



# ON DIT

Official Organ of the Adelaide University Students Union

*A chiel's amang ye takin' notes, and faith, he'll prent it.*

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## EDITORIAL.

So this "On Dit," which endeavours to be a faithful record of University activity and a satisfactory expression of University thought, enters upon another year of life. Let us hope, fellow-students, that its fortnightly appearances will be like so many green isles of wakefulness in that deep, wide sea of apathy which seems your native element, in which you swim with such serene and goggling contentment. For to conceive of a more apathetic aggregation than you are is a thing the imagination boggles at. Beginning with mere absorption and listlessness, you have progressed in a steady descent, weltering through the various levels of dullness and unconsciousness, until you are in a fair way to finding permanent resting-places on the very deepest ocean bottom of atrophy itself.

This paper is provided for your instruction and entertainment, free of charge, by a beneficent Union Committee. Yet recently, when the Editors, feeling that the title should be changed to something more apt and forceful, called for suggestions, they received three! One written and two verbal. The fact that these suggestions were not adopted, the first being unsuitable by reason of the nature of the paper, and the others being thrown off in flippant spirit by congenial idiots, does not really matter. The Editors feel a deep and abiding gratitude towards those two or three people who managed fish-like to struggle for a brief moment up from the depths of their apathy and gasp one bubble to the surface. The musty depths of ocean hold the other sparkles of the "University Mind."

Whoever you are, my dear fellow-welterers—whether you study to twist steel rods, to cure and kill, to make the worse appear the better reason, or to train the minds of the young—remember that at present you are members of the University Students' Union; that this paper is a Union paper; and that you have a duty to perform towards it. The duty being, that if you yourself find it absurd or dull, do not lurk nibbling among the oozy weeds of your apathy, but come to the surface and submit your own contribution towards making it a sane and constructive thing.

### A.S.C.M.

*"Religion is . . . morality touched by emotion."*

On Friday, April 21, the Rev. H. Wallace Bird and the Rev. A. de Pledge Sykes combined forces to discuss the Oxford Group Movement. Mr. Bird carefully defined his position as an amateur, and could only speak on what the subject meant to him personally. The movement began as the personal experience of one man on realizing his own inability to put in practice Christian doctrine. What were the basic principles? First, opening the heart and complete surrender, a putting oneself at

the disposal of God, so that nothing else matters. This introduced the second and most frequently criticized principle—that of sharing. But the sharing of one's sins is only done when it is indicated as the natural way to win another man. He expects confidence, and you require confidence in turn. Sin, under whatever name scientists and psycho-analysts designate it, can only be dragged out by sharing.

The Movement does not pretend to be the Way or the Truth; it is the Life. Its four rallying points are absolute honesty, absolute purity, absolute selflessness, and absolute love. These things make us life-changers.

## Coming Events for the Next Fortnight.

- April—
- Saturday, 29. Dental Society Dance in the Refectory.
- May—
- Monday, 1. Literary and Debating Society meets in the Lady Symon Hall at 7.45 p.m. Papers and music.
- Thursday, 4. Organ recitals given by Mr. Horner in the Elder Hall at 12.20 and 1.20. These recitals will be given every Thursday; they are free, and nobody who is interested in music should miss them.
- Saturday, 6. Dance Club meets in the Refectory.
- Wednesday, 10. Women's Sports on the Oval.
- Friday, 12. The Athletic Club holds its Sports Day on the Oval.
- Saturday, 13. Women's Hockey Dance.

## University Dance Club.

### Opening Meeting.

April 12th. This night to the University, where I saw divers students and others dance very prettily in the Refectory. Dr. Matters, the surgeon, and his lady, she pleasingly gowned in white, received the guests, of whom many to the number of several hundred, all very jolly, which surprised me, the liquor being pure lemon. There were decorations on little platforms near the ceiling; this, as I thought, being a necessary measure at these sort of function, the students sometimes waxing merry despite the lemon. Many of the women handsome, which pleased me mightily. Roxy blushed through the evening in rose-pink lace that grew hotter all the way down, until it flared below the knees, but Shirley's dress was a wise deep-night blue. Pat also had the blues, but trimmed them off with white ruffles. Helen wore pink and white Palmolive voile, and Eileen, having a night off, wore a maize dress, with dashes of scarlet for old times' sake. There was also one, Joan, a wench all in black, with whom I would have spoken, but Mrs. Peeps said No. Saw many things of interest, fifty of them being lacquered fingernails, which, I am told, is a new thing come over to us from the French. Was speaking with N. Todd, who tells me that sundry of the lower sort have come without paying, at which he is wroth, and will have it stopped; also, that all things go forward smoothly under Mrs. Goodall and her wenches, and thinks of nominating her for Parliament, but too valuable. One there was who remarked on the number of engagement rings. But where, oh, where, said she, are the donors thereof? And this seemed to trouble her mightily. Also another who proclaimed the dance very remarkable, since during it, one Wacque, a merry fellow, reached years of discretion. This was some joke, but beyond me. Left about one of the clock after a jolly evening. And so to bed.

SAMUEL PEEPS.

## Notice to Contributors.

Please send in your contributions as early as you can, if possible during the week before publication of the paper, and at the latest the Tuesday before the Friday of publication.

## A.U.L.S.S.

On Thursday, 20th inst., the first meeting of the A.U.L.S.S. was held in the Refectory at 7.30 p.m. The meeting was marked (very distinctly) by an excellent attendance, particularly of freshers. The earlier part of the evening was devoted to formal business, under which heading the question of the Annual Smoke Social was raised. This matter occupied some considerable time, since members of the committee were at great pains to point out to freshers the true nature of this function. It was not, they urged, as the popularly conceived idea held it, a "soak" only, nor yet a social, but a judicious combination of the two, from which one departed considerably lighter in pocket, head, and heart. These exhortations and vague threats of inquisitorial treatment of those who were not present did not have the desired effect, and it was eventually resolved to hold a Smoke Social on May 9, provided that a sufficient number of members guaranteed their presence by paying their contributions in advance. The formal business shortly afterwards closed with the usual plea for subscriptions.

Mr. H. Thomson, K.C., then addressed the society on "Courts and Legal Personalities I have known." His address was a series of thumb-nail portraits of the most prominent (in fame, not in size) of the professors, lawyers, and courts of England, America, France, Germany, and Australia (Professor Campbell receiving "honourable mention"). He also remarked on the similarity of aims and objects in social functions of other Law Student Societies to that of our own, and was of the opinion that the capacity (for enjoyment) of the members of the A.U.L.S.S. was quite up to standard. He concluded with the sound advice to students that "if the professor has a dog, pat him." After the usual vote of thanks, reply, counter-reply, etc., the meeting rose at 9 o'clock for supper.

## Adelaide University Science Association.

On Monday, April 24, at 8 p.m., the Science Association held a meeting in the Men's Lounge in the Refectory. Mr. H. W. Gartrell was the speaker for the evening, his subject being "Arizona." He dealt in a very interesting way with the "Civilization of America in General" before treating of Arizona in particular. In addition to discussing the subject from a geographical viewpoint, the speaker dealt with the social and economic conditions of the State. In concluding the address, Mr. Gartrell gave an account of the University of Arizona, and drew very interesting comparisons with the Australian Universities. A series of photographs was afterwards shown and explained by the lecturer. A number of questions arising out of the subject of the lecture were dealt with by the speaker. Mr. Price proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gartrell, to which he suitably responded. The meeting adjourned to supper, and closed about 10 p.m.

## To Lunchers at the Refectory.

Those lunching at the Refectory are urged to come down early whenever possible, to avoid the congestion usually so noticeable at the counter about five past 1.

## Admissions to the Bar.

We extend congratulations to Miss Helen Solomon, and Messrs. H. Abbott, M. Bessanko, A. Maitland, K. McDonald, W. Padman, H. Frazer, and T. Taylor, who on last Saturday morning were formally admitted as practitioners of the South Australian Bar.

A luncheon was later held in the Supreme Court Hotel, where until well into the afternoon a decidedly festive spirit reigned. The newly-elected Member of Parliament, Mr. C. L. Abbott, made a speech, and other items by well-known and long-standing artists were favourably received. The fact that football and lacrosse practice matches were to be held during the afternoon is reported to have had a sobering effect on some of those present, though this number was necessarily limited. In consequence the festive spirit was carried down to the Oval, where many interesting matches followed.

## Committees.

The following people are members of the more important University Committees for 1933:

SPORTS ASSOCIATION: President, Prof. A. L. Campbell (re-elected); Vice-Pres., R. LeP. Muecke (re-elected).

MEN'S BLUES COMMITTEE: Prof. A. L. Campbell, Messrs. H. L. Abbot, J. L. Allen, P. M. Cudmore, L. T. Ewens, A.U.A., J. M. Jens, A. H. Young.

ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION: President, Mr. C. T. Madigan, M.A., B.E., Vice-Pres., Mr. L. T. Ewens, A.U.A.

At the first meeting of the Union Committee held since the annual general meeting of members, it was unanimously resolved to adopt the recommendation of the annual general meeting that Professor A. L. Campbell be made an honorary life member in recognition of his great service to the Union. Professor Campbell has done untiring work for the Union over a period of several years, being Chairman of the Finance Committee from 1928 to 1930 and President during 1931 and 1932.

MEN'S UNION COMMITTEE: Chairman, Mr. M. S. Sergeant.

WOMEN'S UNION COMMITTEE: Chairman, Miss L. M. Angel, B.Sc.

COMMITTEE TO ORGANISE SPORTS AND RE-UNION DANCE ON GRADUATES' SPORTS DAY:

SPORTS ASSOCIATION: Prof. Campbell (chairman), R. A. Pellew (hon. organising sec.), Miss R. Hone.

FOOTLIGHTS CLUB: R. S. Dawe, J. Duncan, R. B. Knight.

DANCE CLUB: N. Todd, Miss S. Burns Cuming, Dr. R. F. Matters.

PUBLICITY: R. D. McKay.

GYMNASIUM COMMITTEE (making arrangements for the opening of the gym): R. LeP. Muecke (chairman), B. M. Jolly, E. S. Wyatt, G. Gibson, J. R. Davey.

A committee has been appointed by the Union Committee to consider the formation of a Film Society. The committee consists of Professor H. J. Wilkinson, Miss L. M. Angel, Messrs. H. W. LeMessurier, A. H. Young, and J. R. Barbour (convenor).

## A.U.E.S.

The Engineers opened proceedings this year with the annual general meeting and entertainment of freshers on March 28. As usual, the Prof. held us with a very entertaining speech, after which Mr. Gartrell's bright thoughts set us up nicely for supper. A little singing and a short session of confessions closed the evening. We are deeply indebted to Mr. Dean Hay for agreeing to provide the music, and to Mr. Huddleston, who actually did so.

The Society offers all good wishes to the Professor in his new position of Vice-Chancellor, and would offer congratulations to the authorities on the choice of so able a man.

Though it is sad to see our friends doing such things, we feel that we must congratulate Don Taylor and Ray Duncan on their recent engagements, poor chaps. And while being so lavish with our congratulations we must remember those who now represent us on the Union and Men's Union Committees.

After a short burst of brisk activity the Glider Club has again gone into recess for an indefinite space. Bob Simpson was flying high, but seeing the other members of the club down below, and not being able to bear the thought of parting from them, he hurriedly came down to rejoin them. He is making all the progress that is expected, and we hope to have him with us again soon.

It is our hope that at the next Swimming Sports the Faculties may compete for a shield bearing the names of Dick McMichael and Lance Cox, two of our late members. The Swimming Club is assured of our enthusiastic support in this move.

## Union Regulations.

Regulations governing the use of the Union Buildings, furniture, and equipment were adopted by the Union Committee at the end of last year. These are now in force, and are posted in the Refectory, the men's reading-room, and the Lady Symon Building. All members should read them, and breaches will be reported to the Union Committee. The most common breach of these regulations is the leaving of cane chairs, milk bottles, chocolate wrappers, and other debris on the Refectory lawn after the users have departed. This makes the lawn look extremely untidy, and is altogether a practice to be discouraged.

## Athletics.

Owing to the difficulty of training and competing regularly during the long vacation, the athletics team did not do as well in the inter-club competitions as might have been expected, gaining only fourth position out of four clubs. In the State championships, however, the team showed a marked all-round improvement, winning the 120 hurdles and 880 yards championships, and gaining second places in the 880 yards and 220 yards hurdles championships. The relay team ran second. Cowell, repeating his last year's performance, won the 120 yards hurdles in great style, making a fine recovery when he crashed at the second last hurdle. Unfortunately Young was unable to defend the 440 yards title.

The Club will hold its annual sports day on Friday, May 12. An interesting innovation will be the inter-faculty competition

for a cup presented by Messrs. Stevenson, towards which championship points and the inter-faculty relay will count. So faculty secretaries should see that their faculties are well represented in championship events, and that they field a good relay team. At present it looks like being a close struggle between Arts and Engineers.

Men who do not feel equal to championship competition will have a good selection of handicap events to choose from, including 100 yards, 220 yards, 440 yards, 880 yards, mile, 120 hurdles, 220 hurdles, and broad jump, besides the lacrosse race, men's hockey race, kicking the football, throwing the lacrosse ball, and throwing the cricket ball. Everybody should enter for some events, or if halt or maimed should at least roll up and barrack for his faculty.

As arrangements are in the capable hands of C. T. Chapple (Secretary), the day ought to be a great success.

The inter-Varsity contests will be held in Sydney during the May vacation.

Note.—Club secretaries are requested regularly to forward results of matches played and information about the activities of their clubs. If any club thinks it is not adequately represented in these columns its secretary is probably to blame.

### Inter-Varsity Tennis.

This event took place over Easter at the Kooyong courts in Melbourne. Of the three Universities represented, Sydney and Adelaide were drawn to play the first round. Play was hampered on the Thursday by unusually heavy courts and a strong cross-wind. Sydney won five of the six singles in the first round, but all the rubbers were closely contested, three of the five going to twelve or more games in the third set. Parker did well to beat Parton in straight sets. In the two rounds of doubles that followed honours were even. Taylor and Brown unexpectedly lost to their third double, but later beat their second. Forsyth and Allen, as second double, defeated Sydney's second and first pairs, while Parker and Moodie lost to their first and third, leaving the scores eight rubbers to four in Sydney's favour.

The match was continued under excellent conditions on the Saturday, and Sydney again won five of the six singles. Moodie played well to win our only singles rubber for the day. In the last round of doubles, Taylor and Brown defeated Sydney's first pair, while their third double suffered the same fate at the hands of Forsyth and Allen. Parker and Moodie lost to their second double, and Sydney won the match fourteen rubbers to seven.

No player was outstanding, although Forsyth's was perhaps the most commendable effort. He narrowly lost his two singles, both in the third set, and with Allen defeated Sydney's three doubles. Parker and Moodie distinguished themselves by winning our only two singles, and by losing all three doubles.

Other events, besides the tennis, provided interest and amusement. A delightful trip by car to Mt. Macedon was arranged for Good Friday, but two members of the party, as guests of His Majesty's Government, enjoyed their gratuitous sojourn to such an extent that the expedition was de-

layed two hours and half (a mere nothing in such Inter-Varsity fixtures). Contact with members from the other Universities was of course another pleasurable feature. But no acquaintance was more appreciated than that of J., brother of Haitech.

Saturday night's dinner (followed by an excursion to St. Kilda. 'Nuff said!) concluded the formal activities of a most enjoyable trip.

### Women's Sports.

#### TENNIS CLUB.

The Inter-Varsity Tennis is to be held in Melbourne in the first week of the May vacation. The team has not yet been picked, and the committee is waiting the appearance of a future Lenglen or Helen Wills from the ranks of the freshers before a final selection is made.

Practice is held on the Varsity Oval courts every Wednesday at 2 p.m., but so far has been very poorly attended. We would welcome gladly anyone who came along, and we will put off choosing the team for one more week to give you this opportunity of showing your skill.

The Committee for this year is Ruth Hone (captain), Eileen Sudholz (vice-capt.) and Joyce Hone (hon. sec.). They will be very glad to tell you anything you want to know about the club.

#### SPORTS DAY.

After a lapse of two years the Women's Sports Day has been revived. This is to be held on the University Oval on Wednesday, May 10, and promises to be an unrivalled success. Some of the most eminent men members of the University have promised to act as judges and stewards, and another attraction will be the afternoon tea in the boat shed at a very moderate charge.

The programme includes events for all abilities and temperaments. A 75 yds. flat race has been included for those of us who are getting short-winded, but if you refuse to acknowledge yourself as such, you may try the hurdles or the hundred yards. There will be a sack race and an obstacle race for the nimble, a siamese race and a three-legged race for the most agile pairs. For non-runners there is a walking race, and for those with a steady hand the egg-and-spoon race. If you pride yourself on your quick dressing in the morning, you may try the Lady Symon race, and other events include basket-ball throwing, hockey long hit and dribble, an inter-faculty flag race, and—for the really old-stagers—a graduates' race.

Enter for everything and get a reduction to 2/6—otherwise you will have to pay sixpence an event, with a minimum charge of a shilling. You are assured of an afternoon's amusement.

#### BASKET BALL CLUB.

Owing to a sad lack of enthusiasm we are able to field only two teams instead of four this year. This is especially unfortunate as the Inter-Varsity is to be held in Adelaide, and we should like to be able to pick a really strong team. It is not too late to join now. Matches begin on Saturday, May 6, and practices are held on the Varsity Oval every Wednesday afternoon. You may find out any other information

from Joan Harris (captain), Eileen Funder (vice-capt.), and Margaret Hargrave (hon. sec.).

#### HOCKEY CLUB.

Three good teams are practising hard for matches which begin on Saturday, April 29. Besides some of the old stalwarts we have some really promising freshers, and the club's prospects look bright.

This year's committee is Roxy Sims (captain), Shirley Morris (vice-capt.) and Beryl Linn (hon. sec.).

#### HOCKEY CLUB DANCE.

Women's Inter-Varsity hockey is to be held in Brisbane in the August vacation, and the club is in dire need of funds to send a team away. To assist in raising money a dance is being held in the Refectory on Saturday, May 13, which, in spite of its unlucky date, we are sure will be a great success. Single tickets are only 2/6, and double ones 4/6. There will be a splendid home-made supper, and a ballet to entertain you between dances. Tickets can be obtained from any member of the Hockey Club.

### Men's Hockey.

The club can congratulate itself on a very satisfactory start. In the first place, the number of its members has increased to an extent that may make it possible to field five teams each week for the season. With last year's team almost intact, the A's ought to form an unusually strong combination, and hopes are high for the Inter-Varsity Carnival, to be held in Brisbane next August. With several new members showing promise, the other teams have excellent material also, and should do well in all their grades.

Those who still have hockey on the "possible" list are urged to join at once. Besides offering all that the other winter sports can offer—exercise, the cultivation of individual skill and the development of team work—hockey makes the smallest claim on a player's time. The minor clubs may disagree, but don't you believe 'em. Join now, and the club secretary, W. J. O'Connor, will receive your name (and subscription) with the Mephistophelian glee that is peculiar to club secretaries.

### From the Ringside.

It is now just over twelve months since a meeting was convened for the purpose of establishing a boxing and wrestling club at the Varsity. Since its inception the club has made rapid growth, numbering some thirty active members by the end of last year. The club has commenced hostilities again this year, and every Wednesday afternoon the boxers train under the supervision of "Red" Mitchell, who is generally recognized as the best boxing trainer in the State. Boxers will be able to show their mettle against a team of Melbourne University boxers which will visit Adelaide during the first vacation. The possibility of sending a team to compete in the Inter-Varsity Championships in August is also

arousing a great deal of enthusiasm among the pugilistic fraternity.

The wrestlers are also working strenuously under Don Cooper's tuition, as there will probably be some wrestlers in the visiting Melbourne team, and the possibility of wrestling being included in the annual Inter-Varsity Championships is under discussion.

In addition to boxing and wrestling, the more scientific and purely intellectual sport Jiu Jitsu will soon be a regular feature in the club's activities. Jiu Jitsu is a handy alternative for people who like to quarrel, but can't run, and don't like boxing or wrestling. It is also a wonderful boon for the weak and infirm as strength is only a minor consideration in its application.

The advantages of a pugilistic education are obvious, and the Boxing and Wrestling Club ought to attract members from almost every faculty except, perhaps, Law, which usually settles its disputes in a rather unsatisfactory way at a rather unsatisfactory Bar.

### The Mikado.

It seems a tremendous pity that our one morning newspaper cannot get a good dramatic, or rather operatic critic. Surely no paper has to pander to the public taste to the extent of praising where blame is due. For the performance of "The Mikado" the critic had almost unstinted praise. He refers lightly to the wobble in Leo Darnton's tenor, and a slight harshness in Marie Bremner's soprano, but otherwise was silent except for praise. Now we are more critical. Certainly the wobble in Leo Darnton's voice was "rather distressing," in fact it ruined that charming song, "A Wandering Minstrel I," and besides wobbling he was not even true. Victor Haines was a very successful Pooh Bah, but he also sang a little flat at times. The newspaper said he was too much a second edition of John Ralston in his acting, but what does that matter if he was good?

The most distressing part of the whole performance was the ridiculous horse-play and romping of Ivan Menzies, who took the part of Ko Ko. Gilbert's libretto is so witty and Sullivan's music so charming that burlesque is not only absolutely unnecessary but also out of place. There was far too much Ivan Menzies and not enough Ko Ko about the part. His voice, when he uses it properly is sweet and true, and he sang "Tit Willow" charmingly.

Evelyn Gardiner was splendid; she has a good voice and is a good actress, and she played the difficult part of Katisha extremely well. Bernard Manning also was excellent, and his make-up and costume were most effective. Marie Bremner is charming, and she made the most of "The Sun and I." But, alas, she, also, is not always true and combined with Leo Darnton to wreck the Madrigal, "Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day." This is meant to be sung unaccompanied, but they had to have some of the strings playing to keep them on the note. Gregory Stroud as Pish Tush was regrettably negative, but his voice is good. Jean Battaye as Pitti Sing was charming, and her voice was sweet and true, but she also in-

dulged in a little too much romping in some scenes.

The chorus was good and so was the orchestra, but the conductor failed woefully several times to keep them together.

In conclusion we would like to say that if the papers wish to educate the public to appreciate good singing, and acting, and surely one of the objects of having a critic is to educate the public, why praise indifferent singing and let burlesque pass unremarked?

M.C.H.

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