

there there

Dear Rosemary, Peter, Mary, Paul, Robert, Colin, Frank (?), and all others at On Dit:

Ah, there we are! That's right, wipe your chin. Now that feels much better, doesn't it.

Your friend,
Michael.
(Elected member, Union Council)

I wish to correct an impression implied by the Minutes of the Union Council Meeting as printed in On Dit as they apply to me. The section which reads "Mr. Stapledon said that the argument that students cannot pay is not really well based" completely misrepresents what I said and my feelings on the subject. I was speaking in reply to Mr. Short that his argument that students can pay and therefore "this group must be made to pay" was invalid. I then made the point that I regarded the main issue to be whether or not the expenditure is justified, not the ability of students to pay. If it is not justified then the \$99 fee is not justified. I have yet to be convinced that all the projected expenditure is justified. The editor of On Dit can be assured that my "allegiance (has not been transferred) from the mass to the elite".

In fairness to the student reps on the Union, it should be kept in mind that it takes some time to learn "how the system works", particularly if you are also doing a full-time course. And remember too that the issue of Union expenditure is by no means over.

Nigel Stapledon
S.A.U.A. Treasurer

It is understood part of the game for the aged in Universities is to be sent raspberries now and then.

One hopes that a majority will be based on fact (alas for p. 3 and p. 10 of the last On Dit), while cheerfully accepting that many will be no more and no less than personal opinion (vide p. 5). It's nice when they're fun (vide p. 9).

It is less confusing when the authors identify themselves.

Ralph Middenway

submissions invited on assessment

Education Group, c/- Student Activities Office.

An Assessment Committee will be meeting during the vacation to give recommendations to the Education Committee and Faculties.

We are anxious to receive submissions from students and staff to ensure a policy with some teeth for recommendation to be made in March 1975.

DON'T QUOTE ME

BADEN TEAGUE

I was going to write a letter but I was too busy seeing students.

DAVID MUIR

I say "If the cap fits wear it".

TO THE POINT

POINT OF ORDER

Colin Herring nominated for the P.A.C. at a time he understood there were only 5 nominations — he nominated so as to make it — strangely enough — an election.

POINT OF ORDER YOURSELF:

Because the number and names of people running is a secret, you could not know such information legitimately. Anyway, seven ran.

POINT OF ORDER TO YOU TOO:

The nominations were on the notice board in the Student Activities office before the nominations closed.

Dear Person,

On behalf of the Tenants Association, I would like to raise some points with regard to an unsigned article which followed a reproduced memo to Tenants and the Board of Management for Non-Collegiate Housing.

1. This Memo was an annexure to the minutes of a meeting, and one of four documents that were circulated together. To use it without reference to these other documents is to use it out of context. (That this is the case is clearly illustrated by the commentator's own statement, "Oh, don't worry too much about 'the matter of the Park Terrace washing machine' - God knows what that means".)

2. The article fails to mention the main thrust of the documents of which the Memo was only one - namely the moves for the appointment of a housing officer and the dissatisfaction with some of the moves of the Board. Both of these issues are, and were of importance to all persons who were to be in need of non-collegiate housing in 1975 - yet why were they ignored?

3. The Board is a University body. It is responsible to the University Council. It is no less valid to impute the shortcomings of the Chairman of a University Committee to the Union as it would be to impute them to the Instant Karma Club.

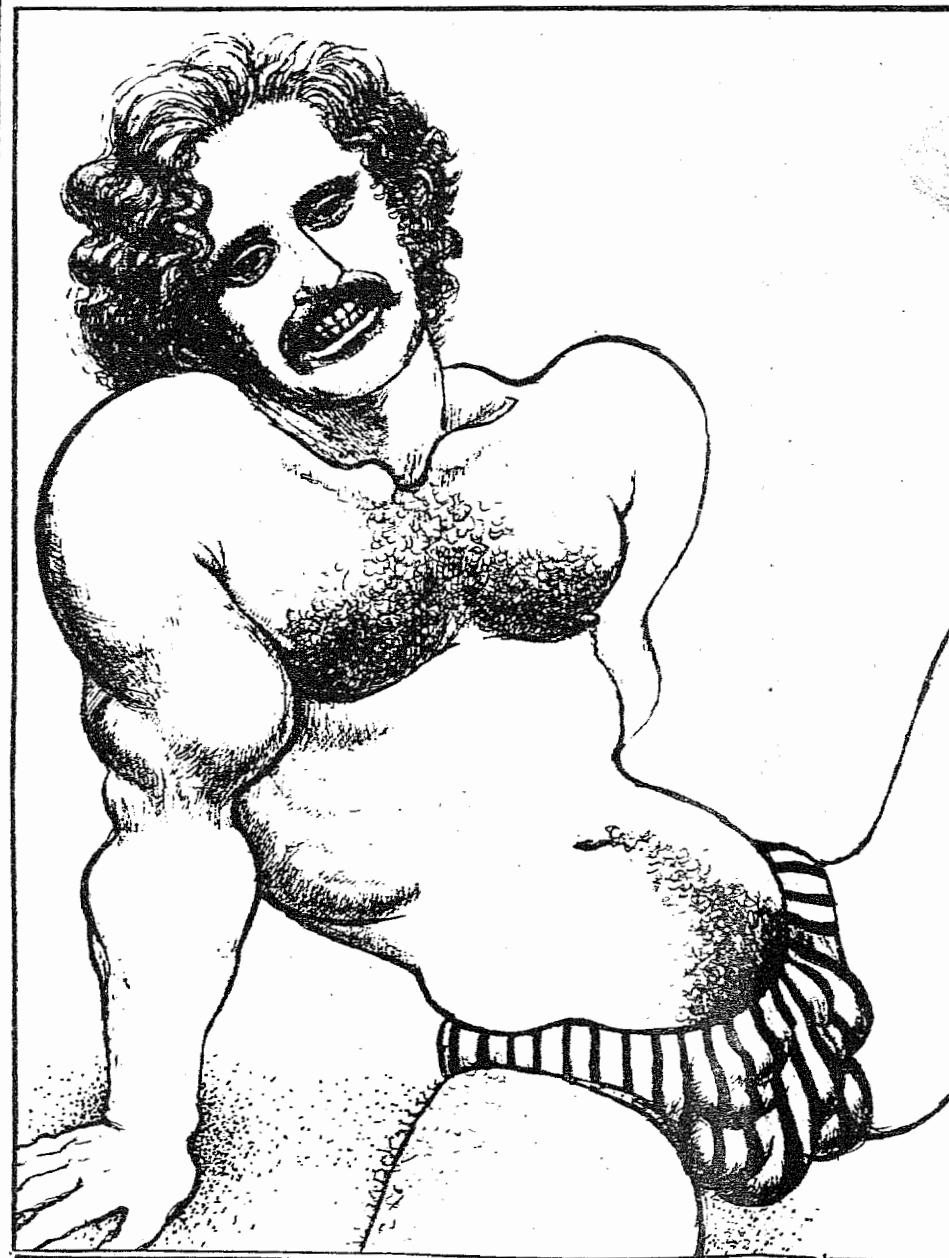
4. The date given in the first sentence as 12th April in fact was given as the 12th August.

It appears from the commentary that the writer has no concern for the students in non-collegiate housing. If he or she did so, then the context of the memo would have been indicated and the important thrusts of the documents at least outlined, But no! This total lack of appreciation of the situation on two fronts is to be condemned. The Tenants Association dissociates itself completely with the article and condemns its anonymous writer.

G.J. Adam
for Tenants Association
Executive

P.S. Ms O'Grady reveals in her editorial her lack of knowledge of Union affairs, despite having been a Councillor last year, by suggesting that is Ralph Middenway's responsibility as Warden to know anything of non-collegiate housing.

05
Strong Room
02



Some of the response to the last ON DIT

WHO IS FRANK TRUABLE?



EDITORIAL

This mini edition of ON DIT represents a sort of heavy reply to the various and numerous charges in the last ON DIT. When I approached Rosemary O'Grady to produce the last ON DIT, in order to have the education section published, I never thought that it would develop into this. Firstly it was arranged to include the additional Union and SAUA material, then the centre spread was arranged and then the union fee rise was announced.

As a consequence we ended up with a 32 page controversial edition.

The reaction on campus was varied. There were the expected outraged reactions and some unexpected outraged reactions. There were also the unexpected non outraged reactions. Some said the edition was good — if a little late and some agreed with a lot that was said.

Anyway to give people a chance to reply I arranged for a broadsheet to be published (see, I've fallen into the trap of presenting both sides). However the broadsheet has developed into an 8 page ON DIT so bang goes some more study time.

I hope the effort hasn't been wasted but I wonder.

Peter Love.

Credits

Edited:

Peter Love

Layout: Glen Reynolds and Peter Love
Visitors & Watch Dogs:

Fiona Wallace, Geoff Adam, Bob Walsh,

Paul Paech, Rob Barth, Colin Herring,

Thanks to Rosemary O'Grady, Glenys

Solly

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South.

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SUBMITTED BEFORE NOV. 18
WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE
BUMPERAMA ISSUE OF ON DIT.
COPY DEADLINE NOV 18,
PRECISELY.



THE 99 DOLLAR QUESTION.

CAN WE AFFORD A UNION

My answer, based on seven years membership and two years employment within the Union is: NO, not at that price. I believe that the state of the Union at this time is very sick. Below are some of my reasons for this belief.

The present Union Council is a joke, even chaired as it is by its longest serving and most expert member, Dr. Harry Medlin.

Despite what many Union and Council members might believe, Harry has not been chairman from time immemorial, but merely since September 1973. In that time, Dr. Medlin has twice seen the necessity to invoke strict order of debate (i.e. allowing each person to speak only once).

Once was the controversial question of confirming the appointment of the Union's Theatre Manager, after which he resigned but was persuaded to reconsider when he was convinced the Union's honour had been restored, and the other was the issue of raising the Union (statutory) fee. On the latter occasion it appeared as if he had prejudged the issue in his own mind and was determined that it were black and white with no chance or reason for a compromise to be reached. In my opinion, Council was forced into making a choice which was regrettable, but then because of the psychology of the decision making process, it closed its mind to the inadequacies of the chosen criteria on which it had based its decision.

But to be fair, I mustn't place the blame entirely on Harry just because he was the most experienced councillor and directed the course of the meetings. There are limitations within the system which operates in our Union whereby so called professionals have all of the information necessary to make certain decisions, but because of time pressures, and other reasons I won't go into at this stage, they withhold this information till the last minute from the decision making

body (the elected "amateurs"), or present it in such a way as to allow misinterpretation.

These "amateurs", who mostly have little experience in the machinations of committee systems are also to blame for being so easily led.

Let's consider the decision taken 2 weeks ago to raise the Union fee by 50 p.c. The procedure went something like this: On the Monday a budget document prepared by the Union's Secretary and Hon. Treasurer showed that funds in 1975 were going to be tight. On the Tuesday the 4 or 5 members present at the Union's Planning Committee, having looked at all of the extra trimmings and personnel they would like for the union theatres and non trading areas in the new building, recommended (effectively) that the fees be increased. On the Wednesday a hastily called Union Finance Committee (without its chairman) received advice implying that with a \$99 fee, the Union could provide funds for everything people had asked for in 1975 (including some wildly imaginative schemes), and that with less it couldn't provide a workable Union. The finance committee was convinced, disregarded the facts that the possible calls on the Union's money in 1975 were still only guesstimates, that many items included had not been agreed to even at planning committee level alone Council level, and that, anyway, no budget submissions from associated groups nor priorities lists for building and other extras would be available until well into November, and unanimously recommended a 1975 fee of \$99.

On the Thursday Union Council, again in the absence of the finance committee chairman and again hastily called (to get in before a University finance committee meeting the following day), councillors were not only conned into rubber stamping the \$99 fee, but also into arbitrarily waiving the \$20

entrance fee which had been set up for the very good reason of establishing a capital development reserve. On this point, the council even voted (unwisely) against the advice of its financial 'experts' just to prevent the magical \$100 mark (the 1974 incidentals allowance under the T.A.S.) being exceeded.

Now with no strings attached to any part of the Union fee, and without proper investigation of alternative sources of funds for its building, the Union Council plans to spend something like \$200,000 extra raised entirely from 1975 students subscriptions on a building which they can't possibly use fully in 1975.

Needless to say the University Finance Committee (the senior executive committee in the University) rubber stamped the Union Council's resolution for forwarding to University Council, having been advised by Dr. Medlin that there was only one dissident. (I wonder if the committee was also aware that the entrance fee was arbitrarily abolished on an 8-7 vote, and that one of the 8 admitted to me later that he had unintentionally voted the wrong way).

I felt obliged to resign from Union Council following this latest proof of its inability to function reasonably on behalf of Union members. My position is now up for grabs, but if you are a conscientious Union member I urge you not to stand. As such a person, I believe you have two options: (1) Vote against the ratification of the fee rise at the GSM on Friday November 8 (a large no vote will influence University Council which meets immediately after).

(2) Refuse to pay the (increased) fee in 1975 (about 200 people didn't pay this year, and as yet no action has been taken against them).

Maybe these actions will cause the Union to re-evaluate its responsibilities to its members. I certainly hope so.

Russell McGowan.

union shop cold comfort

Last month, as A.U.S. Regional Organizer, I went to place the latest issue of Cold Comfort (an A.U.S. Education Publication) into the Union Bookshop (as I have done for the past few issues). I was told that Cold Comfort would no longer be sold through the Union Bookshop, as a newspaper style shop would be opening in November and they could be sold through it.

I have waited for this shop to open, swat-vac has started, students aren't on campus and won't be when (and we didn't know when) this newspaper shop opens.

Students here are being denied access to their own magazines by this method of censorship. Other magazines are still being stocked. Papers like "National Times", "Nation Review" and "Tribune" are still on sale. Why does the UNION BOOKSHOP stock these type of papers and not other types. Other publications on relevant issues such as inflation and criticisms of workers participation etc. have met with straight refusals.

The people to blame are obviously not the bookshop workers but the management and instigators of displays of books like those staged for "The Great Gatsby" and Alex Solzhenitsyn books. But do they serve the students? How does our Bookshop compare with other student bookshops, for that is what it should be, as it is run for the students at Adelaide Uni. (Not the general public.)

Do they see their role as trying to hard sell books to people? The Union Bookshop should serve the students, and have the books needed by students, and other relevant material, e.g. Cold Comfort available and not rely on hard-sell tactics.

MEETING OF UNION MEMBERS

for information on the proposed fee rise.

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 8TH
1.00 p.m.**

BARR SMITH LAWNS

As a result of the fee rise Mr. Russell McGowan has resigned from the Union Council.

A casual vacancy now exists. Nominations are called and should reach the Union Secretary David Muir by 5.00 p.m. Friday, 8th November.

A secret ballot will be held Monday 11th November. Results will be announced on the 12th.

Ballot boxes will be placed in the Student Activities Office and the Union Office.

TALK TO ME!

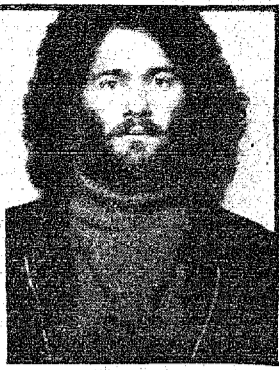
I wrote "THEATRES FIASCO" and "WHY THE UNION STINKS" in the last ON DIT.

I would very much like people to talk or write to me on these or related issues! Address: 198 Franklin St., City — any time night or day.

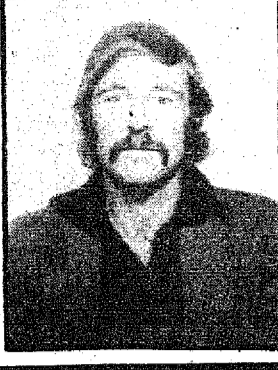
— Robert Bath.

OPEN LETTER TO CAMPUS

Yes and to you Frank Trumble, Mary Venner, Bob Bath, Paul Paech and Colin Herring



PRESIDENT - Jim Hyde, 26, married, Arts. Political opinions - who knows? Certainly not radical. Nice chap, but how could he have become president when I can hardly remember him addressing a lawn meeting this year.



VICE-PRESIDENT - Bob Walsh, in the cmf and rifle club, aggressive, dominating, patronising, contemptuous of anyone who differs from his views. Unfortunately one of the officers who cares about his policies, knows what he wants and pushes for it. Also has not been heard at many GSM's.



SECRETARY - Ruth Hayes, Second Year Arts. Elected unopposed, nice person, honest. Wants to get experience so she can get a good job. Unfortunately the CEC isn't meant to be for the purpose of producing good private secretaries.



TREASURER - Nigel Stapledon. Political opinions - conservative. Thinks anything he doesn't agree with must be a joke and cuts the budget to suit.

WHO'S GOT IT AND WHAT THEY'RE DOING WITH IT



Vice President, Bob Walsh showing his militaristic, aggressive, domineering, patronising, contemptuous tendencies.



Jim Hyde - "Let's be democratic about choosing the president this year Ralph, we'll toss..."



Recent photo of Jim Hyde addressing a lawn meeting we can HARDLY remember.



Jim Hyde (chairman of the Works of Art Committee) seen unveiling one of the union's new works of art.



Treasurer: Nigel Stapledon. "Political opinions: - Conservative, thinks anything he doesn't agree with must be a joke and cuts... to suit."

President: Jim Hyde. Age 24. Political Opinions: - Conservative reactionary, revolutionary, left-wing lackey of the C.I.A. and imperialist running-dog, paper tiger of the people's liberation student association of the University of Adelaide.

Jim is a paranoid schizophrenic, and hence, is able to argue both sides of any argument. "Nice chap".



Secretary: Ruth Hayes. Frank Rumbel, Trumble, crumbel, humbel, mumbel jumbel. (For a secretary, Ruth has a spelling problem).



Ralph Middenway was heard to say, "ON DIT has gone too far this time."



The Executive has nothing to Hyde!



The last copy of ON DIT, caused the S.A.U.A. to do a lot of thinking.



Vice President: Bob Walsh, caught again mistreating the office staff, being unashamedly chauvinistic and viciously personal.

