



The S.R.C. presents
the 1951
COMMENCEMENT
— BALL —
Refectory
8 p.m., Saturday
March 31



Adelaide, Monday, March 5, 1951.
Vol. 19, No. 1. One Penny.

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WOMEN EVICT SCM AND LIBS

TALK BY PROF. MANSERGH

Professor Nicolas Mansergh, O.B.E., B.Litt., M.A., D.Phil., will address students in the George Murray Hall at 1.20 p.m., on Friday, March 16. This will be the first of this year's addresses by prominent visitors, sponsored under the new S.R.C. plan for more and better lunch-hour activities.

Professor Mansergh, who is visiting Australia at the invitation of the Australian National University, Canberra, has been Abe Bailey Research Professor of British Commonwealth Affairs for the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House, London, since 1947. Born in Ireland in 1910, he was educated at St. Columba's College, Dublin and Pembroke College, Oxford. From 1935 to 1940 he was secretary of Oxford University Politics Research Group and Tutor in Politics, Pembroke College. From 1941 to 1946 he served in the Empire Division of the Ministry of Information, of which he was Director from 1944 to 1946. From 1946 to 1947 he was Assistant Secretary of the Dominions Office.

He was temporarily attached to the Office of the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada in 1944 and in South Africa in 1945, when he also visited Southern Rhodesia and East Africa. He was United Kingdom observer at the Inter-Asian Conference, New Delhi in 1947, a delegate to the Tenth Institute of Pacific Relations Conference, 1947, and to the Fourth British Commonwealth Relations Conference, Ontario, 1949.

His publications include "The Irish Free State, Its Government and Politics," 1934; "Advisory Bodies" (Joint Editor), 1940; "Ireland in the Age of Reform and Revolution," 1940; "Britain and Ireland" (Fourth Impression, 1948); "The Commonwealth and the Nations," 1948; "The Coming of the First World War," 1949; also articles and broadcasts on Commonwealth Affairs.

Prof. Mansergh will also address the Staff Association, Political Science, Law and History students as well as the members of the residential colleges. At 8 p.m. on Friday, he will deliver a public lecture in the Institute Building, North Terrace on "The British Commonwealth and the Contemporary World."

"BLACKMAIL," SAYS WOMEN'S SEC.

The 1951 academic year begins with the biggest fight of the decade. The Women's Union has challenged the Liberal Union and S.C.M. in a duel to the death. (Whose in the red corner we don't know). The Women's Union Committee has decided to evict the S.C.M. and the Liberal Union from the offices occupied by these bodies in the Lady Symon Building for the past three years.

The W.U. Secretary (Miss Noel Ross), has accused Liberal President (Ian Marshman) of blackmail tactics, and Marshman has replied by circulating a petition for a Special General Meeting of students to consider the matter. This meeting will probably be held on Monday, March 19.

The reasons given for this action are that the late Sir Josiah Symon's Will provided that no men shall be allowed in the upstairs portion of the building. Although a previous committee had granted the use of these rooms to the S.C.M. and the Liberal Union because of lack of space elsewhere the President of the S.R.C., Graham Gibbs, says there is now room in the George Murray Building. The two clubs, and particularly the S.C.M., had not kept their rooms in a tidy state.

Miss Petrea Fromen, President of the Women's Union said

today: "Bearing in mind the fact that the Lady Symon Building is better furnished, and in better condition than the George Murray—and administered by a committee of women for the use of women students only (according to the Will), I can see no basis for complaint by Messrs. Scott and Schumann that the Women's Union Committee is victimising the Liberal Union. The clubs and societies which have been asked to leave the Lady Symon study-rooms should be able to find space in the rooms in the George Murray Building which are allocated for clubs and societies in general.

TREACHERY?

"Admittedly, the S.C.M. and the Liberal Union are Conservative, and would probably be far more comfortably occupying the Lady Symon study room than sharing an office in the George Murray—but the Women's Union members are conservative on occasion, and would certainly be far more comfortable in their own building without outside clubs and societies making offices of their study-rooms—an innovation of three years standing at the most, and which has resulted in a shambles (in those rooms), almost equalling that of the George Murray."

"The W.U.C. is not a political body, and indeed most of the Committee members have been (up to date) members of either the S.C.M. or the Liberal Union—a situation which I am told may even result in victimisation by the victims of the evictors." I can only add, with the Jubilee Year looming ahead—Gentlemen, are you in favor of votes for women?"

Messrs. Scott and Schumann emphatically deny that they complained. As Editors of "On Dit" they are only interested in pouring oil on the flames.

Ian Marshman, President of the Liberal Union, when he had calmed down sufficiently said a few words: "The action by the Women's Union Committee is an exhibition of pure megalomania on the part of an insignificant organisation, which has no power or authority in the eyes of the rest of the University—except the power of annoyance. The Women's Union is an anomalous excrescence on student organisations which has no proper place in a University except by virtue of an outmoded and outworn constitution. This action on the part of the Women's Union is merely the assertion of a dead authority by a useless and incompetent organisation.

"I am also shocked to know that this decision was unanimously carried by a committee, of which a number of the members are also members of the Liberal Union. The only parallel example of such action of which I have heard was the action of a certain Norwegian whose name starts with Q."

Miss Noel Ross, former member of the Liberal Union Committee and secretary of the Women's Union alleged that the President of the Liberal Union had attempted to coerce W.U. Committee members into defeating the proposal. Said Miss Ross: "Before the committee meeting, Mr. Marshman, adopting pressure group tactics, threatened W.U. Committee members, who are also members of the Liberal Union with expulsion from the Liberal Union and unfavorable publicity in 'Liberal Opinion'."

The official spokesman for the S.C.M., Frank Greet, denied the allegations of untidiness. "In fact," he said, "the S.C.M. room is generally the tidiest in the building." The Women's Union

Our Sturt Expedition



—'News' Photo.

Refectory Prices

Manager Explains

Prices for food items in the Union Refectory will be noticeably higher in 1951 owing to recent wage increases. The policy of the Union Council is, however, to maintain prices at a level which will enable the Refectory "to break even" and still provide students with reasonably priced meals.

Interviewed last week, popular Refectory Manager, Mr. McCubbin, gave us the following figures:—

"As a result of the Arbitration Court's judgment of last year, it is inevitable that Refectory prices should be increased. This judgment granted a basic wage increase of £1 per week, but more significantly in the case of the Refectory, the female rate of pay is now fixed at 75 per cent. of the male rate. With this month's quarterly adjustment granting a further increase

of 6/., the Refectory wage commitment is, at the moment, exactly 70 per cent. higher than at this time last year.

In addition to this factor, but of course for the same reason, food costs have also risen considerably. It should be noted that during the whole of 1950, Refectory price increases were few, and of a moderate nature. Pies and pasties were increased as a result of higher cost price, as also were sandwiches, 3½d. to 4d., and tea and coffee, 2d. to 3d. During this time there were constant increases in food costs, and the wage rate increased by 27 per cent., not including the considerable increase aforementioned.

Committee is using this as a flimsy excuse to cover a gross abuse of power."

He went on to ask: "Why should the Men's Union be expected to provide accommodation for all clubs and societies when, in many of them, women are equally prominent?"

A close survey of the three main city cafeterias showed that their prices were higher by 20 per cent., 32 per cent., and 48 per cent.

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ON DIT

Published by the Adelaide University Students' Representative Council.

Volume 19. MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1951. No. 1.

Editor: ERIC SCHUMANN. Asst. Editor: JEFF SCOTT

A Slab of Slush . . .

As another year commences in the cloistered sunshine of academic seclusion, and another volume of "On Dit" unfolds itself before the expectant eyes of the eager, innocent sleep-walkers in this happy dreamland, we state our policy in time-honored fashion.

We see the function of this student paper as a journal of student activity, a forum for student opinion in all its munificent heterogeneity and a medium for student writing, criticism and poetry in all its heterogeneous munificence.

Of politics we shall have none. We shall take on the cloak of "The Fair Play Paper" in this noble necropolis. As private citizens we have (at least Schumann has) our own political beliefs, but as editors we see our role as the impartial chroniclers of passing events and opinions—ours not to reason why. We are the first Immaterialists—we prefer to await Death in Comfort.

To those of you who are young and have ideals we open wide the pages of this paper. To those of you who, having lived too long within our walls and without, have come upon the contenting autumn glow of sceptical cynicism, we give you the paper to do what you will with it.

"There have been so many gods that now there are none. When the One God made a monopoly of it he wore us out, so now we are godless and unbelieving."

From you all we invite your pearls for scattering in the customary direction. One condition, however, we do impose, that you should recognise and observe the Common Law and Statutes relating to Libel. We prefer our Power With Glory. Finally let us warn:

"Walk warily, walk warily, be careful what you say: because now the Sunderers are hovering round, the Dividers are close upon us, dogging our every breath and watching our every step and beating their great wings in our panting faces."

SCHUMANN assisted by SCOTT.

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1951 S.R.C.

Debates

Debut

In the Handbook, which all Freshers should have received by now, you will find a section devoted to the Students' Representative Council. This is a mysterious body which never does anything, and when they do it's all wrong, as you will undoubtedly be told.

It will not be necessary to enlarge here on its excellencies as you will already have read the Handbook from cover to cover. However, the purpose of this little article is to acquaint you with names of the members. If you have any complaints or problems you should contact one of the undermentioned persons. If you don't know them yet you soon will, and in the meantime there will always be someone who will identify them if you really want to meet these august personalities:—

- President: Graham Gibbs
- Vice-President: Robin Ashwin
- Secretary: Helen Northey
- Treasurer: David Penny
- Ag. Science: D. Chant
- Arts: C. R. Ashwin, J. David
- Commerce: J. Rundle
- Economics, Phys. Ed., Music: G. Gibbs
- Dentistry: W. F. Hollis
- Engineering: L. Mallen, R. Woodart
- Law: G. Woodard
- Medicine: L. Caust, G. Sreenevasan

- Pharmacy and Optometry: L. Lever
- Physiotherapy: Miss C. Boyce
- Science: H. W. Brett, Miss H. Northey
- Social Science: Miss K. Pope
- Men's General: J. O'Connell, J. S. I. Cox, D. Penny, E. Schumann
- Women's General: Miss J. Fisher, Miss P. Fromen, Miss Barbara Kidman, Miss P. McNeil
- Teachers' College Rep.: F. Boord
- Immediate Past President: J. F. Scott

The shadows on the lawns are violet and the stars wash the spaces of the sky with primrose and with crimson. The night is old yet. Let me be brilliant, dear boy, or I feel that I shall weep for sheer wittiness, and die, as so many have died, with all my epigrams within me . . . I shall stand up all night for you, Jeffrey, saying mad scarlet things such as the undergraduates love and breathing plashy aphorisms with a faint smell of patchouli about them . . .

Thus, Roger Opie, outstanding University graduate and lecturer to brazen Apollo de Guise of Scott when speaking of the first meeting of the Debating Club, which is to be held in the Lady Symon Hall at 8 p.m., on Wednesday, March 7.

The subject of this, the first official debate of the reformed debating organisation, is one which will provide such opportunities for profoundly tragicomic brilliance as have been ever eagerly sought after by the sparkling rhetoricians who will fight the controversy to a delectable finish. "That the Commonwealth Jubilee ought to be celebrated by a Day of National Mourning." What sweet depths of bitterness lie therein for the sounding! What delicate sarcasm, what measured vituperation, what Wilde-like witticisms!

And what an army of mail-clad veterans have assembled to do such a topic worthy wordy battle. Before Club President, Professor Blackburn, who will be in the Chair, and (it is hoped), a full house of freshers and other graduates and undergraduates, all of whom are eligible to join the club, and to participate in future debates both from the floor and from the body of the house, Mr. Robin Millhouse, Club Secretary and Law Student, will lead an affirmative team consisting of Mr. Roger Opie and Mr. John West, against a mountainous opposition led by Mr. Herbert Piper, Reader in English, who, as Horatio, supported on the left by Phoebus Apollo and on the right by Mr. Bob Reid, will find more things in heaven and earth to defend than will be dreamed of in the Millhouseian philosophy.

'ON DIT' NEEDS NEW STAFF

History repeats itself. As in 1949 the first issue of "On Dit" is on the streets, and no applications have been received for the important positions of News Editor, Magazine Editor and Sports Editor. There are vacancies for dozens of reporters.

With the assistance of a sufficient number of people it should be possible to aim for the high standard set by Wahlquist in 1949 and Scott in 1950. There will be a meeting in the S.R.C. Office on Wednesday, March 7, at 1.20 p.m. Anybody who is willing to help in any way is asked to come.

SECONDHAND BOOKS

The W.E.A. Bookroom, on the western drive of the University, runs a secondhand book service for students. Books are accepted on a sale or return basis. The usual procedure is to price books at two-thirds of their value when new. A commission of fifteen per cent. is deducted, and the balance paid to the student.

WEIGHTS FOR SALE.—Stainless Steel Analytical Weights, including 100 grm. weight.—Apply Blight, Physics Dept.

NEXT ISSUE FEATURES

Our next issue will be on the streets at 12 noon, Monday, March 19 and in the gutters half an hour later. All contributions should reach the Editors by 2 p.m. next Monday. They may be deposited in the "On Dit" box outside the S.R.C. Office. The following outstanding features will be included:—

- Noel Ross Exposes the Black Mail Quartet.
- "Why I Fight," by Alan Kennedy.
- Another Slab of Slush.
- "Those I Fight," by Alan Kennedy.
- "How I Fight," by Alan Kennedy.
- "Rhodes Scholars I Have Known," by the Dark Lady.
- "Shares We Recommend," by Jeff Scott.
- "Horses Worth Watching," by Eric Schumann.
- The Gleanings of Glug.

I.C.C.

In the immediate post-war years this was the most active and worthwhile club in the University. This year, if you wish it, it will become so again. And there is every reason why you should do so. For it is the one political club down here which will this year be in no way party-political, but, whose sole aim will be to present to you both sides of any contemporary political problem, and to allow you to make your own decision.

The ability to tolerate is the measuring-rod of individual responsibility and maturity, and it is a fast declining virtue. So if you are dissatisfied with the dogmatism of our party political fellows, if you are old-fashioned enough to believe with Plato that it is safe—not to mention necessary—to hear both sides of a question, since truth must ultimately prevail, if you believe that academic freedom is worth supporting, I.C.C. needs your support, and it will do its best to help you.

Orientation Week meeting will be in the Lady Symon Hall on Thursday, March 15, at 7.45 p.m., and will feature as a welcome to Freshers an address by Mr. D. H. Pike, Reader in History and Political Science, plus, it is hoped, a United Nations film and supper. The eminently approachable committee for 1951 comprises Garry Woodard (President—Law V), Les Caust (Secretary—Med. IV), Phil Telfer (Treasurer—Eng.), Misses Carmel Boyce (Physiotherapy), and Dorothy O'Neill (Arts).

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'51 ORIENTATION WEEK

FREE BEER AND EATS FOR ALL

The Students' Representative Council, under the direction of President Graham Gibbs and Orientation Director, Helen Northey, proudly present the 1951 Orientation Programme for Freshers, who are invited and urged to attend.

The Programme will open today with an Official Welcome in the Bonython Hall, at which the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Blackburn, and the S.R.C. President will speak. Further details are set forth herewith:—

- Monday, March 5:**
 - 2.30 p.m. S.R.C. Official Welcome in Bonython Hall, followed by afternoon tea.
 - 8.00 p.m. Women's Union, Lady Symon Hall.
- Tuesday, March 6:**
 - 7.45 a.m. Aquinas Society. Mass at Calvary Hospital, followed by breakfast.
 - 2.00 p.m. Science Association Freshers' Welcome, addresses by Patron and President and tour of University.
 - 7.45 p.m. Aquinas Society Welcome at Aquinas College Address and Dance.
 - 8.00 p.m. Student Christian Movement Freshers' Welcome
- Wednesday, March 7:**
 - 8.40 a.m. Student Christian Movement prayers. South Hall Conservatorium.
 - 10.00 a.m. S.C.M. Tour of University. Meet at Front Office.
 - 2.00 p.m. Science Association—Orientation Lectures—Physics, Maths, Geology, Physiology. George Murray Hall.
 - 8.00 p.m. Debating Club, "That the Commonwealth Jubilee Ought to be Celebrated by a Day of National Mourning."
- Thursday, March 8:**
 - 2.00 p.m. Science Association Orientation Lectures—Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Biochemistry, Bacteriology. George Murray Hall.
 - 8.00 p.m. Arts Association, George Murray Hall, Symposium of Professors, "When I Was a Fresher."
 - 8.00 p.m. Evangelical Union, social and supper, Lady Symon Hall.
- Friday, March 9:**
 - 7.45 p.m. Science Association, Lady Symon Hall, Initiation, Supper and Dance.
- Monday, March 12:**
 - 8.00 p.m. Freshers' Welcome—Films, Music, Dancing. Lady Symon Hall.
- Tuesday, March 13:**
 - 8.00 p.m. Engineering Society, George Murray Hall, Freshers' Welcome.
- Wednesday, March 14:**
 - 8.00 p.m. Student Theatre Group. Lady Symon Hall.
- Thursday, March 15:**
 - 1.15 p.m. Liberal Union, Lady Symon Hall.
- Saturday, March 17:**
 - 2.00 p.m. Student Christian Movement Hike. Meet at the Imperial Hotel Corner.
- Wednesday, March 21:**
 - 5.15 p.m. Student Christian Movement Service, Scots' Church.
 - 6.30 p.m. Pharmacy Students' Association will hold a Freshers' Tea, to be followed by the Annual General Meeting in the Lady Symon Building at 7.45 p.m. Guest speaker.

S.T.G. TO DO "THE FLIES"

First production in the Student Theatre Group's 1951 programme will be staged in The Hut on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April, 5, 6 and 7, 1951. It will be Jean-Paul Sartre's adaptation of the story of Orestes, "The Flies."

"The Flies" was written during the occupation of France, and has as its theme the struggle of liberty and the free individual against a dominating tyranny.

Sartre has achieved a wide fame in the last few years, mainly through his championship of the Existentialist philosophy but also as a dramatist of some promise. Such plays as "Huis Clos" and "Crime Passionnel" and "The Respectful Prostitute" have been remarkably well received, both on the Continent and in America.

The play was done recently as a radio play by the A.B.C. The production is in the very capable hands of Leisa Gunnell, one of Adelaide's leading producers, who works mainly with Theatres Associated; the set design and costume design and execution are under the control of Brenton Williams, a young man who promises to be a future leader in Adelaide amateur theatre design, and the well-known Adelaide composer, Michael Malycha, is composing the incidental music for the production.

Well-known University Thespians included in the cast are: Helen Jones as Electra, Peter Dawe as Orestes, Edgar Castle as Zeus, Robin Ashwin as the Tutor, Maurene McNamara and Brian Bergin, as Clyde Nestra and Aegistheus. Remember the production dates, April 5, 6 and 7. Freshers will be admitted to the performances free so that they may see for themselves the type of work the Student Theatre Group offers its members.

Plans for 1951 include a production of T. S. Elliot's "Murder in the Cathedral," in the second term, and probably a presentation of George Bernard Shaw's "Candida," to be sent to the Universities' Drama Festival to be held in Hobart in August. Freshers wishing to join the Group should ask one of the following members of the Theatre Group committee: Misses Maurene McNamara, Margaret Sando, Helen Jones, Messrs. Neil Lovett, Brian Bergin.

E.U.

The Evangelical Union is a recognised student society whose members have found student life incomplete without a personal knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is undenominational, and its basis of belief is one in tradition and content with the chief Protestant confessions of faith. The E.U.'s, together with their Grads' Fellowship of Evangelical Unions (the I.V.F.), Activities of E.U. Bible Study and prayer form the basis of the Evangelical Union's life. There is a daily prayer meeting, Bible expositions, and mid-day public meetings, missionary studies, vacation house parties, hikes and other informal activities.

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CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Arts Assn.

The first meeting of the Arts Association for 1951 will be held in the Lady Symon Hall on Thursday, March 8, at 8 p.m.

This year the programme for the first meeting is going to be different! The committee has decided to begin the year aright with the Arts Symposium, which has been so fabulously successful in past years, and it has an imposing array of new speakers lined up. The evening will begin with a brief presidential address, given by Mr. Charles Ashwin. In this he is expected to outline the aims and activities of the Association, and to welcome the freshers' to our fold.

This will be followed by a talk by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts (Dr. A. Grenfell Price), who will then give way to the Symposium. The speakers to take part in this will be:—Prof. Nicol Smith (Professor of English Literature), Prof. Blackburn (Professor of Law), Prof. Duncan (Prof. of History and Political Science), Prof. Smart (Professor of Philosophy); the subject "O Younge Freshe Folks he and she." To this treat add the dancing and the high-class supper that will follow, and it can be seen that the Arts Association Freshers' Welcome is a "must" amongst the activities of Orientation Week. Art Freshers, especially, are reminded that they are expected to attend.

Socialist Club

Welcome to the 'Varsity, new students, and a bright and successful year to all students new and old! We extend a sincere invitation to all new students to our "Freshers' Welcome" on Monday, March 12, at 8 p.m. There will be films, music, dancing and loads of fun for everybody. To all students we say—come along to our functions this year. We will be having lunch-hour meetings, discussion groups, camps during holidays, etc. The Socialist Club is not affiliated to any political party, and its policy is decided at general meetings solely by its student members. Your views and criticisms will be welcome, and with your help and assistance we will be a vigorous progressive club—a strong united voice for peace and international co-operation, for a better financial deal for students, and for a better way of life.

S.C.M.

Is religion really necessary? What has religion to do with University life? Does it matter what you believe?

Questions like these crop up in the minds of most people at the University. If you are interested in similar problems, the S.C.M. provides you with an opportunity to make an honest "student approach" to them. Lunch-time study circles and tutorials tackle such issues and the student attitude to them. This year the programme includes circles on what it means to be a Christian, on religion in action and a Bible study.

The S.C.M. invites leaders of the community to give public

addresses, which are held in the Lady Symon Hall at lunch-time. Symposia are included in this term's programme. Devotions are held daily in the South Hall of the Conservatorium at 8.45 a.m., except on Tuesdays, when they start at 8.40 a.m. Special services are held regularly in nearby churches. The fellowship of the Movement is also expressed in events like hikes and lively socials and dances.

Students from all faculties gather at end-of-term conferences in May and August for worship, recreation and study centred on some aspect of Christian living. "Why I am a student" is the title of our first conference this year, to be held at Belair in the first week-end of the May holidays. A political conference with representatives from University political clubs and a conference retreat will also be held this year. In January each year the Australian Student Christian Movement hold an annual conference attended by students and leaders from all States. Four hundred gathered at Armidale, N.S.W., this year.

Our office is on the first floor of the Lady Simon. It houses, among other things, our library, which will be considerably enlarged this year. Copies of "The Intercollegian," and two monthly journals of the national movement will be found in the library. "Movement," a thrice-weekly news sheet of the Adelaide branch, will also be found there. The Australian Student Christian Movement is part of the World Student Christian Federation, which has one million members in over forty countries. The Movement welcomes into its fellowship and all its activities students of any or no denomination. Membership is open to those who have made a definite decision to follow Christ's way of life. Those who are members of a Church find in the S.C.M. a chance to carry out part of their Christian duty in the University. And those of no Church, atheists, agnostics, find in the activities of the Movement a chance to discuss their ideas freely with other students, a chance to challenge those of the Christian faith.

The Secretary of the S.C.M. is Effie Best, Waite Road, Mitcham, U6450.

Ag. Science

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