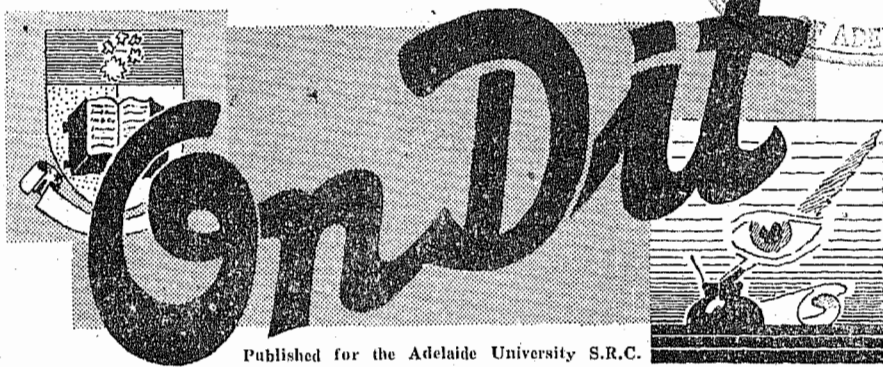


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Published for the Adelaide University S.R.C.

ATTENTION,
BUDDING
JOURNALISTS!

There will be a meeting
of all freshers and others
who wish to join the staff
of "On Dit" and all pre-
sent staff in the S.R.C.
Room at 1.20 p.m. to-day,
Monday.

Vol. 18, No. 1

ADELAIDE, MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1950

8 PAGES—ONE PENNY

EDITORIAL CHAIR VACANT

'On Dit' Wins Poll: Loses Soul

"Professorial Chairs are not the only utilitarian furnishings which are unoccupied," writes Barbara Kidman in a report on the staff vacancies in S.R.C. Publications. "No applications have yet been received for the position of Editor of 'On Dit,' or for the sub-editorial positions of News Editor, Magazine Editor, Women's Interests, Circulation Manager and Advertising Agent. 'On Dit' thus finds itself without an editorial staff in a University without enthusiasm. The tragedy is made all the more poignant because 'On Dit' was given top-ranking over all Australian University Papers for 1949 by the N.U.A.U.S. Panel on Student Journalism."

This year's "On Dit" has hung precariously in the balance from the time in 1949 when applications for the position were first invited. All those received were withdrawn soon after, but the seriousness of the position was not at first realised, the report goes on to say.

At the second session of the Fourth S.R.C. held on Tuesday, November 22, 1949, the position was discussed at some length, and a motion was passed recommending the principle of weekly publication, but only one nomination for editor, that of Mr. Ian Hansen was received. Mr. Hansen was approached, but was unable to accept the position.

Roder Acts

In January of this year, Mr. Roder, Chairman of Publications for 1950, sent the following message to Adelaide councillors in Sydney. "I am enclosing a copy of a letter forwarded to the Editor of 'Farrago' and a copy of another to the Secretary of the Melbourne S.R.C. Would you please discuss the matter and forward any comments. If your decision is unfavorable I will write to these people withdrawing the suggestion.

With this message was a copy of the letter sent to the Editor of "Farrago" the Melbourne University paper:

"Acting under the very wide powers granted to the Chairman of the Publications Board and after consultation with the Business Manager of S.R.C. Publications, I have decided to place the following proposition before you. I would first point out that it is possible that the S.R.C. may overrule my actions in this matter.

"This is the proposition:—
"As we possess no Editor would you be agreeable to allowing us to reprint the various issues of 'Farrago' week by week. Due recognition would be made of the fact that our material was supplied by 'Farrago' and each item reprinted would bear the 'Farrago' motif.

"If this were possible I feel that editorial staff for a purely Adelaide written 'On Dit' would be quickly forthcoming as the students saw the paper issued week by week and were duly and constantly impressed with the fact that the paper appeared purely through the courtesy and generosity of 'Farrago' and the Melbourne S.R.C.

"If no such enthusiasm for editorial work was aroused, at least it would mean that a paper was appearing in which

Adelaide news which needed circulation among the students could be inserted in lieu of the purely local information appearing in your paper."

The message was received with some dismay and in a hurried discussion it was agreed that the "Farrago" plan should be used only as a final expedient and even if adopted would not eliminate the no-editor difficulty. The position was made more delicate by reason of the fact that Adelaide councillors had just learnt of the Student Journalism Panel's award for 1949.

'On Dit' Scoops Pool

"On Dit" was adjudged the outstanding University paper for 1949 by the N.U.A.U.S. Student Journalism panel. The paper was described as "a sparkling, vintage fuller bodied than the 'Vin Togatus' (Tasmania), more satisfying, in fact the prize of the toast list. This was the really exciting wine of the toast list—say a satisfying sparkling hock."

"Honi Soit" (Sydney's paper) was on the other hand, to quote the panel, "an arid vinegar, turbid and uneven."

Perth's paper, "Pelican," was runner-up in the competition, results of which were announced at the N.U.A.U.S. Council in January. The panel also commended "On Dit" for its "just proportion of general higher standard and vigorous magazine copy. The paper was characterized by singularly little personal viciousness and by an honest and sincere approach."

In view of this adulation councillors agreed that the "Farrago" plan should be used only as a last resort, and Mr. Ashwin volunteered to produce the first edition if no applications had been received by the end of Council and the return of the Adelaide delegates.

Publications Abyss

At a meeting of the Publications Board on Friday, February 24, Mr. Ashwin's application was received, and copy and advertising for the first edition were considered. Mr. Edgar Castle agreed to act as Magazine Editor for one edition, and Miss Jean Wadham as Sports Editor, but the important position of News Editor was left vacant. However, "On Dit" it was found, was not the only paper on the brink of the abyss. The position of "Phoenix" and the "Songbook" were discussed, and a recommendation made to the S.R.C. that only

"On Dit", the "Statute Book" and "The Undergraduates' Handbook" should be published in 1950. The Publications Board itself was almost brought to an end by the Chairman's disclosure that he had received Mr. Rundle's resignation from the post of Business Manager and intended to resign himself as soon as "The Handbook" was published.

Wahlquist Well Quizzed

Last year's Editor of "On Dit," Gil Wahlquist, who was present at the meeting was asked to give his opinion, both on the position of "On Dit" for 1950 and on the likelihood of his producing a Songbook. In reply to a query about his undertaking editorial duties for this year, he replied that as a full-time "News" reporter he could not possibly accept the position, but would be prepared to help sub-editors with any problems of lay-out, type and so on.

"Thus at present 'On Dit' has only a temporary staff, and though Mr. Jeff Scott has intimated his willingness to produce a second edition, the future of the paper thereafter looks particularly gloomy," the report concludes. "No editor means no paper, and no paper means that one of the most important of University institutions has been allowed to wither away."

CONGRESS DIRECTOR

1951 N.U.A.U.S. Congress

The S.R.C. seeks a person capable of filling the above honorary position. Duties include the organisation and administration of the 1951 National Student Congress, which will probably be held at the Zinc Corporation Camp, Fort Largs in January, 1951. The Congress will be attended by approximately 300 students, and will continue for ten days. The Director will be assisted by a Congress committee, and will have complete charge of all arrangements subject only to the N.U.A.U.S. executive.

Enquiries and applications to Eric Schuman, N.U.A.U.S. local secretary - treasurer, c/o S.R.C. Office, by Tuesday, March 21.

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"MODERN PHYSICS"—G. E. M. Jauncey 40/-	"STEAM AND OTHER ENGINES"—J. Duncan 13/9
"DIFFERENTIAL AND INTEGRAL CALCULUS"—R. Courant, Part 1, 39/6 Part 2, 51/-	"LAW IN THE MAKING"—S. K. Allen 42/-
"PRINCIPLES OF ENGLISH LAW OF CONTRACT," by Sir William R. Anson and J. L. Brierly 27/-	"ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS"—Massachusetts Inst. of Technology 80/6
"PHYSICAL GEOLOGY"—Longwell, Knopf and Mint 53/9	"HISTORICAL GEOLOGY"—Carl O. Dunbar 53/9
"STRENGTH OF MATERIALS"—Riggs and Fraetz 50/-	"ELEMENTS OF MINERALOGY"—Rutley, Edited by H. H. Head 19/6
"MACHINE DESIGN"—H. J. Spooner 57/9	"AN INTRODUCTION TO INFINITESIMAL CALCULUS"—G. W. Caunt 31/-
"THEORY OF HEAT ENGINES"—Inclley, Edited by H. W. Baker 27/3	"RADIO ENGINEERS' HANDBOOK"—F. E. Terman 75/3
"A TEXT BOOK OF BOTANY"—Smith Overton 37/6	"ANALYTICAL EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS"—Lemon & Ference 37/6
"ANIMAL BIOLOGY"—Grove and Newell 34/3	"HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE"—Sir Banister Fletcher 97/-
"PLANE AND GEODETIC SURVEYING FOR ENGINEERS"—D. Clark Part 1, 52/6 Part 2, 52/6	"METALLURGY FOR ENGINEERS"—E. C. Rollason 28/-
"AN OUTLINE OF PSYCHOLOGY"—W. M. McDougall 23/6	"ADVANCED ACCOUNTS"—Spec. Aus. Edition, by R. N. Carter 21/6
"PROBLEMS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING"—S. Parker Smith 17/6	"THE DYNAMIC FACTOR IN MANAGEMENT"—Frank Ellis .. 16/6
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"BUILDING CONSTRUCTION"—G. A. & A. M. Mitchell 14/-	"TEXT BOOK OF THEORETICAL AND INORGANIC CHEMISTRY"—By F. A. Philbrick and E. J. Holmyard 25/-
"ELEMENTARY PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY"—Taylor and Taylor 43/9	"GEOMORPHOLOGY"—C. A. Cotton 25/-
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"COLOR IN SKETCHING AND RENDERING"—Arthur Guphill 130/-	"PRINCIPLES OF MERCANTILE LAW"—J. Charlesworth 21/-
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"THE MACHINERY OF THE BODY"—Carlson & Johnson 42/-	"BOOK OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND VERSE"—W. Murdoch 8/6
"ELEMENTS OF PLANT BIOLOGY"—W. O. James 32/9	"COMMONWEALTH OF GOD"—complete—L. Curtis 15/-
"THEORY AND DESIGN OF STRUCTURES"—E. S. Andrews .. 32/9	"TEXTBOOK OF INORGANIC CHEMISTRY"—J. R. Partington 42/-
"INTERMEDIATE PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY"—F. W. Atack .. 14/-	"FULL COURSE IN BOOK-KEEPING"—H. G. Burdon, Part 1 and 2, each 7/2
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"FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT"—R. J. Chambers 38/-	"CHAMBERS'S SEVEN-FIGURE MATHEMATICAL TABLES" 13/3
"READING AND WRITING OF ENGLISH"—E. G. Biaggini .. 10/9	"THE REPUBLIC OF PLATO"—Translated by F. M. Cornford 13/3
"FRENCH COMPOSITION"—Kastner and Marks 9/9	"GAUDISSERT"—M. H. St. C. Crampton 4/6
"PETIT MIROIR de la CIVILISATION FRANCAISE"—Denoon 9/9	"ADVANCED FRENCH COURSE"—Whitmarsh and Jukes ... 15/-
"COLLECTED POEMS, 1909-1935"—T. S. Elliot 13/3	"THE OXFORD CONCISE DICTIONARY"—Third Edition 17/6
"MINERALS AND THE MICROSCOPE"—H. G. Smith 9/9	"ELEMENTARY CALCULUS"—Durell and Robson .. Part 1, 9/9
"HUMAN NUTRITION"—V. H. Mottram 11/6	"NORTH AMERICA"—Russell Smith and Ogden Phillips 84/-
"STATICS," by R. C. Fawdry 12/3	

The above list is but a selection of our vast range. Many titles not listed are to arrive and orders may be left with us for early execution.

THE ARGONAUT BOOKSHOP
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With her thoughts on Australian jazz clarified by a ten-day sojourn at Congress, our modern music critic returns to Adelaide from the Australian Jazz Convention and tell us that jazz is—

ON THE UPBEAT

THE Fourth Annual Jazz Convention was held in Melbourne recently and, for five days and nights, the place really jumped.

Ade Monsborough first dreamed up the idea of a convention and for the last four years jazz enthusiasts from all over Australia have been present at the Australian Jazzmen's holiday. Boy! Do they lap it up!

The sixteen interstate bands at last year's convention sure gave some first-class Dixieland. The only element of competition was the tune contest in which Dave Dallwitz, of Adelaide, swept the floor with his "Clarinet Sugar." Lack of competition ensured a wonderful atmosphere of good fellowship among the musicians, who thoroughly enjoyed one another's music.

ALL-STAR BAND
Each year an all-star band is chosen from the jazzmen. This year it was comprised of Roger Bell, trumpet and unrivalled lead; Bruce Gray, clarinet; Ian Pearce, trombone; Willie McIntyre, piano; Bob Wright, tuba; Jack Vasney, banjo; R. Murphy, drums, and Ade, vocal.

Eight bands played during one day with, of course, breaks for eats 'n' things, and the standard reached by the young musicians, together with the sheer inspiration of the veterans, was amazing. The Graeme Bell Band hit the top in a few of its numbers, and the polish and success it has achieved have taken away none of its originality. For consistency, Tom Pickering's Good-Time Music from Tasmania, figuratively speaking, carried off the honors. These musicians from down south are some of the most experienced jazzmen in Australia, and were together

as early as 1939, about the same time as the Bells kicked off. David Stackhouse's rag-time piano is a perfect background for the trumpet lead of Colin Wells, while the rest of the front line consist of Ian Pearce's strong, blasting trombone and Tom's clarinet. Tom also takes some very effective vocals.

Melbourne just loves Frankie Johnson's Fabulous Dixielanders and the band is certainly at the height of its popularity. Everyone's ready to point the finger at this outfit because it's so popular, but I certainly enjoyed their music, and they do know how to sell it to an audience. Both Johnnie Sangster and Keith Hounslow were terrific surprises to me, as I had never heard Sangster before and only a few notes of Keith's during the Rex Stewart tour. These two young trumpeters have both achieved a very good technique, and Keith's especially mature and thoughtful solos delighted Convention audiences.

ADELAIDE JAZZ REPRESENTED
Unfortunately, the Southern Jazz Group could not attend in force, but Adelaide was well represented by Lew Fischer's Jazz Band, which improves on every hearing, also by the South City Seven, and quite a few freelancers, who included such talent as

Dave Dallwitz, Bruce Gray and Mal Wilkinson.

The South City Seven were probably the youngest and most inexperienced of all the groups, and if they would only relax and not try to outdo one another they should show a definite improvement.

RIVERBOAT TRIP
The traditional riverboat trip was certainly a great success with boats weighed down to the Plimsoll line. Tom Pickering's band played on one boat and Tony Newstead's South Side Gang on the other. The latter was easily the most entertaining of Convention representatives, with George Tach, Australia's most humorous jazzman, who really went to town on the clarinet, and also the inimitable Willie "The Lion" McIntyre, blues singer and pianist. Tony plays trumpet and Ken Ingram, trombone.

WET FOR PARADE
Rain pelted down the day of the street parade, but, unabashed, the bands boarded their jalopies and drove through Melbourne's main streets blowing like mad. The atmosphere really caught on, and all the cats assembled outside the hall in the rain, stamping and shouting at the musicians to go inside. This was one of the best moments of the Convention. Back on stage, with water running out of their horns, everyone really gave out. It was terrific.

Although Australian jazz is still young it has the sincerity and vitality of youth, and if the fourth convention is any indication of its popularity, it seems that this music has caught on fast and is here to stay.

BARBARA KIDMAN

S.R.C. REPS.

Nominations are called for the position of Men's General Representative on the S.R.C. caused by the resignation of Mr. Alan Kennedy. Nominations are called for the position of the S.R.C. representative of the Department of Agriculture. **MARGARET RENDELL**, Secretary, S.R.C.

New Refec. Manager

FOR the interest of freshers and those unobservant bods. who haven't noticed any change in the Refec. service, the Refectory is under new management. Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. McCubbin took up their appointment as manager and manageress on January 18, in succession to Mr. and Mrs. Clyde, who left late last year.

Formerly, our new manager and his wife successfully conducted a restaurant in Brisbane. Mr. McCubbin previously worked in Adelaide for two years. He apparently returned to Brisbane with a favorable impression, denoted by his reappearance in Adelaide with his wife, who is as much in love with our city as her husband.

With the help of students, Mr. McCubbin hopes for an improved and rapid service in the cafeteria equal to any in Adelaide.

Noticed already: Soup on the menu at any time the Refec. is open, two hot entrees during the luncheon period, and also pies and pasties. Prices of the latter have been increased by a half-penny, but don't blame Mr. McCubbin. There has been a general increase in the metropolitan area.

Last, but by no means least, we have an important addition to the Refec. staff, in the person of 16-months-old Robert Blair McCubbin, only son of our new manager and his wife.

ITALIAN PROFESSOR'S FAKE RESULTS

Police recently charged 116 students, professors, and employees of Rome University with cheating at examinations and faking results.

Two months' investigation by Italian police preceded the charges. Police allege that examination results had been falsified for several years.

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

A peep at the National Union Vanity Fair, held at Gan Gan in January of this year, with its political symposia, social activities, and other things of the symposiactive type. Peeped by Congressman David Penny.

Eighteen Adelaide students went 1,100 miles in January to attend the N.U.A.U.S. Congress. The Congress was held in an old army camp in sixty-inch rainfall country, about thirty miles north of Newcastle, New South Wales.

The mornings were occupied by breakfast (taken by those who bothered to rise) and addresses. The afternoons were usually left free, while in the evenings several student symposia, addresses and dances were held. The morning addresses were of a reasonably high standard, and were given by such men as Dr. W. G. K. Duncan, the Editor of Current Affairs Bulletin, and Mr. A. J. Nelson, of U.N.E.S.C.O.

For afternoon diversion two trips were arranged. The first was a trip to one of the unmechanised mines in the Newcastle district. The second, for which 230 out of the 300 at Congress applied, consisted of a tour of the B.H.P. works at Newcastle. On other afternoons one could



"**T**ODAY it is freedom which most needs emphasis."—Sir Walter Moberley, in "The Crisis in the University."

THE S.R.C. has stopped the prices spiral. Double tickets for last year's Commencement Ball were 13/6. This year they are 5/- for Freshers and 7/6 for the Intelligentsia. Furthermore, the policy of deficit budgeting is to be abolished during the present boom.

What can one expect when all four members of the executive are economics students.

AN amendment to the Melbourne S.R.C. constitution now provides that the incoming S.R.C. shall take office in September instead of December.

THE Hobart S.R.C., as well as its Orientation Week, holds a Dis-Orientation Week after the final examinations. Festivities include several dances, a barbecue, a moonlight hike and a picnic.

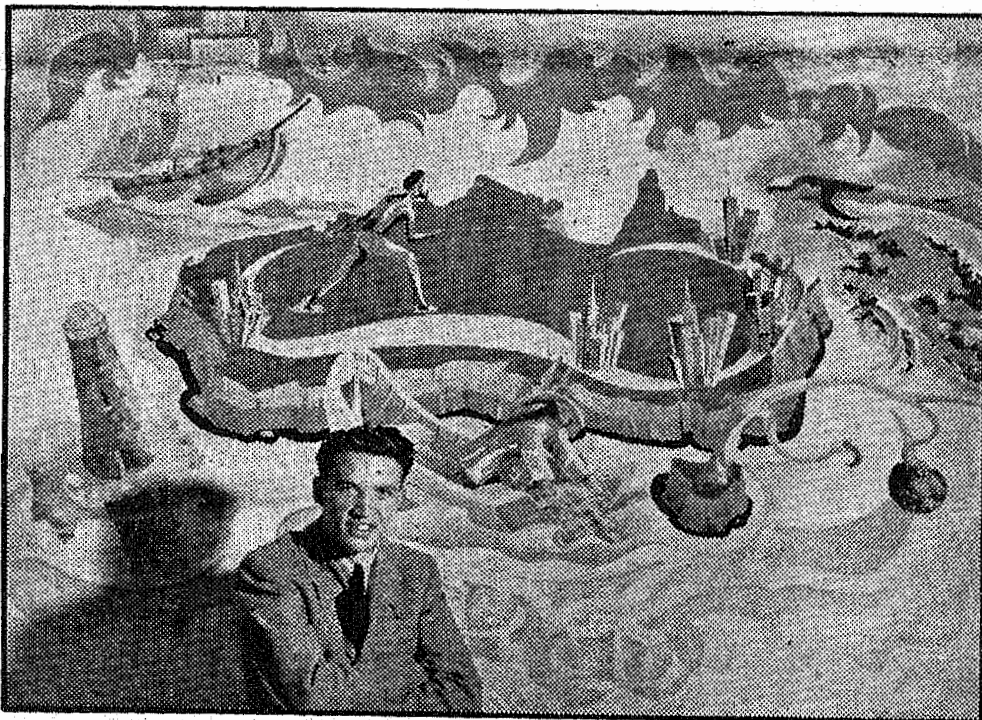
THE Jefferson Military College (U.S.A.) has rejected a 50,000,000 dollar bequest because the donor specified that the curriculum should include instruction on "the superiority of the Anglo-Saxon and Latin American races." No member of the staff was to be of African or Asian origin.

TWENTY-SEVEN new academic posts have been created as a result of the State Government's increased grant to the University.

"**W**E do Arts in order to starve more gracefully."—Anon.

THEY say that Scott and Ashwin never ventured out until after dark, while they were in Sydney for the N.U.A.U.S. Council.

No doubt they wanted to avoid being mistaken for Dugan and Mears. —GLUG.



UNUSUAL mural in modern style in the Vice-Chancellor's Reception Hall. Artist (inset) was Max Birrell, ex-Teachers' College.

—By courtesy of the "News."

What's On

MONDAY, MARCH 13:
12.30 p.m.—First issue "On Dit" on sale in Refectory.
8 p.m.—Evangelical Union Welcome to Freshers. Social Evening and Address by Dr. Kidd.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15:
8 p.m.—Aquinas Society Freshers' Welcome and Dance. Supper, George Murray Hall.
8 p.m.—Student Theatre Group Freshers' Welcome. Auditions for Freshers interested in One Act Plays.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16:
1.20 p.m.—Liberal Union's Freshers' Welcome, Lady Symon Hall.
8 p.m.—Arts Association. Freshers' Welcome. Supper, George Murray Hall.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17:
1.30 p.m.—Meeting of the International Relations Club in the Lady Symon Hall. All welcome.

7.30 p.m.—Women's Union, Freshers' Welcome, Lady Symon Hall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23:
8 p.m.—University Footlights Club's Welcome to Freshers. Recordings of 1949 Revue, dancing, supper.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25:
8 p.m.—Commencement Ball. Freshers' Concession Double Tickets 5/-. Plans at S.R.C. Office. Two bands, two floors.

SYDNEY Uni's. revue runs for ten nights in the Union Hall in "Commem." Week and yields a profit of about £450 for the S.R.C.

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Little by Little

ERIC SCHUMAN was one of the more interested of Adelaide's delegates at the Fourteenth Annual Council of the National Union of Students. He let his interest run away with him to the extent of writing these articles on Council decisions. In them he tells of the striking undercurrent of fellowship which surged fiercely throughout the Council, of the world-shattering decisions reached after inspired and emotional debate, and, finally, of the love interest which could not but take root and grow to fruition in such a romantic old-world setting.

Follow this thrilling serial in subsequent issues.

NEW MOVES ON IUS

Australia's relationship with the International Union of Students was potentially the most contentious question to come before the fourteenth Council meeting of N.U.A.U.S. It failed, however, to produce any fireworks and the debate was quite short. A motion was passed suggesting the continuation of the work done by the London meeting, convened by the National Union of Students of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This meeting drew up a set of claims to be presented to I.U.S. and which, if accepted by I.U.S. should remove most of the objections of students in Western countries.

Council decided that these claims should be expanded and that instances of partisan political activity, actions by I.U.S. Executive contrary to the constitution, and so on, should be carefully documented.

If I.U.S. accepts these conditions, which can be summarised as less political activity and more practical projects, then Australia suggests that all countries at present outside I.U.S. should simultaneously reaffiliate.

STUDENT INTERESTS

N.U.A.U.S. plays an important part in protecting and improving student welfare. University finances, the Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme, C.R.T.S., and other matters occupy much of the time of N.U. officers. The influence of N.U.A.U.S. is important, although often unspectacular.

The Commonwealth Office of Education, which administers all educational activities of the Federal Government, is at all times willing to discuss matters with N.U.A.U.S.

University finances directly concern all students. Lack of money results in overcrowding, insufficient lecturers, etc. Sydney University, for example, faces a deficit of up to \$500,000. National Union Education Officer will have the task of preparing a comprehensive scheme for University finance, which will be presented to the Commonwealth Office of Education.

N.U. has for a long time sought alteration to C.R.T.S. such as the abolition of the loan provisions, thus making the living allowance a gift for the full course, merging the book and instrument allowance and gearing of the living allowance to the basic wage.

COUNCIL HONORS TWO STUDENTS

Mr. Gerard Brennan and Mr. Ernest Tucker have had conferred on them honorary life membership of the N.U.A.U.S.

Mr. Brennan gave distinguished service to N.U.A.U.S. first as Faculty Bureau Officer and last year as President. Besides the administrative duties as president, he also handled education and it is mainly due to his efforts that the relations between N.U.A.U.S. and the Commonwealth Office of Education are so harmonious.

Mr. Tucker is the only person to have held the position of full-time Secretary. Although he was a paid officer, those who have seen him at work assert that 16-hour days with no meal breaks were not retary's office last year. It unusual in the General Sec might also be permissible to mention here that Ernest, though nominally on a salary of \$44, drew only half that sum as remuneration last year.

NUAUS ACTIVITIES FOR 1950

N.U.A.U.S. activities will be continued this year and there is a possibility of an extension to include an international debating tour of Australia.

Sydney will be the site for Drama Festival during the August vacation. It is hoped that the assistance of the British Drama League can be obtained in staging the festival. This will materially assist in ensuring a successful festival, at least financially.

Debating will be held in Brisbane. The Queenslanders were particularly anxious that this should be so and those who take part should have a very good time while debating. The National Union of Students of England, Wales and Northern Ireland have proposed that a debating team from the United Kingdom should tour Australia later this year. Council also decided that if this offer is accepted New Zealand should be invited to send a team also, thus making it a three-cornered contest.

The Art Exhibition will also be continued, and there are several proposals to ensure that last year's standard is greatly improved. The Sydney University Fine Arts Society has accepted responsibility for organising the exchange.

The major N.U.A.U.S. activity, congress, is tentatively suggested for Adelaide. So far congresses have been held in Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland and New South Wales. While Adelaide has a very good camp available (the Zinc Corporation Camp at Largs Bay) we will need a Congress Director before we can accept the responsibility.

EXECUTIVE BALANCED

The executive of the National Union of Australian University Students elected at Sydney in February, 1950, should prove very satisfactory. The various officers are particularly suited for the jobs to which they have been appointed.

President is Ken Long from New England. He was Vice-

President last year and was a very capable chairman at the somewhat rowdy congress meeting. Vice - President, David Hutchison, is from Perth. He will handle Australia's relations with overseas student organisations. Alan Hunt, from Melbourne, has the newly-created position of Honorary Secretary/Treasurer. The present secretarial set-up, dictated for reasons of economy, is Mr. Hunt's idea.

Other executive members are Maurice Ewing, from Brisbane, who will handle relations with Commonwealth Office of Education, U.N.E.S.C.O., etc., and John Bayly (Melbourne), who is Publicity Officer, and will have the difficult task of reintroducing "Natstud" on a satisfactory basis. To the position of Travel and Exchange Officer George Pittendrih brings his undoubted organising ability. On very short notice, George organised the Gan Gan congress with considerable success.

FELAWSCHIPE

Margaret Johnson reports on the S.C.M. Freshers' Welcome on Tuesday, March 7.

After proceedings had begun with informal introductions—name-tabs and a riotous group game—freshers and others restfully reclined to hear some folk-songs.

But to return to the food: next was introduced the chocolate game; the only trouble was that after one had dutifully worked up an appetite one received precious little chocolate—it all depended on a throw of the dice. A six successfully thrown, a bib tied round the neck, a knife and fork grasped in hand, I was ready to enjoy the chocolate—and by that time somebody else had got a six—and so on, ad infinitum.

The singing was interrupted first by John Dunn, who reduced to parody that most movingly dramatic of Russian folk-songs—"Stenka Rasin." Later, amid much enthusiasm, four gifted spirits (J. Dunn, R. Opie, J. West, T. Hancock) burst forth with "Much . . . Binding in the Marsh," delightfully original, and the rhymes quite devastating. A more can be said here: the facial expressions of the abovementioned chorists cannot be described—they were also delightful and equally devastating.

At this stage Peter Halley, who had energetically mastered ceremonies, gave place to Peter Dunn, whose short speech (speeches, he pointed out, are like wheels—the longer the spoke, the greater the tire) introduced the University, the S.C.M., and raised the question: "What are we here for?"

Other things had happened by this time. People had talked to other people—the balloon game (the most perilous with regard to shins and stockings) had helped in that direction.

Food appeared again on the programme at supper time—we supped in faculties, to exchange information and opinion.

Finally, when there was little more to be eaten, Jack Bentley, men's president, made a short speech. He welcomed freshers, and reminded them of the two remaining parts of the welcome—a hike and a church service, to be held soon.

We sang "Felawschipe" before leaving.



WHAT THE S.R.C. DOES FOR YOU! Julie Quast (Arts), Jenny Samuel (Arts), Rhonda Franklin (Physics), and (at rear), John Cary (Science) and Lloyd Evans (Med.), afternoon tea-ing at Council expense

FRESH . . . and welcome

THE preceding week has been the scene of some festivity and much fatalism—the festivity coming largely from the Footlights Club committee, the fatalism from the more seriously minded members of the University. If amidst this atmosphere there was some enthusiasm shown for, and not against, freshers and their kinswomen, it succeeded in eluding the eyes of the press.

Activities have luckily been few and far between; that is to say, activities to which the Chief of Staff sends reporters IN ORDER TO REPORT THEM, have been few and far between, and for this relief in full originality we say, "Much thanks."

Freshers were officially welcomed by the Students' Representative Council on Monday, March 6. Luckily for the success of the welcome, most of those who attended were wholly unaware of what form it would take and thus remained sitting till the end—though one could not help noticing (by the noise) that S.R.C. members did leave before their President had ceased fulminating. Mr. Scott was distinguished, if for no other reason, by his nervous delivery, a type of distinction which even the hoariest of undergrads had never hoped for from Scott. Mr. Scott was then extinguished, if for no other reason, because Robert Louis Stevenson wrote a book about a weird doctor who suffered from skitso free'n ya.

The Vice-Chancellor gave the first address in the Bonython Hall, and spoke on the need for a "full" and "liberal" University life. "We are together in this learning business as a family," he said. "We are a privileged class and as such have a duty to the community." Mr. Rowe finished his speech with the quotation:

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,

"Show me a light . . ."

Professor Abbie repeated emphatically the Vice-Chancellor's plea that students should use their University life as a means to their own fuller development and not as a mere machine for label-stamping. He then went on

to speak on the various University courses in their relation to (1) Man, and (2) Environment.

The third speaker, as has been said before and will without a doubt be said again, was Mr. President Scott. He spoke on the dais.

Seersucker and Cretins

Afterwards, the Press attended a very dull afternoon tea in the Refectory, all the food having been devoured by non-members of "On Dit" staff and all the glasses having been drunk out of by a similar class of people. However, reporters had fun rushing around interviewing people and people had fun being interviewed by reporters. One pretty fresherette in a floral seersucker dress was surprised and embarrassed to hear of the connection between seersucker and Moral Disarmament, and thereafter shut down like a clam. Cretone was in evidence everywhere and everywhere the curtains were drawn.

String-pulling by pressure groups in the University was one of the main topics of conversation among the freshers clustered in awe around the Footlights Club. However, there was no Edgar Castle to Gaudeamus Igitur, and nobody dared to sing the Red Flag.

Freshers went away in dribs and drabs. Reporters went away at about 4.30 p.m.

Thrice Welcome

The remainder of the week in retrospect looks like a warning about what happens when there are no Anti-Trust Laws. The S.C.M. and the Science Association monopolised freshers on paper, and, also on paper, turned them into S.C.M.ers or Science Associationites. The Socialist Club did squeeze in also, however, probably unnoticed in the battle between Christianity and Science; the Baseball Club, being, as far as non-baseballers can ever know about such weird and wonderful things, non-sectarian, succeeded in holding their A.G.M. and Welcome on Tuesday night, and the Engineering Society indulged in their cabalistic fandangle on the Wednesday.

Freshers evidently came out of all this alive, though there are some suspicious bloodstains at the end of the Anatomy Building. With tongue in cheek "On Dit's" anti-social reporter expresses heartfelt relief that you have, and welcomes you all to this institution, you darlings! (Have any of you ever seen Ronald Searle's cartoon of the St. Trinian's child being welcomed home by its mother? I feel like the child.)

A.E.S.C.

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EDITORIAL

LAMA SABBACTHANI

IT is an ironical comment on the decision of the 1949 N.U.A.U.S. Student Journalism Panel, awarding the student Newspaper Crown to "On Dit," that not a single member of this University is prepared to undertake its editorship for 1950. One would expect to find two or three students out of four thousand, with time and enthusiasm enough to attempt this interesting, creative and not so very arduous task. True, any prospective editor must be ready to give up a considerable amount of his or her spare time to journalism, but with a controlled and enthusiastic staff—the backbone of which is already available—editorial duties can be cut to the minimum, and the position falls easily within the compass of a student with three subjects or less to get through. Mr. Wahlquist gave up a large amount of his time to the 1949 "On Dit," perhaps more than was necessary for a less satisfactory but suitable edition, yet Mr. Wahlquist passed all his subjects and gained top credit in one.

In other Universities, particularly Melbourne and Sydney, the editorship of the weekly paper is the most highly desired and eagerly sought after position of all those available to students. The editors of "Farrago" and "Honi-Soit" have power and use it; they are usually, in fact, the nominees of one of the many political parties, and in their nomination for the editorship have the support of such parties against the nominees of rival political factions. Thus these papers normally "plug some line or other" and impartiality is a rare and inexpedient attitude to adopt, even in so-called factual reporting. Under Wahlquist, "On Dit" took a different line, and with the exception of one or two articles on I.U.S. and N.U.A.U.S., the paper maintained factual truth without slanting reports in any particular direction, and gave space to all shades of political opinion. Such a tradition of fairness seems to have frightened away all University political or religious clubs from nominating an editor or urging any of their members to nominate.

PERHAPS it would be better, after all, to present a partial "On Dit" without any standards of journalistic ethics, without much truth and without much value to any but the particular group which runs it. With such a tradition, the Adelaide University paper might find an editor. With the Wahlquist tradition behind it, this seems as yet unlikely.

Guest Editorial

NATIONAL UNION AT FAULT

AT future Congresses, no person will be allowed in the dormitories of the opposite sex after midnight. This was decided by a majority vote at the 1950 N.U.A.U.S. Council on the recommendation of a special morals sub-committee, one member of which was S.R.C. President Scott. An amendment that the prohibition should be between the hours of midnight and 7 a.m. was defeated, thus saving Congress Directors the embarrassment of imagining the formation of co-educational bedroom queues every morning.

But for National Union Council to have passed such a motion was, to say the least, in lamentably bad taste. Designed as a method of legal chaperonage, it must, though unintentionally, give a false impression of actual moral standards at Congress. There is no limit to the amount which could be read into it, and if certain sections of the down-town press cared to, they could focus Australian eyes on the low morals of University students with this motion as their sole but adequate signpost. If this were to happen, it would be National Union which was at fault—not student morals.

PHILOSOPHICALLY, one tends to admit the principle of complete freedom in University life and to encourage students to decide on their courses of action uninfluenced by preconceived notions of morality. Practically such a principle is unrealisable so far, and in social camps, such as Congress, there is the need for some expression of the fact that law is the cement of society, and law-breakers must be regarded as anti-social. That fact has always been accepted in National Union Congresses as well with regard to morals as to the less controversial sides of camp life.

Following the modern tendency to write things down, Mr. John Bayly moved an eminently satisfactory motion at Council relating to the acceptance by Congress of "conventional moral standards." This motion was discarded and replaced by the above.

Thus a particularly innocent Congress has been dressed in scarlet robes, and Council has no doubt given many a parent an unnecessary and groundless fear.



Mr. ELIOT'S NEW PLAY

HOWEVER keenly one may hold that the Arts ought to be available to everyone, however keenly one may applaud Opera for the People, and Music for the People, and Libraries for the People; it is still something of a shock to find that Mr. T. A. Eliot, for whose work one has a genuine affection, is also being offered to "the People."

But it is a fact, and possibly a salutary fact that the first mention in print, of his new play, "The Cocktail Party," is to be found in a woman's paper which boasts (and it does quite brazenly) a circulation of 700,000 copies. Of course, the heading is: "Marital Drama in Metric Verse," and the illustrations are rather bigger than "On Dit" could ever afford, but the fact is inescapable. Our only source of information concerning this new opus (the text is as yet not available) is a woman's paper with a circulation of two-thirds of a million.

As far as one can gather from the article in question, the play is not unlike the poet's other "box-office success," "The Family Re-union." In fact, it is a play about a family re-union. The mis-en-scene is a cocktail party "characteristic of what is bright and ephemeral in May-fair society." The hostess is absent, having only that day run away from her husband. One of the guests, like the Third Floor Back, knows all about it, and offers to bring her back. Eventually he does so. The host's mistress, Celia, dispossessed by the restitution, is persuaded to get herself to a nunnery, which she does; and is then quite incontrovertibly taken out of the way by her being rather painfully killed by ungrateful natives.

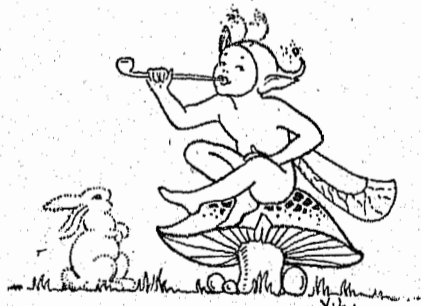
That's the plot, as it appears. The name of the



Third-Floor-Back type is Sir Henry Harcourt - Reilly, and he is a psychiatrist, all of which proves that the play is strictly upper class stuff.

Now the woman's paper from which all this was culled, thinks it strange that the play should be popular. With all that it couldn't fail, and they know it, or they wouldn't have a two-page article about it.

For the rest, there is (I quote) "measured verse . . . difficult religious symbolism . . . a series of religious concepts (Eliot's own) . . ." About these, one hesitates to speak, because the writer says nothing more about them; but it does seem to one that verse is seldom anything but measured; that religious symbolism is as religious symbolism does; and that his—"Eliot's own"—is shockingly unfair to Aquinas.



POEM ABOUT LOOMING BOATS

WEARY from travel, as night was deep'ning,
I came to the shore of a sombre stream,
Painfully peered through the gloom of evening
And sought some haven for sleep and dream.
Hope was fading, when out of the dark,
Loomed a boat, a cheery sight!
And I was conveyed in yonder bark
To the opposite shore, and a haven from night.

When at length, on the shore of Life,
We pause, weary from the loads of Time,
And seek, soul-sick, the well-earned rest,
Will someone meet us, end our strife,
Convey us from this doleful clime,
And leave, to sleep away this sorry jest.

Original Poem by "Algy," age and faculty unknown.
Lilac certificate.

On the face of it, "The Cocktail Party" seems to be another "Family Re-union," and that women's papers, much as we ought to appreciate their pioneering spirit, should stick to cooking.

THOMAS DIDYMUS.

My Trip to the Youth Forum

I just didn't think for one moment that I would be chosen; it came as a complete surprise. I wouldn't have gone in for it at all, but Mum said to have a try. Like the Shell Essay Competition, when I nearly threw my essay away, but Mum got it and Dad touched it up here and there, and sent it in. Of course, when I won Mum said she knew I would all the time.

But really, I mean, there were so many clever chaps in the Forum test. I'm just a plodder, you know. Second in Inter., fourth in Leaving, I would much rather play footer than swot, but some how the sort of training we get at our Australian public schools, using public in the English way, of course, appeals to the judges. They all asked me if the same masters were at school as when they were there, and they seem to think being in the First XI and XVIII pretty good, so I was chosen. You should have seen Mum's face when I told her; she got them to send her along too, to look after me.

You can imagine how excited I was about going to Geneva to discuss Culture with the Youth of the Free World; much more excited (and scared) than when I went on the Quiz Kids.

It was super flying over, although I didn't see much, because I read the Constitution of the Commonwealth so as I could explain Australia to the Forum.

We all stayed at a beaut big hotel for nothing, and went for trips, and they had the hottest dance band. I didn't think much of the foreigners; they seemed a bit fast to me. We had debates and lectures which were a bit dull. But I think I made them understand what it meant to come from a country like Australia, and Mum and I had an absolutely super time seeing all the sights, though I think Australia is just as good.

I want to say thank you to Uncle Robin for letting me tell you all about the Forum, and for the thirty-eight lilac certificates. I think you will agree that "On Dit" does much to help the Youth of Australia towards a Better Life.

ORIGINAL ESSAY by "William," Arts I (Honors, of course). Pale blue certificate.

"On Dit" Literary Page

SPECIAL FRESHERS' NUMBER

HULLO, little dears. We do so hope that you had a nice vacation, and did everything that Mummy warned you about.

Well, we hear that you've all come up to the University to learn about Korsakoff's Syndrome and hyperstasis and all those things. My, you are clever!

We have such a lot of nice things for you to read this week, in your own special issue. You will look at them, won't you? And afterwards, you can write in to us and tell us all about yourselves and your hobbies. To the author of every published contribution (which must be legible, grammatical, and not obscene within the meaning of the Act) Uncle Robin will send a lilac certificate. When you have six of these you may claim a special Sunshiner's badge or stand for the presidency of the Arts Association.

Bye now,

AUNTIE RUTH.



STRATFORD RETROSPECT

"ON Dit," or at least this part of it, has always claimed to be the True Servant of the Muses, and, although she has not called us before, Clio is quite incontrovertibly of their company. Which is to say—that we want to talk about the visit to Adelaide of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre Company, in January; that was a long time ago, by journalists' standards, and we can only do it by changing our old role of arbiter for that of historian.

There were, of course, two plays — "Macbeth" and "Much Ado," tragedy and comedy, medieval and renaissance, northern and southern — two extremes which showed us pretty well what the company could, and could not, do.

The first was undoubtedly more nearly suited to the abilities of the S.M.T.C. than the second. "Much Ado" is a slick cynical piece of work, and much more like Noel Coward than is commonly admitted. That is to say, it is a play much closer to us and to our more-or-less common values than is "Macbeth." And, too, it is a play somewhat more diffuse than any of the tragedies; it has an intricate plot which provides, in its own discovery, a great deal of interest, and much of its humor rests in—what a music-hall performer would call "cross-talk," repartee, tangential to the story.

All this was well within the range of the Stratford company, then. Quayle's gentlemanly clowning and Miss Wynyard's well-drilled (we hesitate to say "bored") equanimity were just what the play called for, and so were the costumes. And so were those ingenious sets, so deliciously in keeping with the Italian renaissance and its delight in gadgetry. And if Claudia seemed to us to be rather weaker than the balance of the performance demanded, still, there was a lot of fun to be had from even that.

"Macbeth," which interested us rather more. This play, unlike "Much Ado," was a trial of strength, and, we fear, this company's strength was inadequate.

It must first be understood that some of Shakespeare's plays, particularly some of those which are commonly called tragedies, are not to be acted as though their heroes were just men amongst men. That was the particular heresy of the "naturalist" theatre. These plays are, in the extent of their significance, beyond or above, personality. The Hellenes, in their own drama realised that themes as large as the problem of good and evil could only be acted in masks, and with aid of an impersonal chorus. And "Lear," as Charles Lamb almost realised, is simply horrible if it is not acted in a highly liturgical sort of way.

"Macbeth" is just such another. It is not concerned with "ordinary" people and their simple ambitions. Not immediately. Its protagonist is a king, and its story is the story of Evil externalised, capital-lettered Evil. It is, if you like, a fairy-story

where everyone is the hero and the hero is no one person.

All this is theory, but it is eminently relevant. For Anthony Quayle (who was producer, too) gave us a rather approachable, pally sort of Macbeth, one whose life and death might be idly discussed at the Local. "Nice chap, but wanted to get on. Had wife trouble, too, you



know. She used to nag him." Miss Wynyard, in fact, went further than nagging. She gave him the works, like the girl in Virgil—

"Thalomoque haec coniugis aureo incipit."

When he was "weary of the sun," Quayle told us all about it as though he were dropping a confidence to close friends, at a party.

The play, of course, can be acted this way, and still be presentable. In fact it was. But it cannot be acted this way and still be particularly profound. Anthony Quayle's "Macbeth" was a good yarn reasonably well told, in prose. It wasn't Shakespeare.

All this we feel rather more keenly than did a contemporary of ours who came to the same conclusion by inductive logic, and saved his ticket money.—Uncle Boris.



THE "KIWIS" OPEN IN TRIUMPH!

On Tuesday night, the "Kiwis" opened their return Adelaide season at the Theatre Royal with the "Benghazi" programme to a packed house.

This New Zealand ex-soldier concert party is in its fourth year in Australia, and still shows no sign of falling off in popularity. The current programme "Benghazi" is fast-moving, first-class entertainment, in which it would be hard to find a weak spot. Outstanding among the acts were Wally Pricor's amazing soprano voice in "Music By Tschai-kowsky," Tally Owen and James Lavery in the "If You're Irish" number, Cec. Morris' clever illusions and patter, and Stan Wineera's very amusing sketches. The entire programme maintains such a high standard that it is impossible to credit everyone in the cast, although special mention must be made of the excellent orchestra, both on stage and in the pit.—J.S.

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IN THEIR

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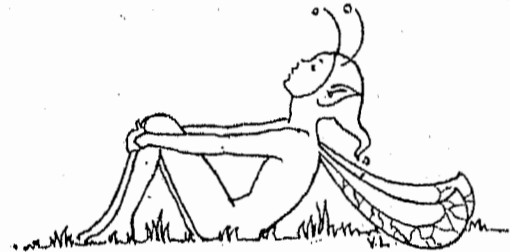
WISEU

BEFORE the three-barbed dawn there falls
Christ-fathered stone and Son-burnt heart,
pocked, lipless Job, earth-narrowed bone,
and green-sap-puzzled clay.

Before the flowering of the bone there moans
the straight pneumatic ghost, the fire-cleft tongue;
and feels no cock crow in the thrice dead heart,
and smells no foetus in the Judas-tree.

The terra-cotta saint, the cancered clay,
shall crumble in the steel-bright hour, the flame
turn to volcanic stone, the bone liquesce,
and tree-slung Jesu die.

Brian Bergin



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WORDS BUT NO PERFORMANCE

ART FARCE REHASHED

Sir,—At the 1950 Council meeting of the National Union I was deputed to trace the missing exhibits from the last two N.U.A.U.S. Art Exhibitions.

I would be very grateful if you could inform me as soon as possible—

- If you have any paintings stored at your University;
- If there are any artists among your students who put in exhibits which were not returned;
- Names and addresses of the last two Local Art Directors who were in charge within your University of the National Union Art Exhibition.

It would be very helpful if you could seek information through your student newspaper of any of these people concerned. I am most anxious to have these paintings returned as quickly as possible. It is intended to hold the Art Exhibition again this year, so you will appreciate the fact that the success of the 1950 Exhibition will be greatly impaired if the outstanding exhibits from past Exhibitions are not returned to the artists concerned.

I trust that I may rely on your assistance in this matter.

—MAURICE EWING,
Education Officer, N.U.A.U.S.

Notice to Motor Cyclists

Motor cyclists are reminded of the rules for the use of motor cycles in the University grounds.

They are:

- Motor cycles may enter and leave the University grounds only at two places—the gate on Kintore Avenue and the two gates on Victoria Drive, opposite the Union Buildings.
- Motor cycles must be parked either on the parking area behind Mr. Conroy's cottage or along the rail in front of the Union Buildings.
- Motor cycles must not be ridden through the University grounds. If it is essential to move a motor cycle to some other place in the University grounds, it must be moved without running the engine.

Breach of these rules may lead to disciplinary action.

A. W. BAMPTON,
Registrar.

J. F. SCOTT,
President S.R.C.

PSYCHLEOLOGY

Sir,—Since the year is just beginning, and most students have not settled properly down to work as yet, it seems the appropriate occasion to say a few words on the subject of the motorcycle menace before it has time to assume disturbing and annoying proportions.

No doubt, there are other minor crimes, but these seem to be the main ones:

(1) It seems that at the beginning of every hour, presumably after lectures, people working in the Barr are disturbed by a chattering roar just outside the building. This comes from those inconsiderate youths who appear to delight in demonstrating the power of their machines for the benefit of all and sundry. In the past year the Maths. building has been another favorite parking-place and many a time has the voice of a lecturer been completely drowned in the unholy din from without. I feel sure that all students would be most grateful if the gentlemen concerned would park a little further from the buildings.

(2) The offenders in the second case are those speed-merchants in cars and on motorcycles who sweep in through the back gate and up the drive at a paralysing speed. There have been a few narrow escapes from collision, but the main danger is from the 'bikes, for, although they are not likely to hit anyone else, they endanger their own rider's life by swinging too near the gateposts or going into broadsides around the sharp bends. Even if they care nothing for themselves, they might have the generosity to spare others the sight of blood and gore.

So, in the name of students, motorcyclists, I beg of you—be careful and considerate!—POP-POP.

PUBLICATIONS

Sir,—It is with great regret, and, indeed, alarm, that I learn of the difficulty "On Dit" is having in obtaining an Editor. It seems to me that of all the activities of the S.R.C., the publishing of "On Dit" does most to further the main objects of the S.R.C. as set out in the S.R.C. Constitution to wit: "To represent the students in matters affecting their interests and to promote student participation in the consideration of such matters" . . . "To promote the social life and intellectual culture of the students."

The lack of a regular editor for "On Dit" is tragic enough, but even worse is the lack of finance to publish the paper, which will probably bring this excellent organ of student opinion and news to an end. I regard this with such gravity that I would advocate a drastic and ruthless cutting of other expenditure, rather than see "On Dit" sink into oblivion. If the S.R.C. were to engage in no other activity whatsoever, the publishing of "On Dit" even as its sole activity would be worthwhile.

But there ought never be any question of this having to borrow. Whether the number of undergraduates has fallen or not, the Union has a responsibility to spend our money in ways that will be to our interest, and for this reason it is my opinion that it is the duty of the Union to see that the S.R.C. grant is such that the continued publication of "On Dit" is rendered possible.

HECTOR.

BEWARE OF THE THING

Sir,—Is there to be a strong and enthusiastic Moral Disarmament Movement in the University this year? Unless some members are performing a clever and highly commendable (from the Movement's point of view) pincer movement, intending to white-wash the Students' Council—and this, judging from their sober demeanor of late, I am much inclined to doubt—unless, that is to say, they are being perfectly villainous villains, then we may assuredly expect their defection. But the Movement shall go on. Under vice-presidential leadership, the Movement's programme shall be adhered to in both litter and spirit. The Tight Australia Policy will be encouraged and linked up with the Alcoholics' Unanimous. Cells will be set up throughout the University, complete with bars. Soul erosion will be fostered, and it is possible that study circles will be held each month for the purpose of investigating methods used in America in the Tennessee Valley Adultery.

As a final achievement for the year, the Moral Disarmament Movement intends to affiliate with the Society for the Provision of Bait to Those Who Wish to Become Fishers of Men. It is hoped that much of importance will germinate from the relationship. All Freshers are encouraged to morally disarm themselves, and as for Freshettes, well!

YASMIN.

TELEPHONE MOAN

Sir,—I had occasion to use the Refectory telephone box recently. Is the S.R.C. aware of the ghastly conditions under which the user operates it? The stygian blackness makes it impossible to read the telephone book, which is torn up anyway. In the darkness dialling is done by memory.

Further, the penny box is invariably full and the insertion of more pennies is impossible. This necessitates long harangues with Central in order to use the phone. All this is carried out in a revolting miasma. (Have I made my point?)

CENTRAL 5454.

Without Prejudice

This column is available to all—even Freshers—for all types of spleen-venting and whining which do not exceed three thousand cubic feet of breath and fifty words. Notes of adulation, matrimonial notices and assignations will be welcomed, too.

Misogyny—I want no love in the Library this year, please.—TROIUS.

Literature—What do the letters S.R.C. stand for? Is there any truth in the statement made to me by a Second Year Misotheology student (so he said) at the Freshers' Welcome? In answer to my query he replied that the S.R.C. was a breakaway group from the S.C.M., a Society for Reactionary Christians.—NAHUM.

Can You Beat This?

—Like a "Farrago" correspondent of last year, I have a black disc ten inches in diameter, and would like to know: is this a record?—THALIA.

Rococo I am an architecturally-minded Fresher, and think that the Barr-Smith Library would be much more aesthetically successful as a tramcar barn than as a library. Could the Vice-Chancellor arrange this matter with Sir William Goodman? Our book stocks could be set out neatly at Hackney. We would all be more at home there.—RUSKIN.

Stiff Cheese—Why the outrageous price of 2d. for one piece of cheese in the Refectory? I calculate that at least 20 pieces of the size served can be cut from a 10d. half-pound packet. The whole thing stinks.—CUT-UP.

Letter of the Weak

"THE ZOO" BUZZED

Sir,—I had the misfortune to visit the Refectory a few weeks before the commencement of the academic year. I found it full of juvenile females and frustrated males, most of whom wore a blue blazer bearing a strange device. My immediate reaction was that a group of school students were resting during a conducted tour of the University. I thought what a good thing it was that these youngsters should have a preview of that great institution where they would doubtless complete their adolescence.

But to my horror I was informed that these "people" were members of something called the Adelaide Teachers' College, a non-exclusive instrument of torture. Members of this College evidently spend most of their study hours in the College premises, except for numerous invasions of the Refectory and the Barr Smith Library.

Socially, the College exists in a world apart from the University, with its own plays and debates, its own sports teams, etc. Therefore, I would suggest that these "people" confine the whole of their activities to the premises of their College. If they are so unwilling to play in University teams and mix with the University students, they should, in all decency, leave the Refectory to the University students, who don't poke their noses into that building on Kintore Avenue.

STINKER.

ZOOLOGY

Sir,—Presumably you were present at the Freshers' Welcome in the Bonython Hall. Were you amused at the way our dear little friends from "the Zoo" clapped and cheered when the Teachers' College S.R.C. rep. was introduced? For my part I did not know whether to laugh sardonically at their adolescence or weep at their despoiling ancestral halls. Surely something can be done to encourage College students to realise that they are no longer school children, or preferably to encourage them to keep away from University premises.

The thought is, I fully admit, a generalisation, but unfortunately it is becoming more and more particularised, with especial reference to some of the Kindergarten students. One is inclined to feel that if they were given aptitude tests, the results would point to their remaining in the Kindergarten field—but not as teachers.

This is all the more lamentable when we remember that there have been some fine men and women numbered among college ranks, and that there still are. But what can a plumed and spurred fighting cock do when it is shut up in a chicken run. The Caesars and Cleopatras of the Zoo are so outnumbered by the Peter Pans and Wendys that Kintore Avenue might just as well be Kensington Gardens.

I confess I am at a loss for practicable publishable suggestions. However, it might be possible for the S.R.C. to pass a regulation empowering any University student to tear off any ribbons worn hanging from her blazer by a College chit. This I submit in all maturity.

—WOMP.

"ON DIT," Monday, March 13 — 6

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CAPITAL

Sir,—I think the time has come for a stand to be taken by we senior students on the arrogance and pertinacity of the modern freshers. Gad, sir, not only do they crowd the refectory queues before us, but they occupy the best seats in the lounge upstairs. I suggest that all freshers be made to wear small caps, colored according to faculty, which would indicate to all their relative importance in the University. A fine of 2/- for not wearing these caps could go a long way towards swelling the funds of many impeccable faculty societies.

—SIXTH YEAR.

CRI CRI BIRD

Sir,—Our annual functions are unpleasant enough without being made more so by the conditions that exist in the George Murray basement. May the following criticisms be of help:—

- (a) Illumination: In the changing rooms there is one globe for six sockets. In THE room there are two globes for three sockets.
- (b) Surely privacy would be fostered by placing locks on certain doors.
- (c) Towels are always dirty by half-past nine.
- (d) There is a complete and utter lack of soap. In discussing this subject at great length with a female student, I learnt that the Lady Symon basement is also lacking in these respects. Something must and should be done.

GABBS.

POPULATION AND INSEMINATION

Sir,—With the coming of a new Economics Professor, an expert on population and problems of demography, our minds naturally

turn to the consideration of the various facets of the population problem — things such as birth control, artificial insemination, etc., issues which are peculiarly delicate, but of fundamental importance for the future of the world. Most Christians have always regarded carnal relations as a necessary evil. Nevertheless, many of the greatest men, particularly in medieval times, have railed against this lowering of man to the animal level, and have sighed for the Platonic life—in which man might have his head in the stars without having his feet in the mud. Schopenhauer went so far as to advocate cessation of reproduction, but this, one must admit, is an extreme view. Sir Thomas Browne wrote: "Would that we could procreate like trees, without this vulgar method of coition."

With the introduction of artificial insemination, the noble mind has been enabled to free itself from an unpleasant duty, not to be reconciled with a life of grace and purity.

The Platonic life is at hand. It is up to Christians everywhere to advocate the introduction of universal artificial insemination.

—RACHEL

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The attention of all women hockey players is called to the annual general meeting of the South Australian Women's Hockey Association, on Tuesday, March 21, at 7.30 p.m., in the L.C.L. Hall. All old players and freshettes wishing to play hockey at the University must attend.

What Price Sterling?

OUR tame economist looks at the problem of revaluation and the arguments for and against. In following his example and his words, we get myopia.

FOR that is precisely the question when revaluation of £A is discussed. On September 18 last year, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that as from that date, sterling would stand at the new level of 2.80 dollars to the £stg., instead of the former level of 4.03 to the £stg. At the same time, the Federal Treasurer decreed that the £A would be devalued in line with sterling to maintain the relation £100 stg. to £A125. Thus the £A now skidded to the new level of 2.24 dollars to the £A, instead of 3.22 dollars to the £A. In all, seventeen currencies were devalued along with sterling to the full 30½ per cent. in relation to the U.S. dollar, while another four were devalued to a lesser extent.

At the time, there was widespread criticism of the Treasurer's action, though in Parliament all parties endorsed his move. Now, however, there are rumors on every hand that the £A will shortly be revalued, possibly to parity with sterling, i.e., the new relations will be £100 stg. to £A100, and, what is more, 2.80 dollars to the £A, instead of 2.22 dollars as at present.

To consider the merits or demerits of such a move, it is necessary to recognise, as most people do, that the main problem facing the Australian economy at present is an inflationary rise in prices and money wages, and to understand the part played in that spiral by last September's devaluation.

C INDEX ABSURD

From 1942-43 until 1946-47, wholesale prices in Australia were fairly stable at a level roughly 40 per cent. above that of the pre-war years. Then they began to rise rapidly, until in September, 1949, they were about 90 per cent. above pre-war and still going strong. As might be expected, retail prices were also fairly stable over the years 1942-43 to 1945-46, at a little less than 30 per cent. higher than pre-war, when they, too, began to climb the old spiral, so that, by September of last year, they had risen another 31 per cent. Under the absurd Australian system of fixing money-wages in terms of a "cost-of-living" index, weekly wages had shifted along in the same general way as, though at a slightly faster rate than, had retail prices. These price and wage-rises were not unique to Australia, however, but were to be found in almost every country, though there were signs that the speed of the rises were damping down in the second half of last year.

It is possible to picture inflation, i.e., rapidly rising prices and wages, as being the result of forces pulling up prices from above, and of other (though, of course, related) forces pushing up prices from below. In Australia, the force from above was, of course, the greatly increased demand for goods and services of all kinds—without any increase in the supply of those goods. This "inelasticity" of supply was due in turn to a shortage of labor and raw materials, which latter was finally resolvable also to a shortage of labor.

The main single cause of the increased demand was the high export prices—and hence incomes—which were being received by all the Australian exporters, and especially those of wheat and wool. Thus the total value of Australia's exports rose from £122 million in 1938-39 to £309 million in 1946-47, and by another £100 million in the next year. Another was the sudden spending of savings accumulated during the war. Thus the deposits at the Australian trading banks fell in 1946-47 for the first time since well before the war.

The forces pushing up prices from below were the rises in money wages and costs in general. Had manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers been able—and willing—to resist Eve's apple of an increased demand for anything they could produce, and hence of the possibility of charging more and more for it, they would have been unwilling—and probably unable—to ignore the serpent's stings of rising costs of labor and raw materials. Since most prices are set by adding a certain percentage to one's variable costs (mainly wages and the cost of raw materials), any rises in these automatically result in rises in prices. The reasons why wages and raw materials were doing just that were—first, the cost of imports was rising, and most of these imports are used by industry as raw materials. Secondly, money wages were rising, mainly because of the rising "cost-of-living."

EFFECT OF DEVALUATION

Thus prices were being both pulled and pushed upwards. And on September 18, just as there was a hope that the rise would soon stop, the £A was devalued. Export prices, expressed in terms of £A's had already

International Exchange

Will nobody ravish the dollar?

From rape must the rouble have rest?

Is there no wily Turk who will carnally lurk

And poke the peseta with zest?

Must the pfennig remain unpolluted?

Is lust for the lira quite dead? Will none take the mark for a walk in the dark

Or grapple the guilder in bed?

I feel very sore on this subject,

For why should Britannia be mocked

By kopeks and francs lying virgin in banks

While sterling's eternally blocked.

WILLIE THE GOOSE.

(Reprinted by courtesy of "Farrago")

began to fall slightly, and even if they had not fallen further, there was little likelihood of their rising again, while the rate of increase of the "cost-of-living" also showed signs of slowing down. But devaluation set the fires going again well and truly.

Devaluation had the effect of raising the cost of imports, the incomes received by exporters, and thus, indirectly, money wages; in fact, it gave new life to all the factors which had given inflation such a boost in the preceding three years. And so away she went again.

In simple terms, the effect was this: For all export commodities with a stable world price, the price in £A, i.e., the gross income of exporters, rose by about 44 per cent. Thus an amount of wool which sold for 322 dollars previously, returned £A100 to the Australian wool exporter. At the new exchange rate, however, it became equal to (322 x 100), i.e., £A144. There

(224) was a similar rise in the prices of all dollar imports. The important effect, however, was the one working through exporters' incomes — export prices had started to decline, but now they shot up again. Thus prices and wages have continued on their merry way, and perhaps contributed towards sending to the Cabinet benches a party pledged to "put value back into the £."

One of the most important methods for doing this is to run what is known as a "bud-

get surplus," i.e., the Treasury saves by spending less than it earns, just like any private individual, and the easiest way to run a budget surplus is to keep tax revenue high.

REVALUATION—FOR

The second most important method is to revalue the £A in relation to sterling.

Thus an amount of wool which sells for £100 stg. previously would have brought to the exporter £A125, but now this is reduced to £A100, i.e., a 20 per cent. cut in the gross income of all exporters. This would immediately kick a pretty big hole in the balloon of inflationary pressure. Secondly, all imports would fall in price by at least 2 per cent. e.g., the landed cost of, say, a light motor-bike, which costs £100 stg., would now be £A100 instead of £A125. Retailers would have to mark down all their existing stocks, because of danger, first of being undercut by some rival importing at the new rate; and, secondly, of facing a strike by buyers, who would know that if they held off for a few weeks and let other people buy the stocks held at present, they could buy later at the lower price.

In addition, imports which have previously cost too much to compete with Australian-made goods could now probably undercut the Australian product, force the more inefficient producer into the bankruptcy court and help to reduce the excess demand for our existing labor supplies. Thus at long last it might become possible for the basic industries of coal, iron and steel, housing and transport to get adequate labor.

These two effects—of cutting both export incomes and import prices — would combine to keep wage rises within bounds and thus remove the last remaining factor helping to push up prices.

REVALUATION—AGAINST

Thus revaluation has much to be said in its favor. The arguments against it are: (1) Those based on the self-interest of small groups; and (2) the experience of New Zealand, which in August, 1948, took exactly this step of revaluing its currency to parity with sterling.

The first type of argument is, of course, that such a move would ruin many producers and throw thousands into unemployment. But it is mere flapdoodle to say that revaluation would ruin many wool or wheat farmers when one considers the run they have had in the last few years, while to ruin some of the inefficient back-yard manufacturers around the place is precisely one of the aims of revaluation. If they would not be ruined, let them become efficient.

The second argument, usually used by the spokesmen of the above two groups is the experience of New Zealand, where revaluation did not prevent prices rising. But this is by no means conclusive, since one has no way of knowing how fast prices would have risen in the absence of revaluation.

The only other argument against it is really an argument against doing it now, i.e., in the middle of the export season, which lasts roughly until June, since it would create insoluble accounting problems in calculating the returns of farmers who have so far sold only part of their wool or wheat crop. By mid-year, however, this argument will no longer hold, and the Government should then have every reason for viewing with favor the proposal to revalue to parity with sterling. What is more, it would make all my text-books a lot cheaper. To say nothing of going overseas. Self-interest? Sir, how could you?

R.G.O.

INTERVARSITY CRICKET VICTORY

ADELAIDE WINS ON FIRST INNINGS

THE Blair Cup for competition in intervarsity cricket between Melbourne and Adelaide was won last December by the Adelaide team. The game was played on the Adelaide ground.

Good bowling plus the application of acute psychological pressure at an appropriate time after lunch on the first day caused Melbourne a seizure from which it never completely recovered. Like all good games of cricket, it was one of varying fortunes. By lunch on the first day Melbourne appeared to have a comfortable hold on the game; soon after tea the Melbourne innings closed for a mediocre 198; at stumps Adelaide had lost its first three batsmen for little more than thirty runs. Smart and Dowding virtually won the match for Adelaide on the second day with sound, resourceful batting. Melbourne attempted to win outright by compiling 284 in the second innings in excellent time. The home team could only raise an unenterprising 190 for eight in reply, thereby winning the match on the first innings.

Lushes Green

All three days of play were full of the beauty and serenity of early summer. The oval had on its lushes green. Roy Hill (the Lord preserve him) had produced yet another flawless wicket. The outfield was firm and springy. Alongside the stand the poplars were at their early-December best, and at one stage the Cathedral bells rang obligingly as though the visible aspect were not gratification enough.

On the morning of the first day it was announced that Alan Dowding had been appointed 1950 Rhodes Scholar.

Smart bowled Thoms with a good outswinger some thirty minutes after play began. Haysom and Murray carried on leisurely until lunch, when the score was about 100 for one. After the interval Smart had Murray leg before and Haysom caught in quick succession. Then Millard, the Adelaide skipper, in a moment of tactical inspiration bowled Hamilton from the south end with a tight leg-side field, close to the bat. The psychological pressure first told on Southwell, who erred and was leg before, and then on King and Morton. At this stage Hamilton bowled accurately and well, swinging the ball at slow-medium pace from off to leg to the right-handers. King and Morton succumbed without adding to the total. Only Tich Moore's aplomb and Barker's determination saved Melbourne from utter rout. Being a left-hander, Moore handled Hamilton more comfortably than the majority of his fellows, and showed considerable skill and discrimination in allowing the good ones to pass away from the stumps. Denis Cordner batted soundly when his team was still in an unhappy position after Barker's dismissal. The innings closed at 198. Smart and Hamilton shared very creditable bowling honors, having Bednall as a competent accessory.

Overnight Burden

The Cordner brothers, of whom Prof. Portus sings a lay, heaped fire and brimstone on the Adelaide openers in the form of fast flyers. O'Loughlin was out for nought in the first over, when he neglected, almost criminally,

to play a full toss which took him on the instep. John Wilkin played confidently until he was run out as the result of an unfortunate mistake, and Millard and Smart stayed, defending stoutly against the Cordner family with tail erect. Millard succumbed shortly before stumps leaving Smart and Dowding to carry the dread burden overnight.

On the second day, after a careful beginning, during which both batsmen (particularly Smart, whose natural bent is for more reckless things) displayed excellent concentration in a taut situation, the Adelaide score mounted steadily and confidently until Melbourne's total was passed. Dowding's century was universally popular. He had batted with all his customary skill and classically balanced grace.

Melbourne then made a vigorous attempt to force an outright decision by compiling 284 in good time. Max Haysom, Blue Southwell and Moore all batted with intelligent force, scoring freely from all bowlers. With 204 runs to make for an outright win, Adelaide began steadily, but faded later. Millard and Smart appeared to be likely to settle the issue until Smart was bowled for 46. Dowding and Millard followed soon afterwards, and it was left to Davies, Bednall and the inscrutable Gubbins to fight a somewhat desperate rearguard. They played out time to give Adelaide a first innings win.

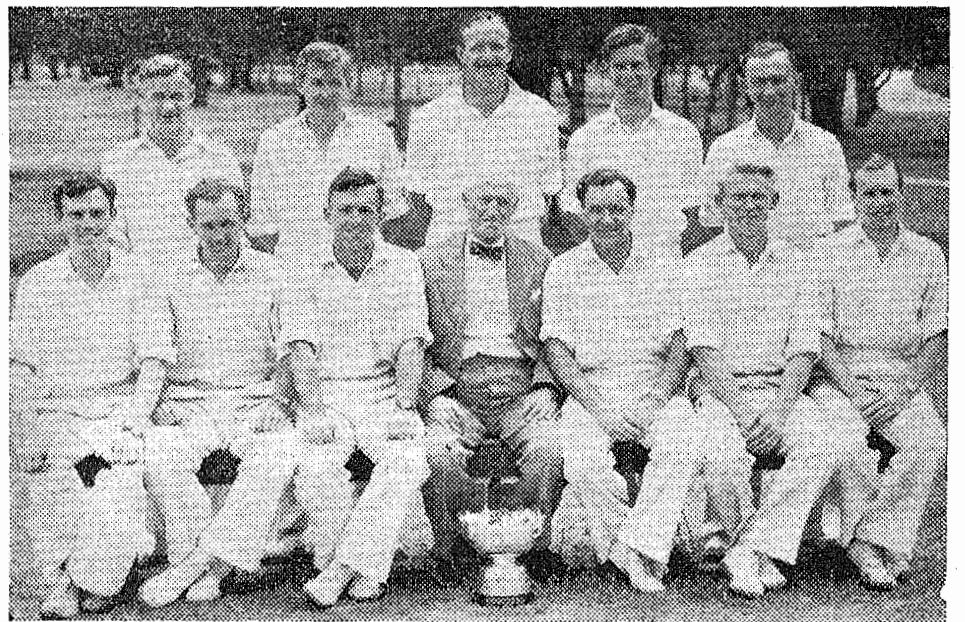
The innumerable and onerous secretarial duties of accommodating, feeding and entertaining the visitors were carried out in excellent fashion by Alan Dowding. All concerned were greatly indebted to the generous ladies who handled the tucker with skill and largesse. Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Bednall and Mr. Alf Hodder, coach of the IX, extended their unstinting hospitality to both teams.

RUGBY NOTES

The University Rugby Club is facing a full programme this season. On top of the local competition there will be the Interschool Carnival in Tasmania during the May vacation. There will be a match between the Combined Australian Universities against the touring team from Great Britain—probably in Sydney. Several Adelaide players will be striving to get into the combined team and have the honor of playing against internationals.

The club has lost many stalwarts like Jack Botham, Max Burton, Peter Lawton, Rex Wallman and Ken Tregonning, but there are plenty of experienced players coming to fill the gaps. Jim Probert, who won the trophy for the most brilliant player in 1949 is joining us. Blair Neinaber, who was Varsity and State scrum half in 1948 is returning after a successful year in Melbourne, and R. Higgins, winger for Cranbrooke and Associated Grammar Schools in Sydney, is expected to augment our already strong back line.

However, there are still plenty of vacancies in the teams, A and B Grade. The swift of foot, the strong in back (and head) are all welcome to come and play this year. Watch the noticeboards for news of our annual general meeting and other information about the club's activities.



Intersarsity Cricket Team: Back Row—A. G. Ewers, G. G. Gubbins, S. G. Haynes, I. J. Hamilton, K. T. O'Loughlin. Front Row: D. L. Davies, L. M. Smart, C. Millard (Capt.), Prof. G. V. Portus (President), J. W. Wilkin (Vice-Capt.), A. L. Dowding, D. M. Bednall.

BASEBALL

WHAT is your aim in sport?

Do you want to reach the top in whatever game you choose? To gain a place in the A grade team, the inter-Varsity team, the inter-State team, even the all-Australian team? Or do you look upon sport as a pleasant way of relaxing, of getting exercise, having fun and finding an abundance of social companions? Whatever your point of view, here's your answer—BASEBALL.

Yes, the Baseball Club is unquestionably the most successful, most progressive sports club in the University. Last year the A grade team won the minor premiership and the grand final in convincing style; three team-members were chosen to represent South Australia in the Australian Championship series in Melbourne, and it seems certain that more University players will find places in the State team for Sydney this year. The B grade team qualified for the final four and so also did the Metro. D team. The Metro. A team had a mid-season slump due to numerous team changes, but was playing well at the end of the season and this team is confident of being up with the leaders this year.

METRO C

The Metro. C team, Alcoholics Unanimous, the backbone of last year's inter-Varsity team, made up of players who are keen students of the game, despite a few counter-interests, plays baseball, wins games and, with carefully planned onslaughts, severely thrashes any hotels within five miles of the parklands. If you really want "social sport," here it is at its uproarious best, but, be warned, the entrance qualifications for this fraternity are extremely stiff. There is no truth in the rumor that Brian Crowe has had to have a panel sewn on to his suit-cases, bearing the legend, "Stick No Bills."

Speaking seriously once again, the Baseball Club really has something to offer you in the way of enjoyable, successful sport. The A grade team will be the same as that which won the premiership last year, but this does not mean that there is not room for you, if you're good enough. Positions on baseball teams are not inherited, nor is the color of ties a governing factor. Selections are based purely on individual ability, so there is a chance for anyone who can throw, catch and hit a ball.

The secretary for this year is Bill Fuller, a fourth year Medical student, and last year's State third - baseman. He will be happy to give you any information you require, and so also will Mr. Ken

Hamilton, secretary of the Sports Association; Mr. George Fuller, Physics lecturer and last year's coach, and any member of the Baseball Club. Have a chat with them, have them tell you just how much you will miss if you don't play 'ball, and really get something from your sport this year. (ADVT.)

Women's Cricket

The third inter-varsity match between Sydney and Adelaide University women's cricket teams was played in Sydney this year. Each team at the beginning had one victory to their credit and at the end of the tour Adelaide still had only one. The Adelaide team consisted of Ruth Dow (capt.), Elaine Gibbs (vice-capt.), Marjorie Adam, Rosemary Southcott, Petrea Fromen, Stroma Buttrose, Glenys Wemyss, Joscelyn Wollaston, Barbara Orchard, Julie Howard, Margaret Swan and Rosamund Hallett.

Adelaide won the toss and in their first innings made 205, and after being 4 for 120 Sydney passed our score with four wickets in hand to give them a first innings win. In the picnic match Sydney had an outright, with Adelaide making only 37 and 109. Outstanding scores were R. Dow, 109 in the first match, and R. Hallett, 70 in the second. Those most successful with the ball were M. Adam, who took 6 for 51, and Dow 2/70. Adelaide failed mainly because of their fielding.

At the conclusion of the tour Adelaide presented Sydney with a trophy, hoping they would not have a chance to keep it for long. The hospitality all round could not have been better and cricket went hand in hand with Chinese meals,

Luna Park, Mardi-Gras, and speedboats—but we're all right now and hope that a number of freshers will join us at the beginning of next season.

During the year we have been lucky enough to play on the hockey fields. This has improved our standard of play and we have only lost one match this season. Unfortunately, however, we had to forfeit a match when in Sydney, and this put us out of the four. In spite of this, and the fact that we have provided a few laughs for the spectators, we want you all to know that we are now minor premiers—so what do you think of that, boys!

—R. HALLETT.

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