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# On Dit

Adelaide University S.R.C.

Published Fortnightly

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MALCOLM McNEIL

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Vol. 22, No. 6

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One Penny

## CREDITS OR CULTURE?

UNIVERSITY PRESS REPRESENTATIVES AROUND THE CONFERENCE TABLE

# CONFERENCE AT BELAIR

The present examination system was "a matter of credits versus culture," said Mr. Lindsay Colquhoun, a past Vice-President of the S.R.C., at the S.R.C.-organised Staff-Student Conference, held during the last week-end of the vacation.

The Conference, which was held at the Retreat House, Belair, was very poorly attended by both staff and students.

Four discussion periods were held, each introduced by a student and a staff member. The first was on examinations, with the Master of St. Mark's College (Dr. A. Grenfell Price) and Mr. Lindsay Colquhoun as initial speakers.

It was agreed that our present system was unsatisfactory, since an examination is now more a test of memory than of general ability and knowledge.

A candidate was forced to cram facts from a narrow curriculum, and, to quote Mr. Colquhoun, the system was a matter of "credits v. culture."

Suggested ways of improving this system were:

- To consider the year's work in every subject as part of the final examination.
- To introduce an oral test in subjects for which it would be impracticable.
- To allow students to have their final examination papers back. It was felt that it would be valuable for students at least to know the relative results of questions.

All agreed that there should be far more supplementary examinations. It should be for the student, rather than the administration of the University, to decide whether he can sit for supp.

Messrs. Bastin and Moore introduced the discussion on age of entry, standards of matriculation, and the importance of maturity. It was agreed that no really satisfactory solution can be found for this problem, as it varies largely from person to person. However, Mr. Moore suggested that the development of intellectual maturity could be assisted in the University and in the last two or three years of secondary school by concentrating on methods of thought and the approach to a subject, rather than on actual knowledge.

The third period was devoted to the question of Staff-Student Relationships, with the discussion opened by Professor Rogers and

S.R.C. President, Mr. David Penny. The few members of the staff present agreed that these relationships could well be improved in our University, and were helpful in suggesting methods of doing so, such as:-

- Carrying out in all faculties a Purdue Test (in which students anonymously criticise a lecturer's teaching methods).
- For students to form and run clubs in which staff members do work as ordinary club members.
- To allot more time in the curriculum to informal discussion groups.
- For the staff to mix freely with students at meals.
- For faculty leaders to have a dinner with the S.R.C. and hear the students' views on this problem.

The Conference came to the conclusion that it was the staff's duty to provide, and the students' duty to take, opportunities for developing a better staff-student relationship.

"The importance of student activity in a specialised University," introduced by the Warden of the Union (Mr. Borland), and S.R.C. Treasurer (Mr. Choo), was the subject of the last discussion.

This ended the Conference, resulting in a vigorous argument, with Messrs. Moore and Lokan unsuccessfully trying to convince everyone else, especially Mr. Choo, that student leadership and activities were a waste of time.

## New Zealand Travel

All students who are interested in the scheme to take a party of Australian University students to New Zealand during the Christmas vacation are asked to contact the Local Secretary - Treasurer of N.U.A.U.S. in the S.R.C. Office on Thursday, 17th June, between 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m.



# Student Journalists Meet Here

Questions of domestic and interstate policy were discussed by editors or representatives of all Australian student papers at the annual N.U.A.U.S. Inter-Varsity Editors' Conference held in Adelaide between June 2-4.

Attending the Conference were Marie ("The Shame of Sydney") Burns, Editor of "Honi Soit"; Judith Wyatt (P.R.O. for N.U.A.U.S.), Alex Castles (immediate past Editor of Melbourne's 'Farrago'), and his successor Len Radich; Neville Nankivell (Editor of W.A.'s "Pelican"), Barrie Hayne (from Queensland's 'Semper Floreat'), Geoff Miller (Tasmania) of 'Togatus' and Ross Skinner (representing New England's "Neucleus."

Adelaide's representatives were Margaret Robertson (newly-appointed Editor of "On Dit"), Jonathan Cole (Editor of "On Dit" in 1951 and 1953), and Brian Bergin (immediate past Editor, and chairman of the Conference).

Plans were made for an N.U.A.U.S. Southern Universities News Bulletin, to keep student leaders in South-East Asia informed of Australian and New Zealand student activities.

The Conference also instituted a letter scheme under which student news of interstate interest will be circulated among all Australian University papers. The first of these letters is to appear in the next edition of "On Dit."

It was reported to conference that 5,000 copies of the last edition of "Farrago" had been destroyed by the Melbourne S.R.C. on the grounds that an article was published containing matter detrimental to S.R.C. policy. Council carried a resolution unani- mously deploring the Melbourne S.R.C.'s action in this

respect. The Conference also expressed regret that the New England S.R.C., in strife financially, should have regarded the student paper "Neucleus" as the most expendable item on the budget and reduced it in form to a roneoed broadsheet.

On the recommendation of the Conference, enquiries are to be made regarding the production of a general handbook for the guidance of student journalists.

"Advertiser" staff member Mr. Pax Lusk was consulted on aspects of the Panel of Student Journalism, whose formation had been suggested by the 1953 Editors' conference. In each State the Panel is to consist of certain experienced local journalists prepared to offer advice to the Editors of student papers.

The Code of Student Journalism, drawn up by the 1952 Editors' Conference with the idea of encouraging more responsible student journalism in Australia, was amended.

It was felt by certain delegates this year that the code was far too arbitrary and restrictive in tone. Those clauses were therefore deleted which obliged an editor before election to declare his adherence to the Code, and which required the publication of the complete Code in his first edition.

Despite some agitation for its complete abolition, the Code was retained as a useful guide to Editors, who are now under no obligation to adhere to it if they dissent from its provisions.

## CALL ME MADAM

Miss Margaret J. Robertson has been elected Editress of "On Dit."

Following the resignation of Mr. Brian Bergin from the position at the end of last term, the S.R.C. Secretary (Miss Philippa Cornell) called for applications, and Miss Robertson was elected at an S.R.C. meeting on the first Wednesday of the vacation.

Miss Robertson, a 3rd year Honours English student, has had an outstanding academic record, especially in the field of English, both at Unley High School and in her first two years at the University.

Her main interests, according to "Who's Who?" are Marcel Proust, cooking, James Joyce, dressmaking, Andre Gide, and raising a family. She believes that while a woman's place should be in the boundaries of her home, it should not be in the centre, and vice versa.

Miss Robertson, who is an economist in her spare time, believes that all women over the age of 15 should have a vote, and that females should be more highly paid than males.

In the field of "On Dit" policy, Miss Robertson is of the opinion that this paper should send a representative to future Geneva Conferences, and should also sponsor world-famous sportsmen, in addition to Mr. Greet, to cover international sporting fixtures.

We welcome Miss Robertson to the editorship, and feel sure that under her, circulation will increase tremendously.

# GAUNTLETS GALORE!

## We Are The Mouthpiece Of . . .

### . . . Frustrated Intellectuals

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## EDITORIAL

This has been a vacation of Conferences. The Inter-Varsity Editors' Conference and the A.U.D.S. Conference may both be deemed successful; at the first important questions of policy were resolved and the second a decision was reached on Adelaide's contribution to Drama Festival this year. This is to be the American Andrew Rosenthal's "The Third Person."

Unfortunately, the Conference between staff and students at Belair can hardly be termed even a qualified success. The representation of both staff and students was abysmally poor. Student apathy has so long been slated in these columns that it may be rather instructive to consider the equally deplorable and probably even more damaging apathy which the staff itself evinced on this occasion.

The aim of the conference was clear enough, and it was long evident that there were plenty of vexed questions which demanded attention. Whether certain staff members feared that their temporary descent from Olympus might involve them in loss of face, it is rather interesting to conjecture.

Be this as it may, the Conference was attended full time by TWO staff members, and another FIVE participated in some sessions. The English Department, which one might have expected to be in the vanguard of controversy, was conspicuous by its absence. So were the Physics and Chemistry Departments. The History School alone had considerable departmental representation.

While fully realising that some staff members are overloaded by commitments in both term and vacation, and while appreciating greatly the co-operation of those staff members who did attend the Conference, we can not but deplore this singular lack of interest among the staff in general.

For an academic, vegetating is nothing less than criminal.

## . . . Anti-Christ

Madam,

The University as a whole gets a one-eyed view of what University life really is.

The reason is that most of the ladies and gentlemen in responsible positions are eccentric in their views on one subject or another.

To begin with, "Agnosticism" seems to be the accepted thing in the University.

This impression is derived from the reading of current literature (notably "On Dit"), and from the activities of some societies.

But a Gallup Poll in the University would show that Agnostics are fairly rare. These Atheists or Anti-Christians — they themselves don't know exactly what they are — seem to occupy positions from which their so-called philosophy can be poured into the Philosophy Market — almost to glut the Market.

One-eyed also because few students besides Arts, Economics, Law and some Science students have the time to spend with the clubs and societies. Medical and Engineering students rarely occupy positions such as President of the S.R.C., Editor of "On Dit," etc.

We, the more privileged of a privileged people, seem to give the impression that all is fun and games until three weeks before our first exam.

Life at the University is not like this in a vast majority of cases, although the influential few lead us to believe that this is so.

"A good time" on a Saturday night (and other nights if possible) is all that is worth living for, according to some (indeed most) student speakers and writers.

Unless a speech or news article mentions Jane Russell or Marilyn Monroe, it is not interesting; these females are subjects for what appears to be the typical University wit.

The fresher does not appreciate this kind of wit, but he can cultivate an ear for it.

He can also cultivate an ear for good, clean wit.

So far, we have accepted this biased picture of University life as a whole. Let us wake up to the facts.

The clubs and societies simply help us to a more complete knowledge of truth.

Different clubs might have conflicting ideas. Let us not give one club more publicity than that afforded to another. Let everybody hear both sides of any argument.

Then our opinions will be ruled neither by the majority nor by the minority.

If we do not force the specialised student (who has little free time at his disposal) into taking part in University affairs, then the

Dear Madam,

This year, even more than in previous years, there has been a fresh outburst of the "anti-apathy" cult, a resurgence of the opinion that the University is fundamentally a coffee shop, where one can shine chairs and carry on a cultured discussion, the idea that the prime reason for the existence of a library is so that people can sit on its step and yap.

These views as such are pretty harmless, but what is more important is that this year, more than ever, greater pressure has been brought to bear on the freshers to accept these views. Also, the persons holding these views have gained almost complete control of the mechanisms by which these views are promulgated, e.g. "On Dit," the various freshers' welcomes, and the freshers' camp.

Admittedly they have gained control, almost entirely by default, through the lack of people desiring to express the contrary view even though there can be no doubt that there are many people who hold this opposite idea.

Now, even a slight examination of affairs reveals to one that it is mainly arts students who lead the "culture-anti-apathy" cult, and this prompts us if we are at all interested in getting to the bottom of the nature of these views, to make some sort of examination of the pathology of these peoples' minds, to find out firstly, just what MAKES them have these opinions and secondly, and perhaps what is more important, what MAKES them propagate them so vigorously.

Now we see, first of all, that the type of arts students in whom these ideas

chances are that he will rarely occupy a responsible or influential position.

Nevertheless, we must take him into account when we formulate an opinion about University students in general.

The specialist gains by being dragged out of his specialised environment, and we gain by learning of part of that environment.

This is essential for the complete development of a man's personality.—K.H.

are so rife is not the T.C. student who is doing arts either because he has to or because it aids him in his job. These T.C. students are clearly, in the main, even more the empty-headed technicians than science and medical, etc. students are alleged to be.

No, it is a different class of student that promulgates the cult, namely the arts student who is doing arts for what he would perhaps call, his "cultural gratification," the person in the unenviable position of having only a slender chance of later securing a job to suit.

Now, it is not at all strange that these people should be—on the whole—rather unhappy, with a feeling of the futility of their lives and, being reasonably intelligent people, it is not surprising that they revolt against this state of affairs. Rather than at a late stage try to break into another field and try to make a go at that, that is to adapt themselves to the contrary world that is unwilling to pay them a good wage for being able to talk learnedly about T. S. Eliot, they try partly to adapt the world to themselves, and partly to create a world of their own, a world which accepts their standards of values.

But, instead of being concerned with how they might behave, let us see just how they do behave. And being an inveterate scientist, I think it is best to put these observations in note form.

1. Firstly, we notice just how gregarious this group of art students is. They seem to spend hours and hours in the refectory, with as many of them squeezed to the one table as possible, smoking, drinking coffee and enjoying each others wit. Two sit at an empty table and soon as possible the rest are with them, like one big happy family, cut off from the common mob of refectory goers, consoling each other with their mutual company. "Let the rest of the world turn up its nose, but we approve of each other." That is, they attempt to create a world of their own.

2. One notices epidemics of faddism among them, though these are usually rather abortive. Waistcoats, jeans, enormous cherrywood pipes, a bevy of brainless women, decorative in a peculiar fashion, Jewish cigarettes, and a cloth for their table, all to distinguish themselves from the plebs. In short, all of them are symbols of revolt from the uncompromising world outside.

3. They have a genuine living interest in the subject of sex, normal in any FRUSTRATED community.

4. And this the most important; they are by far the most active propagators of the ideal that people at large are uncultured because they don't do enough useless, interesting things, that "the place is degenerating into an institute of technical training," that we are turning out "uncultured robots," that students should spend more time at the University and not go home as soon as lectures finish, in short, that the most valuable thing one gets from the University is neither education nor training, but an indefinable something gleaned from shooting one's mouth at public meetings, chair polishing and coffee sipping, pursuing student affairs and politics, all with an energy that most intelligent people reserve for their studies. These opinions are born of their revolt from reality, and their desire to create an acceptable, and accepting world of their own.

This article, I hope, is a statement of a situation, and is not directly intended as a frontal attack on the delicate feelings of arts students in general. But one is rather appalled when an idea is accepted without criticism, and even without consideration, as the "student apathy" bug has been.

Mind you, there has been considerable criticism of this "campaign for culture" spread by "On Dit," the freshers' camp, the President and some members of the S.R.C., and by no less a person than the Vice-Chancellor himself, but it has been mainly on the personal level among the ordinary unvocals students, the "inarticulate scientists."

When a public criticism is made, as it indeed was by a fresher in "On Dit," 1/11/54, the answer, as was the answer of R.C.M., seems to be nothing but a ridiculous shower of clever phrases. It was this particular case which decided me that something ought to be done about this unthinking acceptance, and harmful propagation of the "campaign for culture."

L.H.



Culture vultures and frustrated intellectuals cover the Calwell meeting. (From left) Karl Texler, Jane Burton, Brian Bergin, Nigel Samuel, Ginny Conrad, and (in the corner) Margaret Robertson and Pat Lucas.

# N.U.A.U.S. On Radio Australia

As a result of information brought back from the Fourth International Student Conference at Istanbul by Australia's representatives—Lindsay Colquhoun and Ian Nicholson—the National Union of Australian University students have arranged with Radio Australia a series of regional broadcasts.

Last year, a successful fortnightly session, "Students Talking" was produced as part of the regular programme "Calling Asia"; this series has now been resumed.

In this session Asian and Australian students discuss formally such topics as: the life of Asian students at Australian Universities, the industrialisation of Asia, food production, the position of the Australian Aborigine and other general political, economic and cultural problems.

Now, however, arising out of the Istanbul Conference, N.U.A.U.S. has also engaged the interest of Radio Australia in a regular university news service. This session, heard each fortnight also in the "Calling Asia" programme, includes students as announcers and speakers, talking about different aspects of University life throughout Australia. It is aimed to make this a truly regional news service so that organisations in all Australian and Asian Universities are asked to contribute items.

The Bulletin contains news of varied activities — sport, drama, debating, cultural festivals, student health programmes, welfare schemes, art exhibitions, and student travel and exchange.

"Students Talking" can be heard over Radio Australia as follows:

Alternate Tuesdays—

1115 G.M.T.:	7.22 mc/s	41.55 metres
	11.90 mc/s	25.21 metres
	11.76 mc/s	25.51 metres
1415 G.M.T.:	7.22 mc/s	41.55 metres
	9.58 mc/s	31.32 metres
	11.90 mc/s	25.21 metres
1630 G.M.T.:	7.22 mc/s	41.55 metres
	9.58 mc/s	31.32 metres
	11.90 mc/s	25.31 metres

Alternate Wednesdays—

0030 G.M.T.:	17.84 mc/s	16.82 metres
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The International Student News Bulletins can be heard viz:

Alternate Fridays—

1115 G.M.T.:	7.22 mc/s	41.55 metres
	11.76 mc/s	25.51 metres
	11.90 mc/s	25.21 metres
1415 G.M.T.:	7.22 mc/s	41.55 metres
	9.58 mc/s	31.32 metres
	11.90 mc/s	25.21 metres
1717 G.M.T.:	7.22 mc/s	41.55 metres
	9.58 mc/s	31.32 metres
	11.90 mc/s	25.21 metres

Alternate Saturdays—

0030 G.M.T.:	17.84 mc/s	16.82 metres
	15.32 mc/s	19.59 metres

## Goodbye To Pam



"I am going to miss you all desperately and will send my London phone number as soon as available to the Rugby Club and all other interested parties," promised Pamela Micklem (pictured above), popular S.R.C. typiste, who is sailing for England in a week's time.

Pam's last day with the S.R.C. is Friday, June 18th.

Pam, whose amiability has survived the test of six S.R.C.'s and numerous Editors, aims to spend two years abroad in recuperation. She hopes to visit England, the Continent and Canada; her future employment is "unspecified — within reason."

Good hunting, Pam.



"Don't shoot till you see the whites of their eyes": Jim Bettison, new A.U.L.F. chief, guns for them their Laborites.

### HEAR ROHAN RIVETT

Just returned from Geneva on "THE WORLD SITUATION" Lady Symon, 1.20 To-day

### SCIENCE ASSOCIATION FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, July 1, 1.20 p.m. — Dr. Badger: "American Universities."  
Wednesday, July 14, 1.20 p.m.: Symposium.

# Film Society's First Meeting

The inaugural meeting of the Adelaide University Film Society will be held next Monday, June 21, in the George Murray Library, beginning at 1.30 p.m.

All those members of the staff and student body who are interested in the formation of this Society are strongly urged to be present at this meeting.

An executive and Committee will be elected, and discussions as to the future activities of the Club will take place. These will probably include the screening of films of artistic and historical importance, in English

and other languages, as well as discussions on film criticisms and the cinema as an art. It is expected that the club will also obtain documentary films from foreign embassies in Australia.

This meeting next Monday will be a short one, but very important, and the organisers hope for a large attendance so that the new Society may be put on a firm footing right from the start.

## Science and Politics

# Melbourne Man For Next Union Night

The speaker at the S.R.C.'s next Union Night on Thursday, June 24, at 7.45, will be Professor Douglas Wright, Professor of Physiology in Melbourne.

Professor Wright, member of the Medical Research Council and the Council of the Australian National University, has long been a controversial figure in Melbourne, where his recent advocacy for companionate marriage caused something of a stir.

He is well-known as a speaker and is renowned for the forceful way in which he advocates his views. On this occasion his subject will be "Science and Politics," where he will discuss the role that scientists should play in society, the responsibility they should accept for their own discoveries, and the extent to which State intervention is justified.

He was educated in Melbourne and Oxford Universities and appointed Professor of Physiology in Melbourne at an early age. He has remained there ever since, although it is sometimes claimed that he does too little Physiology and too many other things.

The speakers at the first two Union Nights were Professor W. Macmahon Ball and Lord Lindsay of Birker.

The fourth Union Night will be addressed by revolutionary young architect, Mr. Robin Boyd, from Melbourne; his subject, "What is Wrong with Australian Architecture?" The date—Friday, 30th July.

# Bettison New A.U.L.F. Chief

"We shall intensify our previous policy of acting as a mouthpiece for University Liberals, while remaining quite independent of the Liberal Party," stated Mr. James Bettison, President of the Adelaide University Liberal Union, and newly-elected President of the Australian Universities' Liberal Federation.

The Annual Council meeting of the A.U.L.F. was held at Trinity College, Melbourne, during the second week of the vacation. It was attended by ten official delegates and approximately the same number of observers. Adelaide were Messrs. James Bettison and Charles Stokes and Miss Margaret McLachlan.

Other members of the Executive are: John Rickard (Sydney, Secretary), Andrew Rahles-Rabula (Melbourne, Treasurer), David Welsh (Melbourne, Vice-President), and Margaret McLachlan (Adelaide, Asst. Secretary).

The Council meeting was opened by the Hon. H. E. Holt, Minister for Immigration.

The A.U.L.F. policy formulated at the meeting will be presented to constituent

Liberal Clubs for ratification in about three weeks' time.

The A.U.L.F. policy formulated at the meeting will be presented to constituent Liberal Clubs for ratification in about three weeks' time. One important decision of the Council was that the de facto recognition of Communist China should be recommended. This clause is also subject to ratification by constituents.

Council donated £2/2/- to the Aboriginal Scholarship Appeal, and decided also to support International House Appeals.

The sending of an observer to the I.U.S. Moscow Conference in August was discussed: the Council decided to recommend to N.U.A.U.S. that no observer should be sent.

On Dit, June 18, 1954—3

## TALKS ON ANGLICAN FAITH

The Rev. H. A. J. Witt, who for five years was chaplain of the Woomera Rocket Range, is addressing the University Anglican Group this term. His subject is "The Lambeth Quadrilateral"—that is to say, the Bible, the three Christian creeds, the Apostolic Ministry, and the Church's sacraments.

This is a most interesting and important subject, as a knowledge of what the Church of England thinks about these matters is essential to any understanding of her distinctive position in Christendom.

The beginning of this term—like that of the first term of the Holy Communion in the Lady Symon Hall. It is the practice of the Group

to offer the Eucharist together at the beginning and end of each term, so that the weekly meetings, which are predominantly for study of the Church's beliefs and practice, are balanced by her perfect act of worship.

The addresses on the Lambeth Quadrilateral will be at 1.20 p.m. next Tuesday (June 22) and on June 29 and on July 13. No address has been planned for the week during which the E.U. is to hold its mission.

Everybody who is interested is heartily welcome at any meeting of this group.

## GROUCHO OR KARL?

Monday, June 28, will be the occasion of a testimonial debate to Bob Reid, who will be leaving shortly for America. Subject: "That this House prefers Groucho to Karl," possible speakers including Bob Reid, Jeff Scott, Brian Bergin, Bob Moore, etc. Watch out for Thursday night, July 8, when Messrs. Dunstan and Shannon, Ms.P., will debate on the subject of electoral reform.

Entries for the Rhodes Scholarship for 1955 close on 1st September this year.

The annual value of the scholarship is £600 sterling, but it is possible, under certain conditions, for the successful candidate to have this amount supplemented each year.

Application forms are available now, and on receiving the entries the Registrar's secretary will make an appointment for the candidate to see the Registrar.

# WILLIAM FAULKNER

In so brief a span as thirty years, a man has become a famous novelist, then fallen out of current literary favor—to such an extent that the plates of his major works were rejected as scrap for the war effort—and, in spite of it all, he has risen again so that his name is a legend in contemporary American literature. His writings are now enjoyed by as large a public as is ever able to appreciate the work of a truly great artist.

Furthermore, this man, William C. Faulkner, in 1949 won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Faulkner is the most compelling force in the American Literary scene. Belonging to no strong literary "school," he stands alone as a rugged individualist who has remained comparatively unencumbered by the tremendous developments in his generation.

Having an ancestry rooted deep in the Southern State of the U.S.A., and having lived most of his life in Oxford, Mississippi, he is completely aware of the South-North relationship. While the victorious North, in Faulkner's youth had, to a large extent, forgotten the meaning of the Civil War, the defeated South lived closely to its memories. The families whose forebears fought the civil war for the south built up a strong tradition about their military records. These were families living on the past, and to such a family Faulkner belonged.

His great grandfather, Colonel William, was a legendary hero, whose exploits were well known and which "with the years grew richer and richer taking on a mellow splendour like wine." These, with certain biased details, taught him every facet of Southern history.

This, more than any other factor has caused Faulkner to become a spokesman for the South. His novels, must concern us, though for reasons ultimately unrelated to the South, if they are to concern us at all. But it must be recognised that his idiom is Southern (apart from his early works "Soldiers' Pay" and "Mosquitoes") and a complete Southern atmosphere pervades his major works which can never be divorced from the basis of his writing.

## Development

The early works consisted of a group of poems, "The Marble Faun"; "Soldiers' Pay," a lament concerning the return of an airman, totally disabled, and on the edge of death, to his home town. He colors this story with bitter irony in the treatment of the airman Mahon. Following this came the insignificant "Mosquitoes," then "Sartoris," the story



WILLIAM FAULKNER

of a Colonel of the defeated Southern Army—based rather on his great grandfather William—who is "embattled, heroically and stubbornly on behalf of a lost cause." The indifferent treatment given to the Sartoris indicates an unwillingness to be sympathetic towards this cause.

But with the unsuccessful "Sartoris" came a new motive which has been the basis of all Faulkner's major novels, "The Yoknapatawpha County," Yoknapatawpha is an imaginary locale—Faulkner reports that its inhabitants are 15,511 people: 5,298 whites, 9,313 negro—the figures are whimsy, the proportion is not. The County is the "Sudspiegel," a mirror of the South. The very fact that from novel to novel the locale develops in the reader's mind as a "disordered entity" shows that Faulkner's ideas, though at times crystal clear in their presentation, are not ordered in his own mind.

To reach the essence of Faulkner one must see Yoknapatawpha as an entity, with its own classes and clans, social relations and moral qualities. The social classes are either vestigial or embryonic, drags of aristocracy or forerunners of a new commercial ruling class. But the distinction is not great because of the flattening pressures of poverty or the lack of industrialisation. There are few wealthy men, the bulk are the earnest hard working farmers to whom clinging the "poor whites" and the negroes who are seldom economically distinguished. A one-volume acquaintance with Faulkner is unfortunate because of the interlocking nature of the great Yoknapatawpha County series. There is, right through the series, a thematic continuity, as well as a stylistic development. He has developed his style tremendously since his weak "Aldous Huxley" efforts in "Mosquitoes," which satirizes an effete dilettante. The opening sentence of "Mosquitoes": "The sex instinct is quite strong in me,"

may be compared with the opening sentence of "Intruder in the Dust," written 21 years later, in 1948:

## UNKNOWN WARRIOR

As an example of Anouilh's craft, "Traveller Without Baggage," provides considerable interest. The crushing anguish of later works has not yet appeared; there is a balance between the comic and the tragic, disturbed in this case by an over-effusive Duchess.

In a period of transition towards a complete existentialist anguish, Anouilh has treated the problem of existence both as a pessimist and as a comic optimist.

The principal character, Gaston, has spent eighteen years in an asylum after suffering complete amnesia. Interest in France's living "Unknown Warrior" has been stimulated and there are scores of families seeking to reclaim our hero. By chance he finds himself restored to his proper family, of whom he has no recollection.

His imagination has conjured up visions of the happiest of childhoods, but his family, in their ignorance and malice, reveal to him a past as ugly as he had imagined it beautiful. Having been given conclusive proof of his unfortunate identity, he is faced with the problem of rejecting it and finding another unencumbered by the knowledge of past guilt. The solution of this problem is fortuitous and light-hearted.

This solution is interesting, for it is found by a reversal of the existentialist's conception of existence. The old essence is effaced from the memory; a new one develops of itself and precedes an existence, freely chosen to fit it.

The Theatre Guild presentation from June 8-12 was marked by a high degree of general competency—in set, production, and acting—and one most memorable performance. Almost without exception, Roy Leaney was extremely fortunate in his casting.

Mark Anders' performance as Gaston was superb. He has a most compelling presence; every gesture intensifies interest. This ability to rivet attention almost nullifies his one major fault—a somewhat clumsy and erratic stage movement. Anders' powers of registering and communicating emotion are fantastic.

He exploits to the full his great facial mobility, but is never betrayed into exaggeration. It is particularly regrettable, in view of such qualities, that the producer saw fit, at the climax of the play, to accompany with painfully ill-chosen music Anders' subtle reflection of a changing mood. The effect was both embarrassing and detracting. Anders' voice is most evocative; he seems to have surmounted quite successfully the great problems presented by foreign stress.

Marjorie Irving's Duchess of Dupont-Dufort, while a most competent rendition, was nonetheless annoying. One was always conscious of a strong "ham" element. This, however, can be attributed partly to Anouilh's disproportionate emphasis on gush in the creation of her character.

The pathos of the fumbling overtures which Georges makes to his brother Gaston was entirely lost by Terry MacDermott. His Georges was unrelievable bilious and uninspiring.

Myra Noblett worked wonders with the heart-breaking part of Gaston's mother. It was remarkable to observe how both she and Barbara Edwards (Valentine) responded to the impact of Anders' Gaston, reaching

Reviewing the two film nights during May Week, one cannot help feeling disappointed.

For the first night's screening we were promised "The 1953 Redex Car Trial," "Song of Ceylon," Toscanini, "Wild Life on the Barrier Reef," and "Continental Car Race." Of these, only the first and the last were shown.

"Toscanini" had retired and with him the other two. To fill the gap there were a whimsical cartoon sounding the praises of an English Insurance firm and a Welsh film, "David."

The programme opened with the "Continental Car Race," which consisted of excellent shots of cars flying around the Le Mans race-

by B. G. Walker

track at over 100 m.p.h. The main difficulty lay in following the voice of the commentator, which was only audible when the cars drew in to their respective pits to change wheels, drivers or oil. Finally France lost, Germany won, and everyone went home.

Next came the cartoon, a pleasant little interlude which told how insurance came into being. Beginning with a drachm or two of primordial protoplasm, it traced the embryonic growth of communal security through the ages until the birth of the National British Insurance Co.

The film was well animated, while the commentary was pierced with quite a few witticisms.

The third offering appeared as a Welsh sentimentality called "David." It told the story of the intellectual and financial frustrations of a Welsh coalminer who was too poor to go to College and centred all such hopes in his son. These hopes are finally dashed when the son dies early in his academic career.

Thereafter the film meandered on to a flat and unprofitable ending.

Apart from poor photography, the quality of the film suffered from the direct use of the Welsh tongue without subtitles, except in one short scene.

To end the programme there was the Cinesound record of the 1953 Redex Car Trial. This was the best film of the night, in both photography and commentary. The latter was clear, to the point, and pleasantly humorous. Such quips as: "He took up a wrong turning up near Mt. Isa" and "we are now passing the Tropic of Capricorn, a very

their peak in heated interchanges with him.

One of the gems in this play was Patrick Taggart's blithe Eton-collared school-boy. He was delightfully unabashed by the whole affair and completely free of all awkwardness.

The translation, specially prepared by Professor J. G. Cornell and Brian Elliott, was at all times adequate, and never stilted. Although turns of phrase in the English were frequently more colloquial than the original, one never had the unpleasant sensation that the original was being "improved" upon. One point of detail: it is regrettable that the translators, seemingly baulked by a keyword "four-triquet," were unwilling to offer a closer approximation than "runt." Surely this is a case for more temerity.

M.J.R. P.B.F.W.

## Film Fare

romantic spot but no time to stop," made pleasurable listening.

The second Film Night, sponsored by the French Club, featured two films.

The first was "A Life of Van Gogh," told per media of his paintings. It was quite effective, but suffered from a combination of attempted animation of the paintings and unbelievably weird music; besides the black and white photography did not do justice to the paintings. However, it did succeed well in tracing the life of Vincent from its tem-

postuous beginning to its tragic end.

"L'assaut de la Tour Eiffel" was a light-hearted photographic account of how four youths (probably students if the truth were known) scaled the outside of the Eiffel Tower and then descended in like manner.

A disturbing influence in the continuity was the appearance of an over-large over-perspiring, and over-acting gendarme who chased the four adventurers from the safety of the spiral staircase. Our heroes were finally arrested for bathing in the Seine directly under the "Defense de Nager" sign. The photography was good, while the commentary was fair.

With the advent of a Film Club, it is to be hoped that the general standard of screening will rise and that the two Film Nights described above were no indication of what to expect in the future.

Only by screening the best, and keeping documentaries to a minimum, will the Club achieve its aim and claim its audience.

## APOLOGY

We wish to apologise for an inaccurate report in the last edition of "On Dit" concerning the Labor Group and its affiliation with the A.L.P. The incorrect paragraph should have read as follows:—

"Mr. Cameron Stuart said that the group was not affiliated with the A.L.P. However, if it were to apply for affiliation, it would be refused on the grounds that it was neither a Trade Union nor a local committee."

## PORTRAIT

Sky in season,  
coy with reason,  
rare in voicing,  
heart's rejoicing,  
cold in dancing,  
nothing chancing,  
sharp in saying,  
harsh in playing,  
firm in willing,  
answers killing,  
proud in knowing,  
deft in showing  
to this seeker  
man is mighty—  
when much meeker.

Charles Clifton.

# Epistemology and Dogma

The article published in "On Dit" (14/4/54) under the heading, "Dogma in the Light of Epistemology," calls for a reply. The subject of the article is Religious Dogma. Religious Dogma is, at least in the sense of the Roman Catholic Church, a truth revealed by God and authoritatively stated as having been revealed by God, thus imposing the obligation on man of intellectual acceptance of faith.

This definition can be confirmed by consulting "The Catholic Encyclopedia" (Vol. V, p. 89) or "The Teaching of the Catholic Church" (Burns Oates, 1948, Vol. 1, p. 31). It is simply a specification of the more general definition of dogma in its technical sense as given by "The Shorter Oxford-English Dictionary" (Vol. 1, sub voce 2), insofar as it specifies the meaning to be given the word, formulated, in that definition. A dogma is not formulated by man in the sense that the truth contained in the dogma is formulated by man or is the product of his collective experience. The truth is received. The proper expression of the truth is, it is true, subject to man's efforts, but the truth so expressed is given, not arrived at.

## A False Assumption

Thus far, if I am not mistaken, the writer of the article in question goes along. His argument centres rather on the validity of the truth contained in such dogmas, a validity which he denies. He says:

The validity of dogmas is based on two hypotheses:

1. The full truth has been revealed to man.
2. Man can understand the full truth and formulate it in terms of human ideas.

Fairly stated, his position would be, I think:

1. Granted some revelation, such revelation as has been given is really useless because not full.
2. Even if it were full, man could not understand it.
3. Even if it were full and fully understood, man could not correctly formulate it because of the deficiency of human terms and human thought.

The first thing to note about all this is that, if he does grant some revelation by God, then the writer's God must be a queer one. If God did reveal something and that something, because it lacks wholeness, is in point of fact useless and dangerous, then God is, according to our writer either (a) a good-hearted fool, or (b) a deliberately malicious enemy of man. God is the first if He did not realise the sad and bad consequences of His non-complete revelation but went ahead and revealed something anyway,

thinking foolishly that it would do some good. Or else God is the second: He did realise the bad consequences and nevertheless loosed a partial revelation, obviously intending the foreseen bad consequences thereof. In either case, we arrive at a God philosophically untenable and devotionally unthinkable. It would then be better entirely to deny divine revelation as belonging to religious dogma. In this case the writer's approach would have to be radically different; and his conclusions, as availing solely against a privately defined "dogma" would be largely chimerical.

But the writer does accept the Christian idea of God and does admit some revelation. Thus he would not, I think, wish deliberately to insult God's intelligence. Nevertheless, that is one necessary implication of his epistemological stand.

Basically, that stand seems to be that any truth which is not known fully is therefore false. Carried to its logical extreme, this would seem to be a denial of there being any valid truth at all, since there is practically no truth, no fact even, which man knows fully, in the sense that he knows it to the last metaphysical curl of the in-most essence or to the last reverberation of its every relationship with every other fact and every other fact. Perhaps the writer does indeed hold this, as philosophers have held it before and will again; that there is no knowable truth and that, therefore, epistemology is the science of the explosion of certitude, not its establishment. But this is a position in which he will stand in noble isolation from ordinary business, theatre, games-going mankind; and perhaps even in noble isolation from his own everyday routine.

## Is Only True Knowledge Truth?

The idea that my knowledge of anything, because partial, is therefore false simply does not square with common sense. A fragment may be false when it is presumed to be a whole. What is false then is the presumption of the fragment to be a whole. A partial truth when assumed to be a whole has entered upon false pretensions; but the foreign substance of the false pretensions does not subsequently rebound and destroy the fragment as a true fragment,

does not say that the fragment itself under as a fragment is false, does not make this fragmentary something and nevertheless loosed a partial revelation, obviously intending the foreseen bad consequences thereof. In either case, we arrive at a God philosophically untenable and devotionally unthinkable. It would then be better entirely to deny divine revelation as belonging to religious dogma. In this case the writer's approach would have to be radically different; and his conclusions, as availing solely against a privately defined "dogma" would be largely chimerical.

Certainly we can build on such and our building will be validly based. No botanist, I shamefacedly admit that I do not know "all about" a blade of grass or that tree yonder. Is my grasp of the external reality therefore false—and for that reason? I never did understand the workings of internal combustion engines. Am I foolish, therefore, to bother getting out of the way of this racing omnibus, about which my knowledge is certainly partial and therefore false? Must I totally ignore the wireless as certainly a dream and no reality, seeing that my grades in Physics are guaranteed to make strong professors cry?

You and I and everybody else can know something, and that clearly and absolutely, without knowing everything even about that something. Further knowledge, if gained, will enhance my limited possession of truth, not contradict or cancel it. I can know that God exists and know it absolutely, even if I do not, cannot, wholly "understand" God. I can know many truths which are quite useful to me as guides, even if I do not fathom all their interior workings. I can know and use many "whats" without knowing all their "hows."

If this is so—and ninety-nine per cent. of mankind will accept it, even if the writer of On Dit's article will not—it obviously doesn't matter whether the full truth has or can be revealed to man; an interesting question, but a different one. God is intelligent and has revealed some truths although He has not revealed all, or even "all" about the ones He has revealed, since their innermost workings are mystery and, as such, beyond the scope of finite intelligence. Because the truth revealed does not extend to the "how it is so" does not invalidate the truth's statement as absolute in its own realm of "that this is so." And man can understand this much, and can formulate it clearly, and can act on it safely and validly . . . or else there is no possibility of any meaningful human intercourse whatever.

The writer's central argument is from this point "the validity of dogmas is

based on two hypotheses: 1—The full truth has been revealed to man; 2—Man can understand the full truth and formulate it in terms of human ideas." To this we say, with all due respect, that the validity of dogmas is NOT based on these two hypotheses, and thus the entire remainder of his discussion is beside the point. Further, we say that the idea of dogmas being so based rests on a false epistemological assumption, namely, that no truth that is only partially known is known as definitively true: an assumption, indeed, that destroys epistemology so that, it being now non-existent, it can afford no light in which to examine dogma, as promised in the heading of the article.

One other note. In his peroration against dogma, the writer is guilty of modern propagandist technique. That is, he applies pejorative adjectives, verbs and nouns ("frighten," "abusing," "hatred," "intolerance," "distasteful," etc.) which certainly emotionally prejudice the issue or the reader. The question, of course, is not at all whether the truth is frightening (such as the existence of Hell), but is it true? If true, then, frightening or not, distasteful or not, it is extremely salutary, hence beneficial for me to know about it. Many frightening truths are a blessing to know, such as that trans squash you rather badly if you let yourself get run over by one. Or should I say that this is distasteful and should not be made mention of in front of little children? Let them get run over, it is kinder and sweeter.

## Divine Truth

God is Truth and the pursuit of truth is the pursuit of God. His truth radiates through every facet of creation. By these radiations we go to God; but it is a step by progress. Yet if each step, especially each step given to us by God Himself, is publicly denounced as false, then life is not a fair climbing upward to light and warmth, as we Christians do believe, but a chaos, a nightmare and a mockery. When we arrive at that, we are no longer Christians, we no longer believe in God even, we are in hopeless night. This going downward can be a false step by false step movement also; thus we should be extraordinarily careful of each thoughtful step we make, especially if we undertake to lead others.

H.B.F.

## Hissing In The Pit

If you need an outlet, then here is your big chance! Come to the Hut on Friday, June 18, at 8 p.m. and hiss, cheer and weep with the crowd, at the biggest audience participation show since "Romeo and Juliet."

On that night the Aquinas College Students Club will stage "Sweeney Todd," the story of a barber who relieves the monotony of his trade by cutting throats as well as whiskers. Of the recent A.B.C. production, one critic wrote:

"With such a hackneyed plot, stale characters, and the all-pervading evil atmosphere, it could not fail to go off." Bags of overripe fruit will be available at the door. It's one show you cannot afford to miss.

## SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

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## They Are All Honourable Men . . .

Madam,  
The letter from Mr. Max Harris which appeared in the May 12 issue of "On Dit" has only recently been brought to my notice and, although this matter is now somewhat out of date, I would like to reply to the attack which I consider has been made on my personal—rather than my professional—integrity.

Had Mr. Harris attended a performance of "Romeo and Juliet" himself, and had genuinely considered I had given an unjust summing-up thereof, I should have felt him perfectly entitled to say so.

But, as Mr. Harris admits, he has not witnessed a performance of the production in question. It seems, therefore, a trifle foolhardy of him to venture an opinion on the tone of my review, or to impute to that tone motives which are as unjust as they are untrue.

First of all, I would like to make it quite clear that my criticism of "Romeo and Juliet" was based—as so many of my weekly articles are based—on two visits to this production; the first as a guest of the A.U.D.S. and the second as a paying member of the public.

Now, one advantage the contributor to a weekend newspaper has over his contemporaries of the daily press is that he may—should he so desire—pay a second visit to any particular production which he feels should be given a second opportunity to qualify for a favorable review.

This, I know, is not in accordance with common practice—but I constantly try to keep in mind that I am no longer writing about professional work produced under professional circumstances, but about untrained amateurs working with equally untrained producers. In fact, it can truly be said that I go out of my way to praise or encourage wherever I possibly can—often to the point of being over-generous.

But there are limits beyond which I am unwilling to lower my standards of appreciation, and it is not surprising, therefore, that I often find it preferable to discuss the play rather than

the actual performance or production; or even to reminisce a little—in the hope that my articles will provide interest to those readers who do not attend the theatre.

I still maintain, however, that one can justly demand a certain standard in the performance by University students of a great classical play and, for that reason—and for that reason alone—my second visit to "Romeo and Juliet" gave me no cause to revise my notes made at the first. The young people of the A.U.D.S. must not consider themselves unfairly judged if I demand from them a higher standard than most.

However, all this is beside the point at issue. Mr. Harris's attack is, in my opinion, based on a mis-statement which one can only regard as deliberate.

Firstly, Mr. Harris does rather more than suggest that I was adversely influenced by what he calls a 'send up' (whatever that may mean) of my literary style and idiosyncracies in the clever parody which appeared in "The Sunday On Dit."

I would like to remind Mr. Harris that, in his presence, I warmly congratulated the Editor and staff of the "Sunday On Dit" on the amusing quality of their tabloid in general, and for the witty satire on my style in particular. I believe I mentioned at the time that I had already purchased a number of copies to send friends overseas who would share and appreciate the joke. Far from being adversely influenced, I was extremely amused and—I must confess—a trifle flattered.

Secondly, Mr. Harris goes on to suggest that what he calls the fairly mild castigation I received from questioners at the recent symposium, had also adversely affected the tone of my review.

I hate to disappoint Mr. Harris, but far from thinking I had been castigated—however mildly—I felt the members of my audience had received me with considerable courtesy. They did indeed disagree with certain aspects of my weekly articles—and why on earth should they not?

Surely Mr. Harris does not fondly imagine that I—after years of experience with world theatre expect everyone to agree with every word I say or write? The young people of the University

have still a lot to learn about drama and the theatre—but I certainly make no claim to omniscience myself.

I enjoyed my visit to the University and I was pleased I had been invited to speak during Elizabethan Week. The reception and attention given me by the students gave no cause for diminishment of that pleasure.

However, prompted by Mr. Harris's attack, I took a further glance at the review which so offends his susceptibilities and, indeed, I am beginning to wonder what all the pother is about.

True, I took Mr. Brian Bergin to task for dissipating his talents and for appropriating an important role and throwing it away. True, the performances of Juliet, Friar Laurence, Tybalt and Paris were adversely criticised.

On the other hand, I find I have praised Romeo, Capulet, Lady Capulet, Benvolio, Sampson, Gregory, Peter and the Nurse. I praised the setting, the stage, the music, the fights, the dances, the lighting and costumes—what on earth does Mr. Harris want besides?

I said the production was static; I said it could—and therefore should—have been a brilliant success; but I had to regret that it trailed off into a grave disappointment.

I suggest, Madam Editress, that no critic of discernment could have said otherwise—particularly if he had sat through the performance to the end.

I would indeed be pleased to give full rein to my meandering style each week in as much space as the London papers used to afford me—or better still, in the enviable amount of space Mr. Brian Coghlan (as "Agate Montague") is allotted in "On Dit."

But when one has removed the padding from Mr. Coghlan's own article, has he differed so very much from the views I had to compress into such limited space? Or, indeed, COULD he?

Mr. Harris talks about the need for the goodwill of the critics but, surely, on the subject of reviews Mr. Harris is himself particularly vulnerable.

The tone and style adopted in the theatre reviews appearing in his own quaint little publication might indeed be suitably devoted to performances by the Old Vic or Stratford Companies; directed as they are toward the work of amateur groups in Adelaide, their style and content are pretentious, superficial and unjustifiably pompous.

May I remind Mr. Harris that a pre-requisite for balanced criticism is that the critic himself should be well informed. The facts speak for themselves.

To return to the point at issue; Mr. Harris—if one might venture an opinion—seems to make a habit of jumping to conclusions of a spectacularly unfortunate nature. The case at issue does nothing to increase one's opinion of his intelligence—or indeed (in view of his deliberate misrepresentation) of his integrity.

I am,  
Madam,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
H. Stafford-Northcote

The world's great men have not commonly been great scholars nor its great scholars great men.  
—HOLMES

## Periodicals, —Red Tape

Sir,—  
I wish to bring to notice what I consider to be a grievous hindrance to the pursuit of study by Honours students.

The Barr Smith Library has, amongst its regulations, the provision that periodicals may only be borrowed upon the presentation of a slip countersigned by a responsible lecturer. No doubt such a provision is wise in general. However, it seems to me that it might well be modified in the case of Honours students. I base this plea both on the need of the students and on the convenience of the Library.

If the Honours student is to fulfil the aim of his course, it is essential that he should have the opportunity of reading as widely as he can, and often, in subjects not integrally related to his own (e.g., the historian will need recourse not only to works on history, but also on the stuff of history—morals, manners, politics, art, etc.). In the short time at his disposal, such reading often is confined necessarily to brief articles in periodicals. If he is to be compelled to spend time chasing the appropriate countersigning authority for each periodical which he wishes to borrow, his task will be even more thankless. The essence of the Honours student's life is that he should have free and ready access to sources—very often he has not the time to wait upon the publication of books. For him the periodical is often the life-blood of a very tender spirit—his ardour should not be dampened by what is often an exhausting chase after a very elusive signature.

The provision, I believe, would be unnecessary under the following conditions: Only bound periodicals shall be lent; only one such periodical shall be a loan to a given student; the period of the loan shall be one week, subject to earlier recall. Thus there is no intention of removing current, unbound periodicals from public perusal, nor of allowing borrowings, either many or long, of bound periodicals. Since the number of students concerned is small, any inconvenience due to wholesale emptying of the Barr Smith basement is remote.

I believe that such a modification of the offending provision would be most salutary.

R.C.M.

## May Week Displays

Dear Madam,  
When the Departmental displays were first suggested at an S.R.C. meeting some considerable enthusiasm was shown in the idea. From that time, however, until the day on which the Departmental displays were actually given during the May Week Festival neither the S.R.C. nor the general student body heard very much more about them.

Yet even so, the displays organised by the Anatomy, Physics and the Engineering Department and the throwing open of many other departments in the University led to a surprising amount of interest both from within the University and without.

But I do think that following the undoubted success of this year's displays, particularly in view of the limited publicity, the idea could be extended next year with more Departments displaying their wares to the community, until a tradition is built up of

a day each year when all phases of the University are open to the public. With such a day the public could gain a much fuller appreciation of the work that the University does.

The S.R.C. particularly thanks all the University Departments who co-operated on that day and who gave the student body and the general public an opportunity of seeing what goes on within departmental walls.

Yours, etc.,  
DAVID PENNY

## Some Have Greatness . . .

Dear Madam,  
It is a matter for deep regret that our Queen, when in Adelaide, did not have the opportunity to visit our University and confer upon those members of the student population who have so richly deserved them the rewards of Virtue.

However, it is not too late for these honors to be bestowed. I suggest, therefore, that on the next Procession Day the following awards should be made, and the recipients paraded in their new dignities through the city, after the glorious example of Titus Oates:

Miss J. Gunning—A More-than-ennuffield Scholarship and Exhibitioner.

Mr. B. Bergin—A research Fellowship and the Freedom of the George Murray Basement.

Mr. R. Moore—The Moribundey Prize for Verse.

Mr. C. Stokes—A Liberal Education and a Benignhood.

Mr. Edward R. Pocock—A Poet's Licence (6 p.m. closing).

Mr. G. Waterhouse—The titles of Spinifex Maximus (Bush Bishop) and Malleus Scottorum (Hammer of the Scotts).

Mr. P. O'Neill—A Travelling Fellowship.

Let us show our gratitude in befitting fashion to those who have so notably merited it.

Yours, etc.,  
PRO BONO PUBLICO.

## 'Organ of A.U.D.S.'

Madam,  
What is wrong with the University Political Clubs?

Are they so far riddled with indifference and apathy that they cannot even find the courtesy to reply to a letter from the S.C.M. requesting their co-operation in organising a conference on "freedom" for the 2nd term vacation? A letter was written to all political clubs in early April—as yet there have been no replies.

Or is it, perhaps, that they, like the Editor of this organ of A.U.D.S., consider the S.C.M. so unimportant that they do not bother to give any attention to their requests?

All we ask is a little fairness, "social justice" I think the political parties call it. Surely we can expect them to act on this principle.

There is a third and more sinister reason which I suspect as the basic motive for the failure to reply. It is a subconscious feeling that any rational analysis of the concept of "freedom" will lay bare the shallowness and naivety of this catch-cry under which they are willing to justify so many political, social and moral crimes.

What are the polluted political clubs going to do? Dare they face the issue?

S.C.M. CONFERENCE OFFICER.

Continued on page 7

## An Invitation . . .

- Every student will find it necessary to operate a banking account after leaving the University.
- Why not start now with The National Bank, where the opening of even a small account brings you many benefits and advantages?
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# Letters to Editor-Continued

## Basement Artist

Dear Madam,  
I was dismayed on returning to the University at the beginning of this year to discover that the walls of the George Murray Basement lavatories had been painted a hideous bright yellow, a color that dried up my artistic inspiration at its source and of a paint so hard and shiny that pencil, pen and brush made no impression on it (which left only the possibility of using a hammer and chisel — an idea which had to be abandoned because of the likelihood of disturbing people seated nearby in meditation).

To add insult to this injury of thoughtless interference with this harmless outlet, an editorial recently appeared in "On Dit," signed by B.F.B. (presumably the maiden aunt of one of our students) who aired her scandalised and self-righteous prejudices against members of this ancient school of artistic (and sometimes witty) self expression to which I belong in such pompous terms as "distasteful . . . indecent . . . disgusting in people of cultural and intellectual standing . . . public example! . . . severest action possible! expulsion!!"

Really! What would Freud have had to say about such a violent outburst over such a trivial and harmless sexual aberration. And I wonder if he'd have been as much interested in the "artists" as in the editorial writer (for whom perhaps a separate, perfumed, pink walled cubicle could perhaps in future be set apart!)

Yours,  
P.r.s.G. (PornographyIII).

## Revue Possibility

Dear Madam,  
I recently had the pleasure of seeing a Melbourne University revue. Although the standard was very poor in comparison to the show the Footlights Club put on at the end of last year, there were one or two ideas which should be adopted here in Adelaide. The one which I proposed to mention now is one which is readily at our disposal.

In two separate acts the complete show was handed over to an Oriental student and to a New Australian student.

In their respective acts they performed a dance native to their country of birth. The Oriental student performed his dance to a simple rhythm which was effectively produced by a drum, piano and some other percussion instrument. The New Australian lass did a dance to one of Brahms' Hungarian Dances, which are easily within the scope of the musical director of the revue.

I think that with the right approach the producer will have no trouble in securing the services of these people and thus work into his revue a genuine act which is both authentic and highly interesting.

"MAX MEERSCHAUM."

**LOST**  
**Brown Leather**  
**Wallet**  
**If found, please apply**  
**Philippa Wilson**

# A-Breast of the Times

Are you interested in Chou En-Lai or Richard Murdoch, John Foster Dulles or Ben Hogan, in short, international affairs? If so, read on.

During his recent visit to our University, Professor Macmahon Ball suggested that Australia ought to co-operate more closely with the neutralist group of Asian States which last month met at Colombo.

One of our new-found friends would be the young country of Burma.

Before the war, Burma was a colony within the British Commonwealth, with very limited self-government. Under Japanese rule the Burmese for the first time themselves took over top civil service posts, sent out their own diplomatic missions and formed at least a nominal government.

In Burma, as in many Asian countries, Japanese demonstration of Asian capabilities acted as a catalyst leading to independence. Through the efforts of Tung San and Thakin Nu Burma became a sovereign State in 1947.

Independence movements had been both Socialist and Communist, but these two split after independence had been granted and the Communists became active fifth columnists. Under Thakin Nu the Socialist government has since consolidated its position.

Burma's neutralist policy in world politics is perhaps a result of the 1953 crisis, when Nationalist Chinese rebels threatened to invade Communist China, using North Burma as a base. To avoid retaliation against Burma itself, Thakin Nu promptly requested the closing of direct American aid (some of which was going to Nationalist rebels), intensified the campaign against the rebels, and assured China of her good intentions.

What are Burma's rela-



tions with Communist countries now? Although geographically linked from this direction, it has little to fear from infiltration from this direction. High mountains, thick jungles, and deep rivers separate the two countries. Burma therefore regards Communism as less of a threat than do Indo-China and Malaya, and is more tolerant towards it. Her independence from the West Socialist government, and early recognition of Communist China, all make for good relations with the East.

On the other hand, the twice devastated country of Burma must receive aid from the West if she is to survive economically. Her social structure is closer to that of the West than that of any other Oriental country, and like the West, she has a Communist fifth column to fight.

Thakin Nu has trod the thorny path of neutralism with considerable dexterity.

Only ignorance leads America to expect all Asia to flock to her side if large-scale intervention brought military victory in Indo-China. At the Colombo conference Burma supported India and Indonesia in calling for non-intervention by Britain, the U.S., Russia, or China in Indo-China. Whether Australia joins with her or not, it looks as though Burma will for some time be a member of this third world group, which may play so important a part in future international relations.

## ONE MORE TITLE

Adelaide travelled 28,000 passenger miles to Brisbane and back to win their first basketball Inter-Varsity.

On the opening day Adelaide ran through Tasmania, second last year, 61-23; Allard was the star with 29 points.

The key match was against Sydney who were hot favorites for the title. We scored from the centre jump in the first seconds of the game, and then accurate long shots from Evans and Fung had Sydney on the defensive.

The match became rough when Sydney, narrowly behind, changed to a man-to-man defence toward the end; Lawrence was sent off with five fouls. Adelaide drew away in the closing minutes to win 53-39. Evans was highest scorer with 16 points. Adelaide overwhelmed Melbourne in the third game to win 64-17 and Allard piled up 30 points.

On the last day Adelaide played Queensland, and by winning 58-29 clinched the shield. Lee scored 17 points and was too elusive for the Queensland guards.

In the combined team of ten were five Adelaide players: Lee (captain), Evans, Allard, Fung and Lawrence.

## BADMINTON

This year we hoped that at last we should be able to hold Inter-Varsity badminton in the September vacation. Now we hear from Melbourne that the badminton club, formed there in 1951, is all but defunct and will not be able to gather together a team.

There is a chance Sydney may compete, however, and we are eagerly awaiting a reply from that quarter.

In Association matches so far the "B" Grade is showing up decidedly better than the "C."

Watch for a complete survey of the games, including statements from the captains and leading authorities, in the next issue of "On Dit!"

## GOLF

B. T. Nolte won the stroke and handicap event at the Golf Club's first meeting at Grange on Tuesday, June 1, with an excellent 79—nett 72. Due to bad weather the attendance was poor, but it is hoped that at future meetings we will see a good field, especially freshers.

Other scores were: P. J. Martin 84—nett 74; E. Tamlin, 88—nett 78; D. Williams, 93—nett 79; G. Clarke, 95—nett 80.

# SOCCER CLUB WINS INTERVARSITY TITLE

In Melbourne, during the second week of the vacation, the Adelaide Soccer Team defeated both the Melbourne and Sydney teams for the first time in eight years of Inter-Varsity Soccer, to win the Napier Cup.

On Tuesday, the first day of the Carnival, Adelaide met and defeated Sydney, 5 goals to one. Sydney opened the scoring, after about fifteen minutes of play, with a goal by a penalty kick. Chan, for Adelaide evened the score soon after and although Sydney had the advantage of a strong wind the strong Adelaide back and half-back lines held them scoreless for the rest of the half. In the second half, Adelaide, with the fastest and best co-ordinated forward lines seen in Inter-Varsity soccer, made use of the strong wind to score four goals, Sydney not scoring.

The second day of the Carnival, a tired Adelaide team met Melbourne, last year's cup holders in what was virtually the final match as far as the cup was concerned. First Wan and then Chan scored for Adelaide, and due, once again, to our strong defence and an excellent save by goalie John Love, the half-time score remained at

two nil. Due probably to Adelaide's hard game the previous day, the second half was much more even. Melbourne were first to score in this half, but Burford quickly retaliated with a third goal. There was no further score and the game ended with the score at 3 goals to one.

Though Melbourne and Sydney played on the Thursday (Sydney defeating Melbourne 6-1) the Carnival was already over when Adelaide beat Melbourne. This was the first time that an Inter-Varsity soccer carnival has been won in the first two days of play.

Adelaide's victory was celebrated officially at a combined Inter-Varsity Soccer-Football Dance on the Wednesday night and a Presentation Dinner at the Mayfair Hotel on the Thursday night. It was also unofficially celebrated in the front bar of the University Hotel on Wednesday afternoon.

# SLIDE RULES?

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## CONSERVATORIUM BACH FESTIVAL

June 17—July 2, 1954

(Admission Free)

Special Engagement of Mancel Kirby, Harpsichordist.

### Programmes:

- June 17, 1.10 p.m.—Organ Recital . . . . . Elder Hall  
(John Horner)
- June 18, 8.00 p.m.—Lecture Recital . . . . . South Hall  
(J. V. Peters)
- June 20, 3.00 p.m.—Cantata . . . . . Elder Hall  
God so Loved the World  
(Lydian Singers)  
Violin Concerto in E  
(Harold Fairhurst)  
Piano Concerto in D minor  
(Clemens Leske)
- June 21, 8.15 p.m.—University Music Society, Bozython Hall  
(Tickets required)
- June 23, 8.15 p.m. . . . . Elder Hall  
2. Violin Concerto in D minor  
2. Piano Concerto in C  
(Davies, Fairhurst, Bishop, Dossor)
- June 24, 8.15 p.m.—Harpsichord Recitals—Arics . Elder Hall  
Mancel Kirby—Kevin Kitto
- June 27, 2.30 p.m.—St. Matthew Passion . . . . . Elder Hall  
(Combined Choirs, with Worthley, Harrison, Fidock, Fletcher)  
And further concerts until July 2.

# HISTORIC WIN FOR ADELAIDE

## ASAHI CUP RESIDES HERE FOR FIRST TIME

In this year of grace, 1954, the Adelaide University Rugby team returned victorious from the Inter-Varsity carnival in Perth. This gives Adelaide the right to keep two cups here for the rest of the year . . . the Kanematsu and the Asahi. The Asahi Cup is presented for annual competition between the Universities of Australia, and this is the first time ever that Adelaide has earned the right to its possession. The Kanematsu fulfils a promise made earlier in the year. The Asahi Cup is, unfortunately, not here yet, as it has not been sent from Brisbane. Owing to difficulties in distance and finance, New South Wales was represented by the University of Technology, while Queensland and Tasmania could not be represented.

It is almost certain that the two cups (one in absentia) will be christened at the welcome for the Fijians at the Refectory on Tuesday, June 15th, and it is anticipated that all members of the University teams will be present to witness this really memorable event. Congratulations for a very good win! Bruce almost deserves to be photographed. It is a pity that Tom's black eyes does not show up in black and white print . . . the black was, perhaps not black enough, just a shade between blue and purple, probably! BUT has anybody seen an ear? Byron Kakulas is most anxious to have it back, although it is most likely to be lying on the green pastures of Western Australia waiting for a hungry cow with a craving for cauliflower! Tough luck, Byron, we hope you will sprout another one soon. You must learn to take knocks in Rugby and it is bad management to run up against a 15 stone forward!

Our back-line worked well in all the games and the forwards never let them down. This is obvious from the fact that Gordon Baron-Hay scored no less than 6 tries in one match, playing on the wing. With the defeat of the University of W.A. 20-9 and 3-0, and the University of Melbourne 30-5, the outlook for the team this year is refinitely rosy. The pity is that non of the side may play against the Fijians and the only solution now is to arrange a

tour of Fiji in the very near future!

It would appear that it was fun and games in Perth all the time. No doubt the winning of the Carnival was enough to send the mildest of all men into fits of ecstasy and that, together with the overwhelming hospitality of the West Australians left the team little time for slumber. When the team relaxed, they relaxed hard. This is something of a paradox but it is the only way to describe the stay there. Many were the snores emanating above the noise of the train on the way back to Adelaide. Skipper Higgins was still too full of the West to realise the best way to stop a man snoring was to pull his nose. All the same if you had a twist in your nose as Mac had, can anyone blame you for sleeping with your mouth open? A few flies must have met their untimely ends in that monstrous cavity.

Much talent was discovered amongst the team in the trip. Peter Burville can actually talk! The luscious blonde on the train will testify to that fact. Adelaide has been reputed to have quite a repertoire of songs and they proved themselves worthy of such fame. John ('The Voice') Potter could be heard above the crowd in social gatherings, while Bruce had the misfortune to be left singing the vices of woodpeckers all by himself in a carriage full of women. It is indeed remarkable how the rest of the team suddenly lost their voices.

The train journey to Perth left railway officials stunned by the sudden appearance of 'Black Dynamite' in every carriage. Dean Andarry was so wrapped up in the elections that he was diplomatic enough to persuade a couple of worthy gentlemen to contribute to the team's welfare fund, and should be considered a good thing in the next Election Stakes.

The arrival in Perth amidst wintry conditions was enough to daunt the bravest heart. Later the warmth of the hospitality thawed the team out to such an extent that one car in particular decided to go back for more. If it was not enough for a stroke of masterly inactivity on the part of Hui (medical students please note) Adelaide would have had to call on their reserves. One piece of strategy foiled.

After an uneventful night at an hotel the team shifted quarters to the University Hostel in order to be closer to the scene of future activities. All went well until Hugh Fraser discovered he was allotted to the women's section of the Hostel. Now this has nothing to do with the instincts of homing pigeons . . . he was merely paying the penalty for being a married man. Penalty! That night the team celebrated their first win over their hosts in the Refectory, completely surrounded by admiring females. Of course from then on the team never looked back. There was no need to! The little man be-

hind the scenes turned to be young Hone who did a lot of ground work aided and abetted by his knowledge of termites. This young adventurer rose to the occasion several times. He is also recommended for parking cars in limited spaces. An inheritance from St. Mark's no doubt. After his hard work it is indeed wonderful that Graham Watkins still has any floorboards left at home. Ron Tan bounced on them several times to make sure and never recovered from the shock.

Well, it was a grand trip. The team left jubilant and victorious. They also left three broken teams, three of their players, scores of broken hearts, Tony Adams' handkerchief, and the Warden of St. George's looking for his best linen. He found it later (from reports) strung from a flag-pole, a token of surrender to the invading hordes. The three staunch hearts left behind were to fight a rearguard action for Combined Universities against a State side. Con-

gratulations to Johnny Williams, Pud Olden and Gordon Baron-Hay for being able to go back and ask for more. The others decided it was time enough to quit.

So in the words of the worthy James Fitzpatrick: "At last we bid a fond farewell to Perth — that land of milk and honey (can do with more of that honey!), of narrow streets and wide open spaces, of heart-warming kindness and generous hospitality. Thank you for having us. We will be here to welcome you next year. Thank you, "SOAKS," for a very enjoyable evening and thank you, blokes, for three very good games. We will be back!"

By the way Bruce sounds W-O-N-D-E-R-F-U-L over the air. The Western Australians in the Adelaide team make no comments. They confined their activities mainly to subjects best-known to themselves. To coaches the team offers its heartfelt thanks as it was their excellent work that made this victory possible.

## QUEENSLAND WINS SYME.

*After a week of good hockey and riotous living, about eighty visiting Inter-Varsity hockey players have gone their various ways home and local followers of the game are beginning to adjust themselves to their old way of life again.*

Queensland, who were unbeaten, and shone out as the outstanding team of the carnival, took the Syme Cup north with them for the second consecutive year. Adelaide tied in second place with Sydney and Western Australia, Melbourne were fifth and Tasmania last.

In its opening match, Adelaide got off to a bad start by going down to Queensland 2-1, but on the second day it had a narrow 1-0 victory over Sydney, and in the following match, in very wet conditions, had an easy win from Melbourne 4-1. After a 5-1 victory over Tasmania and with the carnival already decided, Adelaide gave its reserves a run in the final match against Western Australia, and was beaten 3-2 in a close game.

Although all members of the team had their moments, those who were most consistently good were perhaps John Gollodge and Jagir Singh in the forward line, and the two full backs Narinder Singh and Thanwant Singh. Gollodge was outstanding in the game against Tasmania, while Narinder carried the baby in the first match.

The hockey ended on a high note with the Combined University team containing three S.A. players—Narinder Singh, Jagir Singh, and Ross Clarke—thrashing the S.A. State side 7-1. Thanwant Singh and Lloyd Coats were reserves for the combined side.

Neville Meaney is to be congratulated on his inclusion in the Australian Uni-



versities team to tour New Zealand in August.

The social side of the carnival which was organised by Lloyd Coats, went as smoothly as the matches, and team hosts worked hard, and with marked success, to ensure that no visitor had time for rest and relaxation. Organised events included a sherry party to welcome the players, a drive through the hills, a reception for team captains, the Inter-Varsity Ball and the dinner. At the latter function, "Doc" Stringer, of Queensland, carried out his annual draining of the Syme Cup after several mighty drinkers had failed, but he again fell short of the elusive "Five Minute Syme."

Queensland's example, both on and off the field could well serve as an inspiration to all local players to train hard for next year's carnival in Hobart.

## A BRILLIANT FAILURE

If the success of the Inter-Varsity trip to Melbourne depended wholly upon our regaining the title, then strictly speaking it was a failure. But what a trip—colossal, or better still, mighty!

With ugly memories of shoulder holsters and the double beds of an earlier trip the team converged upon Melbourne and heaved sighs of content on beholding the stately portals of Trinity College. Here was the place to have an Inter-Varsity—hot and cold running — and all that!

The team had three matches ahead of it in four days. The first two, against Sydney and Hobart, were traditionally friendly games, won easily and used to shape the final eighteen into perfect trim. Charlie Akkermans and Wimpy both took the opportunity to net a bag of goals—21 between them. But it was to Thursday's game that everything turned — even the Cabaret Dance on Wednesday night, an old trick for unwary visitors. George and Tony Malone both flew over, but to cut the story short, their presence failed to bring off the title. With a heavy ground and a leaden, slippery ball, the Melbourne team

played purposeful and skilful football and proved themselves too good. It would not, however, be platitudinous to say that the game was closer than the scores might indicate. Geoff Krieger played magnificently at half-back, while Jerry Martin roved in his inimitable way. Mention, too, must be made of that much-mentioned little man, Koehne, who to everyone's relief didn't give Yoffa a goal. Our heartiest congratulations must go to Melbourne — and among their number to John Hayes and Geoff Tunbridge.

But this would not have been a true Inter-Varsity without a story of social exploits. Remarks on this score must necessarily be guarded and discreet, but some classical performances were registered. Koehne's half-time talk against Tasmania will live long—"Fight on," indeed! Johnson and Symon upon the ice at St. Moritz exhibited an unsurpassed technique, however much they may deny it. Kitchener and his confreres showed the benefits of long and arduous midnight sessions around the billiard table by miscueing as accurately on the last day as on the first. Little Collins

Street with its doubtful reputation attracted the attention of an unnamed trio, who with appetites keen, plunged into the hoary gloom only to find evidence of road work and nothing else — a disappointing exploit!

But Thursday was the night of nights. After the dinner, when Koehne showed how really — er — retiring he is, the real business got under way. Far into the night the revelry continued; the choosing of the team to play Darwin in Alice Springs seeming to keep most of them up for most of the night. Many, indeed, found themselves proceeding to breakfast immaculate, though wan and jaded, in their Sunday best.

Before signing off, a bouquet or two must be thrown about in appropriate directions. Firstly, to the Melbourne club for their momentous hospitality, and secondly, to Bill McCoy who found time, among his moments of revelry, to undertake the managerial tasks. Such efforts as his often pass unnoticed, and the team offers its thanks.

And it's Hobart next year — far away, but there will be a team breaking its neck to go!

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