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# ON DIT

Published for the Adelaide University S.R.C.  
 VOLUME 17. MONDAY, APRIL 11, 1949. No. 5.

Comm. Fri., April 15

"WHEN MY BABY  
 SMILES AT ME" (A)

BETTY GRABLE—DAN DAILY

"BUNGALOW 13" (A)

TOM CONWAY—M. HAMILTON



# BUDGET TOSSED

Magarey's filibuster comes a buster!

## National Union's Doubtful Future

A motion of support for the N.U.A.U.S. administrative budget, which was moved by Kevin Magarey as a "filibuster," at the N.U. ratification meeting, was soundly defeated.

### What's On

**TUESDAY, APRIL 12th:**

5 p.m. — Rugby practice. Freshers' lesson. Graduates' oval.

1.20 p.m. — Annual General Meeting of Student Members of Adelaide University Union. Lady Symon Hall.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13th:**

1.10 p.m. — Architectural Students' Association. Annual General Meeting in the Architectural Department, School of Mines.

1.20 p.m.—Public Address by Rev. Fr. Gabriel, C.P. "The Meaning of the Redemption." Lady Symon Hall.

8 p.m.—Commerce Students' Association Annual General Meeting. Business: Election of Officers. Reformation of local committee Commerce Faculty Bureau. Ex-servicemen's Room.

6-11 p.m. — Auditions for 1949 Revue in The Hut.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 14th:**

5 p.m. — Rugby Practice. Freshers' Lesson. Graduates' Oval.

8.30 a.m.—Student Christian Movement. Service in Scots Church.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 19th:**

8 p.m.—First of series of lectures by Mr. H. W. Piper. Subject: "Poetry and Science — The Sixteenth Century." Benham Lecture Theatre.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20th:**  
 1.20 p.m.—Public address: "Science in Perspective," by Professor Mark Mitchell. Lady Symon Hall.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 24th:**  
 9 a.m. — Aquinas Society. Mass, St. Francis Xavier's Cathedral. Annual Communion Breakfast.

**MONDAY, APRIL 25th:**  
 1.30 p.m.—Aquinas Society. Hike. Meet at corner of Grenfell and Rundle Streets. Student Christian Movement. Hike, followed by tea and social. See notice-board for further details.

Next issue, Tuesday, April 26. Deadline, Thursday, 14th.

National Union plan that all activities, Inter-varsity debates, Drama Festivals, etc., should finance themselves, and not draw on N.U.A.U.S. funds. Previously these activities were largely financed from general funds.

This year, it is proposed that funds be administrative only. Some budget items are £400 for a full-time secretary, £850 for a typiste.

The motion by Magarey, seconded Medlin, which supported this decision of National Union Council, was spoken against by almost every Council member.

### NORTH-EAST PRESSURE

The new budget would restrict and probably kill national activities, it was alleged. It had only been introduced because of pressure on National Council by delegates from

Queensland and Sydney, who had threatened disaffiliation under the past scheme.

"It is the duty of the N.U. to boost and encourage all activities, and not to waste large amounts as provided in the new Administrative Budget." Mr. Hermes continued to say that he could not support the N.U. budget, even at the risk of losing Queensland from the N.U.A.U.S.

### OTHER DECISIONS

Many other decisions of National Council were not ratified at this meeting of the S.R.C., which sat over the whole of one week-end—Friday p.m., Saturday a.m. and evening, Sunday afternoon and evening. Full details and meeting minutes in next issue of "On Dit."

Block below kindly loaned by "The Advertiser"

Revue Again



## I U S out

All Australian Universities except Tasmania ratified the National Council decision to disaffiliate from the International Union of Students.

Referendum in Melbourne resulted as follows: 1,529 for disaffiliation; 886 against.

In the West, figures were: 622 for disaffiliation; 445 against.

## Power

Francis Bryan Power has been declared elected to the vacancy of position of Men's General Representative on the S.R.C.

Voting figures were:  
 Alan Kennedy ..... 50  
 Francis Bryan Power 66  
 Informal ..... 2

ATHALIE BANKS, of the University Revue chorus last year, reminds you that revue auditions start this week. See details elsewhere in this issue.



THEY'VE MADE IT! Group of graduates who received degrees last Commemoration day. They are (from left): Mr. L. H. May and Miss C. W. Wincey (Science), Messrs. R. Cant (Agriculture), B. Holloway (Science), Misses R. E. Watts and J. Hitchcock (Arts), J. Ponsford (Science), Messrs. R. K. Waters (Arts), and J. E. Coaldrake (Science).

# Much Ado

*DISGRACEFUL (?) A struggling fresher passes down the "assembly-line" during the Engineers' initiation, held in a city dance hall two weeks ago.*

## Gleanings of Glug

The greatest danger to the future of the British Commonwealth lies not so much in the desire of its members to break away; but in the complacency with which they regard the Empire and its future, said Mr. Anthony Nutting, British Conservative M.P., speaking in the Lady Symon Hall on Thursday, March 31.

There was no possibility of a static Empire, he said. Nor was it good enough to say: "This Empire has got to stick together." "Our Empire has a greater duty," he continued. "It is the foundation of order, and only when we have overcome the shortage of the spirit of getting down to hard work, only when we have embraced some new conception of the Empire, will we be able, by our example, to save all that is left of the world and a great deal more besides. We have a message for the world," he concluded. "God grant that we do not fail to take that message forward."

In answer to questions, Mr. Nutting said that the policy of repression being pursued by the Malian Government was looked on with disfavor in London, but that the South Africans were not alone in this disfavor. In answer to another question, he said that Mr. Calwell's "bulls in a china shop" application of the White Australia Policy had so angered the inhabitants of the Far Eastern countries that all Dr. Evatt's work on their behalf had been forgotten.

## A.G.M. Business

The annual general meeting of the student members of the Adelaide University Union, in the Lady Symon Hall on Tuesday, April 12, at 1.15 p.m., will discuss the following business:

1. Secretary's Report for 1948.
2. Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet for 1948.
3. Amendments to Constitution: (a) That section of the Constitution of the S.R.C. appearing under the heading "Interpretation," be numbered 38. Roder/Adam. (b) That in the proposed section 38 of the S.R.C. Constitution the word "Committee" be deleted and "Council" inserted. Roder/Adam. (c) That section 15 (b) of the S.R.C. Constitution be deleted and that a new section 15 (b) reading: "An N.U.A.U.S. Secretary/Treasurer for the University of Adelaide" be inserted. Roder/Adam. 4. Any other business fulfilling the Constitutional requirements.

## FAIR DEAL

Card playing rules are to be relaxed in Union Buildings. In a letter to the S.R.C. recently, Mr. R. Jackman said several ardent bridge players had played as a University team in the S.A. Bridge Association and had done very well. He thought provision should be made at the University for the formation of such a club, for those interested in the skill of the game alone without gambling tendencies.

The S.R.C. agreed to provide accommodation for such a club and to relax the present card playing.

## Booking Protests

The Science and Aquinas Societies wished to lodge a protest against the S.R.C.'s method of booking meeting-places, said Mr. Colgrave, at a recent S.R.C. meeting.

He alleged it was most unsatisfactory for many societies.



Bruce Anderson Says:

## Initiation Disgraceful

THE recent initiation of Engineering freshmen was nothing short of a disgrace! Many hairless and mutilated freshers were disgusted to find that their senior students were interested only in partaking of the rather doubtful feast according to the rites of Bacchus; which consisted of Beer, biscuits and cheese.

The poor attendance of 2nd, 3rd and 4th year men further showed a lack of interest in

*The Author of this article is third year representative on the Adelaide University Engineering Society Committee.*

providing the freshmen with an initiation with which they could, in later years, look back on humorous memories with pleasure.

Quoting the words of Mr. Anthony Nutting, M.P., in a recent address to the Liberal Union: "The trouble in the British Empire to-day is caused by the appalling apathy of its people." So it is in our University, and in particular with the Engineering Society.

Over the past few years the only measure of success the Society can claim is the running of the Annual Engineering Ball. Engineers should be ashamed to have this as a full measure of their achievement.

As usual, the committee and the interested few are fighting to make a satisfactory progress. Where there is a will, there is a way!

For some years the Adelaide University Engineering Society has been struggling

for an existence. 1949 is the year marked down for the greatest effort yet for a complete revival to a new, stimulating and flourishing organization.

The A.U.E.S. can, and will, become an organisation with worthy aims and ideals, supported by enthusiastic members.

## PHYS. ED. FORUM

# AMAZONS ALL

Despite its limited numbers and restricted facilities, the ubiquitous Physical Education Dept. is rapidly coming into its own in this University. Already its small but select band has distinguished itself in a variety of directions.

Val Duffield has been selected to represent Australia at the coming International Girl Guide Conference in Switzerland. Sheila Hamilton won distinction and press acclaim at the recent Interstate Softball Championships. Agnes McCahey, Diana Eldridge and Mary McTaggart have won their Varsity Blues, Ag and Di. for basketball, and Mary for hockey. Goog Bryce was equal first in the recent Teachers' College Swimming Carnival. Val Duffield and Alison Torr came equal third in the same carnival.

In short, about one-third of the total group have distinguished themselves in one way or another. How do other faculties rate against that average?

## GOSSIP LTD.

It is rumored that Ag. McCahey, Phys.Ed. girl for 1948, is contemplating a move from Edwardstown to Birkenhead (opposite the Naval Depot) as the competition for her company is not rife enough in the former neighborhood.

Johnny Lean is considering turning misogynist after having tried unsuccessfully to work out how you can kill two birds with one stone. When both chicks roost at the Beehive Corner at 7.30 p.m. on the same night Johnny reckons it's time to join the Foreign Legion or something.

## Woman President

Penelope Loveday, Arts III, was elected president of the Socialists' Club, at the A.G.M. last week. Miss Loveday is the daughter of Mr. R. R. Loveday, active member of Labor Party at Whyalla.

Other members of Socialist Club committee are: Bob Hetherington, Mick Tsounis, Alan Kennedy, Mick Giles, Secretary; Stuart Smith Treasurer; and Don Porter, Publications.

Along with many others he has a childlike belief for the old adage, "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."

Nell Sprod reckons that the Chemistry tutorials are just too easy. That slight frown you may see on her classic features at odd moments is only there because she is impatient to get to grips with Einstein's theory of Relativity which as yet they haven't satisfactorily explained away.

## CRAWLER

Henry Braham created a minor sensation at the City Baths the other day during Swimming I when he managed to throw a shoulder out of joint while demonstrating his own inimitable crawl stroke. We have an idea he did it just to escape the compulsory 9 o'clock plunges these bleak mornings. While effective in its own spectacular way, less drastic measures would have been infinitely more preferable to most other's way of thinking—such as clubbing Mr. Apps with a sandbag the night before or something.

## JACOBS, UNION PRESIDENT

Sam Jacobs has been elected as Chairman of Union Council. He fills the vacancy created by the late Professor Campbell.

Mr. Jacobs, an Adelaide lawyer, was President of the Students' Union when the present constitution was adopted.

Sydney University now has its own Yo-Yo Club, which meets in Prof. Anderson's Philosophy Room. Our S.R.C. ought to take the matter up. After all, it has plenty of strings attached to it these days.

Queensland's "Semper Floreat," for its first editorial, chose as a subject, "Student Apathy." Apparently they are too apathetic to be original.

Heard a well-known rake at a religious meeting remark that there is no such thing as Original Sin these days. He claims it is all very Unoriginal. Ah! all this apathy.

Remember the famous "debate" on "You Can't Yet a Man With a Gun." Melbourne couldn't think of anything better for their commencement debate so they borrowed from us.

Perth Uni. is agog. Pamphlets have been circulated by an anonymous body calling itself "The University Branch of the Australian Communist Party."

"Honi Soit's" inaugural front page headline this year reads, "Come in, Suckers! Welcome to the only Technical College in the world with a Faculty of Arts!"

Four Sydney students were fined £2 each for leading a sea lion down Martin Place as a commencement rag.

Such rags are valuable forms of social criticism, say "Honi" editors.

Apart from £10,000 for a student hostel, Victorian Govt.'s grant to Melbourne Uni. has increased from £70,000 to £800,000 over the last few years.

In Sydney the State Govt. grants £125,000. Recently the Uni. asked for another £150,000 "to carry on this year." A committee of two civil servants and the Vice-Chancellor has been appointed to enquire. Mr. Chifley promises a Commonwealth Govt. investigation of University finances after the Sydney committee has reported its findings.

Sydney Uni. has a Social Club which organises dances (at reasonable prices), picnics, parties, theatre parties, and "generally everything in the social book" for the enjoyment of all students.

This sort of thing wouldn't go badly in Adelaide.

Moreover it wouldn't cost much, Mr. Roder!

Another queer habit in Melbourne is that of photographing all Freshers for official Uni. records. Fingerprints are not yet required!

## GLUG.

## S.R.C. OFFICES

From now on the following offices will be attended by a typist/clerk during the following hours:

S.R.C. OFFICE, George Murray Building: Daily, 9 a.m.—5 p.m. The Office will not be closed for lunch.

S.R.C. PUBLICATIONS OFFICE, George Murray Building ("On Dit," "Phoenix," Advertising Agency, etc.): Daily, 9 a.m.—noon; 2 p.m.—5 p.m. Between 12—2 please apply at S.R.C. Office.

Telephone (both Offices): G-3955, Extn. 66. ELIZABETH ADAM, Secretary S.R.C.

Wholly set up and printed in Australia by E. J. McAllister & Co., 24 Blyth Street, Adelaide, and published by the Adelaide University Students' Representative Council.

## Architectural Students' Association

### Annual General Meeting, 1949

will be held in ARCHITECTURAL DEPT., SCHOOL OF MINES At Lunch-time, 1.10 p.m., Next Wednesday, April 13. A. L. BROWNELL (Sec.)

# ENGINEERS DO IT AGAIN

On the opposite page can be found a controversial viewpoint on this year's Engineering Initiation. Here we give you a factual account of this year's ceremonies which were neglected by our daily press.

## Procession

Once again the good people of Adelaide were amused and shocked to see the Annual Initiation Procession roll through the city streets on the evening of Wednesday, March 30.

Theatre crowds were drawn out of foyers by the noise, which preceded the two trolleys drawn by freshers in bathers and shirts. A few indignant voices were heard in the crowds, muttering that anyone else would be arrested for doing this sort of thing, but everyone else enjoyed the spectacle including presumably the city fathers, whose permission was obtained, and the police, who made sure the procession had the green light all the way.

## Initiation

The actual initiation ceremonies took place at a city dance hall. The "assembly-line" went smoothly into production, including hair clippers, ammonia, peroxide, hair dye and methylene blue—the boys behind the counter making sure no-one missed out. Blind-fold boxing and some other competitive events about which the general public must remain blind-fold completed the Initiation.

Light refreshments were then served, including beer (much publicised), cases of soft drink, biscuits, cheese and gherkins.

Some of the freshers may have been disgusted (see p. 2), but half a dozen of them came up afterwards and thanked committee members for a good night's entertain-

## Paper, Sir?

Some of the male students will have realised by now that the S.R.C. Library, situated on the first floor of the George Murray Building, is in fact only a magazine and newspaper reading room.

Although there is no fixed rule about studying in the library, it would be a good thing if the lounge and library were used only for their true functions of reading and quiet chatter.

At present we have copies of all the weekly papers published by the Australian University plus a collection of Australian and overseas newspapers and magazines. As it is your library (male students), and as it is you who will do the reading, the librarian would be very pleased to receive any just criticisms of the present set-up, both about new magazines and also about getting rid of present ones.

If you have any, write them down and place them in the "K" box in the foyer of the Refectory addressed to the librarian, Alan Kennedy.

ment—even though they provided most of it. This unnatural phenomenon did not occur in the previous two years, but is definitely a good thing.

The one and only female Engineering fresherette did not attend—her husband, also a fresher, might have objected.

## Tug-of-war

The Science Association was challenged by the Engineers, and the two fresher teams took the strain over the Turrets last Wednesday.

Science, however, did not take the strain too long, ending up in the water after 19½ secs.

Some minutes later, the Engineers had their weekly wash, when the sodden Science team managed to hurl them in.

No-one was drowned.

## "Pirates" Bookings

Tokens for the Teachers' College presentation of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, "The Pirates of Penzance," may be obtained TO - DAY from College students OR from the booking office now that it has opened for business. Seats may be booked in two denominations, each day until the actual production.

Tokens: These may be bought at the set prices, and must be presented in exchange for the actual tickets and reserved seats.

Booking - office: This is to be found at the southern end of the College verandah (in the door to the extreme right), seen when entering from Kintore Avenue.

(3) Opening for Business: The office opened last Saturday at 8 a.m., continued then to 1.30 p.m., and will be hereafter open each week-day (excluding public holidays) from 9-5, and Saturdays from 8-1.30.

(4) Two denominations: 6/- (dress-circle or front-stalls) and 4/- (back-stalls). Specify dress-circle or front-stalls when booking 6/- seats.

(a) Gallery seats at 2/-, available on day of performance at (b) aforementioned booking office OR (c) at Tivoli Theatre on the night.

(5) Actual Production: Dates are May 4, 5, 6, and 7 (incl.).

## DRAMA FESTIVAL

Drama Festival will be held in Adelaide during the second term vacation. The Tivoli Theatre has been booked from August 18 to 27.

Universities expected to take part include Queensland, West Aust., Adelaide, and Melbourne.



VAL DUFFIELD, third year Phys. Ed. student at Teachers' College, who has been chosen as Australian representative to the International Girl Guide conference in Adelboden, Switzerland. Val was chosen from Girl Guides all over Australia, and leaves on the "Ormonde" on June 6 for London. She will be away about five months.

## GABRIEL

The first man and woman were constituted in a state of holiness and justice which was pleasing to God, and possessed the supernatural qualities of sanctifying grace and gifts of integrity such as freedom from concupiscence, ignorance, sorrow and death, said Fr. Gabriel in a lunch-hour address, "The Fall of Man—Original Sin."

"Our first parents transgressed the commandment given them by God and hence, sinned gravely." This was a sin of disobedience, which, according to the great theologian, St. Thomas, was founded on pride. Man wished to attain God's level, to reach, solely by his own powers, the beatitude promised by God.

Referring to the effects of this primal sin, Fr. Gabriel said that by this sin our first parents fell from these states of original justice and integral nature and lost for themselves and all men the gifts attached to such states. The speaker explained that God could take away these gifts without injustice to man, as they were gratuitous.

FOUND—At Engineers' Initiation, Attache-case containing clothing and bearing name P. HALLEY.—Owner please see John Neuenkirchen, c/o "On Dit" office.

## RANDOM HARVEST

The old dictum that nine out of every ten women in Adelaide are reasonably well dressed and the tenth is a University student has an element of truth. That is in so far as it emphasises that University women dress badly. I think the implication that the remainder of Adelaide women dress well is open to serious doubt, but that does not concern me here. I am only a mere male, but certain faults are so glaring that after two years down here my aesthetic sense is bruised and bleeding. Despite Charlotte Ellis' criticism of the last issue of "Liberal Opinion," it is not my practice to criticise without offering constructive suggestion, so here are a few points which apply fairly generally. First, it seems wrong to slavishly follow the exaggerated styles of the moment. You need height and slenderness to do it, and as very few of you have either, let alone both, you would do well to modify them. Secondly, trim dressing is smarter and need be no more expensive if only one or two good things are bought instead of many badly made ones. Thirdly, a full jacket shouldn't be worn with a full skirt. Fourth, don't wear tweed jackets with cotton frocks. If these few points were universally applied the University would be a far pleasanter place for male existence—and after all what woman doesn't want that?



Jim Forbes

After attending an S.R.C. meeting the other night I was reminded of a very good piece of advice I was once given by a distinguished South Australian. He told me that he had been a member of a society for many years which during that time had accomplished a great deal and made many important decisions, yet to his knowledge no motion had ever been proposed and seconded, nor had the gag ever been applied. I was reminded of this by the tendency of almost all members of the S.R.C. to regard the rules of procedure and debate as an end in themselves rather than a guide to be used with discretion when needed. The inevitable result was chaos, a negligible amount of business satisfactorily transacted, and extreme frustration on the part of some members of the S.R.C. and all the visitors.

Did you know that there were 150,000 books in the Barr-Smith library, not including periodicals. If you don't believe it ask Miss Holland—she counted 'em.

JIM FORBES.

There was the woman who admired her friend's fur coat and asked how much she played for it.

# INDIANS PUZZLED

Indian students cannot imagine what power Australian students have in the government of their Universities if they don't go on strike when some action of the Uni. authorities displeases them.

This was stated by Dr. Peter Hetzel in a lunch-time address, "The Student East of Suez," last Wednesday.

He went on to say that this unusual habit is due to the greater feeling that Indian students have over matters directly affecting their own welfare. For instance, a sit-down strike would probably be called for if the University authorities decided to raise the general pass mark from fifty to seventy-five per cent. This attitude of the students accounts for the lower standards which sometimes prevail in Indian Universities.

At times in the past, said Dr. Hetzel, we have been worried over the possibility of graduate unemployment. In Travancore, however, where the majority of students come from the villages, few on graduating desire to return as teachers, so that when Arts students graduate, the only thing that they are qualified to become is bus conductors. This job has been specially kept open for them by the Government.

He also referred to the greater political awareness of students over there (despite our activity over I.U.S.), the machine-gunning of Chinese students, the position of Christian teachers in the schools, the establishment of an £8m. University in Ceylon, and the re-development of culture occurring in East-

ern countries since the cessation of many hundreds of years of foreign occupation.

Dr. Hetzel was in Ceylon and India for five weeks, in order to attend an Asian S.C.M. Leaders' Conference.

## Revue Auditions

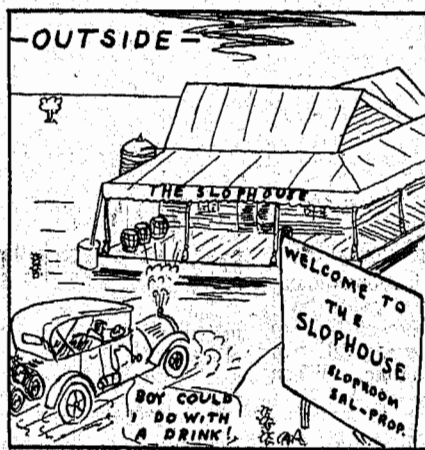
All undergraduates wishing to participate in any way in 1949 Revue, irrespective of whether they appeared in "The Seat" or not, are asked to attend the auditions to be held in The Hut from 6 to 11 p.m. Wednesday, April 13.

Freshers and new members may prepare any song, dance item or script if they desire, otherwise material will be supplied by the auditioning panel. Past members are strongly urged to attend so that their cards may be brought up to date.

Remember, your producer this year will not know you personally, so unless the necessary details are indexed, your chances of appearing in Revue may be slightly thin. The Ballet mistress will be in attendance to interview prospective members of the Ballet.

She was married at a very early urge.

## FLASHLIGHT RAZOR



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Photographer:  
KEITH STEVENS

EDITORIAL

The National Paradox

THE decision of the Students' Representative Council of the University of Adelaide to reject the financial scheme of the National Union will be applauded from all quarters.

In the 1949 budget of N.U.A.U.S., not one penny was allocated to the financing of Intersvarsity activities. Under this scheme the Intersvarsity Debates, Drama Festival, Congress, and the Art Exhibition would, financially, have to look after themselves. National Council said that the entire cost of each activity was to be born by the participants in that activity, over and above the usual fee.

Thus the students of Australia are faced with the paradoxical case of a Union which was primarily founded in the interests of Intersvarsity activities refusing to pay for activities, while still accepting the rake-off which was paid in the usual way as fees.

For the fee, which is now 1/3 per head, nothing can be shown; whereas last year's fee, of 2/- per head, paid for the activities mentioned above, plus four editions per year of "Natstud."

Local S.R.C. has refused to ratify the budget plan. It claims that all the activities, with the exception of "Natstud," could be financed with a fee of 1/4 per head. We have yet to hear from the National Union executive on the matter. It is up to them to see that N.U.A.U.S. is used for the purpose of financing worthwhile Intersvarsity activities, and not as a spawning ground for petty bureaucrats.

We're Watching You, Mr. Brennan

WHEN it notified its intention of submitting the election of the National Union executive for ratification along with the other decisions of Council, the local S.R.C. received a ruling from N.U.A.U.S. President, Gerry Brennan (Q.) that elections were not subject to ratification. It is significant that Mr. Brennan's position would have been subject to acceptance, but constitutionally he is able to rule in this manner, and constitutionally, he has done so.

However, this does alter the fact that Adelaide S.R.C. wanted these elections to be subject to ratification, because it was definitely not satisfied with them. When Brennan's letter was received at the S.R.C. meeting, discussion revealed that a definite bloc had voted the N.U. executive into office at Armidale. No-one from Perth, Adelaide, or Hobart was represented on the executive. Also, two very experienced N.U. Council men were kept out of the executive by the voting of the north-eastern bloc.

Last year, Mr. Brennan and his Queensland cronies wanted to disaffiliate from N.U.; this year, they run it. Let's hope they make a good job of whatever they are trying to do.

The article below is one of the many which resulted from a seminar at Adelphi College, New York, convened by U.N.E.S.C.O.

What are Human Needs?

WHAT conditions make life good? What are the vitamins of personality? Study of religion, family life, recreation, anthropology, psychiatry, reveals marked agreement among the specialists. Here is a summary of the insights of wise men who like people and who have thoughtfully studied their needs.

1. Affection, friendship. — Everyone has to be liked. Babies can wither, even die, for lack of love. I have never encountered a delinquent child who had one strong, decent, grown-up friend. Modern city life makes friendship for and among children quite difficult. The normal, friendly relations of children are forbidden in most schools. Older children find friendship in gangs; modern life provides few facilities for respectable ganging. No adult has higher responsibility than to make certain that the children within the realm of his influence have interesting, dependable friends. This is the most important role of the teacher.

2. Self-respect. — The core of mental health is self-respect. Every human being has to think well of himself. The basic concept of democracy is respect for the dignity of the individual human being.

3. Freedom. — Most of the adults in this world can profitably examine their own behaviour to detect vestiges of long acceptance of the validity of human slavery. Much of what we call courtesy and respect of children for adults is merely the expression of the acceptance of servility, behaviour expected of slaves by their masters. Among the most coercive devices of the modern world is control by appeals to loyalty and devotion. "A slave," said Plato, "is one who gets his purposes from somebody else."

4. Faith, respect for authority. — None of us is sufficient alone. Each of us has to have in his life some people upon whom to rely in complete confidence. Desolate is he who has no faith in anyone, anywhere. Respect for one's authority must be earned; it cannot be demanded. We cannot expect genuine respect from people whose interests and behaviour we deplore, nor from those whose wishes we ignore.

5. Challenge. — An important role of the adult in the life of the child is challenge, the stimulation of the urge to grow. Too often, as the child becomes older, challenge is displaced by commands and prescribed behaviour. If we would teach children to behave well we have no way other than to treat them so well that they seek to behave as we do. Man tends to create himself in the image of the people he likes.

6. Nature. — Being a part of nature, man needs to participate in the processes of maintaining life. We need to influence growth. The seemingly illogical prevalence of dogs and cats and ivy in our most crowded neighborhoods is an expression of our need to help living things live.

7. Art-creativity. — We attribute to God the great satisfaction as He sat down on the Seventh Day, surveyed the results of His labors, and called it "Good." Many shattered souls are restored to wholeness by centring attention upon a concrete task and achieving a planned result. James Harvey Robinson main-

tained that man is man quite as much because of his marvellous hands as because of his complex brain. Mud pies are as essential to growth as milk. It appears to be quite necessary for humans to centre attention and energies upon a definite purpose and carry it through. We need to make things happen, to work and see beneficial results of our labors. The arts, instead of being fads and frills, are most fundamental in the lives of our children.

8. Value, appreciation. — We need to be needed. No factor in human life is more degrading than to be a kept person. School should be a place where children's abilities and talents are useful to each other. The talents of a child should always be assets to his associates, never claims to distinction from them. Application of this principle would revolutionise the schools; it might save the world.

9. Fun, zestful experience. — The essence of wisdom and

morality is the longtime, widespread view of human gratification. Children must run, jump, shout, wrestle, splash, throw; they must be active and adventuresome. In most of the urban communities it is illegal to be a child.

We deplore the bestowal of special privilege and applause upon children of unusual competency. The schools, and many families, disqualify for leadership their most capable and promising children in a world almost derelict for lack of effective intelligence. These gifted people are disqualified through praise and reward for merely being smart without reference to action in concrete valued accomplishment, by isolation of talented children from normal childhood friends. The common child thus disdains superior ability. The unusually capable child develops perverted ideas of the significance of his superiority. The popularity of the "Quiz Kid" is a dismal symbol of our intellectual poverty.

Are you satisfied with the existing facilities for sport in this University? The authors of this article, after an interview with Professor Sir Norman Haworth, world renowned for his research on Carbohydrates, compiled this outline of facilities at the Birmingham University. Birmingham University is no bigger than Adelaide University.

Are We Up-To-Date

(by JOHN LEAN and DICK JENSEN)

AT the Birmingham University—

(1) First year fresher medical examinations are obligatory.

(2) Annual medical examinations for all medical students are also compulsory.

(3) One of four aspects of Physical Education may be chosen as a recognised Arts subject.

(4) There is a trained staff of men and women Physical Education specialists available for the assistance of students who need guidance in recreative games.

(5) There is an Advisory Board to help students who, through the medical check-ups, have been found to have physical or physiological defects.

(6) There is a fully equipped gymnasium, facilities for all sports (including six squash courts) and negotiations are being made for the installation of a Varsity swimming pool.

(7) Opportunity is given for all students to enjoy recreative games irrespective of athletic ability.

(8) Students are taught how to best use their bodies as well as their minds. Development of the whole man is recognised as being an essential part of education.

Would you say that our own University compares favorably to that of Birmingham? Do you consider that

here there is sufficient stress placed on such things as human relationship, social values and moral standards, which are all intimately bound up and associated with the activities of a complete education.

Sport and recreation have been so thoroughly commercialised that many people grow into adulthood knowing nothing of play and self-expression.

Curiously enough the development of physical education at the Birmingham University was largely pioneered by ex-Vice-Chancellor of Melbourne University, Dr. R. A. Priestley, now Vice-Chancellor at Birmingham.

The student body to a large extent dictates the terms by which facilities for sport and recreation are made available to its members. If more adequate facilities are needed it is up to us to see that we get them.

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WARNING

Student members of the Union are warned that disciplinary action will be taken against persons failing to return crockery and trays taken from the Refectory on to the lawns and cloister steps to the collection tables in the cloisters.

ELIZABETH ADAM,  
Secretary, S.R.C.

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## "On Dit" Magazine Section

CONTRIBUTIONS from all members of the University are invited for this page. Especially welcome are notices of current books of merit, reviews of plays and films, poems, polemics, and philippics. Illustrated articles are doubly welcome.

## THE CASE AGAINST "COMICS"

Just about fifty years ago, an unsung artist told a funny story in a strip of cartoons — and thereby started a giant new industry, sent educators to bed with nightmares, and changed the reading habits of millions of children — and their parents.

### FRENCH PROTEST

The latest blast in the storm of protest stirred by comics comes from France where superhuman exploits and glorified gungirls were debated on the floor of the French Chamber of Deputies. The result was a law to protect children and adolescents by forbidding any publication building up banditry, stealing, hatred, cowardice and cheating. A committee representing the government, youth associations and the press will enforce the law, supported by the Ministry of Justice.

The French measures to protect juveniles from undesirable reading matter are symptomatic of the rising general concern about the flood of new publications, the so-called comics, aimed at young readers. This mounting uneasiness has been noticeable in the homeland of the comics — the United States — as in most other countries; UNESCO's Director-General, Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet, expressed his concern about comics of the Superman type at a press luncheon recently in Paris.

The French Minister of Justice stressed that this new law is in no way an infringement of the liberties of the press. It has been passed mainly as a result of a campaign by the French Teachers' League which has taken a special interest in the fight against the comics. According to the League's figures, eighty-eight per cent. of the juvenile delinquents in France are ardent readers of comics. The efforts to combat such publications have undoubtedly been stimulated by the alarming rise of juvenile delinquency in many countries.

In the United States, an advisory committee has been established by the Association of Comic Magazine Publishers, whose members are responsible for forty per cent. of the enormous comics output in the United States, to improve comic books and use this technique for constructive educational purposes.

Another example comes from Mamaroneck, New York,

where a group of parents has gone ahead and organised an independent publishing company — The Once Upon a Time Press. Its first publication was a fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen, with illustrations.

### SADISM, FIGHTS, VIOLENCE

What is, then, the case against the comics?

That most of them are badly written and badly drawn — trash in short — is a thing apart. The main charge is the comics' preoccupation with violence in all its forms. Murder in its most cruel aspects, sadism, fights, explosions, war on an interplanetary scale, these are the main themes of too many of the so-called comics.

Another complaint is that the comics, instead of popularising science, make science everyman's fool and remove it from the realm of reality and the possible to the land of nightmare and fantasy.

### PIN-UP GIRLS

A third accusation is that the heroes and heroines, with whom the readers identify themselves, are, in most cases, gangsters or pin-up girls. The girls can be explained by the fact the press for adults usually carries comic strips and tries to catch their interest as well as that of juvenile readers. It is certain that comics now are far from exclusively read by children and adolescents. Adults often start their daily paper with Flash Gordon or Japo, should the front page not carry a story also revealing in violence.

### MEANT FOR ILLITERATES

Another serious charge is that the comics really are meant for illiterates. The text on the whole confines itself to exclamations like Ohhh! Ugh! bang, whiz, bump, etc., and the context dwindles to nothing.

All this would not be worth serious concern, were it not for the tremendous popularity and diffusion of these comics. This popularity shows, among other things, that the technique is a good technique.

The problem is how to use this new mass medium in a constructive manner. One way would be to paint a sympathetic picture of the foreigner and the under-privileged. Thus, the strips could make their contribution to international understanding and tolerance.

From UNESCO COURIER.

### Fragment of an Ode composed by a Moribund Patient in the Terminal Stages of Shock.

Cold and sweaty pale art thou, O Shock;  
And when thy knock  
Is feebly heard through the life-blood's veins,  
All life's pains  
Wing through the misty mind like a flock of ducks  
O'er the reed-ringed flats  
Of water. . . .

—M.D.

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# COCTEAU'S CONCOCTION

"The Eagle Has Two Heads," in the best Hollywood spooky film tradition, opens on a stormy night. Lightning flashes outside the window of the Queen's apartment in Krantz Castle as the Duke of Willenstein and Countess Edith de Berg, two trusted members of the Queen's court, are putting the final touches to a supper table laid (see photograph) for two. Note the names! Krantz, Willenstein, de Berg—we are in Ruritania (as the vaguely foreign uniforms testify), where almost anything can happen; very shortly, it does . . .

The expected supper guest is the King, which is all very right and proper—except that he has been assassinated ten years before! He has been mourned by the Queen ever since, who has become a little odd because of it, a fact increasingly apparent when Willenstein and de Berg leave the room.

The Queen pours out a glass of champagne for the empty chair opposite her, and begins an animated conversation with herself, consisting of nearly 3,000 words. It is, so far as is known, the longest speech ever delivered on any stage. About a quarter of the way through the speech, a blood-stained figure, the image of the dead king, crashes through the window into the room.

It is not he, of course, but a poet, who has come, of all

things, to murder the Queen. By the end of the first act he has not done it; he has not, in fact, done anything except listen to the Queen.

There you have it: the setting, the situation and the characters, plus a deaf mute servant (colored, of course) and a sinister Chief of Police (a Baron, of course). Complicate the situation by having the Queen and the Poet fall in love, and it is obvious there will be sufficient startling consequences to pass the time until the final curtain falls on their dead bodies lying extreme back centre.

Obviously, I do not take "The Eagle Has Two Heads" very seriously. It is nonsense, wordy Gothic nonsense at that, and yet it is interesting; it makes one think after leaving the theatre.

Obviously, there is more in

the Eagle than meets the eye. Nonsense, taradiddle and similar words which are tagged to it must be qualified somewhat. Overseas critics have tried to get over the difficulty by stressing the merits of the play as a theatrical entertainment. They point out that Eileen Herlie scored a great personal triumph as the Queen in London, and that the play is the most successful to emerge from post-war French theatre. They stress the play's playability rather than the play itself.

I consider this to be a wrong view. The fact that Tallulah Bankhead, a very great actress, failed signally in the American production of this play, seems to support my belief that it is anything but a sure-fire theatrical piece. I consider it a very hard play to put on indeed, and in regard to the Queen's role, almost unplayable in the demands it makes, mentally and physically, upon the actress.

No, it is the ideas that constitute this play's appeal, the ideas expressed by strange, twisted personalities. Admittedly, these ideas do not stand analysis, but they are sensational, startling and stimulating. Jean Cocteau, the playwright, is a shrewd man of the theatre, and uses all the apparatus of melodrama, an improbable situation and extravagant setting, to enhance the effect of his mental fire-crackers.

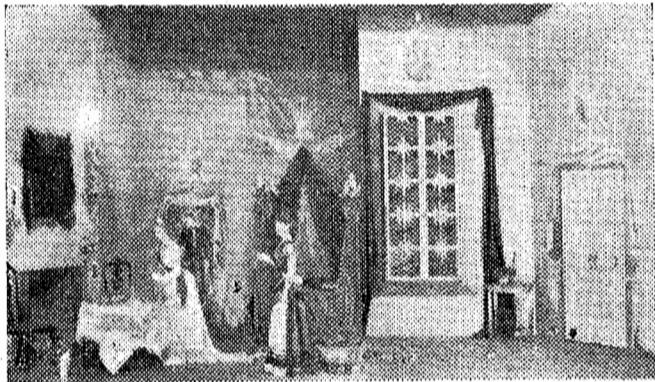
An evening at a performance of "The Eagle Has Two Heads" is an evening of mental acrobatics. It is only on getting home that one realises one has been "had" by Cocteau's concoction. Here is one example of the ideas presented in the complex (one is tempted to say, incoherent) pattern.

The King is assassinated and the Queen remains alive, a frustrated, unfulfilled woman. She becomes obsessed with the idea of Death, which eventually comes to her in form of the Poet. But the Poet is physically identical with the dead King. Thus, at the end of the play, the Queen reaches fulfilment in two ways. Desired Death comes to her at last, and she dies with her beloved King (or his image, at any rate!). See what I mean! Unhealthy, perhaps, but quite diverting provided one does not think about it too deeply.

During the performance of this play by the Adelaide Theatre Group, one DID find time to reflect upon various aspects and realise how silly it was, and for this reason this production failed. Intense conviction and a high pitch of excitement is needed to rush the audience through each act, so that they accept implicitly what is presented. These are requirements that would tax a professional company, let alone an amateur group. The Adelaide Theatre Group failed, but let it be said they failed understandably—and bravely. And there is the compensation that Elizabeth Trotter, although not wholly dramatically satisfying, has given a magnificently sustained performance that reveals her as an actress of stature.

Let us hope, too, that they failed for a worthwhile cause. Let us hope, in other words, that the proceeds of these performances swelled the South Australian Orchestra Fund. The play itself was not worth it. Certainly "The Eagle Has Two Heads," but they both sound rather empty to me.

FRANK ZEPPEL



THE GOTHIC DRAMA. The Queen (Elizabeth Trotter) and her lady-in-waiting (Yvonne Hutton) prepare to receive a dead King in the opening scene of Frank Flanagan's production of "The Eagle Has Two Heads."

## THINKING MAKES IT SO

Reviewed by Edgar Castle

My last review called down a storm of protest. I was told that I had failed to see the players as a group of amateurs of such a kind working under such-and-such conditions; that I had judged them against too high a standard. Lest I run into such a squall again, let me say now that Miss Boulderstone's production of "Thinking Makes It So" at the Hut last week was quite as good (whatever that may mean) as one could legitimately expect a Theatre Guild performance to be.

The rest of what is to be written here is not, however, intended for those playgoers who see the critic's function as a sort of analytical chemistry ("add 2 c.c.s. of phenolphthalein and compare with standard sample"). No. I am, I hope, talking to people who have realised that each production of every play implies its own standard, suggests an ideal totality to which its contributing parts—music, script, sets, acting, etc.—do or do not conform.

And there one has the chief thing to be said of this play of Pirandello's; that its performance was, as no play at The Hut has been for months, integrated. Leaving the theatre, one had few or none of those so common fragmentary impressions; no one's acting was obtrusively good or bad; the costuming and sets (except, perhaps, for Ponza's unhappy suit) were quite forgotten, which was proper; the parts, in fact, were appropriately subordinate to the whole, which whole, of course, was a sermon, in the metaphysical manner on the text, "So you wanted the Truth." (This, the curtain line from Act I, I have noted in the margin of my programme.)

There, unfortunately, is the rub. It is possible, just possible, that somewhat more significance could have been extracted from the script had

the team played with more intensity. The tremendous potential difference between the Ponza group and the townspeople was not, perhaps, fully exploited. It is, though, because of the very integratedness of which I spoke, impossible to say that any one actor failed in this particular; only that the risk of the play's toppling into melodrama might have been worth taking.

One point remains. One notices, again and again, that not enough time seems to be spent, in plays produced here, on the work of what are invariably called "bit" players. Donald Rosie, the butler, seemed to this writer to have considerable latent talent; but, possibly through inadequate drilling, it didn't show to best advantage. Yet the odds-and-sods are often as important to a play as are the protagonists. ("A chain is no stronger than its weakest link.") Here, in his exchanges with Laudisi, who has been talking to his image in a mirror, the butler bears for a moment the whole weight of the play. He might easily have dropped it.

On the whole, though, a most pleasing performance.

Then there was the innocent fresherette who thought that lovelorn meant the grass just over the footbridge.

**The Bitter End**

Sir,—It behoves me, I think, to withdraw remarks I made in "On Dit" (28/3/49) about your correspondent Mazey in the light of his reply.

I attacked his first letter quite rightly, I think, but his second letter shows him to be much more au fait with the subject than I had thought. He explains that a certain evolutionary theory is satisfactory. I agree entirely, as I only attacked his former statement that such theory was the truth.

In answer to his answers, however, I must point out that the theory of increased radio-activity back into time affecting gene mutations has been repeatedly advanced in many books to account for mutation frequency. Should such a theory be correct, gene mutations can entirely supplant the Darwinian environmental "survival of the fittest" theories. Secondly, I don't advance the idea that Lysenko is right, only that he presents an extremely well documented theory on the opposite side, which has not been disproved. The Marxian twaddle which accompanies the theory as presented, it must be remembered, doesn't affect the scientific value of the theory in any way.

I should like to know with whom I argue.

R. S. BRAY.

**Through the Maze**

Sir,—The claim by Mazey in last week's "On Dit" that Lysenko achieved power only after exponents of the anti-Michurin school "had been removed from Russia, mostly by murder" is entirely false. Among those present at the meeting of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in August, 1948, arguing against Lysenko's views were I. I. Schmalhausen (Professor of Darwinism, Moscow), Prof. A. R. Zhebrak, Prof. B. M. Zavadovsky (Prof. of Biology, Moscow), Prof. Y. Polyansky (Leningrad), P. M. Zhukovskiy, A. A. Malinovsky, Prof. N. P. Dubinin, Prof. I. P. Polyakov and others. Furthermore, Lysenko himself said at this session: "The chromosome theory of heredity is to this day taught in all colleges of biology and agronomy (in the U.S.S.R.)—whereas, in fact, the study of Michurin genetics has not been introduced at all." The implication that free discussion on genetics is not permitted in the Soviet Union is thus seen to be absurd.

J. A. WALKER.

[Free discussion on genetics will no longer be permitted in these columns.—ED.]

**Intellectualities**

Sir,—These Christians are strange people. For forty minutes, one Dr. Schwarz attacked Communism because it was based on "the unproven and unprovable assumption" of "the withering away of the State." He then admitted that the idea of an after life, in which he believed implicitly, was an "unproven and unprovable assumption."

Let us beware, with the good Doctor, the insidious clutches of foul Reason!

BO.

**The President Again Replies**

Sir,—Mr. John S. Mill has requested me to inform the student body of the circumstances in which I would consider the S.R.C. justified in holding In Camera meetings. I will endeavor to do so. However, I must regret that I cannot attempt to explain in the columns of this paper any sessions held In Camera during the past month, as this would lead to me divulging the nature of the business discussed at these meetings.

Meetings which should be

held in Camera may be classified under the following two headings:

1. Reports which might include material which could rise to proceedings for slander;

2. Material supplied to the S.R.C. confidentially, with the proviso that it shall not publish such material to the public generally. The S.R.C. can do nothing but accept such provisos of higher authorities.

Power to hold meetings In Camera is given to the S.R.C. and until a general meeting of students alters this proviso, I must consider that students generally are willing to allow the S.R.C. to hold meetings In Camera. I can assure students that if this proviso was altered, much matter which is necessary for the efficient running of the S.R.C. would not be made available to the council.

JOHN H. RODER.

[In reply to criticism in "On Dit" referring to notices placed around the Refectory, cloisters requiring students to return crockery and trays to collection tables in the Cloisters, S.R.C. President Roder stated that these notices had been necessitated by major considerations, and were not an example of petty bureaucracy. He pointed out that if students failed to comply with S.R.C.'s order, it was possible that the Refectory would have to be closed for a large number of hours each day, owing to the staff shortage resulting from the refusal of staff to clear up the Refectory lawns. He said that if all students co-operated with the Refectory management, there would be no need for the S.R.C. to make this demand upon the student body.—ED.]

**Bias—Not Liars**

Sir,—I read your advertisement for reporters without religious bias with some interest—I have never met anyone like that. In all my brief experience, people have either been Christians, or else biased the other way. Being one of the first group myself, I naturally am biased. But one sees the value of good reporting; in your report of Dr. Schwarz's address on "Communism and Religion," what did he say on Religion? Obviously he had found religion better than Communism, but what did he say? The only part I remember off hand is the part about Communism offering "pie in the 'where?' by and by." But I forgot—he was biased.

But I should say that (I may be wrong), most of the people who pride themselves on being unbiased, have not troubled to study Christianity very much, not only the modern trends, but also the people who are "too religious." I daresay they couldn't tell me why trained men, e.g., doctors, should give up positions to go to, say, Africa, to be missionaries. Maybe they're biased; or how the Town Hall can be filled with young people going to a religious meeting instead of to a dance. Nor could they tell me what goes on there (I know—but I'm biased). Nor why, before an operation, I, a Protestant, can talk with a Catholic patient about God, and answered prayer—maybe we both were biased. Should somebody say I'm wrong in my statements, that's as may be—he's probably biased as well as I. Also I will (if opportunity arises and my letters reach print) endeavor to prove my biased statements to unbiased (?) people if necessary.

I am not being derogatory to unbiased (?) people if please accept my apologies.

REG. I. PETERSON.

**"Isis" or "Cherwell"**

Sir,—Why this thyness? Are S.R.C. vacancies news? I remember the time when

the ISIS (or was it the CHERWELL?) came out with the headline, "Magdalen man makes Good. To be crowned King of England." But that, of course, was another country, and, besides, those days are dead.

Yours decrepity,  
CALLIT MAUDLIN.

**Elegaic**

Sir,—Mr. Tregonning's paragraph about the "crests" (sic) in Bonython Hall (properly called the "Great") has moved me to send you this short elegaic for the College of Heralds. I hope that the S.R.C. will be good enough to allow you to publish it.

Was it for this you forwent rest?

the Union Council because students were only half-baked adolescents and would make a mess of running the University—look at Melbourne, says "Liberal Opinion." I'm looking—a £10,000 hostel has just been opened for students at the Melbourne University.

S. GREER.

**Juggling Charge**

Sir,—The unwarranted attack on the University Liberal Union, featured in your latest issue under the heading, "Liberal U Juggling," leads one to wonder, firstly, just how much the Editor knows of the practices of the S.R.C., and secondly, whether the Editor of "On Dit" was fully conscious of the seriousness

to effect something by trickery, then his criticism is justified. If he can't then an apology would seem to be called for.

BRIAN R. COX.

**Perth Policy**

Sir,—With reference to the article in the second last edition of "On Dit" regarding some of the conveniences enjoyed by Melbourne students, it might interest readers to hear about some of the advantages enjoyed by Perth University students compared with here. These apply to 1947 and earlier, but may have changed since:

1. The men's and women's locker rooms were the last part of the University to close — about 10.30 or afterwards.
2. The men's and women's sitting and games rooms close about the same time, and the men's room had a billiard table of sorts, besides table tennis (bats provided) and darts; while the two men's sitting rooms were provided with wirelesses and card-tables.
3. University badges are available, thus helping to strengthen intra-faculty loyalty, and when students sign the register, it is done wearing gowns, and before as many senior students and staff as care to pack Winthrop Hall on that night.
4. At Guild elections everyone is required to vote under threat of fines, thus destroying any likelihood of the Guild being controlled by either the political or religious groups beloved by the editor. This is a good thing, and could be introduced here to arouse student interest, and to aid the S.R.C. coffers.
5. Election speeches are delivered through loud speakers, scattered over the lawns and in the Ref., while the mass of students are eating, thus making them acquainted, if unwillingly, with the policies of the candidates.
6. The library stays open until ten o'clock, thus making it worthwhile returning after tea.
7. Finally, and most important of all, the Ref. stayed open until 10.15 p.m. to provide supper for the students, and as well, besides being continuously open from 10 a.m. onwards, provided a three-course meal, with plenty of choices, for only 1/3, twice a day.

In conclusion, I suggest that the S.R.C. should wake up, and, rather than bicker about increased representation upon the Council, try and bring in some reforms of a similar nature to convert this University into a University, rather than a loose arrangement of faculties with little, if anything, to draw students together.

"W.A. MEDICO."

**Rural Rantings**

Sir,—Such scathing generalisations regarding Faculty apathy towards S.R.C. (Editorial—"On Dit" 4/4/49) must not go unchallenged.

On September 27, 1948, at the final meeting of the Agricultural Science Faculty Association, Mr. K. Richter was proposed, seconded, and elected as S.R.C. representative for 1949. Due notice of intention to elect a representative at this meeting had been given. That this should have been done at an Association meeting rather than by ballot is a matter of geographical necessity until such times as

**LETTER OF THE WEEK**

**Go West, Young Man**

Sir,

I shall be grateful if you will publish this letter.

I am very interested in hitch-hiking to Port Victoria some week-end soon, possibly April 22-25 or later, to see the Pamir and the Passat. Would any students with similar ideas contact me as soon as possible. I think I could fix accommodation for two or three at least.

If they are unable to find me around the University, my home address is 119 Second Avenue, Royston Park. No 'phone, unfortunately.

MISS JOAN WARNER,

Science I.

Is this the crown of all you've seen?

That the splendid shield is misnamed "crest"

The Unicorn Or proclaims—machines?

The second reference, of course, is to Steamrollers, not to the Liberal Union.

Sadly yours,

LAUNCELOT.

**Liberal Opinion**

Sir,—The first issue of "Liberal Opinion" was interesting, and in case students did not read it carefully—here are three statements from the paper which everybody should chew over carefully.

**(1) Re Communism**

"The fight is on and we must shelter no longer behind, in this case, outworn incantations of 'free speech' and 'tolerance.'" I don't think any comment is necessary except to point out that this statement is taken from "Liberal Opinion" not "Mein Kampf."

**(2) Re C.R.T.S.**

"Liberal Opinion" states on page 3 that though ex-servicemen should not refuse to take the C.R.T.S. allowance, they should be grateful and not demand an increase, because in many cases the allowance was more than they deserve. No mention of the increased cost of living, I notice. Could that be because Liberals urged a "No" vote at the Prices Referendum?

**(3) Re Union Council**

We should not try to get increased representation on

of the charge with which he accused the Union.

During 1948, and probably in preceding years, it was quite a normal and not infrequent practice for an undergraduate club, on finding the Lady Symon booked, to approach the S.R.C. with the request that the relative importance of the bookings should be examined by the S.R.C., and that the booking should be altered should the occasion warrant it. The fact that many societies—and especially the E.U.—make advance bookings which they afterwards find they do not need, is the reason for this practice.

There appears to be nothing about the Liberal Union's request which makes it in any way different from many the S.R.C. has received in other years from other societies—political and otherwise. The Liberal Union made no demand; it simply made a request, and has accepted the S.R.C.'s decision.

Notwithstanding this, the Editor (who probably knew nothing of the S.R.C.'s practice in these matters) chose to accuse the Liberal Union of "juggling." To "juggle" means to "play conjuring tricks; deceive (person), misrepresent (facts); cheat (person, out of a thing); bring, get, change by trickery" (Concise Oxford Dictionary). If the Editor of this paper can produce any evidence to substantiate his implication that the Liberal Union attempted to play conjuring tricks, to misrepresent something, to cheat someone, or

S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C.

**ACCELERATE . . .**

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That's Why You Must Celebrate . . . Naturally You'll do it at the

**ACCELERATION BALL**

Delightfully Informal — The Best Music and Floor — Supper — Novelties — No Formal Receptions

**THE ACCELERATION BALL**

REFECTORY

**SATURDAY, APRIL 23**

(The First Saturday After Easter)

Dancing, 8 p.m.—Midnight

Double Tickets, 8/6; Freshers' Concession Tickets, 5/-, available together with Table Booking Plans at the S.R.C. Office from Monday, 4th April. Be Sure to ACCELERATE.

S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C. . . . S.R.C.

# IN DESERTO"

# MAKE HIS PATHS LEGIBLE

Saturday afternoon or Sunday ballots become fashionable. As the Editor may, or may not know, on all other days the four years are fairly evenly divided between the University, Med. and Vet. Institute, Waite Institute and Roseworthy College. The S.R.C. president and other Council members had been informed that Mr. Richter had been elected, following the general meeting and, indeed, he has since acted as an official member of the S.R.C. when called upon to do so, at official functions.

Further, in fairness to Faculty members in general, and to our hard-working last year's representative, Mr. Wells, in particular, any suggestion of apathy towards S.R.C. in this Faculty is laughable. Wholehearted support was given to Mr. Wells at all times, and controversial S.R.C. matters discussed freely at meetings when necessary, and as far as any "party seats" being available or pressure groups getting a free ride, well, in this case, just relax, Mr. Editor.

Whilst gradually learning that one must not expect too much of "On Dit" editors, one does expect a hand a little lighter on the generalisations, and a little more liaison between the S.R.C. executive and the editor of their official organ.

J. W. RYAN  
President Agric. Soc. Faculty Assoc.

## Brighter Lunch Hours

Sir,—In response to "Music Lover's" plea for a brighter lunch hour, I for one am in full agreement with his proposals. In fact, I would go further and brighten the Refectory generally. I feel that it is detrimental to the health of students to have to sit on cold, stone steps. In some instances, it is even conducive to eyestrain. The Union should, therefore, provide striped canvas umbrellas and gaily painted tables and chairs on the lawns.

Perhaps a few potted palms or aspidistras could be placed at strategic points.

I also advocate the serving of light wines during meal periods, preferably by the student Refectory helpers or immigrants in their gaily colored national costumes.

In the near future I intend to apply for permission to open a fish and chip stand on portion of the motor cycle park, later extending to hot dogs in the foyer, if the demand warrants the expenditure on additional plant. Undoubtedly, some narrow-minded critics will say that this will detract from the dignity and tradition of the University. I counteract this projected criticism by definitely stating that I shall only be prepared to supply fish and chips (in newspaper) to undergraduates wearing academic dress.

"CONTINENTAL JOE."

## Disillusion

Sir,—It was with gratifying pride in this venerable institution that I read in "On Dit" (4/4/49), that "in the greatest burst of student activity ever experienced, voting on the I.U.S. disaffiliation issue proceeded at great pace during last week."

Verily, the University was a breeding ground for people of Menziesonian and Evattian calibre. What ideological felicity!

And then—disillusion comparable only to that of the last generation of the 'twenties, seeped through my cerebral cortex; for out of a total of about 3,500 students, only 800 voted; 2,700 had modestly and breathlessly abstained.

In "On Dit" (28/3/49), our cynical and subtle Mr. Forbes, brandished the Torch of Knowledge at all students, and admonished them, be-

seeing them to treat the Varsity as an organism, which between them should exist a reciprocal and loyal tie affected by the most compelling interests of the soul.

In "On Dit" (14/3/49), we read of dormant Czechoslovakian students being routed from universities there. It is here that the Communist-dominated I.U.S. is grinding their creed in the mill of apathy, which has superseded the once most fervently nationalistic countries in Europe.

And yet our "students" neglect to vote on a motion which directly concerns the above-mentioned political perambulations, and one which might have so affected us here, if the vote had gone the other way. Being disillusioned, one cannot pray, but only mutter muffled hopes.

"PHLEGMATIC FRESHER."

## Journalistic Ethics

Sir,—Mr. Plueckhahn, writing in "On Dit," 28/3/49, under the heading, "I.U.S. and Med. Students," quotes certain sections of a letter by Dr. Whyte, who represented the Queensland medical students at a Students' International Clinical Congress held in England. Mr. Plueckhahn put these quotations forward as argument against affiliation with I.U.S. For utter distortion, this beats the band.

Firstly, I would like to point out that the whole Congress— not only the Faculty Bureau section— was promoted by I.U.S. Three dots in the middle of Mr. Plueckhahn's quotation covered the following: "It was very good of them (I.U.S.) to promote the Congress and to allow non-I.U.S. countries to participate. . . ."

Secondly, Dr. Whyte's article, in itself, is contradictory. He states that he condemns I.U.S. from the Medical Congress point of view, but considers that these congresses should continue. He writes extensively of the enthusiasm of delegates from all over the world, of all colors, creeds and nationalities at the Congress. He tells of the obvious good it achieved. He admits that the Congress was a success. "Please do not think the Congress was not a success. It was," writes Dr. Whyte. And admitting this, he condemns I.U.S. for promoting the Congress. Hardly consistent, is it? And what is more, not a very solid foundation upon which to form opinions, or, for that matter, to put forward as an argument against anything.

Then, to add to the distortion, Mr. Plueckhahn omits (obviously for lack of space) the final portion of the letter. In this section, Dr. Whyte says: "From my observations and from many deliberate enquiries I made, I am convinced that I.U.S. has a political streak in its policy; that is, most active spokesmen and supporters, sincere though they may be, extend this streak, with theirs, through all its practices; that Communistically inclined organisations (even governments) may seek to use it. This does not mean that I oppose joining it. "Because a cupboard is dirty is no reason for us not using it, and trying to clean it. . . ." In conclusion, Dr. Whyte says: "Thanks for sending me." Surely this is a tribute to I.U.S., not a detraction from it.

I would refer readers to Mr. Plueckhahn's letter, and then to "Trepine," vol. ii, No. 3, 1948. The most obvious conclusion that I made from reading both was that, although Mr. Plueckhahn may be well

A cat we know has cheese for supper and breathes down rat-holes with baited breath.

Don't marry for money, you can borrow it cheaper.

versed in medical ethics, he certainly has not taken the care to conform to journalistic ethics.

K. E. GILES.

## Initiations . . .

### . . . Pro

Sir,—I wish to compliment the Medical and Science Initiation Committees on their original, humorous contributions which have helped make the opening of the year a happy one.

It is touches of simple, harmless, good humor like these that we should exhibit in this year's procession. Certainly, not even the most dis-

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Contributors are reminded to write on one side of the paper only. Keep it brief. Do not exceed 500 words. Pen-names may be used, but author's name must be available, although not necessarily for publication.

Correspondents failing to comply with these requests may abandon hope of ever seeing their tomes in print.

criminating of people could find fault with a procession modelled on the lines of the recent initiations.

"I. DUNNIT."

## . . . and Con

"Sir,—May I express my disgust at the way this year's Freshers' initiations have been carried out. The public way in which these Freshers disgraced themselves and their Faculty Initiation Committees was, I feel sure, deplored by all who have any aesthetic taste and self-respect.

May I also, sir, pay tribute to the intelligence of the majority of "On Dit" readers in ignoring completely your so-called cartoon.

CHARLES PLUSH.

## Roder "Off Beam"

Sir,—Mr. Roder seems a little off the beam in "explaining" the high price of the Commem. Ball (13/6) as necessary to pay for the Housing Service and the Textbook Exchange.

You have to pay 5/- to participate in the Housing Service, and the Text Book Exchange is purely buying and selling, with no upkeep costs worth mentioning.

The S.R.C. would do well to remember that one of their major functions is to stimulate and co-ordinate student activity, which they won't do by running exclusive dances.

"DISGUSTED STUDENT."

[I would point out that in saying Mr. Roder is off the beam, the writer of this letter is stepping a little off the beam himself. If "Disgusted Student" re-reads the article in "On Dit" (4/4/49), he will find that it is the report of an interview with a spokesman of the Ball committee,

## Remember This Date

TUESDAY EVENING

MAY 10

WHY?

Frankly, we don't know. BUT St. Mark's is doing it. The "Cheer-Up" Hut is housing it. And we want you attending it.

WHAT COOKS?

Keep your eye on "On Dit" and we'll tell you. IT WILL BE WORTH IT!

not necessarily Mr. Roder.—Ed.]

## Must We Dance?

Sir,—If the S.R.C. run any more dances, might I suggest a few changes?

(1) Lower the price. Don't try and recover all of last year's deficit in one go.

(2) Run it efficiently, and don't winge in "On Dit" if

someone messes up the Graduates' Room or breaks a glass outside. Prevention is better than cure, and the "vandalism," as Mr. Roder put it, that occurred at the Commem. Ball was purely due to the inefficient way they (the S.R.C.) ran it.

(3) Provide a decent supper.

W.G.McL.

## From the SP-Editor

THERE are probably a few people who don't mind Men's Basketball getting pride of place on the Sporting page. It is to the other 99 per cent. that I wish to speak. I am not plugging Men's Basketball because I play it. I am plugging it because soon you will be playing it. As I have endeavored to point out, the game is spreading rapidly, and soon even Australia will be classing it among the major games in this land of sport.

It has the advantage of being indoors and hence a night sport. This, combined with the terrific spectator interest the game has, will do much to spread it amongst a sport-loving people. As soon as you recognise this inevitable trend, join the Basketball Club and get in the game while it is still 'young.

It comes as a strange, but actual, coincidence that after I had prepared the format of this page, the Sydney University "Honi Soit" arrived, its back page devoted entirely to Basketball. I refuse to quote the old adage about great minds thinking alike. As a still later rumor, I find that one of the commercial papers is also devoting part of its sporting page to a review of the advance of Men's Basketball in Australia. The Press is apparently awake to the fact that this sport is becoming a big thing in Australia, and the world. Are you?

## 'Varsity Scores in State Champs.

The first day of the State Championships was held on Saturday, April 2, in perfect weather. However, a spongy track made fast times difficult. Main attractions were Olympian Peter Gardner and John Gutteridge, Intervarsity hurdles champion who dominated the hurdling events.

Varsity athletes gained two State residential titles, three second places, and two thirds.

The first event was the 120 yards hurdles. Peter Harbison gained the State title in this event, although beaten by the two Victorian champions. Second and third places went to John Harbison and Roger Bungey respectively, thus giving Varsity all three places. Winning time was 15.3 secs.

The discus throw resulted in a second placing for Varsity. Tony Dinham, who as usual lost his form in the competition, gained this with a throw of 107 ft. 11½ in. Greg Markey, with a fine throw of over 97 ft., was fourth in this event—an excellent effort for an athlete in his first season.

Peter Harbison gained another second in the shot putt championship. His putt of 36 ft. 10½ in. is probably the best by a Varsity athlete since Jack Tregonning's days.

Varsity relay team, by fine baton-changing, made up for their lack of even-time sprinters, and finished fourth to Old Melburnians, Saints and Western Districts. The team consisted of Ward Hillier, Peter Harbison, Bill Proudman, and Jim Lawrence.

Our second residential title came when Peter Harbison ran third to Victorian representatives Gutteridge and Gilson in the 220 yds. low hurdles in the good time of 25.7 secs., thus completing a fine hurdling double.

Junior athletes, Dave Fox, J. Reid and Dave Penny, although unsuccessful in indi-

vidual events, gained third place in the junior mile medley relay, due mainly to a fine 880 by Penny and the assistance of C. Ashwin.

However, greatest applause for the afternoon went to John ("Oh, Hell") Harbison for his brilliant "swearing" of the oath of amateurism. By his exclamation, when he forgot the oath half-way through and the roars from the crowd, we gathered people really were listening to him.

## 'VARSITY SPORTS

These will be held on Wednesday, April 27. The programme is posted on the notice-board. Entries will be taken by any of the committee, and also a table will be placed in the Refectory two days this week to receive nominations. We hope the secretary, Peter Brokensha, will have returned from the South-East for the sports. The club missed him in the State champs., as his certain placings in the jumping events would have proved invaluable. He is still managing to train on the beach, and in the scrub at Kingston.

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The first of a series of stickwork practices was conducted by Miss Mary Teesdale-Smith on the University Oval at 5 p.m. on Monday, April 4. This is open to hockey players of all teams in the Association and all University players are urged to attend, as many useful strokes can be learnt or improved.

Practices for University players have commenced, and will be held every Wednesday afternoon from 4-6 p.m. Miss Mary Teesdale-Smith has kindly consented to be our coach for this year, so please make every effort to attend practices.

A meeting was held on Tuesday, April 5, to make arrangements for a Hockey Ball to raise funds to send an Intervarsity team to Brisbane in the second term vacation. The ball will be held in the Refectory on Saturday, May 21, and as this is the last day of this term we can promise you a good time. We hope that there will be a "bumper" attendance.

"ON DIT," Monday, 11/4/49—7

PHOENIX. PHOENIX. PHOENIX.

SHORT STORIES. ESSAYS. PHOTOGRAPHS. POEMS. LINO-CUTS. DRAWINGS.

Contributions must reach the editors before SATURDAY, MAY 21

# DO YOU WANT TO BE AN OLYMPIC STAR?

**Australia wants some inexperienced men, like you, to be ready to play in the 1956 Olympic Games.**

As you have probably read, an attempt is being made to hold the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne. There is a fair chance of this being granted, so we might as well start preparing for it now.

"Men's basketball is a team game demanding a high degree of accuracy, judgment, individual skill, initiative, self-control and spirit of co-operation."

So says "Encyclopaedia Britannica" of the newest and brightest game in the field of men's sport.

Begun in 1896, this sport

could field a team which would have been 3rd or 4th in the Olympic standard. So we really should be able to do well in the 1956 Olympics.

## The Game in University

In 1947 the four leading Universities of Australia got together to hold the first Intersarsity in the sport in Australia. Sydney, fielding a team which were runners-up in the N.S.W. State matches, won the contests, but not decisively.

players, as many will be too old for the strenuous exercise it entails. It will be chosen from those younger players who are now beginning to play.

Be a starter. You might have the ability to make the top.

Registration forms, further particulars, etc., may be obtained from the Secretary, F. J. Slattery.

A scoring shot—taken during the 1948 interstate games.

## Where the Rugby Money Went

As many of the Rugby Club left the A.G.M. before the Treasurer's report was read, and several are asking, "What happened to the Vice-President's donations?" it might be well to state briefly the pertinent facts.

The Vice-President's donations are the Rugby Club's sole source of revenue, although last year they were swollen by the profits from the dance (£18). Practically all of the combined amount was given to those players who stated they would be unable to compete in the Intersarsity in Sydney unless assisted financially. The club issued £45 in all, paying fares and hotel expenses (or part thereof) and several players also took advantage of the Union Council fund for Intersarsity travel. As this was done strictly confidentially, there is no question of betraying faith, and stating how much or to whom the money was issued.

The remainder of the Vice-President's donations was spent on half a dozen jerseys, bought just before the price went up, and which can be obtained at the old price by any player without one, from M. R. Hone, and several dozen pairs of socks, likewise now cheaper than present prices.

A keg of beer, drunk in the pavilion on the Saturday when for the first time all three teams were playing on the oval, sets of cloth numbers for the teams, and a £2 contribution to the Mr. Rugby competition finished the club's finances, which ended the season with 5d. and one keg tap as their sole assets.

It is hoped that this brief account may pacify those people who instead of questioning the last year's treasurer or secretary are just wondering what happened last year to the money raised. It was a pity they did not stay to the end of the A.G.M.

## LACROSSE

We have been advised that matches commence on April 30—three weeks away. A practice match has already been held, and another will be held on Saturday, April 23. Anyone who will be unable to play is asked to let the secretary know at once.

It has been decided to enter three teams in the Association matches, so that everyone will be assured of a game. We understand that there are still a few people in the University who have not yet handed in their names to the secretary as players for 1949. They are asked to do so at once.

Don't forget the practice times:

Tuesday at 5.00 p.m.  
Wednesday at 4.45 p.m.  
Thursday at 7.30 a.m.  
Come and be coached!

## OFFICERS ELECTED

Peter Jefferies was elected secretary, George Nunn as assistant secretary and treasurer, and J. Callaghan, J. Haynes, M. Hone, J. Botham, R. Daughety (Mr. Rugby, 1948), and G. Nunn were elected as the committee, charged with organising the Intersarsity Carnival.

Much discussion took place over the naming of the fourth team to be formed this year. R. Daughety suggested it be called "The University Gentlemen" (as distinct from "players"), but it was decided that the point of the joke would probably be missed by most of the opposing players. "The University Blacks" was the title eventually decided on, and positions in it are open to all players who have a light-hearted approach to the game, or who are unable to attend practice but wouldn't mind a run on Saturday afternoons. First matches of the season are on April 23, the first Saturday after Easter.

## BASEBALL NOTES

In view of the early start of the season (April 23rd) a number of practices have already been held. For the most part, these have been well attended, and the keenness of the players promises well for the oncoming season. Indeed, everything points to an even more successful season than last year.

A practice game against a Kensington side will also have been held by the time these notes go to print. In this game several new players will be tried out, and we wish them all the best. However, more of this game in the next issue.

Soon, occupying a position of honor (we hope) in the Refectory will be the Hugh J. Ward Cup. This cup was originally presented for interstate games between South Australia and Victoria. Last year, however, the Australian Baseball Council decided to present it each year to the winner of the Intersarsity Competition. Consequently, it will spend the next year in the Refectory of the Adelaide University.

All students who intend to play baseball in the 1949 season must fill in a permit form immediately. These forms can be obtained from Mr. Hamilton's office. All players must also pay 6/6 for insurance and registration, either to W. R. Fuller or at Mr. Hamilton's office. Although this is not as urgent as the above, players are requested to do this as soon as possible.

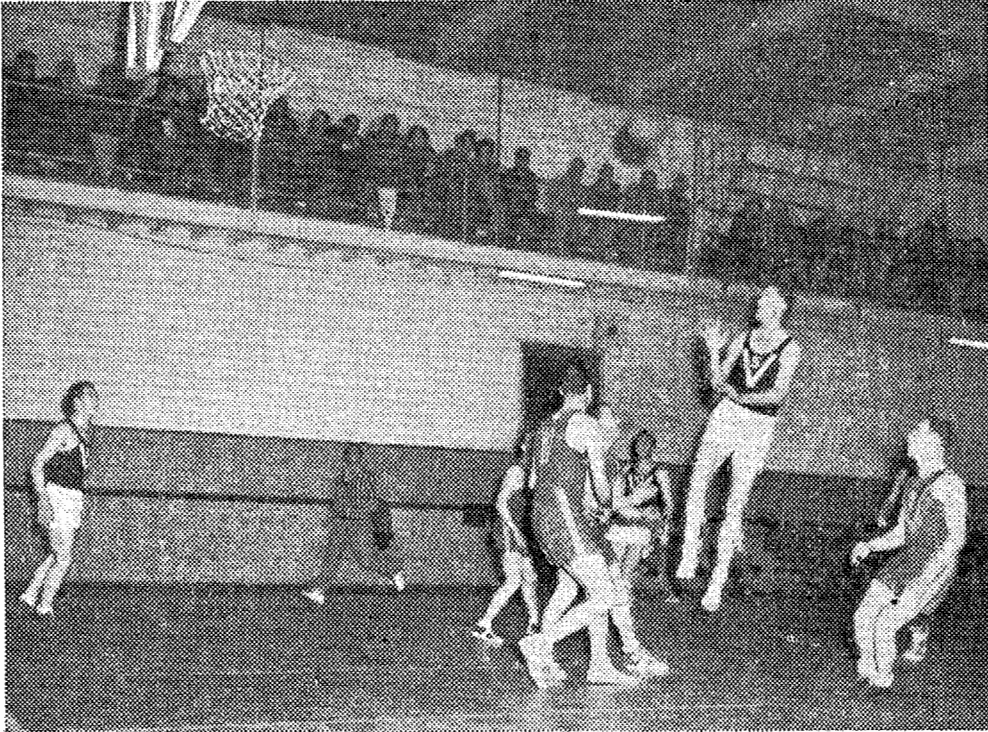
Finally, all intending players are requested to place their names and addresses on the notice-board, as the committee, efficient though they may or may not be, are not mind-readers.

## S.R.C. Publications Board

### EDITOR OF "SONGBOOK"

Applications are called for appointment to the position of the Editor of the "SONGBOOK." Full details of the duties entailed are available from the S.R.C. PUBLICATIONS OFFICE, George Murray Building, or from the undersigned. Applications addressed to the Chairman, S.R.C. Publications Board, close at the Publications Office at 5 p.m., on Tuesday, April 19.

C. HERMES,  
Chairman  
Publications Board.



has now become the leading sport of the world. This is not the biased statement of a player of the game, as figures will show. In America it far outshines even baseball, national sport of the country. Attendance figures are an indication of this (95,000,000 to basketball, 52,000,000 to baseball). It was made the official physical education training of the U.S. Navy, and wherever the sailors went, "from Iceland to the Philippines" they spread the game further.

It has also taken a solid grip in Europe, and is the national game of several of the Balkan countries.

## In the Olympic

In the XIV Olympiad last year, the world-wide popularity of the sport was again indicated. The number of entries for men's basketball exceeded those for any other event, 23 nations sending teams. The largest participation in the Games would only come from the largest sport in the world.

## The Game in Australia

The growth in Australia has been equally phenomenal. Started in earnest only a few years ago, there are now forty or more teams competing in weekly matches in each State.

The standard here is also good. According to Olympic runner, Peter Mullins, who captained the top N.S.W. team last year, Australia

Adelaide has participated in both the 1947 and 1948 Intersarsities, and the 1949 series will be held here. The club here has been increasing in size, and now has 4 teams in the local matches. An outdoor court, in front of the Refectory, will soon be ready, and regular matches will be played, daily if possible.

## Club Activities

Elementary practices have been held in the Teachers' College Gym., and the full practices will begin in the O.B.I. on Friday, April 22, at 5 p.m. The season starts in the second week of May, so we should get plenty of practice in before this.

The game, in case you don't know, is played indoors at night during the week, so will not interfere with your Saturday sport.

If you are unable to spare the one night a week to play, do not let this deter you from joining up. You will still be able to play in the lunch-hour matches here. And remember, the Olympic team for 1956 has yet to be picked. It won't be picked from the present leading Australian

## SOCCER

The soccer team needs a number of junior players (i.e., under 21) to strengthen the junior team. Freshers are welcome, and, if they learn the game now, in a few seasons they will be playing in the Intersarsity matches with the prospect of an award of club letters or even a half-Blue. At the present moment, the nucleus of experienced juniors who have been playing senior matches for the last few seasons, are forming the solid back-bone of the team, but new players, especially freshers, are needed.

Practice is held on Wednesday afternoon on the ground at the rear of the Zoo, with matches every Saturday at 1.30 p.m., so come along and see the players and join in a good healthy game. With the season now under way, many interesting matches are assured, and the report of last Saturday's game will appear in the next edition, but the results are posted on the Refectory notice-board, NOW.

No man is a complete failure until he begins disliking men who succeed.



KATH KELLY (left), Teachers' College woman athlete, watches S.A. athletic championships at Wayville with Olympic hurdler, Peter Gardner, Victoria, and Miss J. Morgan, Adelaide Harriers.

## Intending Travellers...

Avail yourself of the  
**ENGLISH, SCOTTISH & AUSTRALIAN BANK'S TRAVEL DEPARTMENT**