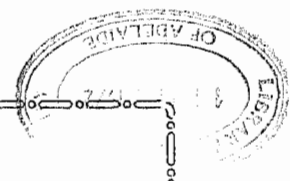


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**Special
Issue**

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PRODUCED BY THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

**Special
Issue**

Vol. 10.

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No. 3.

A PROBLEM FOR YOU!

Mr. R. G. Willoughby

Mr. Willoughby thinks that the university should follow the line laid down by the Government, and we should carry on as usual.

At present there is no need to take any particular measures. Until the policy of the country changes and we are required to make sacrifices, there seems to be no necessity for making them. In other words, there appears to be no need to abolish inter-Varsity.

Dr. A. Grenfell Price

MASTER OF ST. MARK'S COLLEGE.

The most important argument in favour of the abolition of inter-university sport is that the members of our highest educational institution should give the community an example and lead. Not unjustly many outside the university regard us as a pampered body, enjoying through the university a high Government subsidy. The actions of the university pacifists and the recent refusal to form a militia company for home defence, have given the students a bad name with the general public, and less fortunate people ask why they should fight or make sacrifices, when the students of the university lack the guts to do anything for their country or for their own expensive privileges.

Secondly, inter-university sport is costly, and in the past has involved frequent appeals to well-wishers. Even if the Sports Association abandons functions and appeals, in view of the essential appeals of organizations, such as the Red Cross, is it fair for students to expect their parents to finance joy rides to the eastern States, and to offer hospitality here, when the war charities are crying out for aid, and all with surplus means are likely to be taxed out of existence next year?

Thirdly, many students are exempt from service because they are training for certain essential professions. Is it fair for those who are living in comfort to indulge in expensive luxury sport while many of their fellows are in the A.I.F. and defence service camps training to defend them?

Finally, the university put up a splendid record and tradition in South Africa and in the Great War. We are at war again and there is a growing feeling that recent university students, in certain professions, are making a poor response to the call for service. The continuance of interstate cricket and other sports by prominent and physically fit athletes, is a very bad example at such a moment as the present. St. Mark's has already refused an approach for an interstate contest, and, if the traditions of the university are worth anything, the whole student body will join in giving the community a lead in this crisis.

Mr. R. B. Craven

Mr. Craven is strong on the opposition. These are his reasons:

1. It seems ridiculous to abolish inter-Varsity, as they represent only one extra sport during the year. And why cut out just one sport? Either have inter-Varsity or cut out all sport.

2. The question of expense is quite beside the point. Inter-Varsity comes during university vacations. They are thus a holiday activity. If people do not go away on an inter-Varsity they would probably go away elsewhere, and the amount of money involved would be much the same.

Abolition of Inter-Varsity?

To-night at the annual general meeting of the Sports Association, you will be asked to make your decision: Is it the wish of this university that inter-Varsity sports should be continued? It is a decision that must be made by every student, not just those who would be going on tours this year.

A great deal has been said about the expense and the number of men available, about the question not affecting women's sports, and other pros and cons of a material nature. But underneath all this is the question — "Ought we to carry on with them?" Is Mr. Menzies' war-time slogan enough?

In this university we are asked for nothing. We are making no sacrifices. As it affects our lives here there might at the moment be no war. And yet we claim, or we should have the right to claim, that we are one of the leading institutions in the State.

We have made only one gesture signifying our interest in the war. We gave £60 7/3, raised at the 1939 cabaret, to the Comforts Fund. A nice little sum of money, raised by the hard work of the committee and the Wives' Club — and no one else. But that is not enough. If we were to give every penny we raised down here this year it would still not be enough. It is not sufficient to give, we must give up.

In saying this we are not contradicting the policy we put forward in our first issue this year. Certainly let us have "business as usual," let us also have the necessary play as usual, but let us abolish luxuries.

Our Sports Association has never had enough money to finance completely our teams. Each individual has had to pay part of the expense for himself. But in other universities these trips cost students no more than the two weeks' pocket money — well, two weeks' holiday pocket money. Fundamentally, they are, therefore, a luxury, provided by the universities to the privileged few. We are not denying their other advantages — the opportunities they provide for meeting new and different people, for seeing new States and learning new ways.

It may be said that we, in this university, scarcely realize as yet that a state of war exists. How, then, are we to learn to adopt our lives to the circumstances it will bring? The answer must be, We will make some sacrifice voluntarily before it becomes essential.

We have attempted to put the case before you as we see it. Whatever your view on the subject, you should come to the Sports Association meeting to-night — not just you who are in an "A" grade team but you who play for the "C" team, and you who don't play at all. It is incumbent upon everyone of you to come to-night and make your vote.

Miss E. Teesdale Smith

Many who wish to cancel inter-Varsity sport claim that students should lead public opinion in support of the war. What is the best way to support the war? The Government as yet says, "Business as usual." When it needs more men it will call upon them, but until it does so it wants us to lead as normal a life as possible and not succumb to war hysteria.

The expense of inter-Varsity seems to me to be of minor importance. The individual is not likely to give what he saves to some war fund. If the university is to help with money it can do so by giving funds from dances. If one university feels it cannot afford to entertain other teams, that particular sport would have to be cancelled, but if all agree they can afford it, by all means carry on.

The value of inter-Varsity sport is immense. It is not entirely a luxury but part of one's education. If students are to lead the community, they won't do so by playing in their own State, but by meeting students from other States and seeing their points of view.

Miss Edith Irwin

Owing to the war many of the best athletes will be unable to compete in inter-Varsity contests. Some students are missing more than a month of the first term, and it is therefore possible that these men will be unable to give up so much time and energy to sporting activities during the rest of the year. Also, as all the Australian university vacations will not coincide and normal inter-Varsity will be difficult to arrange, I am in favour of the suggestion that inter-Varsity should be abandoned, or, if any contests are played, that they should not be put into the official records of the A.U.S.A. and that no blues should be given during the duration.

More particularly as regards women's sports — for the best team to be sent away funds generally have to be raised by bridge parties, etc. These funds will be extremely difficult to raise this year, as Adelaide is already very full of good works. Yet even if it were possible to hold the inter-Varsity, they should be abandoned if only as a gesture to the rest of the community that although we carry out as far as possible "business as usual," the students at the university do realize the seriousness of the international situation and their responsibilities to the nation.

Mr. K. T. Hamilton

Mr. Hamilton is in favour of the total temporary abolition of inter-Varsity or, failing that, of their being made quite unofficial, as was done in the last war by Oxford and Cambridge. His reasons are:

1. University students have a bad name in Adelaide, not only for not giving the lead due from them, but also for receiving military exemption and a comparatively normal existence while making no effort to give up anything at all.

2. Several almost certain blues have joined up and have thus sacrificed their blues and the pleasure of inter-Varsity games, while people who are exempt or who have not joined up are not called upon to make anything like the same sacrifice. This applies also to militiamen, whose employers can not spare them any more than camp-time. The giving of blues in such circumstances is unthinkable.

3. It is unfortunate for probable blues and players but such considerations alone are purely selfish, and are quite immaterial in a time when everyone must give up something.

Mr. Brian Magarey

I think we should not hold inter-Varsity contests and for three main reasons in addition to one or two subsidiary ones:

1. My main objection is one of principle rather than any other. We definitely are not wholly conscious of the fact that we are at war and this means that we are not pulling our weight. To cut out inter-Varsity contests would be one way in which we could make some sacrifice with the result that we show our consciousness of war obligations and give a lead to the public in making some personal sacrifice.

2. The second reason is one of finance. Our parents pay for our trips which, even the most sceptical must admit, are journeys of pleasure as much as, and very often more than, journeys of toil, and our parents will have quite enough added monetary obligations to meet without adding to them. These obligations may not be felt yet but they will be later on. The obvious answer to this is, let those go who can afford it, but this places the student with limited means in a very awkward position. To gain his blue he must undertake to spend more money than he can reasonably afford. Incidentally, under this head it must be remembered that our Sports Association certainly cannot afford it and will not be able to help at all.

3. Those who miss up to three months' Varsity work by being in camp could not possibly spare the time to go away and they also will miss their opportunity for a blue. They have made a big sacrifice only to see those who haven't, enjoying themselves still further by an organized and authority-sanctioned holiday in other States.

Mr. Neuenkirchen

Mr. Neuenkirchen is in favour of their abolition, but considers it more the problem of the A.U.S.A. than of any particular university. The motion should, therefore, go as a petition to the A.U.S.A. and the final decision should lie with it. In addition, no single club should have to take the responsibility of a decision, and thus every club in Adelaide should do the same.

Sports' Association

Annual General Meeting

TO-NIGHT