

ON DIT

Price 1d.

PRODUCED BY THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY UNION

Local Lecturer Cries "Hoax!"

Is Malley, Malley or Malley, Harris —or Who?

Following on the publication of "Angry Penguins," last week, containing the poems of the (real or imaginary) late poet, Ernest Lalor Malley, Mr. Brian Elliott (enthusiastic lecturer in Australian literature) has thrown down the glove and challenged Mr. Max Harris to prove that such a person existed. What bids fair to become an Australian-wide controversy has begun.

Mr. Elliott and other academics seem to think that the poems published as the work of the hitherto unknown, now deceased, poet Ern Malley, in "Angry Penguins" are really by Mr. Harris, that Mr. Harris is hoaxing the whole literary world or that Mr. Harris himself is being hoaxed by some mysterious person. Superficially Malley's work and opinions could be taken as belonging to Mr. Harris—they are in true "Penguins" style. Moreover, the Malley poems are accompanied by a too-good-to-be-true biography given below. One must remember, however, that despite the mystery (or hoax?) the poetry is generally recognised (even by Mr. Elliott) as being very good.

Here is the biography of the mysterious Ernest Malley.

Ern Malley prepared for his death quietly confident that he was a great poet, and that he would be known as such. He prepared his manuscript to that end—there was no ostentation nor the exhibitionism of the dying in the act. It was an act of calm controlled confidence. He treated death greatly, and as poetry, while undergoing the most fearful and debilitating nervous strain that a human being could possibly endure. He was dying at the age of 25 with Grave's disease.

Nobody had any idea that Ern Malley wrote poetry. For several years he was thought of simply as the young man who worked as a motor mechanic at Palmer's Garage, on Taverner's Hill in Sydney, after leaving the Summer Hill Intermediate High School, at the age of 14. When he turned 17 he went off alone to Melbourne, where little or nothing was known of his activities. He was said to have been living alone in a room in South Melbourne and earning his living peddling insurance policies for the National Mutual Life Assurance Company. He returned to Sydney where, after refusing to be operated upon, he died of Grave's disease. Even his sister, next of kin, did not know that he wrote. In Sydney he was known to possess only one book—Veblen's "Theory of the Leisure Classes." That is all.

Yet I am firmly convinced that this unknown mechanic and insurance peddler is one of the most outstanding poets that we have produced here. Yet this is not based on any romantic reaction to the circumstances by which his poetry has come into possession, nor by the great artistic self-possession with which he treated his forthcoming death. It is the perfection and integration of his poetry.

But first I feel there is justification for completing the story of Ern Malley. Recently I was sent two poems from a Miss Ethel Malley, who wrote saying that they were found among her brother's possessions after his death on July 23, 1943. Someone suggested to her they might be of value and that she send them on to

me for an opinion. At this stage I knew nothing about the author at all, but I was immediately impressed that here was a poet of tremendous power, working through a disciplined and restrained kind of statement into the deepest wells of human experience. A poet, moreover, with cool, strong, sinuous feeling for language. I sent these poems to my co-editor, Mr. John Reed, and they were then shown to a number of people, most of whom, without any information about the author, bore out my opinion. Then, at my request, Miss Malley sent the complete MSS, along with the facts about her brother as she knew them. I quote verbatim from her letter:—

"You asked me for some details about Ern's illness. I didn't mention in my last letter that his death was due to Grave's disease. If he had only taken better care of himself it need not have been fatal. But while he was away from home he neglected his health. When he was called up for his medical exam. the doctors evidently told him what was wrong with him, because he was rejected. But I don't believe he saw a doctor again until he came home last March, though I found out later he had been dosing himself with iodine, and the doctor said that must have kept him going. He was terribly irritable and hard to do anything for. I was anxious for him to go to hospital, where he could be properly looked after, but the doctor said it would be better for a person in his condition to stop at home. The doctor spoke of operating at first, but when he refused to have it done the doctor said it would be better not to, which I thought was strange.

"You asked me to tell you something about Ern's life. Well, my brother's full name was Ernest Lalor Malley, and he was born in England at Liverpool on March 14, 1918. Our father died as a result of war wounds in 1920, and the family came out to Australia, where mother had relations. We lived for many years at Petersham, where Ern went to the Petersham Public School and the Summer Hill Intermediate High School. He did not do very well at school, although he was good at other things. Mother died in August, 1933, and I could not stop Ern from leaving school after that, as he was set on going to work. I have always thought that he was very foolish not to have got his Intermediate, but he was determined to go his own way. He got a job as a mechanic in Palmer's Garage on Taverner's Hill for a couple of years. He was always clever with mechanical things, and I thought he was settled and had got over his wildness. But when he turned 17 he came home one day from work and said he was giving up his job at the garage and was going to Melbourne. I did my best to persuade him, but he went. After that I did not see much

of him or hear from him as he did not write, but someone I knew met him in Melbourne, and told me that he was working for National Mutual selling insurance policies. They said he was living in a room by himself in South Melbourne. I remember I was worried at the time whether he was looking after himself properly, because he was never very strong. I wrote to him, but he did not reply for a long time. Later, in 1940, I think it was, I did get a letter from him saying that his health was better, and that he was making a fair amount of money repairing watches and doing other work on the side. I did not hear from him again until the beginning of this year, when I found he was back in Sydney. I got him to come home, and it was only then I realised that he was ill, but even then I had no idea how bad he really was. He was amazingly active for his condition. Finally he told me that he knew what was wrong, and I managed to get a doctor to him. The weeks before he died were terrible. Sometimes he

would be all right and he would talk to me. From things he said I gathered he had been fond of a girl in Melbourne, but had some sort of a difference with her. I didn't want to ask him too much because he was nervy and irritable. The crisis came suddenly, and he passed away on Friday, July 23. As he wished, he was cremated at Rookwood."

The manuscript consists of 16 poems. It bears the title, "The Darkening Ecliptic," and at the bottom of the title page these words:—

"Do not speak of secret matters in a field full of little hills"—Old Proverb. This I take to be an explanation of his complete silence on the subject of poetry during his lifetime. Two handwritten pages exist under the heading of "Preface and Statement."

On this evidence what can we decide? Why did not the doctor try to save Malley's life? Could a man in the last stages of Grave's disease write fine poetry, or even put pen to paper? Does it sound authentic to you? Is Harris pulling our legs? etc.

Mr. Harris sincerely insists that HE is not hoaxing anyone—there is nothing to gain from doing so; but on close examination Malley has left clues of literary knowledge which, to the learned and initiated, indicate Adelaide as the source of the poems, and if not Harris, then a close friend of his—who then, is this Malley, real or fictional?

Detective Work

This is as much as we can offer, just at present, to excite the enquiring intellectuals—medical students, pathologists, and litterateurs, while the spirit of Sherlock Holmes is working abroad with death's registrar, crematoria, Ethel Malley's, etc. We shall just have to be patient, till the final result of the duel is announced. Progress results and general information will be given in the meantime. Local theories on the subject will be warmly welcomed.

Watch Next Week's "On Dit."

Your Responsibility

I.S.S. Committee brings up its Heavy Artillery

Your support has been sought for the 1944 I.S.S. appeal. Here are statements from the Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and the Presidents of the Union and the S.C.M.:

The Chancellor (Sir William Mitchell) put the case very plainly when he said, "Give the facts, and it will need no words from me." You have been given the facts, and having them it should be impossible to do anything but agree with the Chancellor's brief statement:—

"I can imagine no other cause in which a student will be so glad and proud to have had a hand."

Meeting a Need

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Professor McKellar Stewart) said that from long association with I.S.S. there were to him two things about the organisation which stood out—its expression of the very spirit of freedom in a world so lacking in it, and the valuable way in which it is meeting a need that is so extraordinarily great.

This was the feeling of other members of the staff. Of those to whom we spoke not one had anything but the highest praise for the work of International Student Service.

Students Also

A large body of student opinion is reflected in statements received from the two bodies mainly responsible for the appeal—the Union Committee and the S.C.M.

When the last I.S.S. Appeal was held three years ago, its aim was to assist students starving in war-ridden countries. What better time to launch this present appeal than with the coming of the second front—a time when those same students can see their freedom at last approaching, but who will need so much help to set them on their feet again?

China is suffering under far worse conditions than ever before, and the students more than ever need help—not only the help to carry on with their

studies, but the moral backing to save them from succumbing under such terrible difficulties.

Surely it is the duty and privilege of everyone of us who have not known what it is to starve and to strive under such hard circumstances, to give all we can to help in restoring to normal the lives of these fellow students.

NANCY ROBERTSON,
President, A.U.U.
D. C. P. DREW,
Vice-President, Union.

This is the first year since 1941 that S.C.M. has had a licence to collect for I.S.S. Last year the total sum raised throughout Australia was £1,416. Of this, £625 was sent to China to the committee for the administration of I.S.S. funds at Chungking; £625 to Europe by way of the British Co-operating Council of I.S.S. Also advice was received that an earlier £300 sent had gone with contributions from British students to help starving students in Greece.

The need of these war-affected students is great, and increases from day to day, so that this year more money is needed than ever before. Dip down in those pockets or purses for that spare silver!

Buy a badge (or two or three) on Monday! Come to the I.S.S. dance on Saturday, June 24! And if you've still got any money—give a donation to J. R. Prescott (treasurer) or any member of S.C.M. committee.

MARGARET KEEVES and GEOFF. JONES,
Presidents, S.C.M.

Little more needs be said. There will be a mass meeting in the George (Continued on Page 3)

OPINION

Fate Knocks at the Door

The Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir—Who is this W. D. Brown with whose affairs your last edition was so bespattered? I know that he is local treas.-sec., N.U.A.U.S., Chairman of the Men's Union, etc., etc., for he tells us so at the bottom of every article; but what kind of person is he—a wolf in sheep's clothing, a friend of all freshers, or a paper bag filled with hot air to be exploded in your columns? On page 3 of your last issue, Mr. Brown says, "Noise and hot air are not constructive activity." But if Mr. Brown's front page article was not just such hot air designed to cover up the inefficiency of the Union in controlling its members, then I would like to know what it really was.

Furthermore, Mr. Brown says that "The obvious discrepancy between the report, on page 1 and that on page 3, should not have passed uncorrected by the Editor." Sir! Why not stand for your rights, why did you not point out to Mr. Brown that, as any sane person could see, the reports on pages 1 and 3 were those of different meetings. Mr. Brown said that "relatively little vandalism has occurred"; he also on your front page, said straight out that all men are rotters and still break chairs, pinch wireless valves, soap, and electric light globes. If he did not say this in such bold terms, he certainly did not deny, as he does on page 3, that the damage to Union buildings was continuing. The man is inconsistent and illiterate.

I myself believe that only a few are responsible for the abuse of property with which all men are charged. I accuse Mr. Brown of "ostensibly defending student interests, while really seeking some cheap applause."

Let us pass judgment on Mr. Brown—let us take "constructive activity" and toss this fellow in the river, for such was the true end of all past sarcastic hypocrites.—Yours, etc.,
 "THE SARSAPARILLA MAN."

Why Dances?

The Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir—Are we to tolerate our Refectory being turned into a public dance hall, a place of cheap entertainment by those who seek to increase the social activities within the University? Can they find no other means than by weekly dances to break the ice from frigid women and help backward men?

Although financial arrangements seem favorable to the Union, how can one expect 200 people to patronise so little a publicised place as the Refectory when Adelaide is teeming with dance halls?

I hope there are others who support me in opposition of this preposterous suggestion, and who think that the traditional faculty and sports dances give quite sufficient impetus to the social life of the University.—Yours sincerely,
 SLOG.

Petrified

The Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir—It cannot be denied that Miss Mary Martin, in her long and somewhat highfalutin letter today has hit off tellingly several points in "The Petrified Forest," which indicate that it is a play below the best standards of the dramatic art. I would like to ask her though, if she knows where

plays are to be had that are (a) as good as she would like them to be; and (b) within the capacity of amateur players however good?—especially in these sadly depleted times. She may rest assured that if she can find them the Theatre Guild will be anxious to produce them. We would even be willing to attempt Shakespeare if we had (a) the speakers; (b) the designers! (c) the costumes; (d) the producers; (e) the numbers to cast from; (f) the interest of University audiences; and (g) approbation of the hyper-intellectuals.

I am gratified to note that by Miss Martin's omission to mention the fact, it would appear that she took the production to be of passable quality.—Yours, etc.,
 BRIAN ELLIOTT,
 Hon. Treasurer, Theatre Guild.

Engineer Retorts

The Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir,—Mr. Brown and "Uni" overstep themselves when they criticise the Engineering lecture system. Neither are in a position to speak on the matter. Both have been led astray by mere hearsay. As a senior Engineering student, I say that the lectures in the faculty are good, the standard in most cases high. Moreover, the staff at all times have been found to be most approachable in the matter of improving the lectures. Mr. Brown has no right to call our lectures apathetic. We say, "Mind your own business and stop interfering with us. Try and do something for the Men's Union Building, Mr. Brown!" And "Uni," make sure of your facts—don't start antagonising people.—Yours, etc.,
 "AN ENGINEER."

Method of Election

To the Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Brown's query in your last issue as to a more democratic method of election to the Men's Union, may I be permitted to outline my proposal. Firstly, I would affirm the definite need of the Men's Committee, as it is the only committee of men students alone. As everyone knows, the Union Committee itself is half composed of staff, Council, and graduates' representatives, etc.

1. The twelve seats on the Men's Committee should be numbered 1—12.
2. Nominations should be called for to contest all the seats without limiting the number from any faculty or club.
3. Each seat should be contested separately on the "cross in the square" principle.
4. Except that each faculty should have at least one representative on the committee, all restriction as to numbers from any faculty should be removed.
5. The policies of all nominees should be printed in "On Dit" before the election, and proper ballot papers printed.

The advantages of this scheme are obvious: (1) The students will know something about the men they are going to vote for; (2) Any organisation or club within the University has a chance of representation; (3) Interest in the Men's Committee will be revived and the apathetic outlook of many students will be changed.—Yours sincerely,
 "P.S.B."

Varsity v. Army

The Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir,—"Tory" has issued a challenge to we studes (please!—Ed.) not being in the Army. "Tory" appar-

ently does not know what goes on in being in the Army. At the 'Varsity, we are doing something useful, something which, we hope, will help us to benefit humanity in the post-war world. We have got to work and work hard to pass exams and satisfy our own lust for knowledge.

Despite the shortcomings of the present government, the University system is working reasonably satisfactorily, and Scientists, Medicine men and Engineers are being produced at a satisfactory rate to ensure our full development in the post-war period.

And where would Australia be if the Japs start bacterial warfare if there are no fully trained bacteriologists?—Yours etc.,
 BACTERIUM TYPHOSUM.

Explanation Desired

The Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir,—Mr. Brown really went to town in your last issue. Mr. Brown doubts the reports appearing in "On Dit"; notwithstanding his doubts, he bases his formal reply upon a news item appearing in "On Dit." He also doubts the interest of the Engineers in student affairs. If Mr. Brown had attended the last special general meeting of the Uni. Union, he would have seen many, very many, interested and determined Engineers.

I am interested in public organisations of a social and community nature, and would regard it as a valuable addition to my experience if Mr. Brown could explain the following:

1. By what means was the Men's Union A.G.M. legalised, since the constitution states that this meeting is to be held before April 15, and it was held on May 11? Is such disregard for the constitution usual?
2. The notices calling the A.G.M. referred to the Men's Union wireless. This matter was neither dealt with nor mentioned. Is it usual for the chairman to terminate a meeting before the business as stated on the notices has been finalised?

This approach to you personally, Mr. Brown, is at your own request. (See "On Dit," June 9, page 3, column 3.)

As I do not want to form any premature impressions, I would like you to answer the above in full, even if it means that the next issue of this paper is again to be devoted to the "Justification of Mr. Brown"—by Mr. Brown.

It cannot be denied that you have paid some attention to the affairs of the Men's Union since the criticism by the Engineers—but one wonders just to what degree you may have neglected the affairs of the N.U.A.U.S. in consequence.—Yours,
 V. Z. THROGMORTON, B.S.A.

To the Roving Reporter

(on reading last week's "On Dit")

James
 Had lunch with same dames.
 On Dit
 Made gossip with glee.
 More Social Life?
 One looks here for a wife—
 You'll run into strife.
 Gee!
 How'd you be?
 —Pee Wee.

"Thank God for Mary Martin"

To the Editor, "On Dit."
 Dear Sir,—May I say "Thank God for Mary Martin!" Is the play selection committee of a University Theatre to be allowed to go its own sweet way without so much as a breath of open criticism from the students of that University? While we may not agree with the precise criticism Miss Martin levelled at our choice of "The Petrified Forest" (Is the Hollywood gangster the standard to which we must conform? Or had Miss Martin tongue in cheek? Is an attempt to state the bankruptcy of the "intellectualism" of the 'thirties pseudo-philosophy? Is the possibility of self-identification condemnatory? What then is the theatre? Ask Aristotle.), yet it was heartening to those who take the theatre seriously to hear her

Commencing
FRIDAY
 (June 16)

NOV 15
Regent

FINAL BIG WEEK!!
 SEAS ABLAZE!!
 WITH ADVENTURE AND ROMANCE!!
 TYRONE POWER, MAUREN O'HARA
"THE BLACK SWAN" (A)
 Plus—WHAT WAS HER SECRET?
"THE FALCON
STRIKES BACK" (A)
 With Tom Conway.
 On Stage: John Stevens in
"MAGIC SUPREME."

voice crying in the wilderness of apparent apathy. The Guild will never be a truly University body until the students show activity in setting a norm as to play selection—and decide what is a good play anyway. And so, again thanking God for M. Martin, yours—

ROMA WILLIAMS.

* * * * *
 Would "Tory" please collect a reply to his (or her) letter in box "T."—Editor.

A.U.L.C.

Addressing the inaugural meeting of the Adelaide University Labor Club on Tuesday, Prof. Goldby reiterated his address to the Science Conference of a few weeks ago. The speaker devoted the first part of his address to the subject of fundamental science. He pointed out that fundamental science was a valuable and integral part of the general scientific scene.

There were two opposing groups, Prof. Goldby continued, those who loved science for its own sake, citing higher mathematics, and those who believed science should be directly related to society. The last named group were inclined to be in the main Leftist supporters, who could find no real value in science for its own sake. In the main, Prof. Goldby's analysis of the scientific scene was incisive and planned with a logic quite distinct from that employed by the popular type of scientific lecturer. He spoke then of the work of the universities in the field of research, advocating a maximum 20 hour week for lecturers to engage in teaching. The rest of their time, he continued, should be devoted to active participation in research. If a university was to fulfil its function, it must not only teach but form a spearhead of intellectual thought. While appreciating the value of buildings and equipment, Prof. Goldby thought that too little attention had been given in the past to increasing the staff of universities so as to make possible such a thing as the 20-hour teaching week. The financial aspect of the questions was, he considered, difficult. He foresaw that an ever increasing part of the finance for such work would have to come from governmental sources. These few points only briefly sketch what was an excellent address to mark the re-entrance of the Labor Club into the land of the living. The Labor Club held a successful hike on Monday, June 12, and the first informal dance will be held under its auspices to-night in the George Murray. The Labor Club has taken the lead and asks for the support of all those interested in a fuller social life at this University.

On Monday next, at 1.20 p.m., Dr. S. P. Stevens will speak, dealing with the political and social conditions in Europe between two wars.

Commencing
FRIDAY
 (June 16)

NOV 15
DEX

4 Shows Daily

ANOTHER GREAT FIRST RELEASE PROGRAMME!!
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Echoes From Afar

Dear John—Your telegram arrived last Wednesday telling me that you were going to send part of this correspondence to "On Dit," as originally suggested, and submitting a "nom-de-plume" for my approval. As I was unable to reach a post office in time to reply, I imagine you've gone ahead with "The Umbrella Man"—a curious choice, John, but perhaps it will enable me to keep dry if there's another flood, as at times I almost feel there ought to be, though I disapprove of youthful cynicism.

And then, of course, since last I wrote, we've gone to war in France again—why it is called the "Second" Front I don't know, as there are already two others in Europe not counting Yugoslavia. Perhaps it's merely a convenient phrase for the propagandists! And you have probably felt, as many of us have at such times, a wave of humility that emphasises our insignificance in the general scheme of things; certainly it seems difficult for us to comprehend the trend of events, and our own problems seem trifling in the extreme. From one viewpoint, perhaps they are; but insofar as accurate reasoning, conviction, even courage of a kind are called to their solution, they are important. And so, I think, we should proceed.

sonally think it is not, and shall tell you why in a later letter. At the moment we are concerned with what is, not what we think ought to be, and anyhow, you can't change anything effectively until you are thoroughly acquainted with what you are changing—a point for the theoretical "new order" boys.

All we can hope to do on this score of age, John is to reduce the effect of this unusual—pardon me!—"youthfulness," and there is plenty to do even in such an apparently limited field—after all, by my argument (which is open to your query) here is a basic cause for many of your "reasons."

It shows itself in two main directions, not entirely unrelated: first, in the conduct of student affairs (and as much in the students themselves as in the committees they elect), and, second, in the general capacity to think. The relationship, if any, lies in the desirability of the former being sufficiently sound yet provocative to create an atmosphere suitable to the thriving of the latter. If it is not, but is instead impeded by prejudices and generally lacking in purpose, then many thoughtful buds are nipped with a frosty disgust.

I shall deal with both these points in turn, John, but for the present we shall have to adjourn—I fear it's rather like Speed Gordon being left in mid-air till next week!—Yours,
"THE UMBRELLA MAN."

A Ballet Critique

By An "On Dit" Ballet Critic

The Borovansky Australian Ballet played "Giselle," a two-act ballet, and "Facade," a burlesque of dancing in terms of dancing, on Monday night before a disappointingly small but appreciative audience. Mlle. Dorothy Stevenson was captivating and charming in the title role. Her portrayal of Giselle, the little peasant girl, was excellent; she really lived the part.

In the story of the ballet she meets her lover, Loys the villager, who is really Albrecht, the wealthy owner of the neighboring castle and of the lands surrounding the village, in the midst of the fête which marks the completion of the vintage. Hilarion the huntsman, who has been rejected by Giselle, plots revenge and exposes Loys as Albrecht, and Giselle, realising that she has loved one who can never be hers, is overcome and her mind gives way under the sudden strain. (Mlle. Stevenson's dancing here was one of the highlights of the whole ballet.)

Hilarion was played by the *maitre-de-ballet*, Mr. E. Borovansky, and his interpretation of the love and jealousy inspired by Giselle, and, in the second act, of the fear and wonder in the forest at night, was nothing short of superb.

Albrecht was played by Mr. M. Ivangine, who was masterly in the role, being spontaneous and gay in the first act, and, in the second, giving one the impression that "truly his heart was heavy within him."

The dancing of Mlle. Laurel Martyn as Queen of the Willis was competent, ethereal and polished. (The Willis are the shades of young maidens who, being betrothed, perish on the eve of their marriage, and, according to Slavonic tradition, whirl through their mystic rites unable to find rest in their tombs.)

The final dancing frenzy of Albrecht and the following grief at the loss of Giselle is an excellent performance, and as the final curtain falls one is left with a great feeling of pity for Albrecht, and later a sense of the greatness of the dancers.

The one-act ballet "Facade," in lighter vein, was very well executed from the opening Scotch Rhapsody by Miles. North and McClelland and Mr. Rubinstein to the final Tango by Mr. Borovansky and Mlle. Laurel Martyn. The dancers' interpretations of the burlesque by the choreographer were outstanding.

The final touch to a really enjoyable evening was given by the accompaniments of Miss Winifred McDonnell and Mr. Kurt Kerwag at the grand pianos.

The evening's entertainment was "truly a performance to delight the senses."

but I trust it will not sting too septically. I am now engaged upon a systematic search for a pair of park gates with iron birds, because those symbols are obvious; but alas, I cannot find them.—Yours apologetically,
B. R. E.

P.S.—Malley is the goods. Nothing better has been written since the "Vegetable Pie."

S.C.M. Frolics

All those who went to the S.C.M. Conference held at Belair on the last week-end of last term were agreed upon what a very good conference it was. The conference was opened on the Friday night by Arnold Hunt speaking on "What's Wrong With Wrong." This proved a very good introduction to the main subject: "Straight and Crooked Living." The second address was given on Saturday evening by Maurice Finnis on "The Claim of the Ideal." He dealt with the various attitudes of members of society. Ken Newman gave the final address: "Solving the Problem." He presented very clearly what the Christian solution to the problem of wrong really was. On the Saturday morning Rev. Frank Engel led the conference in a Bible exposition on Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Study circles were held on the Saturday and Sunday mornings. Short devotions were given each morning and evening.

On the Saturday afternoon there was a hike in the National Park. Though everyone went on the same hike, the distances varied according to opinion from 5 to 20 miles. On the Sunday afternoon there was another hike, main features of which was its proximity to various orchards. It is known that at least one person left with a greater weight of luggage than she had taken there.

The principal feature of the Sunday tea was the Dance of the Seven Big Stiffs presented by the Beauty Ballet. The ballet was led by the extremely glamorous Miss Geoff. Jones. Many felt that her performance of the Highland Fling was most unusual. It was generally believed that the standard of jokes was unusually high, though some people expressed the view that it was about time certain other people either thought up or dug up some new ones. Since the conference it has been learnt that John Keeves can sing "Three Little Sisters" extremely well. This is really surprising since he was instrumental in getting other people to sing it at the conference.

If you weren't at the conference, go and find someone who was, and they will tell you more about it, and what is more, get your experience first hand—come to the next one.

(Apologies for omission last week. Sorry!—Editor.)

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Batrachic Ode

Malley! orphicular wraith, whose diapason
Astral is cotyledon to no plucked guitar,
Xoanon in my antique land, Aum's avatar—
How have you anger of the maculate seas,
Accessory the chain and anchor and all the
Rose exfoliate leaf by petal warm
Renounced involute with the grave disease?
Ischiatic, corpulent, dog-toothed with sunken knees
Scabrous—this check have you cashed, O furciform?
Homunculus, hail! You deft epitome
Of Tamburlaine and Twankydil's apt dwarf!
And yet on Taverner's Hill no syndrome
Xists I warrant of your polymorph.

Dear Mr. Editor—I promised to review the new "Angry Penguins" for you. The task is beyond my humble capacity. I ask you to forgive me. Some splendid poems (e.g., Davies' about Joshua) are bound to be eclipsed in the "Darkening Ecliptic" by Ernest Lalor Malley. This sequence of poems, some of which I understand, fires me to passionate admiration. I send you above my testimony; I can do no more. It is a trifle malarial,

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UNION MASS MEETING ON I.S.S.

In the GEORGE MURRAY HALL

Friday, 16th June, 1.20 p.m.

Speakers:

PROF. KERR GRANT

MRS. NAN FLETCHER (Travelling Secretary of A.S.C.M.)

We Grist

We kissed,
She swung
And missed.

Yes, you were right;
One never should
Kiss strange girls at night.
—Hilderbrand.

Nota Bene

The Men's Union Committee has decided that in the event of removal or breakage of equipment in the George Murray without notification to a member of the committee or Union office by the persons responsible, part of the building will be closed for a period decided by the committee.

This decision was prompted by the recent removal of electric light fittings in the George Murray Building.
—By Order.

Sports Secretaries

Sporting notes for "On Dit" must reach the Sporting Editor on Monday of each week if possible, or Tuesday at the latest.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

(Continued from Page 1)

Murray Hall today (Friday), at which Professor Kerr Grant and Mrs. Nan Fletcher will speak. Professor Grant needs no recommendation; Nan Fletcher is travelling secretary for A.S.C.M.

At the time of going to press the appeal was two days' old, and we had already £7/13/7. Let's keep it up.

Arising from your heap of letters which started me on this correspondence—I've nearly got them sorted out now—is one point which we must clarify immediately—a "reason" and an "explanation" even in common usage are not always identical. You say that the administration of student affairs is topsy-turvy because "there is general apathy" and "nobody knows what ought to be done, and when we do decide on something some obstructionist pops up and says it's unconstitutional." Or again, "the trouble is partly the absence of worthwhile political beliefs among the students"—a statement attributed to a Miss Alison Fox. Perhaps all these are reasons, John, but they're not enough. You have to explain them. Why are there no worthwhile political beliefs among students? Why do meetings prove abortive? And in answering these questions, I shall skip a lot of your "reasons," because most of them are only symptomatic—a few "explanations" will account for many "reasons," and I believe, a few remedies could cure them.

To me, there is one important explanation which you dismissed with the words, "But that shouldn't make any difference"—and that is the average age of the students: at present it is probably 1½ years younger than in normal times. If this has no other effect, it at least makes successful completion of the year's work in each course more difficult and correspondingly reduces the time available for other activities. I'm afraid we must face that as a situation beyond our immediate control; it is supposedly in the national interest; though I per-

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Football Victory for Varsity

GRIST

Editor, D. A. Dunstan

Last week's sport resulted in a few wins, but more losses. The A lacrosse team continued its usual success, and is the only unbeaten team in its grade. This game requires speed, and we seem to have a valuable player in Murray Elliott, a star athlete.

The Sports Editor, Bob Kenihan, wishes to remind secretaries to give stuff to him on Mondays.

Football

In last week's curtain-raiser we were able to field almost the best team possible against our old opponents, the League Reserves. A match on the Adelaide Oval was something of a homecoming after the wanderings of the previous weeks, and was celebrated, as all homecomings ought, in a victory.

The play during the first half was evenly and keenly contested. This was particularly noticeable in rucks, where the giants of both sides got some spectacular knocks (several times to the wrong rover). In the third quarter we managed to get most of the play, but owing to a strange lapse in the kicking could not show any better result than a string of points. Hosking stopped the rot with two fine punts into the goals. The last quarter was the best of the lot. The kicking was much improved (7.3) and more passes seemed to find their man. Another improvement was in the number of those blind, skyscraper punts which had perhaps crept in because of the difficulty experienced in dropkicking the ball. Special mention should be made of the opponents' back line, which stopped a good many attacks; they were responsible for the large amount of the see-sawing between our centre and goalmouth.

Scores:—Varsity A, 13 goals 17 behinds; League Reserves, 5 goals 3 behinds.

Goalkickers:—Hosking (4), Cullity, Basedow (3), Eldridge (2), Day.

Best players:—Basedow, Tregoning, Douglas, Goode, Hosking, Dewar, Keeves.

Lacrosse

VARSIITY A STILL ON TOP

As a result of Saturday's match, in which Varsity defeated East Torrens, we remain the only unbeaten team.

In the first quarter, we raced away with four rapid goals, largely because of the splendid combination of the forwards. After this, the match became more even, with each side struggling desperately for infrequent goals. Bob Kenihan was absent from centre, but in his place Tubby Abbott did excellent work and enabled Varsity to gain possession of the ball time and again. Murray Elliott proved his worth as a counter for East Torrens' star goalthrower Symonds, and he was ably supported by the other three backs, who prevented many passes from reaching his mobile crosse.

In the early part of the game, the short, quick passes by the forwards proved very useful, but later their backs crowded the goal mouth and stopped us from getting within shooting range. The only goals that we could score were rushed straight from the "draw" before the opposition could get into position.

In the last quarter, with five goals to spare, Varsity let up to a certain extent, and East Torrens managed to score two more goals, but by this time we were in no danger of defeat.

Final scores:—Varsity, 13 goals; East Torrens, 10 goals.

Goalthrowers:—Freeman, N. Wallman (4), I. Wallman (3), Hallett (2).

Best players:—Hetzal, Abbott, Freeman, Wallman.

LACROSSE—SECOND TEAM

Sturt-Varsity, though beaten 21 to 6 by Port Adelaide, showed great improvement at Woodville. The forwards led out and opened goals well, their only faults being not shouting for the ball when the other forwards were in trouble, and poor stickwork. This can only be remedied by turning out to practice at 4 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

Spare men did not give as much trouble as usual, though several could have been picked up sooner. Harbison and Russell played well as forwards and at centre, while Ward set a good example by passing when in trouble. Harry once dodged three men but tried to play the lone hand too often, and lost the ball several times by not passing when tackled. Fisher stuck to his man well, especially for one who has not been to practice, only letting him get one goal. Fisk and Jose do a good job in the back lines, while Oldham both in goals and when playing forward also played well.

Goals:—Harbison (3), Oldham (2), Harry (1).

Men's Hockey

Saturday marked the commencement of the Association matches for the season, the preceding matches having been merely preliminaries for the purpose of grading the teams. This year there are 14 teams in the Association, the largest number since the game was so curtailed by war in 1940. These teams have been divided into two grades, an A grade of 6 teams, and a B grade of 8 teams. The high standard of Varsity play is indicated by the fact that, although two other clubs besides Varsity field three teams, Varsity is the only club with two teams in A grade.

During the preliminary matches, the A team, out of 5 matches, won 3 and drew 1, a very respectable record, and the results of the B and C teams, though not so good, were nevertheless quite satisfactory (as shown by the B team being placed in A grade).

On Thursday evening, an instructive talk was given to the club by Mr. Claude Downs, the president of the Association. Although designed principally to instruct the younger players in the finer points of the game, it was much appreciated by all present, and we thank Mr. Downs heartily for his interest in the club. This meeting was also enlivened by the presence of members of the Women's Hockey Club, who turned out in surprising numbers to hear the address.

Results of Saturday's Matches

A team defeated Argosy I, 3—1. Goalhitters—D. R. Anderson 2, R. Godfrey 1. Best players—R. Lewis, D. Drew.

B team was defeated by Motors-Grange, 5—3, after a very even and exciting match. Goalhitters—K. A. McKechnie 2, J. L. Waddy 1. Best players—K. A. McKechnie, C. Crisp, B. R. Walsh.

C team was defeated by Teachers' College, 6—3. Goalhitters—N. S. Vawser 2, I. Hobbs 1. Best players—N. S. Vawser, I. Hobbs, Wilson.

Baseball

On Saturday, at the Oval, the A team was defeated by Police by 3 runs to 1.

Beard was "off the line," giving 3 "walks" in the first three innings, and Jack Fahey took over in the fourth. From then, few Police batters got on to bases, and none reached home.

Varsity batters found it difficult to hit the star Police pitcher, Des Vaughton, who "sucked in" nearly everyone with his "out curve-down drop." Jack Fahey was the only batter not "K2'd." The only safelhitters were Noel Johnston and Beard.

Few errors were made in the field, the best work being done at third base by Johnston. Ball also did well at second.

B Grade

The B team played improved baseball to beat Y.M.C.A., 8 runs to 5. The batting was not as strong as usual, too many batters going for a "dip" and not even meeting the ball. When they did hit the ball, their timing was wrong and the ball invariably trickled into the infield.

Norm Wicks made his presence felt on the pitching mound, leaving 10 batters "waving to the skies." He was ably handled by Steve Vidale behind the big mitt.

Safelhitters—Vidale, Miller, Sharpe. On Monday the B's played again and were defeated by Sturt, 28 runs to 10. Play was good except in the sixth innings, when Sturt batted in 15 runs.

Safelhitters: Sharpe, Vidale, Paull, Rowe (2), Hyde, Miller, Kohler.

To-morrow the A team meets Adelaide on Prospect ground at 3 p.m. It is hoped that Johnston will again be available, and if not, Wicks will return to third base.

A team—Fahey, Ball, Slade, Beard, Kenny, Wylie, Page, Johnston, Brokensha, Wicks.

B team v. Sturt, at West Torrens, 1.30 p.m.—Manning, Vidale (Wicks), Sharpe, Kohler, Maddison, Miller, Rowe, Hyde, Paull, McLeay.

TO-NIGHT!

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Rifle Club

There was keen competition for the spoon last Sunday, the closeness of the top four places (two 159's and two 158's) testifying to the accuracy of the handicaps.

Most of the shooting was very good —of the remainder it is better that nothing be said, that it may be forgotten as soon as possible.

Here are the revised handicaps:—Bromfield 12, Dunstone 10, V. L. Hawke 8, Johnson 30, Roper 11, Carter 19, Harry 7, Helman 30, LeMessurier 18, Russell 18, Copley 9, L. J. Hawke 12, Holden 15, Lewis 30, Shepherd 10.

Last week's scores: Bromfield 154, Carter 156, Copley 159, Dunstone 158, Harry 137, L. J. Hawke 153, V. L. Hawke 158, Holden 148, Johnson 149, LeMessurier 148, Lewis 154, Roper 145, Shepherd 159.

On a count-back, Shepherd was awarded the spoon.

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Some years ago T. E. Eliot defended the "Little Magazine." He was defending the product of a necessity, for when two or three young poets find that they have something in common to express, but have no suitable medium and belong to no established "school," then they must of necessity bring out a journal of their own.

"Grist," which appeared last week, is just such a journal. This paper which made such a portentous beginning, arriving at the hour of the invasion, is a pleasing publication. It has the blessing of Mr. Allen (the Superintendent of Secondary Education in South Australia). It has the blessing of Prof. J. I. M. Stewart, who in an excellent introductory critique, sets the tone and attitude of the whole work.

Here are several young people showing restraint, a great virtue in a publication such as "Grist," where the temptation for flashy show to create an impression is a very strong temptation.

Here is the chance for any young person to express her or himself in pleasant surroundings.

There is admittedly an admixture of adolescence and maturity, but the paper knows this—in fact, it is part of the policy of the paper that it should be so.

The contributors to the first issue are not unknown to most of us. M. G. Taylor is still a student of St. Peter's College, his verse in "The House" shows a very great facility along with an unself-consciousness which reflects well against that opposite flavor to be detected so often in "Angry Penguins." M. G. Taylor is not boldly waving sex under our noses, nor is trying to shock us into recognition of what a great person he is.

D. A. Dunstan (the editor) has, in two pieces of verse, achieved two very different ends. "True" proclaims no bold conquest, but it is in a too simple style, which could become twisted to a disadvantage. "The Compliment" is a sketch of a scene whose type is familiar to him.

The anonymous writer of "On Scepticism" sets a poser. She, I would say it is a girl, shows, with tongue in cheek, how a sceptic should, or should not, react to the unexplainable.

Mr. A. M. Ramsay acquits himself well in the unpleasant task of writing an authoritative article. His "Private Enterprise" presents a side which might well be new to many.

In the short story, "The Patriot," D. A. Simpson shows a certain power but the story does not tell us much about his possibilities.

Elizabeth Shepherd, in a brief "Interlude," strikes a less happy note. The work is just a little pretentious, but no doubt there will be improvement with maturity.

Ethical Reconstruction, a sermon by Warwick Brown, is more Tawney than Brown.

Here is the atheist telling the Xian what he should do. Somewhat too much of dogmatic statement and not enough analysis of the "religious spirituality," which Mr. Brown declares false. There is an answer to some of Mr. Brown's contentions; "They would fill the empty stomachs but I say, let them fill the empty hearts," this is the type of thing ignored by Mr. Brown.

Send this copy to your friends, if you have any, in the Services—it is printed by E. J. McAlister & Co., 24 Blyth Street, Adelaide.