

ON DIT

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION.

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Friday, 5th April, 1935.

No. 1.

ANNUAL GENERAL FARCE

Butterflies on Parade

We hasten to say that we believe that so much of the matter appearing below as consists of fact is true, and that so much as consists of comment is fair comment.

The same old weary farce was enacted again in the Refectory on the 22nd of March, when the Union held its Annual Meeting.

The President (Prof. H. J. Wilkinson) presided and opened the meeting, upon which Mr. Secretary Hamilton rose to his feet, and, in the words of the President, mumbled the Annual Report. Mr. Hamilton is, again in the words of the President, a thoroughly good chap, and he did his best. He took parts of the report as read, and he mumbled the rest as quickly as he could, but it later appeared that the report had not only been mumbled, it had as well been bungled. For the happy students, in voting for its adoption, had also adopted the statement and balance-sheet, which had not only not been duly exhibited before the night of the meeting, but had never been presented to the meeting.

However, the next item was the presentation of the balance-sheet, which was done by a Mr. Bampton. He read the more entertaining parts of it, remarking that the main part of the revenue consisted of the subscriptions of 25s., which were cheerfully paid by the students. There seems to be some doubt about this cheerfulness, particularly among the Law students.

Well, Mr. Bampton quickly finished reading his extracts, and sat down. The President said that he regretted that the balance-sheet had not been properly exhibited, and had inadvertently been passed before it was read, but he could assure the meeting that everything had been examined, and was in order. This scarcely seemed to be the point, as the meeting was called in order that the members of the Union might have an opportunity of saying whether it was in order or not.

The President then made a short speech. It appears that the authorities have at last noticed the hordes of butterfly students at the University, and the vast amount of social fluttering which goes on in the Union buildings. The Union is to hold an inquiry into the whole position. This is, of course, grand news. We hope to be able to publish, in due course, the results of this move. The promise of this inquiry (or rather, perhaps, the announcement of the authorities' request and the Union's compliance with it, for it is doubtful if the Union itself would have moved in the matter) provided the only bright spot in a dreary rigmarole. The brightness of the spot is a little tarnished by the fact that one of the reasons for the inquiry was stated to be that were it not made the success of an appeal to the public for funds might be prejudiced.

It is high time something was done about the Annual General Meeting. There is a very small attendance at the meeting: the main body of students while waiting for the dance to begin either congregate in the cloisters outside or chatter at the back of the hall in such

a way that the proceedings are made inaudible. As a matter of form some students listen to the proceedings, but the business is not only not done in a proper fashion, but is conducted in an atmosphere of frivolity. The merging of singing and dancing acts with the business of the meeting hardly improves matters.

After the meeting the commencement social was held. The dapper Mr. C. T. Moodie, made a polished speech on the aims of the Union, Mr. D. F. Burnard spoke on the aims of the S.C.M., and Mr. P. M. Cudmore (cox) spoke on the Sports Association.

These speeches were all excellent, and deserved a far better hearing than they received. Fitted in between them were musical items. In case this should be read by old members of the University, it must be remarked that, although this year Mr. Muecke did not conjuring tricks, and Mr. Dawe did not prattle cheerily, the Misses Todd and Stewart danced again. It seems like home again to see the Misses Stewart and Todd dance, it does indeed.

After this it was announced that supper would be served, and dancing would begin. The happy throng from the back of the hall and from the cloisters crowded in, the young ladies smiled and patted their neck-curls into place, the chairs were cleared from the floor, and the real business of the evening began.

THE FABLE OF THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER MAN.

Once upon a time there was a student who was very interested in University newspapers, and so he decided to collect a copy of every University newspaper that had ever been written. As he was a very hard-working young man, after a few years his collection of papers had grown to such an extent that it was necessary for him to have a large library built to house it. Every paper was catalogued and put away in its correct file immediately it arrived. Eventually his collection was complete, and he sat back to await the fruits of his labour.

The governing student body of the University at which he was reading heard of his remarkable achievement, and asked him to turn out an issue of their paper, as soon as possible. The student was exceedingly pleased, and rushed to his catalogues.

After a short time he had found the position of all the material he wanted, and donning a pair of roller skates he tore up and down the corridors of his library selecting a copy here and a copy there.

Then he rushed to his study, and sat down to write his newspaper. He combined the ideas of the University of Sippra with those of Oxford, those of Alexandria with those of Columbia, those of Miletus with those of Sydney, and those of Cambridge with those of Washington, and then rushed the paper to print.

He had combined the old with the new, and his paper was perfect (but remember, this is a fable).

Mudspots (and other notes).

If you wish to criticize "On Dit," do not let all your criticism be verbal. The Editorial Staff would like to see your opinion of any or every issue in black and white.

If you do not like the paper as it is, write down your objections, and any suggestions for improving the paper, and drop them in the "On Dit" box in the Hall of the Union building.

If you do like anything in the paper, let us know, and we will give you more of it. Remember, it is the Union's paper, and you are the Union, and the Editorial Staff has a job to do, and that is to serve you to the best of its ability.

Send in your views on any subject, if you have any views, which is what most of the world seems to doubt, and let the world know what the Union thinks.

* * * *

Apart from the corner which appears to be reserved for the Med. Students to disport themselves in the few chairs that the Union provides, the Refectory lawn is a very interesting study.

It is certainly a paradise for those who come to the University to try to make it a social success. One wonders whether they would like a Gossip Column started in this paper?

* * * *

A letter has been received by us from Miss Margaret Holmes, the Headquarters Secretary of the Australian Student Christian Movement, enclosing two pages of single type in the form of a copy of a letter from Mr. R. B. Madgwick, Lecturer in Economics in the University of Sydney, who is at present doing post-graduate work at Oxford.

The enclosed letter pointed out that the Universities of Australia did not take sufficient interest in the affairs of European Universities, that many Australian students were in a desperate position as a result of the events of last February, that the International Student Service could not possibly raise sufficient money to support all those asking for help, and stated that the writer felt "confident that Australian students would do what they could to help when the gravity of the situation in Europe and the need of their fellow students became apparent."

This letter and enclosure have been passed on to the Secretary of the S.C.M., where it is probably on view for all those interested.

* * * *

The more senior members of the Students' Union are to be congratulated on the spirit they showed in attending the welcome to Freshmen staged in the Refectory on Friday, 22nd March.

It must be very pleasant for them to realize that the Freshmen do not yet know who are the men and women in their last years of under-graduate work, and that, therefore, they were not missed by their guests.

* * * *

The women members of the Union are always clamouring for a say in something. They try to create the

Apollo and Celestial Spheres

BICARBONATE OF MUSIC.

As an outlet for sexual energy, or as an aid to digestion, music may, or may not, be of some use. But what is its true *raison d'être*?

Man cannot live by bread alone. Nor by music alone. But with a proportion of both he can surely lack nothing.

For music can speak to the spirit; it can appeal to the intellect; it can be stirring or quieting, sensationalistic or sensualistic. It can set the head jerking, the feet tapping or stamping to its rhythm. It can move the bowels.

Strangely enough, we must regard music primarily as an art, and not as a synthetic Kruschen Salts. Sounds, meaningless in themselves, are organized and presented in ways that are intelligible, purposeful, beautiful. That is what differentiates music from noise.

The Approach.

Let us draw near with faith.

Faith in what? The composers?—the performers? Good heavens, no! Simply faith in ourselves, that we will listen with sympathy and intelligence, and not indifferently lap up everything, but try to cultivate our tastes to appreciate the best—both of music and performers. Too many "music lovers" (as they call themselves, quite erroneously) desire the privileges of music without the labour of being musical—just as the majority of church-goers desire the consolations and benefits of religion without the effort of being religious. It doesn't work. To appreciate any art at all deeply it is necessary to feel and understand, at least partially, its aims and objects.

Strained-after Effects.

A really great artist does not need to be eccentric. It is only the second- to tenth-raters that have to fall back on eccentricity to make up for artistic discrepancies. A performer's behaviour may succeed in distracting the audience's attention from his musical incompetence or second- to tenth-rateness. Performers may indulge in picturesque hair, or surprising gymnastic feats, their faces may be "like very large uncooked muffins or the unveiled posteriors of babes" (as Aldous Huxley has so engagingly observed). But the performer's job is to perform, not to be picturesque.

Adventure.

And music has its Huxleys, its D. H. Lawrences, and its Bernard Shaws—the "classics" are not the only interesting and worth-while artistic achievements, as many ignorantly and myopically imagine them to be. One does not have to look very hard to find a *Brave New World*, a *Plumed Serpent*, or a *Man and Superman*. We like to pretend we are interested in authors: why not in composers also? To appreciate music does not mean our becoming as little children. If only it did. How simply, how naturally would we all be musical!

Impression that they have something worth while to say. If they have, Miss McKellar Stewart will be only too pleased to see that they have their say in "On Dit."

* * * *

As yet we have received no contribution worthy of note from any woman of the University.

ON DIT

Friday, 5th April, 1935.

The Editor Chats

NUDISM?

From the tone of the contributions received for this issue of "On Dit" it would seem that no one in this institution feels strongly about anything unless he feels strongly against it. For the articles and letters we receive consist for the most part of nothing but disgruntled outpourings of people who are goaded into at last giving public expression to their woes.

And we expect to receive more. For the University is divided into two camps—those who do not like this publication and those who dislike it. So that after the first number for the year has appeared we expect an inpouring of letters from those who dislike us.

But, apart from this, the matter is a strange one, because there seems to be a good deal of self-satisfaction in the place. For instance, Professor E. Harold Davies is, we understand, throwing handsprings in the Conserv., so pleased is he at the acquisition of a man named Kurtz. There is no need for you to be ignorant on the subject of Mr. Kurtz. A prospectus of his course is obtainable gratis at the front office, and there is on its front a charming picture of the gentleman. It shows the light gently playing on his hair, it shows his violin, it shows his profile. Now, there must be some female student who is just thrilled to pieces by this. She may even like the profile as much as Herr Hitler dislikes it. We should like her to write us a long chatty letter all about it.

Where are the enthusiasts? Why does no one supply us with a description of the frocking at the S.C.M.'s welcome to the male freshers?

Where are our atheists? Or should we, perhaps, start a great roaring, rampaging controversy? We had thought about a campaign in favour of nudism. What a woe nudism would be in the University! Just think of a nudist colony in Adelaide. The Adelaide University Nudist Club! But this, may be, would not do. However, we might reconsider it. How do you feel about it, ladies and gentlemen? Is there among you a reporter who would cover nudism?

Our Lovely Library

MR. MUNN HITS OUT.

Just now the Barr Smith Library is the bright dazzling darling of the University. Although from outside it looks very much like the other red brick horrors which have broken out like a rash over the University grounds, it has a gilded ceiling, and after all, it cost £30,000. So that we are all very, very proud and pleased with it; you ask Mr. Eardley.

Visitors as a rule are blinded by the magnificence of the ceiling and get no further than the inner glass doors. But an American hustler got further than this; he surveyed the whole place, even to the inner sanctums, and what he thinks about it all he has just published in a report under the title of "Australian Libraries."

His name was Mr. Ralph Munn, and he was from the Carnegie Corporation, the body which provided the Conserv. with its new gramophone, the body which does the International Relations Club with American books about Putschs and Ententes and Facts and Repercussions, the body whose head has just said that examinations are a device whereby the older generation sits on the heads of the younger—well, the Carnegie Corp.

And this is what he says about the Barr Smith. Let's take it piece by piece:—

"A reading room is arranged to seat 230 students and house 17,000 books on open shelves. A large basement stack is easily reached from the reading room and a separate stack room is to be erected later. Honours students have free access to the basement stack." [There are, according to figures published in another part of the report, 95,000 books altogether, so that out of these 78,000 are in the basement. They are easily reached, apart, of course, from the fact that no one is allowed to reach them except honours students, of whom there are about six in the whole University. The "stacking" is done on steel shelving of the sort on which motor-car parts are stacked, which is enough to make the bibliophile shudder.]

"Working quarters for the staff," the report goes on, "are large and pleasant." [You bet they are! The staff of seven has half the building.] "A common room for the faculties and other rooms still unassigned are on the upper floor." [What goes on in the common room? Which faculties? When are the other rooms going to be assigned? The building has been up since 1932.]

"Technical processes are deficient. There is an author list and classed catalogue available for student use, but no subject catalogue. A classed catalogue is excellent for research workers, but experience has proved the dictionary catalogue superior for general and undergraduate use." [The method of classification is the Dewey decimal system, perhaps one of the finest mathematical puzzles evolved in modern times. To add zest to the search for a book the system is a little varied in the Barr Smith. The numbers are hidden and jumbled. They order this matter better in the Public Library. Each section should have its number displayed above its shelves.]

"The librarian appears to have little discretionary power, the Library Committee and department heads holding the authority. In view of the inexperience of the present librarian this attitude may not now be subject to criticism.

"The library staff salaries are disgracefully low, £240 being the normal maximums for librarians of long experience who are doing important cataloguing and reference work. The University administration recently exhibited a complete lack of appreciation

of the importance of trained and skilled library personnel by appointing as chief librarian a young lecturer who, though scholarly and personable, is wholly without library experience. At present he is learning library technique from his own staff."

Briefly, then, the report says that:—

- (1) The indexing system is out of date and inefficient.
- (2) The method of choosing new books is unsatisfactory.
- (3) The staff is underpaid.
- (4) The librarian is, through no fault of his own, incapable of properly performing his duties.

And this is the position after princely benefactions have provided for the whole cost of the building and for a large proportion of the cost of the books.

What will be done about it? Probably nothing at all. After all, there surely could not be much wrong with the Barr Smith, it cost £30,000.

And have you seen the ceiling?

For Freshers --and Others

To all Freshers, "On Dit" extends a welcome, and requests a moment's attention.

One of the facts one learns at some stage or other in his life is that only a fool will not listen to advice, but he is a bigger fool who will not act upon his own. Therefore, profit by the experience of others.

The University, to a newcomer, is very strange, but do not let this worry you, for you have only to ask, and all the advice you desire will be given to you.

While you were at school you were given little opportunity to express ideas other than those of your schoolmasters. When you have entered on your professional career you will find that you are more or less tied down to express only those views which are in agreement with those expressed by your employers or the other members of your profession. So make the most of your time at the University, where you are, more or less, a free agent. But remember, you may not always be right.

For the time being, your degree comes first, but it is not the whole of your life, as after all, it is only the stepping-stone to a moderate position when you have obtained it. Yours is not the only Faculty, and you should make it your job to mix with members of other Faculties, in order to gain a wider view of University life.

The University can give you a lot that you could never hope to obtain in any other way, but it cannot give you knowledge of the most important side of life, the unacademic. So do not fail to look for interests which are not directly connected with The University, and you will find that you will be amply repaid for all of the time you have spent in so doing.

Finally, remember that you are all members of the Union, which can serve no useful purpose without your co-operation. Do not let yourselves become part of the general apathetic herd, to be led hither and thither to never arrive at any fixed destination. You are being trained to take your positions as leaders, so settle down determined to do something definite to make the University live, and do it to the best of your ability.

THE GERMAN SITUATION

As We See It

Since the University opened, the world has received a bombshell in Germany's repudiation of the Versailles Treaty, and political interest is centred on Sir John Simon's visit to Berlin. Why did Germany repudiate her obligation? Why did Sir John Simon visit Hitler?

Conservative Viewpoint.

Among conservative circles, Hitler's repudiation of Germany's treaty obligations is regarded as being an act of bravado by the Fuhrer, to impress his countrymen of his power, and to demonstrate his intolerance of outside interference in German affairs. Sir John Simon's visit is thereby viewed as being of a conciliatory nature; to induce Hitler to reconsider his decisions, and rejoin the League of Nations. The failure of Germany to accept the offered olive-branch is but another expression of arrogance on the part of the "self-elected President."

Labour Attitude.

The Labour view contends that Germany, in the past, has been under too tremendous a restraint, and it cannot be expected that she remain limited to the conditions prescribed by the Versailles Treaty for ever. Hitler, representing the German people, has refused to be any longer bound by such an imposition, and has refused to recognize it. Sir John Simon's visit was to determine Hitler's future policy, and insofar as England is not affected, no protest will be made.

Social Credit Contention.

The advocates of Douglas' financial reform maintain that German production is working on foreign capital, on which interest must be paid. The only way of accomplishing this is to pay in goods, which other nations will not accept, as by so doing their own production would be detrimentally affected. Hence Germany's only alternatives are to expand her empire or repudiate, and rather than pursue the latter course, she must build up her army and navy, thereby repudiating the Versailles Treaty. Sir John Simon, representing British financial interests, has endeavoured to induce Hitler to borrow more money to pay the debt rather than reject the treaty, and he has drawn a blank.

Communist Theory.

Communist feeling regards Hitler as the instrument of German capitalists, and interprets the repudiation of the Versailles Treaty as the entrance of another competitor in the race towards war. German capitalist industries demand expansion, which brings the German bourgeoisie into conflict with its rival imperialists, Britain and France. Communist feeling regards Hitler as Communists fear that the necessity for expansion will result in an attack on the Soviet Union, and the general opinion is that Sir John Simon's visit will be entirely fruitless with regard to controlling Germany's rearmament, as it was originally intended.

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BLAKE v. EPSTEIN

Ecce Homo.

"At the Leicester Gallery, London, in March, 1935, priced at 3,000 guineas; of Subiaco stone, eleven feet high, six tons in weight, Ecce Homo." Those are the particulars by the foot-rule.

"It took the sculptor eight months to complete . . ."

"It represents Christ when bound and crowned with thorns . . ."

"It recalls Easter Island figures in the rough simplicity of the carving . . ."

"It has just enough detail to suggest the tortured features and the roped hands . . ."

Those are the particulars by the guide-book, quite easy to be cabled to Australia. Quite enough for the man in the street (voiced by Mr. Blake, of Bower, in "The Advertiser" of 26th March, 1935), to let his "healthy aesthetic instinct" react on.

"It caused indignation in religious circles . . ."

"One newspaper has refused to reproduce a photograph of the work, as it associates a hideous symbol with the Founder of Christianity . . ."

"More advanced critics applauded the daring originality of the work . . ."

Those are the reactions of anonymous people in England to a work of art. We may say they are the usual reactions. But so far so good. It may be strange, but it is safe to say that religious circles are indignant. A pebble weighing six tons cannot fall into the round pond of orthodox dogmatic religious complacency without making some very indignant-looking circles on the surface. But the circles are essentially on the surface. Why, even the City Fathers of London, that city of all cities steeped in the past and its traditions, recovered from their indignation over the "Rima" group quick enough to buy it and erect it in Hyde Park. And surely children play in Hyde Park. Mr. Blake, of Bower (Advertiser, March 26) calls it "the crude maistrosty"; but he must be just out of date.

The City Fathers of Adelaide, too, accepted the gift of the "Farnese Hercules," now in the Pennington Gardens! Surely it "flouts the canons" to depict the masculine form without draperies. But it seems to be tolerated by the W.C.T.U.

Now in Sydney's Hyde Park stands the New South Wales War Memorial. In the centre stands a bronze sculpture by Rayner Hoff. The pilgrim to the War Memorial looks down on it over a balustrade of marble, carved in the form of a wreath; he looks down on the body of a young boy lying on a shield, his arms over a sword, and supported by silent women. It is a superb piece of sculpture. But there was the same "indignation in religious circles" when a photograph of the cast was originally published. And all the usual irrelevant comments were poured forth in correspondence columns. "How wrong to flout the canons!" "What a hideous symbol to be associated with the Founder of Christianity; here was a boy crucified in the beauty of youth in a bloody war. It was too real and it was therefore called blasphemous, because the cross-shape was not upright! So it seems.

The point is that when the religious circles and the writers to the Press came to see the actual bronze they had nothing more to say. And these things are an allegory as much as the "Ecce Homo" is itself (according to Mrs. Morgan and others in "The Advertiser" columns). Mr. Blake has not yet seen the statue in Subiaco stone in the Leicester Galleries, and has suggested the alternative titles of "A Chicago Thug on the Hot Squat," and "Ned Kelly after a visit to the Barber." He

says, "This kind of rubbish does not appeal to the healthy aesthetic instinct of the average Australian." No comment whatever is needed. Mr. Blake has not yet seen the statue. He has only seen two particularly bad press photographs, one of them not even focused properly, and both within a range of ten yards, and including the sculptor standing by.

"Genesis" in smooth marble; "Day" and "Night" (though caricatured in vain by London Punch—you remember the squawking baby on Night's knees and Night threatening to send for Auntie Genesis to shut him up!), these are beginning to be recognized and appreciated as the highest achievement in sculpture since the days of Michelangelo. And side by side with the "annual sensations" (which the world press waits for and the suburban "mothers-of-seven" seize as pegs on which to hang their obscure philosophies in the correspondence columns), there are busts and head studies which are unsurpassed.

But surely the first essential in the appreciation of any work of art, be it music or painting or sculpture or poetry, is surely that we should have the work before us whole and in its own medium. How can we judge a poem by reading the "story" in a few lines? (Do children at school still have to express in bad prose the verse of Shakespeare?) So how, in the same way, can we judge the sculpture of a master by two bad photographs 12,000 miles away?

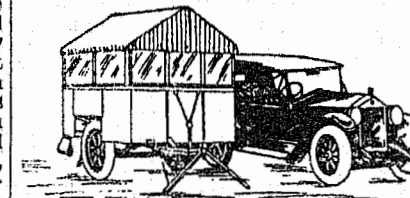
Be reasonable, ye that write philosophies of life to the daily press and make Mr. Epstein responsible for your outbursts; and you, Mrs. Jones, of Bowden, take care that your most delicious cakes are not judged to be a "hideous symbol" by someone who has only seen a photograph of them.

And you, Mrs. Morgan, of Kirkcaldy, wait until you have visited the Leicester Galleries before applying your original diagnosis of the world to the sculpture of Mr. Epstein.

"Cheerfulness, pleasant intercourse, good fellowship, and most important of all, faith in the Almighty and the observance of His laws have become greatly diminished. What a pity!" (Advertiser, 27/3/35).

Wait and see, Mrs. Morgan, wait and see.

EASTER!



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CORRESPONDENCE

Sir,
I have been down at the University for two years now, and I'm fed up with "On Dit." About the funniest parts of the paper are those in which the Editor addresses his readers seriously. If you must be serious, be serious about things in the great big world outside, not about our twopenny-halfpenny comings and goings in the University block. Why don't you print some essential news?

Here, for instance, is a problem which you might help me, and all right-thinking people, to solve, viz., who really is playing the part of Philo Vance in the film version of S. S. Van Dine's immortal classic, "The Dragon Murder Case" at the York Theatre this week? It says in the daily paper that the part is played by Warren William, but this seems strange because William Powell has always played Philo Vance before. Then on the hoarding outside the theatre it says, "Philo Vance in The Dragon Murder Case." This can't be right, sir. Philo Vance is a fictitious person; it says so in all the Van Dine thrillers. In the beginning of the book it says, "All the characters in this book are entirely unreal," or words to that effect.

Well, now, Sir, on the street hoardings the lettering says, "Warren William in The Dragon Murder Case," but the man pictured on the hoarding holding a revolver in one hand and a frightened girl in the other, on the defence, is, without a doubt, our old friend William Powell! There, you see. I thought William Powell was in it. But, then, if he is, Warren William can't be, so who on earth plays Philo Vance in "The Dragon Murder Case"—William Powell or Warren William?

I am, Sir, etc.,

FAN.

[Warren William who?—Ed.]

To the Editor, "On Dit."

Sir,
Doubtless raking over dead ashes is a futile business, but there is one little fire in the University that I should like to see restoked. I refer to the Literary and Debating Society, which has a past, and by no means a dead one, but whose present is very dim and uninspiring. Surely something can be done about this sinking flame. The average student should have attained such a degree of discriminatory power that he wants something more on which to sharpen his literary claws than the very perishable wood of short plays, reinforced by one Grainger talk and one literary paper.

A prophet has no honour in his own country, but it would seem that he has little outside it. Surely with such people as the Sitwells sitting well at the top of the modern poetical tree, and James Joyce calling on the people to rejoice with him over the names of five hundred rivers, and Gertrude Stein being noisy in shiny space, there should be some material for a Literary Club to work on. Narrowness of outlook is one of the most insidious of the diseases to which the modern student is a prey, perhaps the most insidious, and I feel, Sir, that the Literary and Debating Society should be one of the instruments for combating this mental lethargy which is so prevalent.

Yours, etc.,
O.

The Editor, "On Dit,"

Sir,
When he spoke to us last year Mr. Scullin very eloquently expressed the hope that we Varsity folk would become the saviours of our country. There is no reason why we shouldn't be, but we must start right now if we are to do anything useful. Most of us, however, cotton on to the first, or most forcibly advocated, political policy we really come in contact with, and adhere blindly to it for the rest of our lives in many cases. Saviours are not made in that way. We must cultivate the cross-bench mind. We must acknowledge both the good and the bad in

every policy put forward. If we do join a party organization—and until we graduate I don't think we should—we should be able to attack the bad points of its policy and support the good.

Much training and experience is necessary if we are to be able to do this. There is no opportunity of obtaining such training in the Varsity unless we join the S.C.M. Circle on "Religion and Politics," the activities of which are limited in scope. There is, or was, it is true, a Labour Club, but this is interested in only one policy, that of the A.L.P. The activities of the Club are not of a nature which appeals to most students.

There is a need for a Politics Club where undergrads may gain political knowledge and experience. There are many who would join such a club, on the following conditions:—

(1) That there should be plenty of discussion of all shades of political opinion.

(2) That all speakers invited to address the club shall leave ample time for a general discussion of their subject.

(3) That the club's officials refrain from kotowing unduly to the nobs of any one political party.

Would those interested in the formation of a Politics Club please communicate with me before 10th April? Communication from freshers and evening students would be especially welcome.

Yours, etc.,
Perdix Partridge.

Sir,

The Magazine last year saw fit to print a rather hysterical article against war in the form of a review of Beverley Nichols' book, "Cry Havoc." I fall to see why I, or anyone, should wait a whole year until the Magazine comes out again, to have an opportunity of commenting on this, so I write to you.

Now, Sir, Beverley is a nice, curly-headed lad, and he writes the sort of stuff, as a rule, that the flappers lick up avidly. But since he has spent years of his life making himself a reputation as a writer of novels for the siller sort of female, why should he expect us to take him seriously when he writes about war? Yet the writer of the article in the Mag. took him seriously for about two pages. Bah!

I am in favour of war. A nice little war just now would liven things up before it deadened a few people down, if you see what I mean.

The fighting forces themselves are glorious institutions. Have you, Sir, never felt a thrill of pride as you watched a battleship leave the wharf with the ship's band playing "Hearts of Oak," or as you watched the Royal Air Force planes zoom and fly in formation, or as you watched a march past of troops? Of course, you have.

Let's have another war.

I am, Sir, etc.,
O'mon.

[Watching the Royal Air Force is just a pain in the neck to us.—Ed.]

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SPORTS NOTES

SOCIETY NOTES

READ—MARK—AND LEARN.

The Annual Sports will most probably be held on Friday, 10th May.

The Intersports will be held on the University Oval, Wednesday, 29th May.

The combined Varsity team will run against South Australia's team on the University Oval on Saturday, 1st June.

You have over six weeks before the Annual Sports.

You must run in at least one event. Therefore you must train.

This will mean that you will be under special supervision, and have a chance of reaching Intersports standard.

Then you can do your bit for the University.

Don't wait to think, **START NOW.**

Athletic Club.

At the Annual General Meeting of the above Club held on Thursday, 21st March, the following officers were elected for 1935:—President, A. H. Young; Vice-President, C. F. Chapple; Hon. Secretary, R. W. T. Cowan; Hon. Assistant Secretaries, J. S. T. Hill and H. J. Edelman; Committee, A. G. Campbell, I. L. Nicholson and G. M. Steele. A vote of thanks to the retiring Secretary (A. G. Campbell) was carried with acclamation.

Basket-ball.

The Annual General Basket-ball Meeting was held in the Lady Symon Hall on Tuesday, 26th March. Miss Hargrave presided, and the following officers were elected for 1935:—Captain of Club, M. Hargrave; Vice-Captain, D. Claridge; Secretary, S. Lawrence; Assistant Secretary, M. Seddon.

The first practice will be held on 10th April, at 4 p.m., and all members of this Club are urged to attend.

Cricket.

The past season has been the most successful for the "A" side for some years, as we finished up in second position in the minor round.

The semi-final against West Torrens proved to be a debacle, and as a result of our defeat our final position for the season will be fourth.

The bowling of Davey (40 wickets), Thompson, and Clarkson has been the main strength of the side, while on the whole the field have given them good support, Ray's wicket-keeping being at all times excellent.

Jack Sangster, with an aggregate of over 400 runs, heads the batting. He has been our most consistent man in this department. Ray and Smith have also played some bright innings during the season.

The "B's" recently won a match, their first, which was quite welcome.

Rifle Club.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 20th March, J. D. T. Cooper and H. N. Walter were re-elected as Captain and Secretary respectively, while A. E. Welbourn was elected Treasurer. Last Saturday we had an enjoyable trip to Salisbury, and after the first round at 500 yards we were leading by two points. Then, after eating solidly, we shot our way to victory at 600 yards, the final scores being University, 755;

and Salisbury, 749. This avenged our defeat at the end of last year, and we are now looking forward to the Intersports, which will be held in Adelaide this year on 29th and 30th May. All Freshers are urged to come along to practice regularly if they wish to have a chance for the team, as competition will be keen this year. For inquiries drop a note in box W at front office.

H. N. Walter,
Hon. Sec. A.U.R.C.

Women's Hockey.

The Annual General Meeting of the Women's Hockey Club was held in the Lady Symon Hall, on Friday, 22nd March. Miss Roxy Sims presided. The annual report and balance-sheet were read and confirmed, and the following officers for 1935 were elected:—President, Miss Roxy Sims; Captain, Miss Betty Cleland; Vice-Captain, Miss Nell Taylor; Secretary, Miss Pat Salter; Assistant Secretary, Miss Joyce Brooke; Committee Member, Miss Pat Burnard. Practices will be held at 3.45 on Wednesday, 3rd April, and onwards, and all intending players are urged to come.

It was decided also at this meeting to hold a Women's Sports Day on the last Wednesday of first term, and the following Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements:—Miss Betty Cleland, Miss Pat Salter, Miss Joyce Brooke, Miss Allison Anderson.

Women's Pennant Tennis.

The annual meeting of the Women's Tennis Association was held on Monday, 1st April. The following Committee for 1935 was elected:—Captain, Miss Honor Wilson; Vice-Captain, Miss Helena Chapman; Secretary, Miss Y. Edwards (Commercial Road, Hyde Park, U 1803); Assistant Secretary, Miss Kay Francis; Committee Member, Miss Maisie Todd.

The Women's Intersports Tennis will be held in Sydney during the May vacation.

Pennant Tennis Club.

The present season—almost over—has been very successful, in spite of the usual trouble of putting teams in the field over Christmas.

The District team had a good season and was not far off inclusion in the final four. The team was one man short for the last match, and so dropped from fifth to sixth place on percentages.

The "A" Pennant team, with an excellent run of victories in the second half of the season, managed to get into the semi-finals, but were defeated by East Torrens.

The "B1" team suffered worst from holiday absences, and did not reach the four as expected.

The "B2's" reached the semi-finals, but were eliminated by East Torrens.

Our first team in C Grade has now reached the finals after a close match last Saturday. The other "C" team suffered from holiday absences, and had to forfeit a number of matches.

The Intersports match will be played in Adelaide over Easter. A list of players who have been picked to practise for this match has been posted in the Refectory. Anybody wishing to be included please put their names on the list. Practice will start on Saturday, 30th March.

A. J. Wight,
Hon. Sec.

Annual General Meetings.

Medical Students' Society.

The Medical Students held their Annual General Meeting in the Refectory lounge on Thursday, 21st March. The President, Dr. F. H. Beare, in the chair. Over 100 members were present.

The following officers were elected:—Secretary, Mr. C. F. Chapple; Treasurer, Mr. R. G. Burnard; Assistant Treasurers, Messrs. G. M. Turnbull and R. H. Elix.

Twenty Freshmen were admitted to the Society.

Engineers' Society.

The Engineers held their Annual General Meeting in the Refectory lounge on Wednesday, 27th March. The President, Mr. G. Walkley, in the chair. Over 60 members present.

The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. W. G. Chapman; Vice-President, Mr. D. G. Burnard; Secretary, Mr. I. H. Fisher; Treasurer, Mr. A. J. Stevenson; Committeemen, Messrs. G. V. Allen, A. J. Wight, W. A. Harbison.

Professor Chapman, Mr. H. W. Gartrell, and Mr. E. V. Clarke gave very interesting addresses.

Professor Chapman told several eggstraordinary jokes, one of which dealt with grout, or was it tapioca? He pointed out that the Freshmen were now starting in the world in which they had to choose for themselves, which would mean a certain amount of self-discipline.

Mr. Gartrell pointed out that the University was far too moral, and that its ethical standards were certainly too low. He also made reference to the greatest intellectual sin, that is, taking something that you read or hear, and handing it out as your own without troubling to verify it.

This is a piece of advice of which it is well worth the while of the other faculties to take note.

Twelve Freshmen were admitted to the Society.

Law Students' Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the Law Students' Society was held in the men's lounge of the Refectory on 26th March. Prof. Campbell in the chair. Fifty-six members were present. The following officers were elected:—Secretary, Mr. M. F. Bonnin; Treasurer, Mr. W. J. Skipper; Committee, Messrs. M. S. Sergeant, R. P. Dawe, J. F. McFarlane, J. J. Redman, and R. F. Browne. Freshers' Representative, Mr. M. Bunday.

The Freshmen Law Students were admitted to membership of the Society.

After some discussion about the Property I supplementary examination a motion was carried expressing disapproval of the treatment meted out to the candidates in this examination.

Commerce Students' Society.

The Commerce Students held their Annual General Meeting in the Lady Symon Hall. Addresses were given by Professor Shann and Mr. J. A. Lannauze.

The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. O. C. Isaachsen; Vice-President, Mr. W. S. Muecke; Secretary, Mr. G. Duffield; Treasurer, Mr. G. Seddon; Committee, Messrs. J. Sunter, E. Isaachsen, K. Todd, R. Prince, W. Twiss, and A. Garood.

S.C.M. Midday Meeting.

The Student Christian Movement held a midday meeting on 29th March. The Rev. L. O. Parkin (Chairman of State Council) spoke on the S.C.M. in the University. He said that to some people the letters S.C.M. stand for safety, conventionality, and milk, i.e., life without risk, action without freshness, and kickless meals. But really, they stand for a great movement extending over the world.

The S.C.M., Mr. Parkin said, satisfies a need which the University curriculum leaves unsatisfied—the need for a religious as well as an intellectual life. The University is a place where culture is instilled into the minds of those chosen ones who have filled the requirements of the Public Examinations

Board, and religion puts the crown on culture.

The S.C.M. is an experimental life, and involves thinking as consistently about religion as about anything else. It means the application of Christianity to economic, political, and international affairs. It also means for the members a delightful fellowship. The S.C.M. thus for many saves the University from being a mere examination shop, a mere preparation for money-making.

Literary, Debating, and Dramatic Society.

The Annual General Meeting of the Literary and Debating Society was held on Monday, 1st April. The Secretary and Treasurer presented their reports, and a Committee was elected for 1935. Then the question of amalgamation with the Arts Association was discussed. Mr. Finnis, the Secretary, placed before the Society the following points for consideration. He said that formerly the Arts Association and the Literary and Debating Society had been one body, but because of the lack of organised accommodation for Arts affairs, the experiment of separating the two had been made. This had not proved a success, because there was little for the Arts Association to do save run relay races at the Annual Sports Day, and various other small activities. In reality the Literary and Debating Society had become the Arts Association in everything but name. Therefore it seemed reasonable that the old order should be restored, and that there should be an amalgamation of the two Societies. The Society thus formed would be open to the whole University, but with machinery within its own Committee for running the Arts Faculty. The Committee would be the same as was usually chosen for the Literary and Debating Society, with the proviso that there shall be three Arts men to form a Sub-Committee and attend to such matters as are ordinarily the business of the Arts Association. Mr. Finnis pointed out, too, that while the two Societies were running separately, there were two subscriptions to be paid, whereas if there were an amalgamation there would be need for one only, and that the extra subscription for the Arts students would more than balance the calls on Arts funds. The proposal was approved by meeting. The Committee for 1935 is:—President, Mr. E. R. Corney; Vice-Presidents, Mr. M. Finnis, Miss J. Watson; Secretary, Mr. G. Bridgland; Treasurers, Mr. N. Hargrave and Miss P. Burnard; Committee, Miss H. Wighton, Mr. O. Niehterlien, Mr. R. Hammill; Auditors, Messrs. N. Paynter and J. Stokes.

I.R.C.

Freshers and others are requested to watch the boards for the notice of the first meeting of the International Relations Club. General business will be discussed and then there will be an address on current international affairs. The main purpose of the Club is to discuss happenings and international situations, especially insofar as Australia is affected by them. During the year groups will study such questions as Australia and affairs in the Pacific and general European politics. There will be regular meetings, and papers will be given by members, besides debates, and addresses from prominent people.

Men's Union.

The Annual General Meeting of the Men's Union was held in the Refectory on Wednesday, April 3rd, Mr. G. Walkley, the retiring President, in the chair.

A debate was held, subject—"This House deplores the discovery of America."

Pro.—Messrs. M. S. Sergeant, Kelly, and R. W. T. Cowan.
Con.—Messrs. C. A. P. Boundy, D. Lloyd, and H. Piper.

Pros. won.
Mr. Kiernan very kindly acted as adjudicator.



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