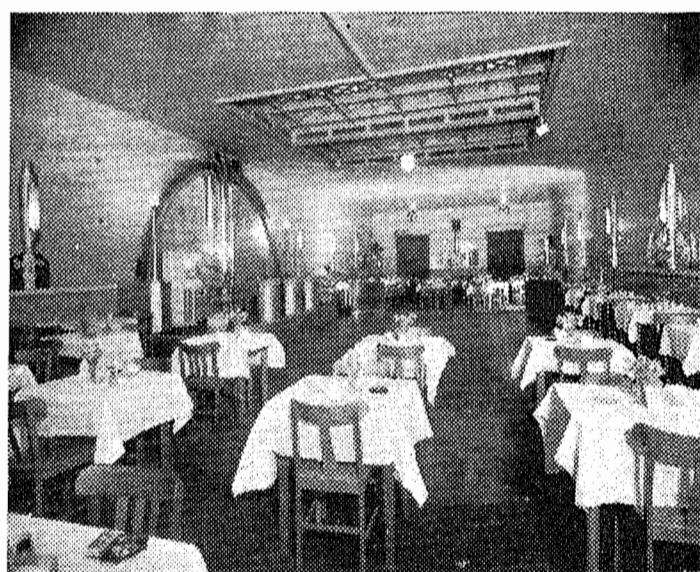
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In Memoriam

of the suggested suspension of "on dit" for publishing a student letter on union fees without notifying authorities, and the article on refectory conditions, for which the s.r.c. deemed an apology unnecessary.

of what this page might have contained if dignity did not prevail.

of your money which might have been devoted to "on dit" had not the s.r.c. donated it to sending john redrup to the prague conference of the international union of students (i.u.s.) after it became known that the national union of australian university students (n.u.a.u.s.) executive had already sent him overseas without adequate financial backing; australia already had two observers on the spot and had disaffiliated from i.u.s. for certain reasons.

It is unlikely that there will be any more issues of "on dit" this year.

With deep respect.—R.I.P.

KEN TREGONNING BITES THE DUST

SPORTS SHEET



FIERY RUGBY

Reversing the tables on a previous defeat, the A Rugby convincingly ran through West Torrens the other week on the Graduates' Oval. The aggressive visitors were held almost scoreless, making but one try.

Open back play was the reason. Always nice to watch, the back line functioned like inspired automans, feeding the ball assiduously to Jose and Carter, our two jet-propelled wingers. The game was by no means one-sided, and at one stage the bustling forward play of West Torrens had us strictly on the defensive. But good tackling stopped any break through.

Tim Wall played his last game before leaving for Cambridge. In his first season at rugby he has played at wing, inside centre and full-back with equal distinction. A very safe handler with a speedy pair of feet, possessor of a deceptive swerve and an accurate kick, he combines intelligence with muscle, and should go far in England.

Jose played an outstanding game on the wing, scoring four tries, while Forbes and Mellor handled particularly well.

The forwards still have that weakness in backing up. It's unfortunate that the backs are so good, for the forwards seem content to heel it out—and I'll give you they do that with consummate ability, sometimes, but never get out along the backline.

However, they weren't really needed, for we won, 25-3.

A BITTER DRAW

Last Saturday was our long awaited match against the premiers, Woodville, the cockiest lot of blokes you've ever met. It was a hard battle, with Varsity incessantly attacking, but never quite making it.

In the first half Woodville started off by scoring from a free. Hone immediately picked on the backs. They were awarded another free and scored again. Then the game

FOOTBALLERS FAIL ON SUCCESSIVE SATURDAYS

ON July 19, the University A team travelled down to the Largs Reserve Oval to play Exeter and fight out the right to stay in top position.

From the first bounce, Exeter raced away, and with accurate shooting for goal soon had a comfortable lead. They were playing brilliant non-stop football, and their control of the ball was uncanny. We were just not in the race, and at half-time they had a nice lead of eight goals.

However, remembering the last time we met, when they were seven goals in front at this stage, and won by only five points, we commenced the third quarter full of hope. At this stage the rucks struck form, and it looked as though we would make a game of it.

Robinson, having reached the hunched game mark, showed us how to start on another century, and with accurate knocking and anticipation cheered our hearts and increased our efforts. We outscored Exeter by three goals this quarter and by two points in the final term, and finished with two more scoring shots than our opponents, so although we were badly beaten, we fought it out to the finish.

A pity we could not kick straight. Dewar was unlucky in injuring a knee in the third quarter and had to retire, while White, playing in a new position on a wing showed delightful form. Abbott was again a pleasure to watch, while Welch can

see-sawed backwards and forwards, with the Woodville pack successfully blocking all runs by our wingers. They made good use of the sun, but Mofflin, that "runt with the grunt" marked well and stopped all rushes.

In the second half, the backline of each side eliminated the other, and the two tries scored by Varsity came from the forwards.

Hone was awarded a free kick just inside their twenty-five. He dug his heel in the turf, obviously preparatory to a place kick for goal. The Woodville sheep all turned and

be congratulated for his intelligent and vigorous play. Holmes and Davies also showed to advantage, Murray for his anticipation and clearing dashes, and Don for his tigerish efforts to raise both flags.

Scores: Exeter 17-7; University 11-15. Best players: Robinson, White, Abbott, Welch, Holmes, Davies.

On July 26 Varsity went to Walkerville very keen to safeguard the minor premiership. This small oval has been the site of the downfall of many a Varsity team.

Dewar and Abbott were out of the side through injury and were replaced by Sandover and Streng.

Varsity attacked strongly from the beginning. Our forward lines were functioning smoothly with Davies and O'Loughlin playing fast, clever football. Walkerville attacks were held up repeatedly by Brebner at half-back.

The second quarter was very even, but Walkerville seemed much more at home on the small oval. At half-time they led by 9 points. Sandover left the field with a groin injury and was replaced by Duffy.

In the third quarter Walkerville played good football, to lose this match meant "curtains" for their semi-final chances. Butterworth went off and

commenced walking back, whereupon Hone gave an ipsis-wipsy kick, caught it on the way down and brushed past the tricked Woodvillians to touch down. A very clever piece of work.

We were not getting the ball in the line-outs at all, but once Phoenix managed to grab it from a sluggish opponent and make the line a few yards away.

Final scores—Varsity 6, Woodville 6.

Best players—Mofflin, Hone, Phoenix, Forbes Botham.

was replaced by Bungey. At "lemons" we were three goals down and rearing for a last quarter dash.

In the first 15 minutes of the quarter we had whittled down Walkerville's lead to a few points, and the excitement on the field and on the mound became terrific. Our back lines were holding well, but our forwards had to battle for every kick with their opponents. Our forward lines were crowded, and many times the ball reached our goalmouth only to be forced away from under a heap of a dozen bodies. The bell went with Varsity 5 points down.

Robinson was the pick of the rucks, hitting out and marking strongly. He had the task of shadowing Bennetts which he did well. Brebner played another excellent game, and Woodward held his wing all day. Davies and O'Loughlin played clever football all day. Don has received a terrific amount of attention from opposing backmen, yet always wins on the day. Goode showed his old form at half-back by marking well and clearing with accurate kicks. Bungey must be mentioned for a good effort in defence when he came on in the last quarter.

Scores: Walkerville 14-17; Varsity 14-12.

AWARD OF BLUES

The following have been awarded their blue:—

Cricket—H. Douglas.
Tennis—G. Battye.
Athletics—J. Copley, A. Jose.
Rugby—W. Carter, J. Botham.
Golf—J. M. Griggs, D. Laidlaw, C. Wilson.
Boat—I. Furler, K. Magarey, J. Whitehouse.

The following were awarded their club letters:—

Rugby—R. Wallman, P. Lawton, T. Wall, C. Kneebone, J. Forbes, G. Nunn, J. Phoenix.
Cricket—L. Smart, G. Davies, R. Stagg.
Tennis—M. Astley, M. Bills, G. Brookman, H. Welch.
Athletics—P. Harbison, P. Brokensha.
Boat—R. Cooter, A. Curry, R. Moncrieff.

WOMEN'S SPORT

BASKETBALL

Early morning practices have improved the play of the University Women's "A" grade basketball team. On July 19, 'Varsity played the Postal Institute's team, and it was quite a battle—however, the Institute 27 goals to 22. Di Eldridge and tute team won by a narrow margin, Edith Kirkman were the stars in this match.

On July 26, it was a different story—the Ladyped team walked all over 'Varsity team, scoring 33 goals while 'Varsity managed to score only 8 goals. In "C" grade, Holdens accounted for 'Varsity 34 goals to 11.

HOCKEY

In hockey women's "A" team continues to win its matches. On July 19, they defeated Heathpool 2 goals to 1—Jo Kelly scored the 2 goals in fine style—one a very neat angled shot, and the second off a penalty bully with the Heathpool goalie—Viv Haslam.

Public Service and 'Varsity drew in the "C" grade match, 3 goals all, and the "B" grade team had a bye.

Attacking strongly from the first whistle, 'Varsity "A" team built up a lead of 4 goals to 1 by half time, in their match against Wirrawarra, on July 26. Wirrawarra, missing many opportunities, scored only one goal in the last half, while 'Varsity rattled on 5 more goals, and so substantiated their claim to the premiership. Monica Williams hit 4 goals in the match, Jo Kelly scored 3, Mary McTaggart and Muriel Fricker, one each. The "B" team lost to Brown Owls, 5 goals to 3, while the "C" team defeated Heathpool, 2 goals to 1. The "E" grade are continuing their winning run, defeating Y.W.C.A., 8 goals to 1.



The result of artificial insemination.

PARS AND JARS

It seems that the University is not the only place where students have grievances over excessive statutory fees. The present unrest in the University is also found in the Teachers' College. Normally college students pay £2/2/- to their association and a further £1/1/- to the University Union. Now a surcharge of 7/- per student is being forced from college members to pay the expenses of an interstate carnival between Melbourne and Adelaide in the final week of the term.

The power that students possess in the management of their affairs within this Union is manifested in a recent decision of your Students' Representative Council. It happened this way: Next month the International Union of Students (to which you belong) will be holding its annual Council meeting at Prague.



"Bob's Y'r Uncle." "Governor-General" or No Hope. The G.G.'s retinue et al in the triumphal march.

PROCESSION A SUCCESS

(Continued from Page 1)

imaginations to furnish amusement for all and sundry.

The graceful limbs of the Phys. Ed. girls, displayed from preselected positions of vantage on their float, succeeded in riveting undivided attention upon them for a suspiciously long time. Numerous other truck-loads of feminine pulchritude, interspersed at regular intervals along the route, created timely diversions; these emanated chiefly from Physiotherapy and Theatre Guild enthusiasts. Occasional glimpses were caught also of a fast-moving tandem bearing the pious legend, "The Lost Week-end," (plus empty accessories!).

Commerce students threw mathematicians into confusion with their remarkable phenomenon, on top of a 10 ft. gas pipe, "The Self-balancing Ledger."

Radio fans of "Dr. Mac" were provided with an opportunity to express their admiration when a canny Scotsman in full regalia hobbled along on an elderly draught horse, labelled beyond any ambiguity, "Aye! It's Me!" Students carried a bag behind the horse as they were not permitted to distribute matter.

The "On Dit" float (in all modesty) displayed the pungent wit of its staff in various degrees of splendor, not the least of which was evinced in a simple, but effective, display of femininity under the caption of "Printers' Type!"

A score or so of decrepit and dilapidated, pre-war conveyances (complete with sound effects!) added tone and distinction to the procession, and created as much general laughter as the more spectacular exhibits.

When finer subtleties evaded their profound intellects, students degenerated to the traditional forms of refined crudities, such as "Souvenirs of Bernborough—6d. a oag!" "This Year's Fun on Wheels," "Last Year's Fun on Wheels," "For That Easy Motion," etc., mostly too pornographic to sneak past the censor; but all added to the atmosphere of youthful exuberance that made the whole show such an unqualified success.

Bringing up the rear, with dignity of bearing as befitting one of such exalted rank, "General Ironmongery" "took off" Monty so effectively as to warrant headlines in our local papers.



The Police Force are to be thanked for their co-operation throughout. To them the knowledge that a University procession is held but once a year is a thought which at times they must find highly gratifying.

The conveners, Brian Claridge and Len Perkins, did a magnificent job in this revival of the Varsity's ancient glory. The only two items missing now are a student revue and student life.

B RUGBY

The B Grade have not quite come up to the great things expected of them. It is still hoped to have two A Grade teams by the end of the year. To do that our B team must defeat the bottom A Grade team, and that is beyond them at present. Something is wrong in the backline. In my opinion the players are in the wrong positions. Birdseye needs a change, and would make a good inner-centre. Cleland is as tight as a fish at five-eighth, and should go half. Still anything is possible with men like Dougherty and Merrity in the team.



Getting ready for Smith's Weekly Wash.

INTERVARSITY SOCCER

It seems almost certain now that intervarsity soccer will be held in Adelaide during the August vacation, and that Sydney and Melbourne will both visit Adelaide. Games will be held on August 26, 27 and 28.

'Varsity Men in Amateur League.

Six 'Varsity students played in the trial match on Saturday for the State Amateur League team. They were Alex Tregonning (centre), Derek Abbott (half-back), "Chud" Dewar (full-back), Don Davies (half-forward), "Og" Woodward (wing) and Don Brebner (ruck).

Jack Redrup, Vice-President of the National Union of Australian University Students has been sent to represent us, and each Australian S.R.C. has contributed to his travelling expenses — approximately £400. Adelaide decided to give £50, but met a snag. The Union Council will not permit the S.R.C. to pay such travelling expenses from your Union fees. There is, however, a special fund of the Union Council for students who cannot afford to pay fares for Inter-varsity travel. So, while the £3,245 "profit" which the Union gained on last year's Union fees remains idle, support the S.R.C. dance to raise the meagre sum of £30.

All those students who might feel that the Adelaide University was a classic example of autonomy should have heard the talk on Austrian Universities given by Dr. Eva Texler at an Aquinas Society meeting on Friday, July 25, in the Lady Symon Hall.

There were many other points, however, that more than compensated for this, including the fact that

Students Can Attend Lectures as They Please

Despite the fact that an Austrian University was so completely autonomous that the private lives of individuals could be subjected to inspection and control, and police not permitted to enter the University to exercise their civil powers, there appear to be a great many advantages which would allow Australian students more freedom than they might exercise in their own Universities.

There were usually three lecturers in each subject. The student was permitted to attend any lecture he pleased. If there were two students besides himself, the lecturer was obliged to continue. If the student did not feel the lectures were worthwhile they need not attend. The lecturers were engaged in continuous research work and so were employed in spite of student reaction.

VIVA EXAMS ONLY

Students did not need textbook study to pass an exam., since lecturers were usually of a very high standard and lecture notes were sufficient.

Lecturers could lecture for hours without reference to book or notes. They were men of great practical experience, the minimum age for their selection being 45, and the maximum 70. They were paid by the Government and were engaged in research.

In all faculties except philosophy which is equivalent to our Arts, there were only viva and no written exams. Nevertheless, the exams. required a thorough knowledge to pass, and whilst individual, were much more comprehensive.

NO STUDENT BODY OR FEE

There was no combined student organisation like our S.R.C., but the absence was never noticed (and probably it would be likewise in Adelaide, too, if there were no S.R.C.). Again, there was no other fee than that required for the subjects

—no Union fee. It is believed Austrian Universities are still functioning.

Not only that, all instruments are provided by the Government.

Not being a community body, in the Australian sense, there is no universal 'Varsity paper: there are, however, separate youth and political organisations to watch the students' interests.

NO SAT. MORNING LECTURES

Political feeling, though mainly nationalistic and cultural with the tendency to the Right, was high, as the pre-requisite to most governmental positions was a degree. Hence political parties sent their members to Universities.

There were no Saturday morning lectures, and students promenaded the wide boulevards in social intercourse. Clashes occasionally occurred between rival political factions. (There is no fear of this occurring here, as the students, in general, suffer from apathy.)

In Austria, there are three classes. The upper class, which consists of the nobility and those made famous by philanthropy or scientific work, all having nothing in common with money alone; the middle class consists of professional men, doctors, etc., mainly those people with degrees; the others constitute the hoi polloi.

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, August 12.—Bishop Wyn Jones, 7.30 p.m., Lady Symon Hall, supper.

August 15-17.—End of Term Conference. "Christian Responsibility."

All clubs and societies who have coming events they wish to publicise, are invited to tender them on the Friday week preceding publication, if we are permitted another issue.

A PLAN

There is a splendid zeal and enthusiasm in our Socialist Club, which is rightly directed towards the amelioration of conditions for the working class in every country.

They scorn to compromise, and in the face of the American economic philosophy, so subtly embodied in the national song "To each his own," they hold their noble dogma, that all should share equally in the wealth of the land. Not for them the chains of personal property, the degrading effect of individual responsibility, the soul-destroying doctrines of patriotism that alone keep the workers of the world from complete mutual accord.

The only fault to be found in the Socialists is that they are, perhaps, a little insular. It is selfish to devote all their efforts to the land of their birth when in Europe, the home of Liberty, there exist conditions that cry out for justice.

There is a State where not only the old financial distinctions, but even a new tyranny prevails. The upper classes in this State enjoy preference in money, but far worse if possible, they even receive more than their share of the basic necessities, food and clothing.

The State will permit no individual to exploit his fellows in the black market, and this is avoided by the simple expedient of the State running the black market. Socialists will be the first to protest at the injustice whereby the rich may eat as they wish while the poor are confined to strict rations at prices they can barely afford.

This is a military State, in which the influence of the army, rigid with that discipline which destroys fraternity and embellished with all the insignia and traditions of generations Imperial armies, is second only to that of a form of Gestapo.

It is hard to imagine what might be the impact of a band of our Socialists with their creed of equality and fraternity on this police State. They would find it hard to get into touch with people, as a rigid censorship protects the interests of the Government, if not of the people. Any infringement of this censorship may easily lead to the bleak concentration camps. But

DO YOU EAT OYSTERS?

If you enjoy airy theological bickering, the coming S.C.M. end-of-term conference will be a good one to stay away from. But if you realise that:

- (a) the world is, to say the least, messy;
 - (b) being fortunate enough to be in a University, we might condescend to study some of the problems the world faces;
 - (c) there are some maniacs who insist that Christianity is relevant to these things.
- then you should take some holding back.

It's the first week-end of the vac., August 15-17, at Holiday House, Mt. Lofty. Five tutorial groups will discuss different aspects of "Christian Responsibility"—you choose the one you want to go to. One tackles Christian responsibility as it affects his relation with God; another as it affects his relations with fellow-men; a third as it affects relations between races; another, relations between classes in society; another, relations between nations.

Three tutorial sessions will each be followed by a study circle during which there will be ample opportunities to tear into anything with which you disagree. Continual emphasis will be laid on the here-now practical application of the problem—we will be asking, how does it affect YOU!

If you've missed out on conferences so far, shut your eyes and make the plunge. There will be plenty of food for thought (and you might even enjoy yourself).

Watch notice boards for further details of tutorials, etc.

N.B. August 12.—Lady Symon at 7.30 p.m. Bishop Wyn Jones, sponsored by Missionary Service Fellowship. Supper.

Socialists have always numbered many martyrs in their ranks, and they could not die better than in defence of this great nation against its oppressors.

All that is needed is their unconquerable zeal and a slight knowledge of Russian.

B.F.

STATEMENT

To the Editor,
Sir,—We request you to publish the following:—

On June 26 the petition protesting against Refectory conditions was received by the President of the S.R.C. and referred to the Union House Committee. At a special meet-

ing on Wednesday, July 9, this committee considered the matters raised in the petition and prepared a statement for the information of students. The Chairman of the Union House Committee (Prof. Sanders), Dr. A. Grenfell Price and Mr. Hamilton, met the S.R.C. on Monday July 14, and presented this statement. Following the discussion, the S.R.C. accepted it and resolved that it be published in "On Dit" as soon as possible. At short notice, the Editor was able to make space available in the forthcoming issue, but owing to drafting difficulties, the full statement was not received in time.

In the issue of "On Dit," dated Monday, July 21, there appeared an article, "Storm in a (Chipped) Teacup." This article was not a statement of S.R.C. opinion on Refectory conditions, which opinion is expressed in the Union House Committee statement (see page 1).

The Chairman of the Union Council (Prof. Campbell), and Prof. Sanders met the S.R.C. executive on Friday, July 25, to inform them of the grave situation which had arisen as a result of the publication of the article. The managers and staff of the Refectory wished to resign, but were persuaded to defer their decision pending S.R.C. action.

On the following Monday (July 28) the matter was considered by the S.R.C., the majority of whom felt that the S.R.C. could take no responsibility for the article or for the resulting situation.

As three of the members of the S.R.C. executive, we considered that the S.R.C. was responsible. Whatever the intention of the article, its results are most regrettable. Though the S.R.C. sees no reason to, we apologise to Mr. and Mrs. Clyde and staff for the situation in which they were placed. At the same time, we have tendered our resignations from the executive positions which we hold.

P. S. HETZEL, President S.R.C.
B. P. KIDMAN, Vice-President S.R.C.
R. B. POTTS, Treasurer.

(It is felt by some S.R.C. members and students that the concluding paragraph implies lack of confidence in the S.R.C., and implies bad manners on the part of the S.R.C.)

It is felt that it is not very commendable to go through the form of a resignation to go against the majority opinion and wish of the S.R.C.

A better knowledge of the meaning of the word "refectory" was expected from persons of executive position.—EDITOR.)



"Calwell's Chicks—Wogs Galore."

—(Block by courtesy "Advertiser.")

YOUR FREEDOM OF SPEECH

"WHY SHOULDN'T SPEECH BE FREE? VERY LITTLE OF IT IS WORTH ANYTHING."

NEUTER GENDER!

To the Editor,
"On Dit,"

Sir,—It is my firm conviction that it is high time that the Students' Representative Council woke up to itself, and resigned en masse. For the amount of useful work they can do or have done or are ever likely to do, and in view of the immense, tragic indifference of students to this body and their own affairs, I feel, quite seriously, that the S.R.C. represents a colossal waste of time, money, and energy. Further it does not represent the students.

I have been present at some of their meetings this year, and also I have sat on the S.R.C.'s ancestral bodies, the Union Committee and the Combined Students' Committee in past years, and I am convinced as have been other students with inside knowledge of the working of so-called student autonomy, that such a thing is actually non-existent. It is futile to continue to pretend that S.R.C.s are going to do the slightest bit of good for themselves or anybody else by continuing with their farcical Gilbertian rantings over issues (primarily of their own invention) upon which their electors have not the slightest knowledge or interest, and upon which their own opinions are vague and uncertain.

The utter sham that surrounds student autonomy is becoming more and more evident.

As for N.U.A.U.S.—for all it has done, or is likely to do, I believe now that a competent liaison officer, appointed in each University, could amply replace this cumbersome, costly and divided organisation, and, more than likely, no one would be any the wiser.

Yours, etc., BRIAN CLARIDGE.

P.S. It may be claimed that this letter contains no constructive criticism. It is full of constructive criticism!

B.C.

"BO JEST!"

To the Editor,

Sir,—At a conference held early in the year, the Christianising of the University was discussed as a vital necessity. This is not a radical but, in the true sense, a conservative aim.

The idea that those who do not practise the Christian religion should be excluded was never mentioned, was never conceived except in the imagination of "Bo."

A University of Christians depends upon the grace of God; what Christians should do to bring it about is, firstly, to pray for that grace, secondly, so to live that the force of Christ's teaching is visible in their lives and, lastly, so to equip themselves intellectually that they may defend and extend the fullness of Christ's teaching.

Belief in all-merciful God does not permit the condemnation which "Bo" imparts to doctrine. The doctrine which is discomfiting is that it is man's duty to seek the truth, and to pray for it. It is too easy to discontinue the search when it reaches such a haven of woolly notions as "Bo" seems to have found. His search has just begun. It is his duty to examine the arguments for Christianity as well as those against.

Rayner Heppenstall, "not himself a practising Christian," says "There is a sense in which every European is a practising Christian . . . The modern world has not yet found a new centre for itself. Until it does this is still a Christo-centric world, and Europe is Christendom. In that sense . . . I am very much a practising Christian."

So is "Bo," and most Christian when he defends the liberty of his mind.

Yours sincerely,
F. B. POWER.

HUMAN RIGHTS

To the Editor,

Sir,—With due respect to your newly acquired "poetic licentiousness" may I be forgiven for commenting on a little matter of human rights and liberties, unimportant though they may be in this "American Century"? However, owing to a conditioned reflex, due to my surroundings, I find pen and paper protesting.

The cause of all this is the proposed importation of the latest gad-

get from America; namely the Anti-Labor Legislation. Like most gadgets it serves some purpose, although it is doubtful if this one is in any way labor-saving.

As no mention was made of its undoubted appearance during the dull election campaign, it must be put down to an oversight on the Playboy's part. This is extremely unfortunate, as it would have whooped things up no end, and Tom can blame himself if the victory seemed a bit hollow. What is more important in this proposal is its obvious dovetailing with the questionable foreign industrialisation of this State. Oh! How it must be reassuring to American Big Business

to know that the status quo won't be so different out here after all.

Words aren't necessary to say that this is an attack on the Trade Union Movement (how strange this is for a progressive Government). How-

LETTER OF THE WEEK

To the Editor,
"On Dit,"

Sir,—This letter is not written as from a member of your staff, but merely as from an outside observer.

"On Dit," in its role of presenting student opinion, has come under considerable disfavor from the powers-that-be, and, I believe, this issue has appeared only by the skin of its teeth.

Your persistence in keeping before the students and the public, the anomalies that exist in our administration set-up is to be commended, and must be continued until statements from the authorities on these matters appear.

The present opinions of thinking students cannot be ignored, and it is useless for the authorities to say that they have not had the opportunity to reply, for the issues in question are far from new. The complaints over the Refectory conditions, for instance, have been before us ever since I sat (in bewilderment) on the Union Committee in 1945, and probably before that, too. Yet what information has been forthcoming from the University authorities on this? Careful searching through "On Dit" files show that, previous to the S.R.C. statement in your last issue, the last authorised statement on Refectory conditions was published in "On Dit" on September 25, 1944—and things haven't improved since then! Three years of silence have not helped matters.

Further, it is now a month since the special S.R.C. protest meeting was held when distinct dissatisfaction was voiced, and over a year since the then-existing Union set-up was overthrown midst a storm of protest and queries that have never been answered. What became of the resolutions passed on June 26 of this year? What word have we heard on this?

Surely the authorities do not have to wait for an invitation from you, sir, before they prepare statements for publication on these pertinent questions!

Admittedly, some students are hot-headed, and may not go about asking questions in an orthodox manner—(or, maybe they feel that orthodoxy is useless, now)—but their persistence over the past year or so must surely show that something is amiss somewhere.

I sincerely feel that our governing bodies should drop some of their conservatism, and volunteer answers to our questions, in fairness to themselves, and the students, and the public.

Meanwhile, sir, perhaps "On Dit" can keep these urgent topics alive, being the only instrument students have to make their feelings known.

Yours, etc.,
BRIAN CLARIDGE.

ever, if Australians are to be permitted the right to point to their living standards with any pride at all, this retrogressive legislation must be stillborn.

Let me conclude by saying that Playford would "go over big" in America except that there they might miss some of his subtler moves. Unfortunately, the pawns would remain the same.

Yours, etc.,
JOE HILL.

REFECTORY CONDITIONS REPORT (cont.)

gimming of 1938 when the kitchen and servery accommodation was increased. In that year, the total number of customers served per day was about 520, and this number included about 50 who came for an evening meal (a service which was discontinued during the war). Only about two-thirds of the seating space was occupied at lunch-time when the number served between noon and 1.30 p.m. was 200-250. The following table shows the average number of customers per day since then:

1940	640
1942	600
1944	770
1945	900
1946	1,220
1947	1,530

This year, the number served between 12 and 1.30 would be about 1,000.

At the end of 1943, the pressure on kitchen and servery was becoming severe and was relieved somewhat by alterations to both, by the installation of a dish-washing machine in the scullery, and by the conversion of the manager's living room on the ground floor into a chef's kitchen.

Until this year (1947) all food preparation (sandwiches, rolls, salads, etc.) has been carried out in a badly lighted and badly ventilated room about 10 ft. x 7 ft. that was originally the passage in the manager's residential quarters and is awkwardly placed with respect to the servery, and inefficient. Much of the kitchen equipment is still of the domestic size and pattern.

In 1944, the total kitchen and servery accommodation was barely sufficient to meet the needs of about 770 customers per day; it is obvious that it is completely unable to meet the requirements of double that number. The utmost has been done already with the existing buildings to meet the calls on the Refectory. No further improvement is practicable until the present kitchens and servery can be entirely replaced by modern efficient quarters that should be properly planned and equipped. With this in view, the committee have had plans under discussion for some time. It is, however, extremely unlikely that a permit to build could be obtained just now, and the architect's estimate of the cost of a moderate extension is completely beyond the present means of the Union.

With regard to the specific complaints: crockery has been difficult to get and very expensive. Out of the last order for 1 gross of mugs we succeeded, after delay, in getting 20 at a cost of nearly 2/- each. A few days ago, we received a quotation of 3/6 each for an inferior article. Breakages number from 1 dozen to 2 dozen mugs per week,

largely the result of crockery being left out in the cloisters. In 1946, 12 dozen knives were purchased at 23/- per dozen; the present price is 60/9 per dozen. The "mis-shapen articles" among the cutlery are the results of students' activities. In addition to vandalism of this kind, stealing of Refectory property has been taking place on a scale that is without precedent. Since March of this year, 50 teaspoons out of a total of 300 have disappeared; since August, 1946, 130 table forks out of a total of 470 have gone, 80 dessert forks (40 since March, 1947), and so on, while soap, towels, toilet paper and electric light globes have disappeared from the lavatories at a similar rate.

The servery is closed for a quarter of an hour daily, from 11.30 to 11.45 a.m., to enable the staff to prepare for the heavy traffic at lunch-time. This practice imposes hardship on nobody, and the protest against it is unreasonable in the present circumstances.

The statement "prices placed on many small and simple items . . . are often ridiculously high" is entirely without foundation.

The trading account for the year 1946 is displayed on the Union notice-board. This shows a gross profit (not net profit) for the year of £169 from which should be deducted the cost of replacements incurred through breakages and theft which are debited to the House Account. A reduction of 4d. per pint in the price of milk to students would, for example, wipe out this gross profit. In previous years, prices have been lowered as soon as the Refectory trading account showed a substantial profit.

In former years, no dances continued after midnight on Saturday. If the dances were held on a week night the Refectory would have to be closed in the afternoon. This would impose hardship on a number of students, particularly those who attend evening classes.

It is apparent from the petition that many students are completely unaware of the serious difficulties under which the Refectory has been working for some years. Power cuts, rationing, and shortages of staff and equipment have added to the difficulties created by the huge increase in numbers, and by the inadequacy and inefficiency of existing plant and accommodation. Last year, a number of women students helped as waitresses and such. Students could greatly assist, e.g., by carrying out the rules about the return of trays, etc., by showing courtesy to the domestic staff (maids have resigned because of alleged student rudeness), and by confining complaints to the proper official channels, i.e., to the S.R.C. or the Union Secretary. Co-operation on the part of students would help appreciably.

The committee are aware of, and sympathetic towards, the disabilities suffered by students in the Refectory, as elsewhere, and have taken every possible step to improve conditions. The possibility of importing crockery, etc., direct from England, is being investigated.

For some time now, a sub-committee has been working on plans for extending the kitchen quarters, servery, and seating accommodation in the Refectory. It soon became apparent that these plans should be considered as part of a larger long-range scheme in which extensive additions to the Union buildings were anticipated, including committee rooms, clubrooms, a general assembly hall to seat 400-500, and so on. Although many serious difficulties have been encountered in this work, considerable progress has been made, and the committee hope to be able to begin these extensions shortly with the erection of a kitchen and servery block that should be properly planned and equipped. This would dispose of many of the existing difficulties.

The whole situation is once again being brought before the notice of the University Council.