

RED HEN CAFE

(Opposite Richmond Hotel, in Richmond Arcade)

COFFEE LOUNGE AND GRILL ROOM

Opens 9.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Every Day.

Convenient for Students.

Service and Civility our Motto.

On Dit

Adelaide University S.R.C.
Published Fortnightly

Medical Students! Malcolm McNeil

240 RUNDLE STREET
(8 doors East of Tavistock Street)
where he carries full supplies
of
MEDICAL BOOKS, INSTRUMENTS,
AND JOURNALS

MALCOLM McNEIL

240 RUNDLE STREET . . . W 2031

Vol. 23, No. 4

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1955

One Penny

GERM WARFARE

TIM MURRELL Considers Our University Health Service

Adelaide's Health Service is the only one of its kind among the Australian Universities.

The efforts of Dr. D. R. W. Cowan, of Adelaide, have resulted in an Australia-wide student health programme being initiated and developed.

Adelaide University's Health Clinic is situated in the former Geology Laboratory. The clinic was opened in 1953 and now contains such modern amenities as a theatre.

Attendance at the clinic for examination is compulsory for all freshers. Although senior students are not obliged to attend, it is highly advisable that they also should have an annual examination.

OVER 4,500 examinations have been made at the clinic since it was opened. In the last 12 months over 700 examinations have been made, suggesting that the clinic is growing in popularity and effectiveness. But these 700 students total only 30 per cent. of the student population.

It is the ambition of the doctors who serve voluntarily in the clinic that the remaining 70 per cent. should take advantage of the benefits offered them by this service. Over 50 per cent. of the students examined since the inception of the service have had some kind of organic or psychological disorder which has required attention; these figures emphasise the imperative need for all students to attend the clinic at least once a year. The purpose of the clinic is not to treat students for diagnosed defects—after diagnosis of a complaint, the student is advised to consult his own doctor for treatment.

STUDENT health services in Australia lag far behind those in the United States and England. In the U.S. there is no university which does not provide its students with a minimum service of medical examination, followed by correction of defects and provision against future ill-health.

Whereas the Adelaide health service offers no more than a free medical examination, X-ray, and a TB test, a more extensive system has been instituted in the University of Western Australia.

Since 1952, under the guidance of the University Health

Officer, the Guild of Undergraduates (SRC) has provided students with a voluntary physical culture section which caters for about 200 students each year. This is a highly desirable scheme, since, although some students here are sport-mad, the majority of them do not have enough exercise. A physical culture scheme along the

sities. When the Adelaide centre was opened, Dr. Cowan expressed the hope that it will be continued and expanded until it covers the whole field of the life and the health of the student."

THERE are three avenues for improvement of our health service:

● Obtaining finance from the Government, either Federal or State (via N.U.A.U.S.).

● Obtaining assistance from the Universities themselves.

● Self-help—for instance, the student health service in Finland was founded and is administered and maintained by students themselves. It employs nine physicians and four nurses, and is in charge of both the medical and the health care of students.

MOST examinees accrue great benefit from frank discussion with the examining doctor. Even if no organic weakness is found, the health service provides facilities for a check-up on mental health. The incidence of psychological abnormalities has been proved quite high.

However, it is the opinion of examining doctors that the worst cases—both medical and psychological—do not attend for examination.

The suicide rate among students—particularly in England—is far in excess of that among a proportionate number of ordinary workers. Students are also far more prone to mental breakdowns than most other members of the community.

This fact may be attributed to the unbalanced life led by most students, and to the shortness of the academic year. We cram our minds for four months of the year—living on from six to eight hours' sleep, rushing round to parties at the week-end; some students also play sport two nights a week and again on Saturdays. Is it any wonder that our resistance is lowered? The high-tension age in which we live makes students, as well as other workers, open targets for physical and mental disorders.

The Health Clinic in Adelaide has been responsible for detecting such major physical abnormalities as the following:

- A number of cases of active TB.
- Scores of cases of other chest abnormalities requiring treatment.
- Caecal carcinoma (cancer of the intestine).
- Hydatid cysts.



SANDY NIELD.

lines of the one in W.A. is a distant aim of the Adelaide Health Committee.

SANDY Nield has done much research into student health service in Australia and beyond. He says: "It must be realised from the outset that health services cannot be created in a day—they may take many years. The first step that students can take is for them to realise that a health service is a necessity."

An efficiently organised health service undertaking the three essentials:

- Medical care, including regular examinations and chest X-rays.
- Physical education.
- Medical education, may be thought of as a tedious flourish to an over-organised university life.

"Upon investigation, little direct help and financial assistance has been forwarded by the Commonwealth Department of Health. It has largely been the initiative of a few public health-minded graduates who have started things moving in the univer-

Many of the statistics and findings in this article are drawn from the 30-page Health Report prepared last year by medical student Sandy Nield for the N.U.A.U.S. Health Commission.

Mr. Nield's report covered all the medical services in Australian universities.

N.U.A.U.S. is aiming to obtain Federal Government assistance for University Health Services—this was refused earlier on the grounds that such a service should be maintained by the universities themselves.

Of 1,074 examinations, 749 students had poor posture, and 169 had skin trouble. These results indicate the need to make full use of this medical scheme.

SINCE 1953 action has been taken on all the objectives set out by the Health Service Committee:

● To provide a diagnostic service for students and staff based on a complete medical examination.

● To advise students and

● To advise generally on all matters concerning the health and well-being of students.

Dr. Gar Bone, a former Varsity blue, has set up a Sports Clinic which functions every Monday afternoon. Here sporting "crocks" can have their injuries attended to.

The health of the University community will benefit from your active support of the health service.

Even if you feel that you are perfectly healthy it is essential that you should have at least one complete check-up and an X-ray every year.

In this way any incipient disease can be arrested while still in the early stages, thus preventing in many cases loss of time and a long course of treatment.

TO sum up in the words of

of Sandy Nield: "The general population, through the governments, is making an investment so that the community will be provided with educated men. Up to half the University's income is provided by State and Federal governments, and this amount will increase. What use is their 'education' if the weakness of their bodies renders at nought the efforts of their minds?"

"The health of young men and women congregated in a University, with their own occupational hazards, offers a challenge which cannot be ignored by a nation which claims to be health-conscious."

An effective health service can be established only when all concerned—students and staff—realise that a University exists to train the "whole man"—mentally, physically, morally and spiritually. Your support is essential for this service to fulfil its purpose. The administrators of the Health Centre invite suggestions for the extension of the service.



TIM MURRELL.

staff on the results of these examinations.

● Where necessary to give help in obtaining specialist diagnosis and further treatment.

● To advise students on sporting injuries.

● To provide students with certificates of health when these are required by a University faculty or department.

● To assist in the provision of adequate physical education and health education programmes for students.

● To provide material for and carry out research into the health of University students.

INSIDE:

P. 2: Letter from Penny.

P. 3: Controversy on Hall Plans.

PP. 4 and 5: Crits. Galore.

On dit that one of the paintings submitted for the Blake Prize—by Dr. Michael Brus — was rejected on the grounds that an unorthodox interpretation was placed on the character of Judas. He is portrayed as fulfilling the Scriptures and paying the supreme sacrifice in his betrayal of Christ. The quality of the painting is not stated.

* * * *

North Terrace gave us some delight with two slips last week:

From "The News," April 28: 'Old Ben, rolling a cigarette and leaning with his ars on the fence.'

From "The Mail," April 30: 'Lord Louis Mountbatten, exuding the celebrated Mountbatten harm.'

* * * *

We sympathised with the astonishment of the Philosophy School when a first year woman student presented her lecturer with a terminal essay on 'Night is Right' instead of 'Might is Right.'

* * * *

"The Sunday Advertiser" has gained international recognition with the recording in "Punch" of one of its most classic "literals"—'Mr. Casey, the Minister for Eternal Affairs.'

* * * *

Our plaudits to Sydney Granfeldt, writer in the new Adelaide theatre magazine 'On Stage,' for one of the cleverest send-ups of all time. The 'little brown-suited man' whom Mr. Granfeldt handled so scathingly is none other than Bon Maguire, the all unwitting editor of the magazine. He alone refuses to acknowledge the resemblance.

* * * *

Faithful transcript of two consecutive placards advertising mechanical toys in Woolworth's window:

"For Mother with Love"—
"Steel Body with Siren."

* * * *

Another woman student's Refectory definition (one hopes inadvertent) of a sixteen-year-old boy—

"He's something between a soprano and a man."

of reflective thinking and revision, and lessen the possibility that one may be "caught" on a "tricky" or obscure question.

But this does not mean to say that there are not still far, far too many exams.



David Penny, S.R.C. President in 1953-4, is now in Stanford doing research into food economics. If this photo is an indication, he has become the Compleat American Student.

and in so doing he promises to report any violations of the Code.

These violations are then reported to a student committee, which acts as judge, the sentences, quite severe, being determined by the University. As far as it is possible to tell, there are very few violations of the trust that has been placed in the students of the University. As confirmation of this view, one can only say that by far the highest proportion of violations are found among graduate students, most of whom have not been indoctrinated in a system which leaves examination honesty as a matter for individual responsibility.

The principal advantages of this system of exams. lies in the much freer atmosphere that exists in the exam. room. One may talk, go out and get a cup of coffee, or smoke, if this does not disturb the other examinees.

In such an atmosphere one is far better able to do one's best work. If one wishes, indeed, one can retire, with another examinee (to retain the principle of joint student responsibility) to a situation where the exam. may be written on a typewriter, or where soft sweet music may help to while away the hectic

hours! For someone who is quite unused to this amount of trust being placed in students, I can only say that exams. are more enjoyable if taken in this way—that is, if exams. ever can be really enjoyable.

The Honor Code, itself the result of continuous student pressure over a period of years, is a very real part of what is known as Stanford Spirit, and is a privilege that the students would be very loath to lose, representing, as it does, a recognition of the assumption of adult responsibility.

"Take Homes"

One further feature of the examination system at Stanford are the number of "Take Homes" and "Open Book" exams. In the former case one has an (usually) unlimited amount of time in which to complete the exam. paper (three to four days), and has access to as many books as one wishes, whilst in the latter one is permitted to use as many sources as one wishes in the time allotted for the exam.

Are these types of exam. easy? No, I fear not, having taken a few of them; but they do have the advantage that they allow some amount

Editor: MARGARET ROBERTSON.

News Editor: DARLENE JOHNSON.

Magazine Editor: JOHN HEUZENROEDER

Editorial Assistants:

LEE KERSTEN,
JOAN APPLETON.

Sports Editor: IAN HAIG.

Photographic Editor: JOHN KAUFMAN.

Reporters:

PAT LeMESSURIER, MEREDITH AUSTIN, IAN GREN-FELL, BOB ROBERTSON, RICK DALLY, KAMEEL HAMRA, MICHAEL SMYTH.

Photographers:

JOHN KAUFMAN, JIM BETTISON, ROY McDONALD, JOHN WARREN, MICK ROSENBLIDS, BOB FOWLER.

Cartoonist:

LAURENCE SCHNEIDER.

Tutor in French Language and Literature to the

News Editor:

PAULETTE MARDER.

From Penny In America

Stanford University, the Leland Stanford Junior University, lies in California, some 30 miles south of San Francisco.

Despite its location in the West of the United States, and its relative youth (first classes in 1891), it lays claim to being one of the really fine Universities in the United States.

Its claim has some justification, for it has produced some very fine scholars, and numbers Hoover, President 1928-1932, among its most distinguished graduates.

It is a private University, and those who wish to enter it must pay some 250 dollars per term in tuition alone. Being an almost wholly residential University, the student must pay an additional 800 dollars to live on the campus, in fraternity or dormitory.

This does not mean to say that students from the lower income groups cannot attend Stanford, but there are few scholarships available, and great competition for them.

Phenomenon

The private University is, of course, a phenomenon of the United States.

I do not mean to say, of course, that the private University does not get any money at all from the Government: at Stanford some four million dollars of the total budget of 20 million dollars comes directly from the Government, mainly, it is true, for specific research projects connected with defense (Sic.—Ed.), but from the Government withal.

When Stanford University was founded, in 1885, with an endowment of 21 million dollars, it was by far the best endowed University in the United States. A series of calamities, not the least of which was the great San Francisco earthquake of 1906, and Senator Stanford's loss of power in the railway monopoly (through which he had made the money to endow the new University), led to lean times for the University.

It has not, therefore, been able to retain the grand schemes for expansion that were evident from the first buildings.

Protection

Like all other private Universities in the U.S., save a very select few (Harvard's endowment is now more than 300 million dollars), Stanford is now in the position where it can only cater for students who can afford to pay the very high tuition and other fees. Should the position deteriorate further, it is quite possible that the Government will have to be asked to step in and help in something of the way that Universities are aided in England and Australia.

Its being a private University does mean that Stanford will provide a little more protection to members of its academic staff than the State Universities have been able to do. No loyalty oath is required at Stanford, and the fact that it is run and attended by people to whom private business interests are very important does not mean that the Faculty in the History, Economics, Political Science, and other departments do not contain professors of very diverse views.

Its academic year is run on the quarter system. Under such a regime there are final exams. at the end of every term, whence one begins the grind again. Since exams. are very frequent, this also means that the Faculty finds it almost impossible to mark all the papers concerned. As a result, many graduate, and even undergraduate students, are enlisted to mark papers, producing an element of chance that is never wholly absent from the examination system, but which is thereby greatly magnified.

* * *

To find that quite a high standard of academic performance is required at an American University (College) is a surprise to many who come from some other educational background.

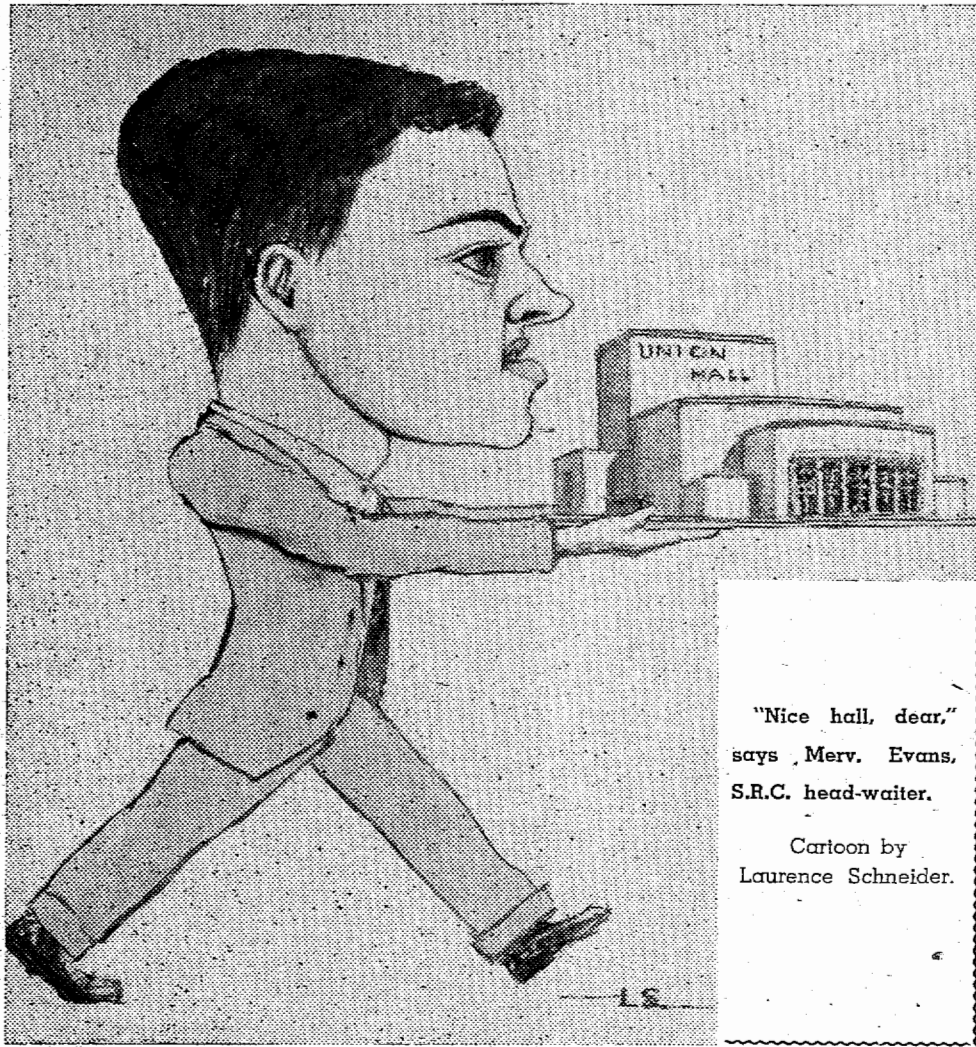
It is true that a far higher proportion of the freshmen intake into an American University will finally end up with the magic letters after his name, but to do well is a matter of both hard work and ability. (Which is probably a pity for those of us who would like to spend our time seeing more of the sights and delights of modern America, for none of us likes to have our stereotypes shattered.)

But it is not only a surprise to find that, even in the strongly social atmosphere of the Fraternities (and these organisations produce students with consistently lower grades than the rest of the University), a great deal of hard studying is done: what is more interesting is that Stanford has come to the conclusion that their students can be treated as sane and balanced adults when it comes to the taking of exams. (Of the frequency of exams. one could say some bitter words, but this is another subject.)

Honor System

Stanford University conducts its exams. on an Honor System. Under this system there is no Faculty supervision whatsoever of the conditions under which the exams. are undertaken. Each student signs the Honor Pledge before each exam.,

Appeal A Month Hence FESTIVAL PLANS AFOOT



"Nice hall, dear,"
says Merv. Evans,
S.R.C. head-waiter.

Cartoon by
Laurence Schneider.

Plans for the June Festival are now well in hand.

This Festival, sponsored by the S.R.C., will take place from June 8 to 15.

It will coincide with the first week of the Union Building Appeal.

The purpose of this Festival, says S.R.C. President Evans, is to interest the public in the affairs of the University. It is hoped that wide press and radio publicity will encourage outsiders to come to the University to see it at work.

Among the activities planned for Festival Week are sports matches, lectures, a debate, an Art exhibition, and a student concert in the Elder Hall. In addition, departmental displays are being organised, and the co-operation of the various faculties in this matter is at present being sought.

Apart from evening fixtures during this week, a number of club meetings will be held in the lunch-hour.

Since the time fast approacheth, clubs and societies

are asked to submit their plans to the S.R.C. Office as soon as possible.

• Vanity Fair

Anne Levy and Jean Goldsworthy are anxious to obtain more old clothes for their Jumble Sale, to be held in aid of the Union Appeal.

The sale will take place on May 13, in Wagner's Arcade, O'Connell Street, North Adelaide.

Offerings of fairly well-conditioned cast-offs should be brought to the S.R.C. Office as soon as possible.

There is no foundation in the malicious rumor spread by Miss Levy that the Editor will donate a winter skirt.

• Art Exhibition

The annual S.R.C. Art Exhibition, which will run during the Festival week, is being directed this year by Anthony Ketley, a second-year Arts student.

Last year's exhibition was a great success, but it is hoped that this year it will be even better.

Contributions, which must be handed in at the S.R.C. Office, or to Anthony Ketley, by the first day of second term (Monday, June 6), may include drawings, paintings,

models, or any other objets d'art.

The exhibition will open two days later, on Wednesday, June 8. Prizes are awarded for the best entries. Further information may be obtained from the S.R.C. Office.

• Festival Committee

The Festival Committee will meet again on Tuesday, May 10, at 1.15 in the Graduates' Room.

The agenda includes the drawing up of a plan for Festival activities, and so all Club and Society representatives are asked to have suggestions prepared for the part their group can play.

Dissent Over Design — Coghlan Will Explain

Considerable comment on the merits of the design of the proposed Union Hall has arisen since the display of the model at the Special General Meeting of students held last month.

Architectural students have been particularly vocal, but there are universal criticisms that the design is too modern for its surroundings, or out of date, or unimaginative, and so on.

The S.R.C. has, therefore, invited Mr. Brian Coghlan, Chairman of the Union Council, to speak on the design of the Union Hall, on Wednesday, May 11, at 1.15, in the Lady Symon Hall. The meeting will be open to general discussion, questions and criticisms.

Plans for the new Union

**All "ON DIT"
copy must reach
the Editor by the
Friday preceding
publication.**

Trays are still being left on the lawns! On some occasions there has been a filthy mess on these lawns for days on end. If this continues students will be forbidden to take any trays outside the Refectory.

Hall were first drawn up by the University architects, and then submitted in turn to the Union Council, the S.R.C., and the Dramatic Society.

Each of these bodies approved the design in general, but submitted a number of recommendations for improvements in detail. Most of these recommendations have since been incorporated in the design.

Little has yet been said of the interior of the Hall, and it is this aspect particularly that Mr. Coghlan will deal with on Wednesday. The members of the Dramatic Society, who investigated the plan in some detail, feel that the Union Hall will rank among the most up-to-date theatres.

At this meeting the plans of the Hall will be on display, and also the model prepared by the Modellers' Group. Criticisms by all will be welcomed.

• Vogue

The Women's Union will resuscitate itself to present a chronological mannequin parade in Festival Week.

This was decided at the W.U. general meeting on April 21.

Despite Bikini rumors, antiquity is the keynote. Hoarders of by-gone fashions are implored to lend these to the organisers of the Parade. The committee — Genevieve Dixon, Virginia Conrad, Rosalind Beven and Rosemary Wiesner—hope that as many women students as possible will volunteer as mannequins.

Further details will be announced later; the venue—Refectory—and time—lunch-hour—are now definite.

• Cook's Tour

• Pet Recipes Wanted

REFECTORY DANCES

★ Hockey/Music Ball
8 p.m., MAY 7

★ Engineering Ball
8 p.m., MAY 14

TICKETS FOR BOTH AT S.R.C. OFFICE

★ Jazz Club Informal
(Six Bands)
8 p.m., MAY 19

Ariel Speaks

Dear Madam,—

One of the favorite catch-cries of our forbears is that "money is too easily come by nowadays." After reading the "On Dit" editions March 21 and April 15 of this year, I am inclined to think that whatever be the general truth of such a statement, it certainly seems to apply to the job of Editor of the "On Dit."

Admittedly any newspaper must possess variety of articles, but this does not excuse some of the revolting poetry that you are permitting to be printed in the paper of which you are Editor.

Much of the poetry of "Caliban" seems to mock at the idea of human dignity, and the importance of Christian moral value—e.g., "morals to hell, and brains not important." Perhaps I lay myself open to criticism for expressing such lofty sentiments inside a University where my ideas of the importance of human dignity and of unswerving allegiance to Christian morals may be the ideas of one of a minority. If so, I nevertheless avail myself of this means open to all to register my protest and disgust at the writings of Caliban.

I do not deny that his works are clever, nor do I think they are all objectionable.

Therefore, unless it completely offends his philosophy of life, could he not write of man as an animal forever elevated above other animals by an immortal soul, whose behaviour should be other than that of the ordinary animal?

N. R. CROWE.

[Caliban's comment for publication is "Grrr!" For further information, see page 5.

I think myself that the first paragraph is quite unnecessarily insulting.—Editor.]

What Dreams Are Made Of

Dear Madam,—

The announcement of the Salk polio vaccine has caused a stir in the medical world only equalled by the discovery of penicillin and the antibiotics.

This stir was closely followed by a minor explosion by the general public—you know, those people who go to work forty hours a week, and who pay their income tax the first of July every year—when it was announced by Dr. Salk that an Australian, Dr. H. L. Bazeley, has been working in close co-operation with him for at least the last two years.

Not only has Bazeley had access to the results, but also permission to forward the findings to the Australian Government.

The fact that the Australian Government was in possession of any data concerning the vaccine as research progressed, and seemed to make no use of it until a positive result was forthcoming, indicates a case of gross criminal negligence on somebody's part.

Whether Sir Earle Page is responsible or not is not for me to decide, but I find that whenever someone has bungled, a scapegoat has to be found in a hurry.

The Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, at about a cost

of £200,000, can start full-scale production of a vaccine, representing about 300,000 doses a month. In Victoria at least 900,000 doses are required to immunise its children under ten years of age alone.

The last time I listened to Canberra a major discussion was centred round the economics of transporting the Rhesus monkey by sea or by air. With this in mind, let us waste a few more months here or there . . . after all, what do a few extra hundred cases of polio matter?

America will send us all the vaccine we URGENTLY require for that AMPLE dollar allowance Mr. Menzies has set aside for that purpose. Meanwhile, let us have a referendum as to whether the monkeys should be sent by submarine or flying saucers.

For every new case of polio from this day on the

ration of Debates and Drama Convention recommendations. And two members (representatives from Queensland and Adelaide) of the N.U.A.U.S. Council, which drew up the programme, were also members of the Debates Convention.

Neither Hobart, Melbourne, nor Brisbane delegates at Council raised any objections to the holding of debates in Adelaide.

Because debates were held in Perth last year, the Debates Reserve is at present showing a quite unprecedented deficit of £315. To hold debates in either Hobart or Brisbane on top of this, in spite of the increase in participants' fees, would increase a deficit which is already threatening National Union finances.

To suggest that debates should in consecutive years go to the uttermost corners of Australia, to the detriment

of the University has been twofold—there has always been the dissemination of knowledge to those who wish to have it, either for its own sake, or for professional qualification, and also the search after truth, or research.

The education given has been both liberal and specialised: the student is expected to acquire an appreciation of values, aesthetic, ethical, religious, and political, and some understanding of the history, philosophy, and arts of mankind, in addition, of course, to an intensive study of some restricted field. For this reason the student has been of necessity one capable of not only abstract thought, but also of making value-judgments.

Finally, the student has been traditionally one of a close community of enquirers, in which corporate life is by

trous state of affairs, I contend that:

●University studies should be on a broader basis. The History of Thought lectures are a move in the right direction, but are too disjointed to serve as a liberal basis of one's studies. More important is it that individual schools should present their studies in their very widest aspects, showing them in their true historical, philosophical, and cultural context. There is room for much more correlation between the different courses of the pass student.

●There should be less spoon-feeding. Many lectures would no longer be necessary if duplicated lecture notes and reading lists were issued. Much more time would then be available for small and more profitable tutorial groups.

●The syllabus should be less crowded. At the present time most students who maintain wide reading, and take part in extra-curricular activity do so at the expense of their work. ("On Dit" headlines, 15/4/55.) Those who do justice to large courses read, talk, and think less of things "off the course" than they did at school.

●The staff should not be so small and busy that many have little time for anything but teaching. Research is logically and historically the prime aim of the University, and in any case, is necessary to keep teaching vital.

●Colleges should not be regarded only as the boarding-houses of overseas and country students. In college life lies the greatest opportunity for understanding the work of other faculties, and for informal discussion in a heterogeneous community. The University should give greater encouragement to students to come up to college, as well as provide even greater financial assistance. It should see that other colleges are founded, and pester the Government, and not the private benefactor, for the withdrawal. The ultimate goal is that every undergraduate shall have to have two years' residence in an affiliated college before graduation.

●Closer staff-student relationships should be cultivated. This is largely the task of the student in making himself known to his lecturers when occasion avails, but the lecturer needs also to create the opportunity, and above all, to take a personal interest in his students.

HITMOREV.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOTBALLER?

CALIBAN, says Crowe: STOKES, says NUAUS

one question some person or persons will have to answer is **COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED?** After all, mate, there is no hurry; the vaccine is not one hundred per cent. perfect yet.

BEN NAPHTHALI.

Debaters Roped

Dear Madam,—

The letter published in your last edition on the question of the Inter-Varsity Debates venue this year contains too many inaccuracies to stand uncorrected. In fact, the statement that N.U.A.U.S. has acted in "continued flagrant defiance of the considered decisions of the leading University debaters in Australia" is completely false.

Mr. Stokes knows it to be so. For at the last Debates Convention (at which one of us was present) MR. STOKES HIMSELF moved a vote of thanks (carried unanimously) to N.U.A.U.S. for enabling the Inter-Varsity Debates to be held in Perth. Minutes of the meeting confirm this.

Is it so strange that N.U.A.U.S. does not always accept the recommendations of the Debates Convention as to the venue of debates? The "considered decisions of the leading University debaters in Australia" were unavoidably arrived at without any knowledge as to the venues of other National Union activities, or full knowledge of the finance available for debates—and, in fact, most of those at the Debates Convention last year recognised that when these additional factors were considered by N.U.A.U.S., their recommendations might well not be adopted.

This, in fact, was what happened when a programme of National Union activities for the next five years was drawn up after full consid-

eration of other National Union activities, is selfish. None of the financial calculations made in last edition's letter include the fact that an inordinately large sum was spent on debates last year.

Melbourne is not a possible venue, because Inter-Varsity Drama is already being held there. "Presumably debates are of secondary importance"—this persecution complex about debates is unnecessary, for Adelaide and Sydney are the only financially practicable alternatives to Melbourne for Drama, and these held the Drama-Festival no longer ago than 1953 and 1954.

And it is not "verging on inconsistency to suggest" that while debates and Congress may be held in the same State within six months of each other, the holding of debates and drama simultaneously in the same city would damage both activities.

It is therefore quite unnecessary for anyone to resolve "to inculcate, if possible, some integrity into the dealings of the N.U.A.U.S. with the University debaters of Australia," even if he is one of those "who have been actively participating in Australian University politics for some years."

This complaint about the holding of Inter-Varsity Debates in Adelaide, coming, as it does, from two members of the Debating Club, also shows a gross lack of that hospitality towards other States for which Adelaide has until now been justly famed.—Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL SCHNEIDER.

JAN GOLDSWORTHY.

KEITH LOKAN.

Plight of the University

Dear Madam,—

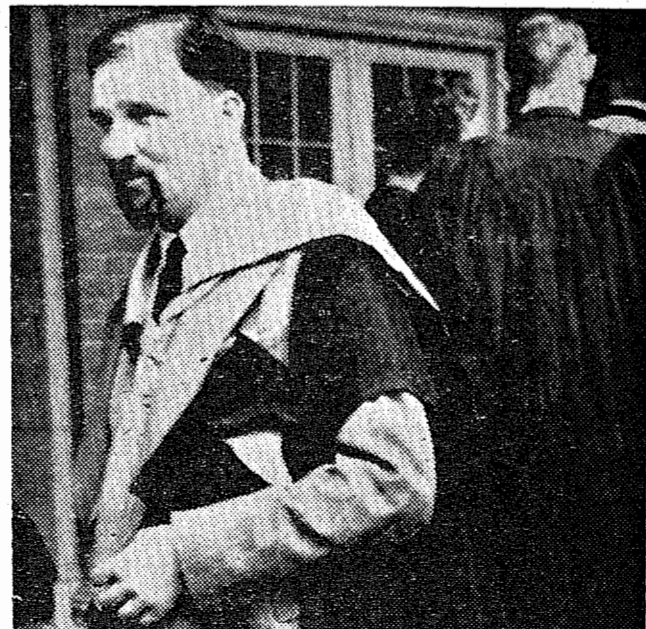
The so-called "University problem" has been discussed at length in the last few years, yet the position has not substantially altered. I wish to submit the following suggestions as to some of the causes of the problems, and ways in which they could be remedied in this University.

no means the least important instrument of education, through the formal and informal interchange of ideas. Again by tradition, this corporate life has been residential.

I claim that these traditional aims are still valid in our time. They are the yardstick by which we determine whether our University is fulfilling its purpose. The reason why we fail in so many respects is that the University has allowed its mission to be corrupted by the unsympathetic claims of the society in which it is set.

Undue emphasis has been placed upon the mere teaching of specialised knowledge, and thus hordes of "graduates" are mass produced, with little sympathy for the true idea of a university, little appreciation of their cultural heritage, poorly developed judgment forming faculties, and meagre experience of corporate life in an intellectual community. This is probably as true of graduates of the "liberal" faculties as of those of the "specialised" faculties.

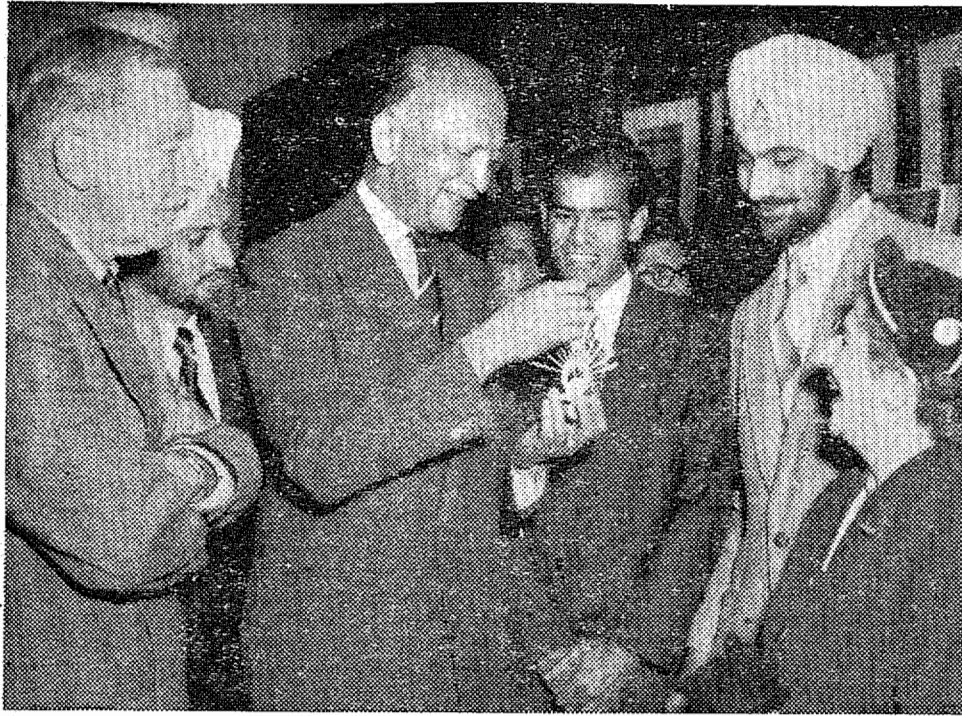
To help correct this disas-



Dr. Derek van Abbe at a University Plight. "Yes, I enjoyed the Garden Party," he said.

Photo: Roy McDonald

The General Has A Busy Day



General Cariappa admires a piece of ivory work from last week's highly successful Indian art exhibition. On the General's left is Mr. Rao, organiser of the show. "Advertiser" block.

General Cariappa, High Commissioner for India in Australia, was unruffled by his hectic programme of University visits on April 26.

At lunch-time he officially opened the exhibition of Indian arts and crafts, arranged by the International Club and organised by Mr. Rao.

The General's evening engagement was the second S.R.C. Union night for this year, held in the Mawson Theatre.

He enlarged on India's policy of mediation and neutrality. India sought no part in 'political wrangling,' he said: she held that one should not fight except in self-defence.

It was India's wish to attain a position of neutrality which would enable her to mediate fairly between two

parties, as in Korea and Indo-China. India believed that an ideology could be fought only with an ideology; and she was opposed to any form of totalitarianism.

On the Afro-Asian Conference Gen. Carrappa commented, 'Thank God it took place.' It showed very clearly that Asian countries had a common aim, he said.

"The Asian countries MUST be heard," he concluded. "They may be poor in £ s. d., but they are rich in heritage, culture and national pride. They are not willing to live on charity."

S.C.M. Conference

A most interesting and thought-provoking programme has been planned for the S.C.M.'s vacation conference at Belair, beginning on Friday evening, May 20.

The Conference, whose topic will be "The University," will close on the Monday afternoon with a summary by the Chairman, Mr. F. T. Borland, Warden of the Union.

The Friday night address will be given by Professor A. N. Jeffares, Jury Professor of English, whose subject will be "The University — Born 1200—Died (?)."

On Saturday morning there will be a symposium of well-known speakers on the question, "Are You Losing Control of Your Faculties?" Among the likely participants are Professor Hugh Stretton, Neville Meaney, Professor Smart, Professor Robson, Effie Best, Dr. Ian Marshman, Malcolm Elford, Mr. Marc Clift, and Professor Bull.

After an afternoon left free for sports engagements, walks in the hills, or recorded music, A.S.C.M. Travelling Secretary, Muriel Balding, will introduce and explain the purpose of a 45 minutes' contemplative silence. This will be followed by an address by Miss Lucy Burt, a Chinese missionary, who is visiting Australia. Her subject will be "Universities in China and India." Afterwards there will be a social and supper.

Sunday morning will begin with early celebrations of Holy Communion—for Anglicans in the Retreat House, and for Free Churchmen at the local Methodist Church, with Mr. Borland officiating.

Conference project work will take place during the

morning, and in the afternoon there will be an address on "Sub Cruce Lumen," followed by study circles.

In the evening there will be a Federation Service, with an address by Lucy Burt.

On Monday morning a prominent speaker, probably a leading member of this University's professional staff, will speak on "Education by Degrees?" After the Chairman's post-prandial summary, there will be a Closing Service and afternoon tea, and conference members will return to the city by 6 o'clock.

Barbara George and Terry Mitchell are the Conference Secretaries, and Lindsay Colquhoun will be the organist.

Anyone interested (S.C.M. member or not) is cordially invited to be at the Conference, even if only for part of the time. Make enquiries from Zonne Mitchell, Barrie Smith, or the Secretaries, or ask at the S.R.C. Office.

:o:

Penfriends

The Correspondence Exchange Subcommittee of the United States National Students' Association (U.S.N.S.A.) is seeking the names of students abroad with whom University students in the U.S. may correspond.

Anyone here who wishes to correspond with American students should write to:

Miss Katherine Burns,
U.S.N.S.A. Correspondence
Exchange Subcommittee,
College of St. Rose,
Albany, New York, U.S.A.

Railway Concessions

Rail concessions (return tickets at single fare) are now available to any students travelling during a recognised vacation period occurring in the months of MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST and SEPTEMBER.

This applies in all States but W.A. During vacations in the remaining months of the year concessions are granted only to students travelling for the purpose of visiting or returning from their homes in another State.

Inter-system concessions to stations other than in W.A. can be obtained during the months of FEBRUARY to OCTOBER inclusive (except the period seven days prior to and seven days subsequent to Good Friday) by sporting bodies, delegates to conferences, and competitors at educational competitions, etc., provided that they travel in parties of at least 12.

In this case return tickets are issued at single fare, plus one-third.

:o:

Carnegie Re-formed

This Society was re-formed early this term, and is now functioning with a swing.

Already there have been two well-attended lunch-hour meetings, and as well as further recorded programmes during the term, a night meeting has been arranged, at which John Horner will be the guest-speaker.

The object of this society is to bring classical music into the Union. The newly reconditioned gramophone is available for use by any member of the society, and the library of records and scores.

The record collection is to be augmented by a selection of microgroove releases.

A-Breast Of The Times

A GRAND FINALE

"The whole world would welcome it if the immortal sounds of the Prisoners' Chorus from 'Fidelio' were to be sung in a finally freed Austria." This dramatic reference to the re-opening of the Vienna State Opera on November 5 symbolises the high hopes of Chancellor Julius Raab, of independence for Austria before the year is out.

After ten years of deadlock, agreement on Austrian independence now appears certain. A formula had been found as long ago as 1949, when the very draft agreement which Russia has now approved was drawn up by the four occupation Powers; but at that time, and again at the Berlin Conference in February of last year, Russia refused to ratify the agreement until a German treaty was signed. Now she has reversed her position.

Early this year Russia called for a four-Power meeting to discuss Austrian independence. When this aroused no reaction among Western nations, she invited the Austrian Chancellor to Moscow to discuss the question in bilateral talks. Both parties signed an agreement approving the 1949 draft treaty.

In the last two weeks Russia has announced the return of all remaining Austrian war prisoners in Soviet Russia, the handing over of Soviet-held oil-fields, refineries, and shipyards in Austria in exchange for quantities of crude oil, and the abolition of visas and the searching of goods at the border between East and West Austria. And rumors are current in Austria that troops of the Red Army have already begun to withdraw. Austrian independence seems guaranteed. Russia



has performed a volte-face.

Why? Until Western Germany was formally committed to becoming a member of the Western bloc, Russia gambled on the chance that the desire for German unity would lure Western Germany into the Soviet camp. When France failed to ratify the E.D.C. agreements, it looked as though the gamble might pay off. Now, although there was a close call in France, the Paris Treaties for West German rearmament have been ratified, and Russia's game is lost.

Even doctrinaire Communists are forced to alter their policies by a change in circumstances; the zig-zags in Soviet foreign policy confirm this, and give the lie to some who talk of the inevitability of Communist aggression, etc. etc.

Realising that a pro-Soviet Austria is unlikely, that that continuation of occupation may lead to the same disastrous split as in Germany, Russia has settled instead for an independent and strictly neutral Austria.

The only foreseeable snag at present is the question as to whether Austria should guarantee her neutrality before or after signing the peace treaty.

If this problem is solved by November 5, the Prisoners' Chorus may well be out of date.

M.P.S.

OUST PLAYFORD

Lunch-time Debate, Monday, May 16, 1.20,
Lady Symon Hall

"That this House has no faith in the present Government of South Australia"

Pro: Moore Schneider Con: Scott Stokes

Chairman: Professor Blackburn

Football Goes With A Bang

The Australian Rules football teams swung off into action last Saturday, and with five teams fully manned, the prospects for a good season seem assured.

A discerning observer would have noticed a few grey hairs sprouting on Tony Malone's head early last week — would the E team eventuate? Well it did, and although they lost, Greg Smith, no doubt has convincing reasons to show that his incomparable coaching will bring early successes.

The A team repeated the result of last year's grand final by defeating Rosewater; a pretty rough affair, this time, with Varsity trailing half-way through but running out victors at the final bell. Colin Bungey, with four goals, was well on the target, while Frank Altmann, beginning from where he left off last season, was named as best. Johnny Edwards, in a back pocket for his first game with the club, played promisingly.

The B's, enjoying remarkable hospitality from King's Old Collegians, were cads enough to insist on winning. A unique ceremony preceded the match with the opening of the magnificent new pavilion, and with Mr. Hugh Millard bouncing the ball, it was quite an occasion — not to

speak of the afternoon tea enjoyed by all at the end.

We'll forget the old-stagers and comment on the new players: Terrell, with an intelligent ruck effort, played well, combining effectively with Isbell. Wicks improved as the match went on, while Hyde gave promise of better things.

The C's have found an ace up their sleeve in their new captain-coach — none other than Gus Elix, former A Grade captain and State player. Giving his own opponent only about half a kick, and with McPhee starring with 5 goals, he led the C's to an overwhelming win over Commonwealth Bank.

My information about the D's is somewhat scant. Certainly, they lost, but one of their number seemed to think that "we should have won." Rob Haskard is their new captain-coach, and won't be too ready to let another defeat come his way too easily.

And you've all heard about Jerry!

Scores:
University "A" 11 goals 18 behinds (84), d. Rosewater 8 goal 7 behinds (55).

University "B" 12 goals 7 behinds (79), d. King's Old Collegians 7 goals 12 behinds (54).

University "C" 15 goals 21 behinds (111), d. Commonwealth Bank 1 goal 5 behinds (11).

University "D" 3 goals 10 behinds (28), lost to Semaphore Central 6 goals 6 behinds (42).

University "E" 9 goals 5 behinds (59), lost to Postal Institute 17 goals 25 behinds.

BASKETBALL

With men's basketball teams now selected, the club is fairly stable.

All matches will be played at the Forestville Stadium, and the club is anxious that all players who have not already registered should do so immediately.

The Inter-Varsity team has been selected, and comprises J. Allard, L. Evans, J. Lawrence, K. C. Lee, K. Po-cocock, B. Quigley, and V. Reintals.

ATHLETICS

The Athletics Club conducted a successful meeting last week for freshers and novices.

The sports were held in conjunction with the St. Mark's Championships, and despite gusty winds, some good times were registered.

Wimpy McLeod won the St. Mark's Cup, and showed us that he isn't only a footballer.

Several freshers showed form capable of lifting them to the inter-Varsity team.

The Varsity Championships held this week received worth-while support, and were a good pipe-opener for inter-Varsity in June.

Several States have intimated that they will be coming over, and with running costs already raised, a successful competition seems assured.

During the week there will be a civic reception, plus plenty of other informal entertainments yet to be arranged. The grand finale will be a dinner for all University teams and local club members.

VARSIITY NEWS SIDELIGHTS

- No further riots have been reported from the Universities of Sydney or Western Australia. "On Dit" has not yet been suppressed.
- S.R.C. Secretary, Sam Luxton, will tender his resignation at Tuesday's S.R.C. meeting.
- The gaining of an Oxford M.D. by Dr. Michael Taylor, poet, and the award of Australian Atomic Energy Commission post graduate studentships to four engineers, has considerably boosted Adelaide's ego. The engineers are John Lill, Robert Smyth, Keith Cathro, and Mark Tostevin.

COLLEGE SPORTS

The first round of the first of the College sports has given indication that the competition should be very keen this year.

Aquinas, playing Lincoln in the tennis, required to win the last three singles to win the rubber. When both her last two players recovered from one set down to win in the third, Aquinas snatched a splendid victory, and will meet St. Mark's in the final.

Lincoln, athletics champs. for the last two years, are considerably weaker this year and the sports on May 11 should be an interesting event.

Other future events are:
Rowing: Eights and freshers' fours—Saturday, May 14.
Football: Lincoln v. St. Mark's, June 29; Winner v. Aquinas, July 6.

Rugby: Lincoln v. Aquinas, July 13; Winner v. St. Mark's, July 20.

INTER-VARSIITY HERE

Varsity is going to be the biggest and brightest ever. Six teams will be visiting us from the Universities of W.A., Melbourne, Sydney, Queensland, Tasmania, and Sydney University of Technology.

The social programme is a full one, and we plan to show the other States just what Adelaide can turn on. The cynics may say that it is planned sabotage to undermine the efficiency and fitness of the other teams. A welcoming cocktail party will be held in the Refectory on Monday evening, May 23, followed by a dance. An open invitation is extended to all our female supporters to come along and help make

This programme is an expensive one and all functions are free to all, so the Inter-Varsity Committee appeals to

everybody to support our drive for funds. To this end every member is asked to try his hardest to raise by any means he chooses, £2 for the club. Members picked to play in Inter-Varsity games are expected to raise £3.

Recently the club has earned money by contracting to do week-end jobs. Small groups of men have been spending either a Sunday morning or afternoon digging out a long hedge of olive trees. When this job is finished the club should be £20 richer.

Since the last issue of "On Dit," there have been change in the teams we shall enter for the competitions. The South Australian Rugby Union has formed a third grade, and we are allowed only two reserve grade teams, thus we shall enter an A team, two reserve grade teams, playing under the names of St. Mark's and Aquinas, and one third grade team. Selection for all teams will be made on order of merit, though the College hope to have a majority of their own players in their teams. The result of this change is hard to foretell, but we expect it will strengthen the two reserve teams, and the third grade team should be very valuable for training new recruits to the game.

All sporting clubs wishing to have their activities published in "On Dit" should appoint a club scribe and have copy in by the Friday preceding publication.

Results of matches will be welcomed.

TENNIS

Winter tennis Pennant teams have been selected, and the Hardcourt season is in full swing.

A tentative team to go to the Inter-Varsity tennis in Brisbane has been selected, and it is hoped that Adelaide will be represented by a team of worth-while standard.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

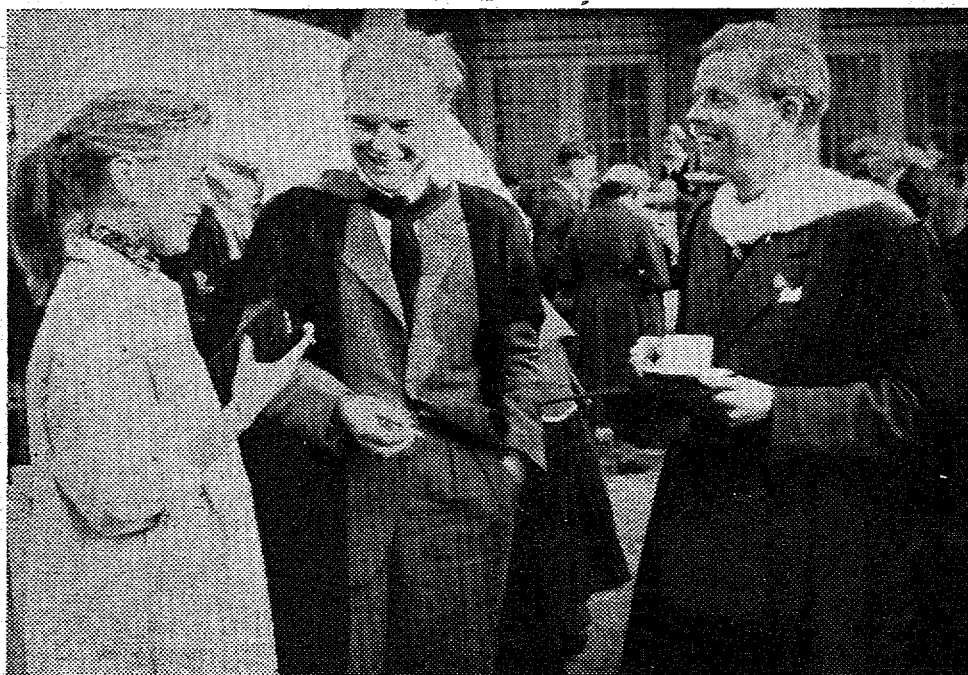
In the second round of Women's Basketball games for the season, Varsity fared worse than the previous Saturday.

The As were defeated in a thrilling game by the prominent Laddyped team.

Only one goal down, they were in attack at the final whistle.

The Bs and Cs were defeated, but not disgraced, and should fare better as the season progresses.

Garden Party Conversation Piece



Left to right—Mrs. Stretton, Prof. Stretton, Prof. Blackburn.

Photo: Roy McDonald

THE BOXING AND WRESTLING CLUB HAS BEEN RE-FORMED AND HOPES TO SEND A TEAM TO INTER-VARSIITY