

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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ON DIT

PRODUCED BY THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

Strikes in War-Time Illegal DECISION FRIDAY NIGHT

In order to stimulate interest in the Parliamentary Debate arranged by the Union for next Friday night, when the Prime Minister (Mr. C. Price) will propose that "Strikes in war-time be declared illegal," and will be opposed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Elliott Johnston), I am reprinting from a Melbourne University publication the following statements for and against.

I. That Strikes in Essential Industries Should Be Illegal in War-time.

The case for this rests on two points: (a) That the war situation is so serious that breakdowns in essential industries should be avoided at all costs, and (b) that the Arbitration Court is adequate to settle industrial disputes without any need for strikes.

The first point no one will dispute. We have a quarter of a million Australians overseas with the fighting forces, urgently needing all the war supplies we can send. Delays here may mean death to them. Hence disputes in war industries must be settled without strikes. Are we "Fascist" to declare strikes illegal? Unless we win the war the workers will not have any option about strikes even in peace-time, for we can repeal laws that we ourselves pass, but not those that Hitler may pass for us.

The Arbitration Court was established to end the need for strikes. This independent tribunal must be referred to in any serious labour dispute, and even when a strike occurs the dispute is finally settled by an award of the Court. The Court is made up of lawyers competent to settle questions without strikes, making new awards where necessary, etc. And, at least while the war lasts, they should be allowed to so operate, without strikes.

Trade union officials can at any time, without strikes, force an appeal to the Court. If necessary their right to do so should be reinforced . . . no one wants industrial injustice. But if this war is lost because supplies came "too little and too late," the workers will have lost more than they ever won by striking.

Attention

The Editor would like to apologize to Dr. Schechner for the numerous errata occurring in the reports of his addresses.

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II. That Strikes in War-time Must Not Be Made Illegal.

"All-in sacrifice," the usual justification given for these days for the proposal to ban strikes, means sacrifice for the working and middle classes, but does it mean less profits for the rich? Not a bit! The profits of the big munitions combines are rising, and are hardly being touched by taxation. B.H.P. alone has issued 14½ million pounds in bonus shares since war broke out. That is to say, out of the work of thousands of munition workers £14,000,000 has been presented to a small group of rich people. As a result of this watering of capital, the company's profits will be kept down to 8½% and they will pay almost no excess profits tax.

But the basic-wage earner cannot escape the new indirect taxes on his food and clothes, or evade any of the new budget taxes.

It is not surprising that the men controlling powerful combines should seek to get richer, in war-time as in peace. So do the workers, but most of them get poorer, because power is in the hands of the company-owners and their friends. This struggle to get money-power goes on in war as in peace. Do we want the owners to win it, or the workers? If we want the workers to have better conditions at the expense of the rich, we will not join Mr. Fadden and Mr. Hughes in their demands that strikes be made illegal, but will press for higher income taxes and profit taxes on the rich.

If strikes were made illegal, the discontent among the workers would grow, and the conflict between them and their employers would grow more bitter. To ban strikes would be to tie the hands of the trade unions in their struggle against the greed of the profit-makers, a struggle that is inevitable in war-time as in peace, and which must go on, no matter what legislation the employing class may pass.

Apology

I wish to apologize for all the silly and abusive statements that have appeared in "On Dit," in particular the letter of an A.I.F. officer abroad. Although I wish to make it clear that such statements, where not appearing under my own name, have not represented my own opinions, still less the views of the Union Committee, I nevertheless apologize for their appearance. In future a stricter censorship will be observed.

This will necessitate a departure from the statement of policy expressed in earlier issues of "On Dit," but since this is the wish of the Union Committee I, as an officer of the Union, shall be pleased to comply.

COME TO THE

Women's Sports

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

3 p.m.

Entry form on Lady Symon Notice Board

AFTERNOON TEA, 6d.

Coming Events

FRIDAY NIGHT, May 16.

At 8 p.m. in the George Murray. Parliamentary debate: "That strikes should be illegal in war-time." P.M., C. A. Price. Leader of Opposition: E. F. Johnston.

TUESDAY, May 20.

Science Association, Refectory, at 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, May 24.

S.C.M. Conference.

S.C.M. Conference

HOLIDAY HOUSE, MT. LOFTY
MAY 24 to 28

Subject: "The Christian Conception of Man."

Speakers: Professor Goldby, Sir William Mitchell, Rev. J. R. Blanchard, and others

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UNION BUSINESS

In order to keep Union members informed of the work being done by the committee, I outline some of the chief matters considered during the past two months:

1. ORGANIZATIONAL.

The committee formally and informally considered the proposal for an S.R.C. This matter will probably be prominent in the elections at the end of the year.

The desirability of student representation on the University Council and sub-committees has been discussed and a sub-committee appointed to draw up a case for such representation. Faculty secretaries will receive a memorandum in this respect in the near future and are urged to give it serious consideration.

2. POLICY.

The committee has approved the National Union's proposal for the making of a faculty survey in each university. This has been and will, no doubt, be further discussed in "On Dit."

A further National Union resolution to be approved in principle is the desirability of a Man-Power Officer being appointed in the university. Such an office already exists in Melbourne and Sydney to ensure that students are used where their particular training can be of greatest advantage. The officer in Sydney is a thirty-year-old medical undergraduate; his appointment is made by the military and his decision in each case is binding.

The committee has, within the past week, taken up the question of A.R.P. The students, so far, have not responded to requests for aid and it is felt that a strong Union lead is required. A full report will shortly be presented.

The committee is concerned with the way in which the New Day principle (i.e., that of a long lunch-hour till three o'clock on Wednesday) is being whittled away. I have been directed to discuss with the Dean of Faculties the possibility of excluding two o'clock lectures on

Of Birds and Butterflies

BY THE SOCIAL EDITRESS.

After all the excitement of anticipation about the Engineers' Ball, and then the fulfilment, University social life returned to its normal trivial round, except for a collection of old boards against the tree in front of the Refectory and the famous anemometer (we stand corrected as to spelling) still standing in the middle of the Refectory.

One of last year's leading lights, commonly known as "Swannie," and about whom it was once unkindly remarked that he seemed to be taking an honours course in tea, will no longer be seen even at odd moments in the Refectory. Having had an extremely short sojourn here as a member of the A.I.F. after his transfer from the militia, he is now being sent overseas, and we wish him luck.

And while on the subject of uniforms, there seemed to be rather a lot of women in such garments drifting about last week. A necessary evil of war-time, of course, for, although every girl loves a soldier — or a sailor, or an airman, as the case may be — we hardly feel that women look quite their best in uniform. But of course we can put up with anything when it brings the excitement of marching through the streets of Adelaide, flanked by cheering crowds, or hastily bandaging up bodies at the Adelaide Oval during a blackout practice — only there was, unfortunately, no blackout practice.

Noticed a glamorous young first-year med. student surrounded by males in the Barr Smith the other day. What it is to be the only woman of one's year in a subject!

There seems to have been a tendency, both male and female, cropping up in odd places, to wear sandals. At the Union debate on Wednesday we wondered whether the speaker standing before us was the leader, or merely a disciple.

Our bespectacled, cigarette-smoking, leading lady has reached an all-time high in the fiery art. She has succeeded, by assiduous practice, in raising her average from three to four puffs per minute to something better than ten. Nice work, if you can get it!

Further action will also be taken to bring before the notice of legal practitioners the desirability of permitting their clerks to be absent for this hour. I should like to stress that any faculty or other society which wishes to conduct a Wednesday meeting should make application to the Debating Committee.

3. GENERAL.

A resolution has been passed by which all sub-committees must report at least once a term. This should result in a more efficient and speedy conduct of Union affairs.

Several difficult readjustments in the Refectory, made necessary by war conditions, have been satisfactorily concluded. Application has been made to the Council for the provision of adequate "housing" accommodation for pupils.

The above in no way purports to be an exhaustive summary and does not include any reference to routine house, finance, publications, etc., work.

There is one very serious defect in the work. So far I do not recollect a single item of business which has been raised by a member at the request of individual students or student groups. I strongly urge students and societies to submit to the Union Committee all matters in which they consider the interests of all students or of any section of students are involved. It is on the basis of work arising spontaneously from the students themselves that a strong Union can be built.

ELLIOTT JOHNSTON.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Man -- A to Z

(AND S.C.M.)

Our Music Critic Taken to Task

The Editor,
"On Dit,"
University, Adelaide.

Dear Sir,
May I enter a protest against the review of the Conservatorium concert that appeared in your issue of May 6?
It is rather painfully obvious that your critic has said to himself (or his friends), "See me take down the Conservatorium a peg," and has proceeded to hit out blindly. We, of course, all have the right to our opinions, but I find myself quite unable to agree with many of his strictures (particularly with regard to Miss Sayers, the accompanying of the Piano Concerto, and the Organ Concerto), and came away from the concert feeling that the students had given a very creditable account of themselves. I may add that I have had very considerable experience of students' work, both in this country and in England. But the main trouble is that your critic seems to have forgotten that it was a students' concert that he was attending. It is manifestly unfair to treat students as if they were fully-fledged professionals. He tore them bravely to pieces (perhaps he would have been less courageous if they had not been students), but of helpful constructive criticism, which is what the student both wants and needs, never a word. He does not seem to have an inkling of the difficulties with which Mr. Parsons is faced; if he did know something of the facts, perhaps he would even be a little ashamed to have written as he did about the horns. In addition, he makes the rather foolish blunder of mistaking rudeness and abuse for criticism. Musical criticism, to be worth its name, calls for wide knowledge and experience. One cannot expect that in a youthful critic, of course, but one does expect that the university might at any rate instil into him something of the canons of good taste.—I am, Sir, etc.,
CLIVE CAREY.

Our Music Critic Again

The Editor,
"On Dit."

Sir,
I feel that your music critic should be taken to task for his unfair report of the Conservatorium orchestral concert. Let me say at the outset that the students welcome constructive criticism, but mere abuse is only destructive and valueless.
Your critic completely fails to take into account the fact that the Conservatorium orchestra exists only to give students orchestral experience which they otherwise would not gain. Many of those taking part had never before played in an orchestra, and not one of the soloists had ever performed with orchestral accompaniment. To expect students to be finished performers and to judge student concerts by celebrity standards is ridiculous. Would your music critic abuse Union debaters who failed to approach the standard of oratory set by Mr. Winston Churchill? Would he condemn actors in Theatre Guild productions if they compared unfavourably with John Gielgud or Dame Sybil Thorndyke?
If your critic is worthy of the name, he must realize that active doing, however humble the attempt may be, is far more valuable than passive hearing, and it is surely better to have a performance with faults than no performance at all. Moreover, your critic has no idea of the heart-breaking difficulties that the conductor has to contend with in the organization and rehearsing of such concerts. That he was able to present a programme at all is in itself commendable.—Yours, etc.,
THE CRITIC'S CRITIC.

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BRUCE COWELL before May 20

Dogsbody Answered

The Editor,
"On Dit."

Dear Sir,
"Dogsbody" proposes to do away with "On Dit" — permanently. As a fresher who has not yet acquired the "Varsity airs and diction, I think that the abolition of this paper would be a decided loss. Not only is it the one organ through which the ideas of one faculty can be presented to others, but it also forces upon the notice of those who do not read the notice boards — and there are some — that university life has such aspects as sport, debating, and socials, and is not merely confined to study.
"Dogsbody" seems to be right when he complains that "On Dit" is run by a minority; but it is more than a record of the affairs of the minority. Each faculty appoints a special representative whose job it is to record the affairs of his faculty in "On Dit." If these affairs are not recorded, it is the fault of the faculty — not of the committee of "On Dit." The fact that a minority does run "On Dit" seems to justify their saying that the "rest of the mob is too apathetic."
The idea suggested by "Dogsbody" of placing potential material for "On Dit" on the notice board is a good one. We could all assemble in queues at lunch time, read as much as possible in the time allowed, and continue at any other convenient time. Of course, a space would be reserved for the corresponding of those suing for the return of "On Dit."
May I ask, in conclusion, why so many correspondents are desirous of squashing Mr. Hashish? His recent self-defence against remarks made by Mr. McPhie was frank and open, and anyone who can openly confess his unpopularity has individuality — and guts — and deserves a little more respect.—Yours faithfully,
LADYBIRD.

Stinkpot Stimied

The Editor,
Dear Sir,

Having listened with great interest to Dr. Schechner's series of addresses on "Nazi Philosophy and Christianity," I was equally interested by Stinkpot's letter in your last issue. I thoroughly agree with Stinkpot in almost all he says. What is more important, I think Dr. Schechner would agree with him too. But the fact that his verbal arrows are, nevertheless, some good feet wide of the mark rather limits the value of his criticism. In fact, your correspondent has failed entirely to see the addresses in their true perspective. If this is, as he suggests, the fault of bad reporting, I am sure the reporter apologizes. But she also censures Stinkpot severely for being so eager to unload the bombs of his erudition that he has to criticize a lecture he has not heard.
The addresses were aimed at exposing the essential "unchristian-ness" of Nazi philosophy, and showing, by an examination of the intellectual movements which produced it, why and how this is so. It was sufficient, therefore, to examine Darwinism, Marxism, and Romanticism in the light of their contribution to this process. There was no need, for this purpose, to examine them in themselves, and to show their own development. This development your correspondent has indicated, and his letter is therefore an interesting supplement to the addresses, but it is not germane to the central issue.
And so, "It is not a question of how much remains as scientific truth of Darwinism and Marxism" (to repeat Stinkpot's less than undergraduate error of isolating a statement from its context). From the theoretical point of view, Marx's most important contribution was his emphasis on an evolutionary interpretation of history. But his "agent of change" — class conflict — has been found wanting; and the Materialist Conception of History is therefore not a complete, but a partial truth. Marx's other doctrines — notably his Surplus Value theory — are grouped around this conception as a central organizing principle. There is no need to spend time here in demonstrating the recognized shortcomings and fallacies of much of Marx's economic theory (though these were briefly treated in the lecture in question). Nor is it even the validity of the Materialist Conception as a philosophy of history which is at stake. It is the question of its influence which is the present issue.
Marx never denied that idealistic motives play a great part in history. But

what he did say is that "The method of production in material life determines the general character of the social, political, and spiritual processes of life." The influence of this was undoubtedly to revolutionize German thinking. Christian valuations had long been neglected; now the very ramparts of the Christian faith seemed to be undermined by a new teleological view which saw history not as the working out of a natural or divine purpose, but as a stage on which the "powers of production" play their roles and determine man's destiny. Thus Nazi philosophy is the heir of a tradition which denies Christian valuations and Christian faith.

So much for the relationship of Marxism and Nazism. All that is claimed is that Marxism, with other intellectual movements, stamped Nazism with the indelible imprint of unchristian materialism while it was yet unborn. Of any statement, explicit or implied, that Marxism and Nazism are "identical regressions" I can find no trace. It is obvious that from its very nature Marxism must be "the will turned towards the future." It is "a gospel for revolutionary enthusiasts who want to change the world."
The Marxian dialectic is a theory of social revolution. This is the ideal — and it is progress. That the method is reaction is, as Stinkpot implies, inessential, since, as G. D. H. Cole remarks: "An 'orthodox' Marxian dogmatist may be learned in the Marxian scriptures: the one thing he cannot be is a follower of Karl Marx."

But this is beyond the scope of the Schechner addresses. Had his subject been "Romanticism, Marxism, and Christianity," it would have been vital. And then, perhaps, Stinkpot could have crossed swords with Dr. Schechner with more justification.

E.R.C.

Materialist Liquidated

The Editor.

Dear Sir,
In last week's "On Dit," "Materialist" signed a very potent little letter in which he contended that Christians in general, and the S.C.M. in particular, live by faith alone, while remaining smug and indifferent to the needs of humanity. They do live by faith, but the Christian faith (and this is what "Materialist" has failed to grasp) is an active, working faith, not just a vague, mystical belief in an equally vague and mystical God. The whole of Christ's teaching and living was dedicated to the application of His faith in God to this life on earth — only this real faith could prepare Him, as it does us, for the glory of the hereafter, a life which transcends by far the meagre years we spend as mortals. Only by living this faith which Christians have in God, can they receive the full richness of their life on earth. "Materialist" himself brings home St. James's words that by works will faith be shown. St. James was but one of the first of millions of Christians who cannot claim to be Christians unless they are actively living or trying to live their faith. That faith is a belief in the inherent goodness of man which is perverted and distorted because of man's laziness, greed, or stupidity — three of the deadliest poisons which infect every system that exists to-day. Christianity sets out to conquer these evils — not by forcing rules and regulations on people who neither understand nor desire them, for an enforced way of living is a sure step towards bad discipleship, but by a living example of the love of man towards man as the natural outcome of a love of God towards man, so undeniably manifested in Christ's life on earth and His crucifixion.

Religion is essentially a personal relationship between God and man. Christianity goes further, and says that unless that personal relationship between God and man is extended to enfold all man's relationships with his fellows, it is not religion in the sense of a living and active faith, nor is it worthy to be called the Christian religion.

How, then, if this personal faith in God is expressed in an active following of Christ's teaching, can Christianity be regarded as an opiate? To the casual observer, Christianity as typified in the Church is decadent, has no meaning in this humdrum world, is even a retrogressive force. Why, says this same observer, doesn't the Church have one basic policy of social reform, putting aside its differences in ritual, moving forward as one united party in the same
(Continued on column 4.)

What is man? What was he, and what will he be? Above all, what should he do? Questions like these occur to everyone now and then, and no one pretends to be able to give a comprehensive answer to them, but the S.C.M. claims that it can at least stimulate some hard thinking on and around them. Its May conference has for subject, "The Christian Conception of Man," and discussion should include a good many of the varied ideas that man has and has had about himself. Science, philosophy, and religion are sure of an airing, and politics and economics are very likely to join in. If you have any desire to help with the airing process, or even to be present at it, come along!

Leads to the discussion of the subject will be provided by addresses. The first, by Prof. Goldby, is "Whence Men?" The Vice-Chancellor will give the second address, on "The Potentialities of Man." Ken Sanderson will open a symposium on "Progress — the Individual and Society," in which the Rev. Principal E. S. Kiek will be one of the speakers, and the final address, "Re-made Men Re-making Society," will be delivered by the Rev. J. R. Blanchard.

The conference, to be held at "Holiday House," Mt. Lofty, begins in the first week-end of vacation, Saturday, May 24, at 6.30 p.m., and ends on the following Wednesday. If you intend to be there, keep these dates clear, and send in your entries before Monday, 19th. Entry cards may be had from any member of the S.C.M. committee, as well as at the Union Office.

way that the Communists and Conservatives do? Because, it cannot be emphasized too often, religion is personal. Christianity has provided basic principles for the individual to follow, but only as the individual has the inner spirit and strength to follow these principles can the ideal of Christianity become a reality. One of these principles is that man must work in the world, and through the world, to justify his faith. Man is a social animal, and unless his religion is part and parcel of his social life, he is not, in the Christian sense, religious. The churches are merely groups of those peoples whose personal religions most nearly coincide. THE Church is the institutional expression of a body of Christians whose religion, though entirely personal, can only reach its highest expression by its application to the needs of humanity. Unless these individuals are actively putting their faith into practice, the Church, as a corporate body, can do nothing. Those who are complacent and indifferent to human suffering (and there are many) are not real Christians. "Materialist," even if they do put 10/- in the plate on Christmas Day, and say, "Bless me," instead of "Hell," when someone treads on their pet corns.

As for the S.C.M., though one of the very small bodies in this university, it may be worth noticing that the majority of societies in this university have at least one, often two and three, and in one case five, members of the S.C.M. on their committees. You may also notice that S.C.M. members are always in evidence at every meeting of students held here. This I know can be contributed to the fact that the S.C.M. is primarily a society which is seeking for "truth," and which sets no limit to the field of research. It is solely dependent on individual beliefs and works; its individuals have failed often, and will continue to fail until their faith becomes real and living as the Christian faith. But smug and complacent are two words which I do not think can be rightly applied to its members, however much their faith may waver. It would be of tremendous good to the world as a whole if its critics, and the critics of Christianity, did not themselves sit back, smugly and complacently, and say, "It can't be done."—Yours sincerely,
M. P. ROBINSON.

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RELIGION AN OPIATE

was the decision forced upon a house by the superior debating powers of an affirmative side. With creditable broad-mindedness, after voting against the motion, this House decided that Messrs. Harris, Pavy, and Hamilton put up the better argument, as, no doubt, they did.

The debate was opened by the rational thinking being of the University of Adelaide and he gave us little that was new in his well-phrased speech as he harped on the impracticability of religion in the typical style of an atheist. He added force to his words of wisdom, however, by learned references to Freud and Marx, the latter saying that religion was an outlet of the most comforting kind "for the dominating characteristic of the external forces of nature," while Freud considered it no more than an infantile regression. The somewhat childish but almost inevitable glee of some atheists in being what is regarded as blasphemous by the Christian Church was shown when this speaker produced a parody on the Creed—and it is even rumoured that some boor said it was irrelevant. But the most effective argument he outlined, since it was not refuted by the opposition, was that religion did nothing to reduce existing distress and that it only served to blind the state to the necessity for slum reform.

Miss Clark, for the opposition, started by saying confidently that religion was more a laxative than an opiate. This obviously needed a personal definition and so she had for her "something quoted" a slab of Middleton Murry to the effect that a personal definition of religion is the only one that can possibly hold force. She apparently knew of some people who put a pound in the plate and said that those who relied on this expiatory way to holiness were not true Christians by any manner of means. She made her chief point when she said that one can't look at religion as a whole and then make abstractions on it by examples taken from irreligious people.

If only Mr. Hamilton had had his tongue in his cheek, we would have been able to applaud him as an excellent mimic of Demosthenes—with or without pebble. His fluent and well-prepared speech contained many points not take up effectively by the opposition, one of them being that religion casts a doubt over the world and in its last analysis is not much more than a drag upon evolution. He favoured those people (except religious ones) that spoke the truth from their heart and abhorred the paradox of God ruling destiny and at the same time hav-

ing the choice given him. He concluded with a startling burst of rhetoric, saying that man loses his sense of responsibility when he is always having his ideas approved and vetoed by a superior authority.

Mr. Robertson attacked his opponents in sincere if sometimes disjointed sentences, and showed the futility of any man thinking that this world is the end of things and how ridiculous it was for man to consider himself infallible. He stressed the necessity for continual effort by all people in their religion and spent much time on enlarging upon Miss Clark's speech, which support would have been more telling had he been more careful to avoid slang and fix his "penetrating gaze" upon his audience.

Mr. Pavy apparently felt the need of the table to support his arguments, as he (as his leader before him) seemed on the point of doing a hand-stand on it. From his sheaf of papers and portable library he produced much inaudible quotation, but his words seemed to contain the most coherence and sincerity of the debate. He repeated what was one of the main arguments of the affirmative side, namely, that religion tended to divest a man of responsibility and also to suppress free thought, both of these resulting in this man living in a fool's paradise. Charities, he said, did not get at the root cause of the trouble in the world and ritual was one of the useless but seemingly necessary appendages to the mummified remains of pseudo-sincerity.

The next speaker, Mr. Butterfield, was determined to show us the intimacy of his relations with all kinds of drugs and it was a source of amusement when he announced the progressive stages of his escapades into the realms of delirium tremens. His main point was that we are not a Christian race and that, therefore, Christian cannot be judged by us as a nation. He pointed out that religion does not control the life of the people as does an opiate and considered that his opponents were making too many sweeping statements.

The pro side had the more concrete, and, therefore, easier side, and also had the extra weight of fluency (and rhetoric). This enabled it to win the debate fairly easily. The negative side tended to consider not religion but Christianity, and did not seize upon nearly enough of the specious statements of the opposing side, many of which were crying for refutation.

The best speaker for the affirmative, Mr. Pavy; for the negative, Miss Clark.

EXPLORER'S EXPLOITS

Icebergs so large as to be mistaken for islands, seals that blink at that curious specimen, the human being, blink again, and then roll over and go to sleep once more, a huge wall map too large to be completely displayed in the Rennie Theatre, men repeating the Jonah act by walking around inside the carcasses of whales—these were some of the impressions left in the minds of Science Association members when Prof. Sir Douglas Mawson had concluded his address on "Antarctica."

The speaker first outlined the exploration and geography of the Antarctic continent, referring to as much of his map as could be displayed. Australia owns a large sector of Antarctica, as also does U.S.A., while Germany, strangely enough, is anxious to gain control of the part which Norway is justly claiming. As for the climate, Sir Douglas is most anxious to persuade the shipping companies to run pleasure cruises (after the war, of course) to Antarctica instead of the tropical Pacific islands—the air is so much more invigorating.

A collection of slides followed, illus-

trating the various sorts of pack ice, the ice-covered land, which at the highest peaks occasionally breaks through the ice-cap to appear at the surface, the underground—sorry, under-ice—dwelling that the party occupied during the six months of night, and the great blizzard-swept ice flats of the interior. These ice caps around the earth's poles are due to the fact that the earth has passed through an ice age in recent times, and from which it has now almost emerged; in fact, a few mere hundreds of thousands of years will see the end of the polar ice. We next perceived the playful penguins and swam with the shimmering seals, as the speaker proceeded to discuss the habits of the various creatures of the South; and, finally, we watched the watering whales, and learnt the methods of harpooning, capturing, and dissecting them.

One other thing. The date of the Science Ball—THE event of the University social calendar—was announced as July 5, the ball to be held in the Refectory in aid of a war charity. So come to the dance of the year, the Science Ball, July 5.

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"The Gondoliers"

TEACHERS' COLLEGE
PRODUCTION.

Friday, May 9, 1941.

Briefly—truly satisfying. Generally—an amateur performance most ably staged. There were admittedly some stormy passages, but the effect was right.

But perhaps, . . . a little more detail. The great part of the bulky caste was chorus: a chorus which, in such an amateur performance, reflected rare credit upon the producer (Alva Pentose). For in every way it was masterfully schooled. At all times its singing caught the real spirit of its part and combined quite good tone with admirable diction, though we did find its Italian a little strange at times. Costumed brilliantly, it played its part perhaps more laudably than any. In such a performance it is upon the majority that judgment should be given and assuredly, here the majority played its part excellently.

But it was not alone. Marco (Ross Haywood) and Giuseppe (Ian McMurtrie) were outstanding in their performances. What a pleasure it was to find that those two, who acted in such perfect union, blended so well in their singing. Their singing was exemplary. Had we but gone to hear good singing we should have been amply satisfied with the work of Tessa (Pauline Winter) and these two.

Apart from these, however, there appeared little of distinction, except, perhaps, the work of Gianetta (Sheila Murphy). She was limited in range through lack of head tone, and with uncertain breathing clipped a number of her words. Nevertheless, under the circumstances, hers was a very creditable performance.

The Duke himself (S. Edmonds) was surprisingly weak—many of his scenes became monotonous through his lack of attraction. His toneless voice, unimproved by his dividing of songs into syllables, did not enable him to "come across" as he expected. Don Alhambra (H. Fitzgerald) brightened many scenes though his speeches were somewhat over-affected, a mistake which appeared even in his singing.

Luiz and Casilda (M. Strange and Myra Lillywhite) were as alike in their appeal as they were in their accents. The deadly monotone of the former contrasted strangely with the potentially fine voice of the latter.

Outstanding again was Tessa. The vivacity and graceful charm of her acting were handsomely supplemented by the fine quality of her voice. Her rendering of "When a Merry Maiden Marries" was a truly masterful performance.

In the second act there followed in swift succession the night's "pièces de résistance." Giuseppe, at his best, rendered the delightful "Oh, Philosophers May Sing," while Marco in his turn sang the tender "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes" in a manner he could not have excelled. The chorus delighted us with its "Dance a cachucha . . ." and the Duke, to complete the effect, rendered "I am a courtier grave and serious" with unusual grace.

The orchestra throughout played its part with great fidelity, though even it occasionally seemed to require of the singers more attention than it deserved. Nevertheless, it did a fine job of cementing together a performance which, for this city of churches, was of a really remarkably high standard. (Our critic comes from Melbourne.—Ed.'s Note.)

Calling Everyone!

THE COMFORTS FUND AT WAR

As you probably know by now, last year, term by term, the members of the Women's Union faithfully produced a knitted garment or half a crown, upon which their names were marked off for that term. The idea has been continued this year, with one important (we trust) addition—the men will partake. Wool may be obtained from the Union Office, together with directions if desired. All you do is take the wool home to your nearest or softest female relative, and get her to knit it up. Otherwise—2/6.

This term has two more weeks—in the last one, that is, from May 19 to May 23, at each lunch hour there will be a F.F.C.F. representative in the Refectory to take your promise to produce a knitted garment reasonably soon, or else your first term's contribution of 2/6. The sooner you get that over, the sooner you can start saving term two's half-crown. Please realize how lucky you are that to date your largest effort is only thirty pence. Help your unit gracefully, and it will do you credit.

Dentals, Dopes, and Dentures

After perusing the extraordinarily efficient engineering notes and the precisely dissimilar medical variety, it's very difficult to know quite what to do, as whatever is presented won't be read anyway, least of all by us.

After trying vainly to get some lead from our senior years (sic), I received the reply that it was my job, and they placed their trust in me. Just another example of parochial, colloquial cliques, expressing anti-democratic apathy. Anyway, we're a singularly conservative mob these days, because we have cut out all our annual functions and bunged the whole lot (Bacon, I mean) into the interest-free war loans, and so now we just sit back and reflect on the glory that was ours. Those were the days in which our battle-cry, "Dens Grata Dentist" (apologies to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and, of course, the author Horace or Virgil, I don't know which), was a thing to strike warmth into any Varsity gathering. Now, we sit back and watch "Slicker Cock" battle his way in and out of trouble and "Urgency" Thompson going into a huddle over our Lu's denture weight.

We have no such qualms as our medical confreres, as our exams. are not till November, and until then we shall continue our placid path. It may be opportune here to say why so few of our members are seen at the Refractory. In our profession, the selling of teeth, etc., is not done by the wave of a war knife, but needs good, solid work, done sometimes over and over again before the result is in harmony. (Ask any student about that word.) And so most of the luncheon hour is spent bottling the teeth and wax, etc.

We never waste time playing any games of cards whatsoever (mainly because some cow has pinched our packs), so that again we can curl the lip at our friends across the late "Sharkeyes Joint."

A few of our number have taken up golf very seriously this year, and spend much time practising, saying, "Open a little wider, please," in most winning fashion. This, I am told, is for use when putting. (Social Editress, please copy.)

I've now covered two pages of solid guff and think that's a plenty. Farewell and (please, I must crack this old one) remember that a dentist is never so happy as when he is looking down in the mouth.

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John Martin's

Six Records Smashed at 'Varsity Sports

Sensational Running by M. W. Elliott

The meeting on Wednesday proved one of the most successful days yet held. The weather was ideal and the track perfect. This probably helps to explain the excellent times recorded in the majority of championship events.

In the 100 yd. championship, M. W. Elliott led till the 50-yd. mark, when Kirby, after a bad start, finished first by a narrow margin after a final 20-yd. dash. It is a pity that Kirby cannot improve his start, as he shows good relaxation during his sprint.

In the 880 yd. championship, as was expected, M. H. Draper, crack middle distance runner, with his casual, long, striding lope, took the lead and completed the first lap in 63 sec. This was much too slow, meaning that if he wished to crack the record (2 m. 1 sec., O. Nichterlein) he would have to sprint for the next lap. As usual he made it by a great effort of will, and established the new record of 1 m. 59 3-5 sec.

In the freshers' hundred, Susman, from St. Peter's, showed good promise as a future sprinter. He must train hard.

The 120 yards hurdles championship. For the first five hurdles P. A. Dalwood and G. Cheesemen were hurdling neck and neck, both showing excellent style. However, Dalwood showed his superiority in the last hurdles. Rowe, gaining on Cheesemen, who missed his step, finished second. Altogether, Dalwood put up an exceptional effort. He won, besides the hurdles, the shot putt and hop, step and jump.

In the 220 yards, the tables were reversed, M. W. Elliott's superior stamina enabling him to finish strongly, thus defeating Kirby.

The 440 yard championship provided

the surprise of the day. M. W. Elliott, after breaking as usual, got away the second time beautifully, running in perfect middle distance form. He was able to maintain his speed to the end, thus eclipsing Andrew Young's time of 50 9-10 sec., which was one of our best records, comparing favourably with other university records (time 50 7-10 sec.).

The high jump was most unusual. At the previous record mark, there were five competitors still jumping. The extra inch, however, proved too much for Cowell and Fisk. Bonnin and Dalwood, however, successfully cleared 5 ft. 8½ in., thus making another record.

In the javelin throw P. B. Wells provided a surprise. Showing good technique, he defeated J. S. Skipper, the previous record holder, with a throw 133 ft. 6 in., another record. P. B. Wells shows good potential capabilities and we hope he will train in future years.

440 yards hurdles, M.W. Elliott showed his versatility and hurdled with perfect timing until he lost his concentration (through photographers) at the last hurdle. He clipped 2 1-5 sec. off McBride's record of 1934 (time 57 4-5 sec.).

It is believed that it is the best time recorded by a South Australian.

In the 880 yd. handicap event McMichael teased C. Brookman around the last lap. His superior stamina (?) and his pride to defend his title caused him to win, however.

Tim Nicholls, who ran a great 440 for the meds. in the relay, managed to beat Steele in the 220 hurdles off the same mark.

D. Kirby, runner-up for the cup, ran very well, but, unfortunately, happened to strike a superior man in M. W. Elliott.

However, in spite of our severe trouncing, our match did have a couple of bright spots. The first was Backhouse's home run with bags loaded, which scored our only 4 runs. The second was the fact that Angus chose this match for his initial attempt at manipulating the score book, a job which a veteran would find very difficult. The third and, perhaps, the most amusing, was when Umpire Tom Puckett exclaimed, "How in the hell am I going to pick 'Varsity's best player?"

'VARSITY B v. GOODWOOD.

In this match we were also defeated, to the tune of 13 runs to 4. Safe-hitters were Fahy, Simmons, Taylor, and Soar.

As far as fielding is concerned the B's performance was far superior to that of the A's, for they made only 3 errors. However, the comments on the A's batting applies to that of the B's. Soar, Alderman, and Slade were our best.

I am unable to say anything very strong about the B's because they do display some interest in practice, and it would be a good thing if the six A graders who were absent on Sunday would follow their example.

Men's Hockey

A'S NEARLY MAKE THE DISTANCE.

Once again the A's get within sight of victory and have it ruthlessly snatched from them in the last few minutes of play. 'Varsity led at half-time by one good goal scored by McPhie. In the second half Forestville managed two goals just before time.

Unfortunately, both umpire and opposition failed to appreciate the finer finesse of our attack, and appeared to become unduly terse. Parke cleared the air and ball with a beautiful shot only equalled by baseballers, and was immediately accused of malicious intent. The opposing backs "didn't like" McPhie's "bump pass." With things like this going on, Chicken naturally couldn't let opportunities pass without getting amongst things. James got away with more than he should.

Gordon Bowen did an excellent job in goals. Ted Smith played a lively game at centre half.

Best players: G. Bowen, E. R. Smith, M. de Clarke.

Scores: Forestville, 2; 'Varsity, 1.

B's.

University, 2 goals (Birch and Ram-say); Holdfast Bay, 3 goals.

Best players: Camens, Gerney, Birch.

C's.

Forestville defeated the C's 4-1.

'Varsity Dominates at Inter-Club Meeting

Won by Twenty Points From Adelaide Harriers

At 2.45 the Governor, Sir Malcolm Barclay-Harvey opened the sports. The first event on the programme was won easily by M. H. Draper, who showed better judgment than on Wednesday. A strong wind into the finishing straight prevented a better time being recorded. After an hour's rest he put up a remarkable performance of stamina and grit and, despite his strong finish, was just beaten by Kenyon, of Western Districts, who had not previously run. The time was quite fast, viz., 4 m. 42.5 sec. P. A. Dalwood also worthily represented the Athletic Club. He won in his typical, seemingly slow, faultless style the 120 yd. hurdles in excellent time against a strong wind from W. Bruce (Old Collegians).

In the weight putt, N. Osman, who had sworn revenge for his defeat on Wednesday, got it when he beat Dalwood by 3 feet. He was putting for the Old Collegians.

J. Bonnin (although after a hectic night's training(?)), landing on every possible part of his anatomy, won the high jump by an inch from B. Bruce. He cleared 5 ft. 8½ in. This was a splendid performance, as it entailed over an hour's competition. (God knows how he did it after such a heavy night.)

M. W. Elliott maintained his form of Wednesday and won his two events easily, bettering his previous 440 yd. time by 1.5 sec.

Football

'VARSITY STILL UNDEFEATED.

On Saturday 'Varsity continued its successes by defeating our old rivals, Semaphore Centrals, by 2 goals 3 points. The issue was in doubt until five minutes before the bell. We trailed for the most part of the game, and at three-quarter time we were still a goal behind, and the wind against us.

However, in brilliant style we rallied, and every man pulled his weight. We at last produced a system which not only amazed our opponents but also ourselves. It was sheer determination and stamina which pulled us through, and we owe much of our success to the training we have received from our coach, Harold Page.

The three matches we have won have been by narrow margins, and we have only won these matches in the last quarter, through superior stamina and determination. Thus this year we do not lack the essentials in building up a good team. With time we will definitely have some kind of system, and when this system is set going 'Varsity will be a difficult team to defeat.

We have two more matches before the end of the first round, Walkerville and Railways. Both are reliable to produce sound teams. Both won last Saturday, so this year the association consists of six strong and equal teams. Therefore each Saturday we have to play our best to finish on top.

Bill Madigan played an outstanding game as follower and resting in the back pocket. He was always where he was most wanted. His kicking and marking were excellent, and were greatly responsible for a win on Saturday. We will miss him sadly in the near future when he is called up for the R.A.A.F.

Rod. White played his usual dashing game, always immerging into crushes and coming out with the ball. His kicking needs improvement, as his kicking for goals was sometimes astray.

Bob Steele played well at full back, and cleared with many fine rushes. His marking has shown signs of improvement. On Saturday, too, was injured, and rested in the forward lines, and kicked one of the winning goals. This is Bob's first goal since he played in the inter-'Varsity at Tasmania, where he gained the reputation of Tasmania's leading goalkicker.

Gurner again showed promise as a goalsneak. He led out and marked well, and on Saturday his kicking was definitely better. He kicked 7 goals.

Bill Betts set an example to the rest of the team by his cool, consistent play at centre halfback. He cleared many times with his tall marking and long kicking.

Ross Duncan, who took Shierlaw's place at half-time, played well considering that

it was his first game for 'Varsity. However, he must attend practices more if he wants to remain there.

Geoff. Page, with his high marking and brilliant long left-foot kicking was another to play well.

Best players: Madigan, White, Steele, Gurner, Betts, Page.

Goalkickers: Gurner (7), Page (3). Scores: 'Varsity, 14-11; Semaphore Centrals, 11-14.

Lacrosse

A'S WIN THEIR FIRST MATCH.

The A's began the season in fine style by defeating North Adelaide 10-2. Goalkickers: Cottle (4), Freeman, Wallman (2), Osman, O'Sullivan. Best players: Thompson, Abbott, O'Sullivan, Greenhalgh, Wallman.

In the first quarter we outplayed North Adelaide and scored 3 goals to their 1. The second quarter was more even and 1 goal was scored by each side. After that our longer training told and we scored another 6 goals in the last two quarters.

Thompson was the outstanding player on the field and prevented Lee (the only North Adelaide menace) from scoring throughout the match.

Munday, L. Kirkman, and Greenhalgh, although new to A grade, formed a back line as sound as any university back line for years. We regret that we will lose Kirkman soon, but Wililams and Hawkins should be able to fill the gap, and our back line, which was our main concern at the beginning of the season, will probably develop into our strongest line.

Abbott played the fine game that was expected of him and Osman beat his man all day at centre.

Tour played well in attack and was untroubled by the opposing defence. Wallman and Freeman did well to score 2 goals each in their first A grade match, but, together with the attack men, must improve their passing. On Saturday they looked to Cottle a little too much and tried to get the ball to him on many occasions when it was impossible for him to match it. However, the combination on the forward line was definitely an improvement on previous years.

Before the match Cottle was elected captain, Osman vice-captain, and Abbott the third member on the selection committee.

The B's did not flourish so we will forget about the scores.

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