



# Office Bearers,

1917.

---

---

## **ATHLETIC CLUBS:**

PRESIDENT—MR. W. J. COLEBATCH, B.Sc. (Agric.),  
M.R.C.V.S.

VICE-PRESIDENTS—MESSRS. H. C. PRITCHARD,  
H. E. LAFFER, and A. J. ADAMS, M.A.

## **Finance and General Management Committee:**

MESSRS. V. T. O'GRADY, K. C. CATT, C. J. R.  
NORTH, W. G. McNEIL, AND J. O. ROBINSON (Sec.)

## **Football Committee:**

MESSRS. F. RIGGS (Capt.), R. C. SCOTT (Vice-Capt.),  
C. J. R. NORTH, P. H. SCARLETT,  
AND J. O. ROBINSON (Sec.)

## **Tennis Committee:**

MESSRS. F. RIGGS, H. R. HAZELGROVE, AND  
O. BOWDEN (Sec.)

## **General Sports:**

MESSRS. F. RIGGS, K. C. CATT, M. C. MANUEL,  
P. H. SCARLETT, AND C. J. R. NORTH (Sec.)

## **Dance Committee:**

MESSRS. A. L. WARREN, M. C. MANUEL, AND  
K. C. CATT (Sec.)

---

---

## **"STUDENT" COMMITTEE:**

MESSRS. V. T. O'GRADY (Editor), F. RIGGS (Man-  
ager), J. O. ROBINSON, W. N. HANNAFORD, AND  
D. H. PRESTON.

## **SUB-LIBRARIANS:**

MESSRS. G. SWEENEY, F. RIGGS, A. L. WARREN,  
AND J. O. ROBINSON.

## **COUNCILMEN:**

MESSRS. V. T. O'GRADY, C. J. R. NORTH, AND  
W. G. McNEIL.

# CONTENTS.

---

Current Events	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
A Correction	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Exchanges	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
The State Experimental Orchard	...	...	...	...	...	8, 9, 10	
Farm Notes	...	...	...	...	...	10, 11	
The Flip-Flap Amusement Company	...	...	...	...	...	11, 12	
Football	...	...	...	...	...	12, 13	
Critique of the Team	...	...	...	...	...	13, 14, 15	
A Visit to Concordia	...	...	...	...	...	15, 16	
Old Collegians' Association	...	...	...	...	...	16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21	
Criticism	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
School Notes	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Wanted to Know	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Answers to Correspondents	...	...	...	...	...	...	24

# PRESENT STUDENTS.

JANUARY, 1917.



## THIRD YEAR.

G. Sweeney  
F. Riggs  
V. T. O'Grady

W. H. Lewcock  
K. C. Catt  
F. F. Cobham

## SECOND YEAR.

J. O. Robinson  
A. L. Warren  
O. Bowden

C. J. R. North  
W. N. Hannaford

## FIRST YEAR.

R. S. Cobham  
V. M. Fairbrother  
H. R. Hazelgrove  
W. J. H. James  
H. K. Lewcock  
K. MacLeod

M. C. Manuel  
W. G. McNeil  
D. H. Preston  
C. C. Ross  
P. H. Scarlett  
M. J. Shenton

# The Student.

Published by the Old Collegians' Association, under the joint direction of Past and Present Students.

EDITED BY THE STUDENTS.

VOL. XVII.—No. 1.

JANUARY, 1917.

## Current Events.

The War remains, continues to be the one thing that matters. On all the main fronts we see ourselves in the ascendant, but the way on to enemy territory will demand a terrible price. We see our own men refused adequate reinforcements; who will say that Australia has not done well, we have accomplished great things, but greater sacrifices are demanded.

Local topics sink to insignificance before the greatest clash of arms the world has known.

We have to chronicle the loss of one of our best students, F. F. Cobbam, who has left us to join the A.I.F. in the Western State. "Tanfy" made a friend of every one of us during his two years as a student.

Reference will be found in another portion of this issue to our football fixtures. Sport of all kinds has languished during the last session. Obviously the disturbed conditions largely account for this.

On August 31st the Principal and the Third-Year students journeyed to "Concordia." Mr. Alick Murray, the owner, showed us representatives of his stud flock. The sheep examined were remarkable for denseness of fibre and length of staple. Mr. Murray kindly entertained us later in the day.

Harvest this year will be another big affair. Over half our hay has been stacked. The first field over the weigh-bridge, No. 7A, averaged  $3\frac{1}{2}$  tons to the acre. In common with the rest of the State our early wheat lodged badly. This necessitates the use of the reaper thresher in some of our crops.

Many delays have been occasioned by the extremely wet weather conditions prevailing during early summer.

## A Correction.

---

In our last issue we stated that Mr. and Mrs. Colebatch had had a son born to them. We should have said a daughter.

---

## Births.

---

To Mr. and Mrs. Orchard, a son.

To Mr. and Mrs. Baker, a son.

We congratulate them.

---

## Exchanges.

---

A.D.H.S. Magazine, Yellow Dragon, St. Peter's College Magazine, Prince Alfred College Magazine, Perth Modern School Magazine, Hawkesbury Agricultural College Magazine.

---

## The State Experimental Orchard

(By C. G. SAVAGE).

---

The orchard is situated in Coromandel Valley, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile from the Blackwood Railway Station, and between 9 and 10 miles from Adelaide by road.

This valley is one of the prettiest parts of the State, and perhaps one of the most favored by the "Weather Prophet." The winters, at times, are a little wet, but the water soon gets away off the hills. Frosts, as a rule, are not numerous. The summer months are cooler than on the plains, and it is seldom that the nights can be termed hot, and one is able to obtain refreshing sleep to fit you for the coming day. The average yearly rainfall for the district is between 27 and 28 inches. In 1909 over 42 inches fell, while this year up to the middle of November,  $34\frac{1}{2}$  inches have been recorded.

Coromandel Valley is one of the best localities for fruit-growing in South Australia, both in relation to soil and climate, being situated between the plains and the higher hills. All the fruits grown in these two classes of fruit land can be successfully produced. The range of fruits that can be grown can be gauged from the following collections that are planted at the State Experimental Orchard:—Apples, 1,625 varieties; pears, 800; cherries, 240; plums, 360;

apricots, 120 ; nectarines, 90 ; peaches, 320 ; figs, 120 ; almonds, 40 ; olives, 35 ; loquats, 19 ; citrus, 120 ; persimmons, 30 ; quinces, 40 ; nuts (filberts), 50 ; strawberries, 70 ; gooseberries, 200 ; raspberries, 100 ; currants, 150 ; and vines.

The orchard was started at Hackney Road, Adelaide, in 1907. Towards the end of the year the Municipal Tramways Trust acquired most of the land for the car barns. The Government then purchased 52½ acres in Coromandel Valley, and the preparation of the land was commenced in March, 1908.

The first season some 12 acres were planted with the stone fruit collections, a block of Smyrna and Capri figs, and a block of apple, pear, and peach trees for manurial tests. The preparation and planting of land has been continued from year to year. The orchard now extends over 40 acres, containing some four thousand trees.

The collections of the various trees are the largest in Australia, and each year new varieties are being imported and tested. The objects of these collections, which have been gathered from various parts of the world, are to introduce trees, the fruit of which may prove superior to that ripening at a corresponding period, also to introduce earlier and later ripening kinds, and fruits ripening when there is a scarcity of that particular fruit during the season, thus lengthening and giving a continuous ripening period of the various fruits. As the different trees fruit and are proved true to name, they can be used as a standard for varieties sold under similar names in this State.

Records are kept of each tree in reference to its blooming period, ripening of fruit, crops, characteristic of both tree and fruit, and the commercial value of the produce.

Experiments have been set out to test the effects of manures, tillage, pruning, and stocks, upon the growth of the trees, and the crops, the control of diseases by the application to the soil of, and the spraying of the trees with fungicides. In all the above tests where apple trees are used the fruit is examined for "Bitter Pit," and records kept of percentage of pit both when the fruit is picked and after being stored. Special stock tests, with the view of controlling this defect, have been planted, wherein trees whose fruits are practically immune from pit are used as stocks and worked over to varieties which are badly affected by the disease.

A small evaporator has been erected, and the fruits of various kinds are being tested for their drying qualities.

The orchard is open for inspection on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturday mornings, when visitors are always welcome.

---

\*

### Farm Notes.

---

The winter, or shall we say the period of heavy rainfall, has been extraordinary in many ways. The frequent changes in the weather, and the accompanying showers, which we still endure, convey the impression that the rainy season remains on the stage.

Heavy rains have led to big growth of crops and feed, although the latter is much later this year than last. Very few frosts were experienced during the "actual" winter months, but there have been several of late. These have affected the flowering of some of our crops.

Although we have experienced heavy winter rains, yet our seeding was accomplished under very good conditions. In nearly all cases very good germinations were obtained, and the crops were well established before the cold, wet weather set in. During the three winter months very heavy rains checked the growth of the crops, but the latter half of September and the beginning of October, saw many splendid mild days, so that altogether a heavy yield is anticipated.

Of all the crops, 100 acres of Shorthead Barley in Daly's B and C, were the last sown. Almost immediately on its completion soaking rains fell, with the result that the soil became practically saturated. This barley crop then secured a very poor start, and up to lately was not looking too well. The warm weather, however, has caused it to improve markedly. All the other crops are in excellent condition. The Oat crop, in No. 3, is particularly worthy of mention.

As was the case last year, we have not sufficient stock to account for all our pastures. The predominating grass is Barley-grass, but our pastures are also largely composed of Clover and Dandelion. It is worthy to note that our permanent lucerne pasture fields provide excellent natural feed during the winter months.

It has been a difficult matter to fallow early this year. All our fallows are very rough and will necessitate "some"



working to obtain a fine tilth. They compose :—Field No. 16, Nottle's B, Grainger's C, Ebsary's A, and 5A. Of these No. 16 has already been disc cultivated. The others will need the clod crusher before this implement.

The old thresher shed next to the dairy has been demolished, and the space thus cleared planted with Buffalo grass. The race between Irrigation Plot A and B and the bull yards has been metalled.

Livestock on the College farm comprise :—

Horses, 88. This figure includes two stallions, eighteen youngsters. In addition we have six foals, of which four are fillies.

Cattle—Twenty-one cows, six heifers, thirteen calves, one steer, and two bulls.

Sheep.—Nine hundred and seventy-eight, exclusive of Southdown lambs.

We have also about a hundred pigs.

J. O. ROBINSON.



## The Flip Flap Amusement Company.

—————

The management beg to announce that the above talented company have been engaged by them to appear for one week only, at the Theatre Mephismangophats. The company includes artistes, absolutely unapproachable in their respective turns. The programme is composed of the following items :

Overture—"When we get Married" R.A.C. Tin Can Band  
Tragic Recital—"Hay Stacks" ... .. Ante

The Long Gordon.

(Resembles a moulting fowl, changes his skin annually. Appears only for one second, but if hunting for peanuts will entertain the audience much longer).

Song—"My Photo" ... .. Deena

(Hear this talented Italian: support our ally. N.B.—This pathetic song is sung by Signor Deena, in his old original and only genuine coat of remarkable cut).

Strom and Abbe.

(These marvellous artists exhibit a different turn every night, are an entertainment in themselves. Hair raising examples of working points shown nightly).

Interval of seven seconds, to enable the audience to have two draws and a spit.

## Listless Lizzie.

(Warranted to be absolutely the most unique turn ever. Marvellous acting, audience petrified with amazement, mysteries extraordinary. Listless Lizzie will produce cigarettes from the most unlikely places, is guaranteed to argue the clown off the stage. He bears a remarkable resemblance to a snake. Bring the children).

## Hook-Nosed Buck.

(Clever contortionist. Will change shape in an instant. Facts easily moulded to any form).

## Jackie the Toff.

(The management desire that anybody unable to laugh should stay away. Many casualties nightly. The silent humorist has never been known to speak).

Concluding with the screaming farce Wrangling.

This item will continue until the Theatre is empty. The Black Catt and the Knut will argue on any mortal subject.

Absolutely no free list. Come early to avoid the crush.

---

\*  
**Football**

---

When we again resumed our play after the holidays it was noticeable that the recent enthusiasm that prevailed had dropped to a certain extent.

Practice was not attended as it should have been, but the team somewhat livened up on hearing that the town trip would be curtailed if practice wasn't attended more regularly.

Our first match at the beginning of the season was played on the Gawler Oval against the Gawler Juniors, but we were unable to repeat our previous achievement against this team. Although we put up a good fight during the first half, our opponents maintained a strong lead during the second half and won the match by a wide margin.

The best players for the College were :—Scott, North, Hannaford, and Daly.

On the Saturday following, Christian Brothers' College team journeyed up from town to play us. The weather was a little warm for football, but all the same the match went off well. We defeated them easily, establishing a lead from the start, which our opponents were unable to wipe off, al-

though they had the better part of the play during the last quarter.

Best players for the College were :—Scott, Hannaford, Williams, North, Daly, and Fairbrother.

#### THE TOWN TRIP.

On September 9th we made the usual annual town trip. Owing to the lateness of the trip we were only able to play two matches.

On the Saturday morning we played Adelaide High School on the Kingswoods' grounds. The ground was very slippery, and several of our men were in difficulties. We made a very poor start, and our opponents soon established a lead. During the last three quarters the play was more even. A.H.S. showed much more system than our team. The final scores showed them about six goals ahead.

Our best players were :—Hannaford, North, Williams, Scott, and Robinson.

On the following Monday afternoon we met Christian Brothers on their own grounds. We were only able to muster 17 men, and one of our rovers turned up "crook."

The team didn't play as well as usual by any means. We managed to keep the lead till three quarters time, but after that were outclassed, our team not playing together in the least, and were defeated by several goals. Although we were unable to win a match, the trip could not be called anything else but successful. Both teams treated us real well. I take this opportunity of again thanking them for the good time they gave us at both places.

F. RIGGS.

---

### Critique of the Team

---

(By the Captain).

SCOTT, R. C.—A splendid ruck man, and a tower of strength in the back lines. A hard man to beat, being a hard battler. Very consistent in his play throughout the season, proving himself the team's most valuable man. Excellent mark, but erratic in kicking.

NORTH, C. J.—Good forward and rover. Very fast and tricky in his play. Good mark and very good kick. Played well and consistent throughout the season.

HANNAFORD, W. N.—Plays on the wing, where he is hard to beat. Also plays well in ruck. Good battler, often coming out with the ball through a mob. Fast, good mark and kick.

ROBINSON, J. O.—Owing to an accident couldn't play at the beginning of the season. Good ruck and back man.

BOWDEN, O.—Improved greatly towards end of season, and should make a good man with practice. Played on the wing and back. Fair mark and kick.

O'GRADY, V. T.—Half centre forward, excellent mark but poor in kicking. Played several good games, but is a little slow in getting the ball. Plays a good game back.

CATT, K. C.—Full forward, and has a lot to learn, showed very little improvement. Poor mark and a fair kick.

FAIRBROTHER, V. M.—Good goal sneak, and plays a good, hard game. Very enthusiastic. Very good mark and kick.

HAZELGROVE, H. R.—Plays a good game on the wing, also in the forward lines. Tries to run with the ball too much. Good mark but a poor kick.

SCARLETT, P. H.—Good rover and forward. Played well throughout the season. Sticks to the ball well. Good mark and kick.

JAMES, W. J.—Full forward, showed a little improvement during the season. Very slow and wants more confidence in himself. Has a lot to learn. Fair kick but poor mark.

McNIEL, W. G.—Plays a good game half-back, but does not watch his man too well. Good kick.

MANUEL, M. C.—Played well in goals, and kicked off very well. Has a lot to learn before he is put out into the field.

ROSS, C. C.—Plays in ruck and full back. Played several good games. Generally gets his kick, but is too awkward. Good mark and a fair kick.

COBHAM, R. S.—Has a lot to learn before he can keep his place in the team.

WILLIAMS, J.—One of our best forwards in the team. Played well in every match. Very cool and soon gets away with the ball. Excellent mark and kick. Although not a student, has been a valuable man.

DALY, J.—Plays a good game in ruck and on the wing. Battles well, and is hard to beat, but rather inclined to hold the ball too much. Fair mark and a good kick. Works on the farm.

F. RIGGS.—The Captain (by the Vice-Captain).—A good solid player, and the most consistent man in the team. Good mark and splendid kick. Has taken great interest in the welfare of the team and shown good judgment in the placing of his men.

---

\*  
**A Visit to Concordia.**

---

It has been the custom of Mr. Alick Murray for many years now to invite the senior students of this College to his stud at "Concordia." The trip is made during shearing, and the students thus gain a maximum of knowledge from their visit. The excellence of Mr. Murray's sheep and his hospitality caused us to look forward to this visit with eagerness.

Thursday, September 21st, was the day selected. On the previous day, however, a steady drizzle set in which continued through the night and right on into the next morning. Like the thermometer that morning our spirits were decidedly low. Great was the speculation as to the probability of the trip coming off. We were hopeful, but most of the other students were saturated with pessimism. This, however, did not prevent us from receiving word to "tog up," which we forthwith did with great alacrity.

We departed then in the small drag accompanied by Mr. Colebatch and Mr. Scott. Arriving in Gawler we were joined by Messrs. Phillips and Jackson. Mr. Murray also made his appearance, and on the arrival of his drag we were piloted to "Concordia." We then proceeded to the great attraction, the wool shed. Here I will mention that Mr. Murray, besides having such splendid sheep, also keeps most excellent cigars.

Rams, ewes, ram lambs, ewe lambs, were shown us in great profusion. We contrasted our own hoggets with his, eight to ten pounds of wool as opposed by twenty to twenty-five pounds. All Mr. Murray's sheep are characterised by wonderful constitutions, length, and denseness of staple, and lustrous wool. The wool of his sheep opens up beautifully, is nearly as long on the belly as elsewhere, and extends right down to the hoofs. In fact the staple is quite four inches long at the hock.

Mr. Murray spared no pains to make the visit instructive. One ram must be described. It was a hogget. All the points mentioned above were exaggerated in this specimen. "Light of the Age" is considered by his owner to be the best ram he has ever bred.

Later our host entertained us to luncheon. As usual we did ample justice to it. Mr. Colebatch then proposed the health of Mr. Murray, and in the course of his speech mentioned that no fresh blood had been introduced into the Murray stud for seventy-one years. This fact staggered us. V. T. O'Grady, on behalf of the students, reiterated the statements of Mr. Colebatch.

In reply Mr. Murray emphasised many important points in sheep breeding, which we were most grateful to hear from a man of his fame.

Later on, cigars were again in demand, as was also Mr. Murray's reminiscences of the early days of the College.

We heartily thank Mr. Murray for his kindness and hospitality, and we must congratulate ourselves on having such a man as he is, so deeply interested in the welfare of the College and its students.

—W.H.L.

---

\*

---

### Old Collegians' Association.

---

The war drags on, and the list of our men to answer the call is growing longer. Also that of those to pay the extreme price has grown to a number of eleven.

This, of course, we realise, must be expected, and it may be considered remarkable that no more have been killed when we consider that there are many who have seen fighting for close on two years now.

At various times news comes from different ones in letters written under great difficulties.

Doug. Quinn gives a characteristically illuminating description of Wilhelm's system of subsoiling with explosives. It consists in blowing out holes and filling them up again until the whole area is well pulverised.

A. M. Tilley and C. W. Cook write of their experiences on Salisbury plain and in France. Geo. Webb, one of our earliest volunteers, is still going strong, and has won two stripes on the field. Reed and Fuller were both well when last heard from, and recently figured in a snapshot from France in one of the local weekly papers.

We had the good fortune to read some fine letters from Sgt. W. R. Birks, B.Sc. (Agric.), descriptive of the life from the time of leaving Egypt, up to that of going to the front line with his howitzer brigade.

Some passages from the letters are attached hereto, and may prove interesting to old students.

R. H. Mowat has recovered from his attack of enteric, and is in camp with the artillery in Victoria.

The following names have been added to the list on Active Service since publication of the last "Student."

Mowat, R. H.	Pearce, H. L.
Donnell, W. L.	Jarman, L. D. T.
Inglis, F.	Cook, C. W.
Berry, F. F.	Watson, F. K.
Morrison, L. G.	Sangster, F. R.
Cumming, H. G.	Dealy, F. H.
Beard, F. F.	Koch, A. J.
Follett, H. A.	Bradshaw, H. G.
Thomas, —	Total 138.

#### ROLL OF HONOR.

Hains, M.	Morrison, L. G.
Killicoat, P. D.	Berry, F. F.
Stevenson, J. A. B.	Inglis, F.
Judell, E. M.	Byard, D. J.
Blue, W. B.	McIntosh, A. F.
Gordon, K. D.	

Extracts from letters written by Sgt. W. R. Birks, B.Sc. (Agric.) :—

"Coming overland on the train was a wonderful experience. We started at daylight on Sunday, and detrained here about ten on Tuesday morning; during that time we lived on bully beef and biscuit and tinned butter and jam, and left our carriages twice each day for a drink of tea, provided from French military kitchens along the line.

We were all half entranced and unusually happy the whole way; something like our first trip in Egypt, but this was different. The scenery was so fresh and beautiful, grand and rugged the first day, and the people all along were so tremendously warm and polite and friendly.

The balance of the Corps and the rest of the Brigade half a day ahead of us, had an absolutely hilarious time.

They had the band, and at each station they all hopped out and played the **Marseillaise** and **Rule Britannia**, and **Advance Australia Fair**, and **Marseillaise** again, and the populace uniformly went mad. A vivacious French railway official was telling us about it on Sunday morning. He said he was sure that many of the girls from his town were carried away on the train in the excitement. There is much sincerity about these people. There is a fair sprinkling of ladies in mourning in every group. The girls would come down to yarn away (or at least we would do our best to that end) without the slightest hint at "forwardness."

At Orange there was a great crowd of nurses distributing post cards and collecting souvenirs. Up till then the country is something like Canterbury plains, snow mountains away on the right. About mid-day there was snow on both sides, fairly close on the right, and mountains very rugged; quite like pictures of Alpine scenery. For the rest of the day we were going up the valley of a fairly big river, and sometimes there would be two or three bridges of considerable size in sight at once.

The terraced vineyards were just as we had heard of them. In places all the land in sight for miles was steep hill sides, and every yard of them terraced. All the vines and trees well pruned, and the ground well worked. We scarcely saw any unused land at all. Away down South the poor stony ridges were planted with olives. That was about the only place we saw sheep grazing at large, and they were shepherded. Saw scarcely any fences the whole way across. It must be a great saving of ground with these small plots and patches.

Ran through Lyons just after dark. We missed two or three other big cities by night, which the other 13th lads saw by day. Chalons. Just had a look at a map. At daylight on Monday we ran through Dijon. The country was different then, and the scenery softer, more like Auburn and Watervale; hilltops a bit rougher, quiet little streams. Later in the day the country was flatter, some fair-sized slow rivers, all dammed and locked (the Rhone was a series of mild cataracts). There were canals and any amount of barge traffic. A pair of horses haul along a huge barge. We were all hoping to get at least a glimpse of Paris that night. Fontainebleau after dark, and then a long stop at Juvisy. When we moved again the engine was on the other end and we all turned in. Must have passed Versailles.



Next morning I woke just in time to see the last of the Seine ; the big bridge at Rouen. The weather had changed then, and the city looked very dirty and miserable. From there to Havre was nearly all flattish farming country, real old thatched buildings. The farming seemed what we imagined it is in England ; fairly heavy country, wheat and oats just beginning to come away, and turnips and a few potatoes being planted. Odd patches of kale and mustard. Down South there was as much lucerne as all the other crops put together.

Another thing that interested us very much too, on Sunday morning, was the ancient castle ruins on hill-tops ; most inaccessible places they all seemed. Every town and village has an ancient quarter ; about as old as the castle the houses seemed, though most of them are still occupied.

---

Extract from a later letter :—

“ The camp itself is the muddiest hole I have ever seen, and yet from indications remaining, it is dry now to what it must have been in the winter. We had a splendid day for moving over, and one dry one since, otherwise the weather has been what we expected for France, driving showers, bitterly cold and occasional sprinklings of snow. We have to get out in it a good deal and wade about in the mud looking after the “ donks.” They feel the cold a good deal, but so far all of ours have survived it. We feed them on oats (neat) twice a day, and meadow hay (baled) for the other two. In this there are various clovers, rye grass, fox tail and such like grasses. They don't seem to know anything about chaff in this country nor wheaten nor oaten hay. We do wish we could speak more French. We have very pleasant lessons every evening, but progress is slow. There are two grown girls, real sports, they speak a few words of English, likewise does Madame, but the old man cannot get a single word, and it annoys him very much when he tries to explain anything. However, we can rake up about half a dozen different little soldiers' pocket French books amongst us, and we set out the other evening to discuss farming, and got along very well considering. All details of yields had to be transposed from hectares, kilos, kilometres, metres, and francs to acres, lbs., miles, yards, and shillings. We didn't discover anything startlingly different from our own farming. Prices are all higher, wages lower, and areas smaller. Monsieur —— has about 20 to 30 acres, and it goes up to a £100 per acre.

They grow chiefly wheat, oats, grasses and clover for hay, mangels, turnips, potatoes, and haricot beans. Under the eaves of every barn there is a row of these plants, dry and fully podded, selected seed I suppose. Potatoes are going in now; they allow the seed to sprout in open wooden trays about the size of a kerosene tin on its side, and bring it out to the fields in these trays. This is the method we talk about a lot at home, but very seldom see it used.

They are very careful of straw of course. While we were at "Billet No. 1," they thrashed a couple of small stacks. A very neat little machine, oil engine, thrasher and straw binder all in one frame, cost £200. There were two men, three girls and a boy working it, but when we were off parades the lads took charge and ran the whole outfit.

Here we have a most luxuriant bunk on the straw in the barn, you sink right into it. The youngsters come over and romp about with us when we knock off in the evenings. There are four or five of them at school. They don't "compre" any English, but that does not interfere in the least. There are a couple of youths (all in the family) working on the farm; the elder one was handcuffed and held a prisoner for three days when the Germans were here early in the war. The two brothers, older than the girls, are both away at the war, one in Belgium and the other at Verdun. We've come to the conclusion that farming people are much the same the world over. These places remind me very much of the farms about Saddleworth."

---

#### MR. ALICK J. MURRAY.

There are few men who have as consistently supported and befriended the Roseworthy College as Mr. A. J. Murray, of Mt. Crawford, and we can all look back with considerable pleasure to those visits made during student days to both Mt. Crawford and Concordia.

The best stock which these renowned flocks could produce was on view to Students annually, and the words of wisdom and advice from Mr. Murray have always been greatly appreciated.

In addition to the vast fund of experience as a sheep breeder, Mr. Murray's genial, happy personality as a man and a host has won for him the keenest regard of all who have had the good fortune to come in contact with him. It is only fitting that the College should have some permanent

reminder of all it owes to Mr. Murray, and we are pleased that in this direction a life-sized "bust" portrait has been obtained to hang upon the walls of the dining hall.

---

MR. FRED. K. WATSON, M.A., B.Sc.

Recently there returned to South Australia one of our old students in the person of Mr. F. K. Watson, who, after completing his course at the Roseworthy College, passed on to Edinburgh, from which he has graduated with high honors.

Mr. Watson, it will be remembered, secured the College Gold Medal as Dux of his year in 1908. He displayed such high ability as a student that he was advised to go abroad and to equip himself with further scientific training. He had first to matriculate at the Adelaide University, and then left for Edinburgh in September, 1910.

His course at that University covered four and a half years, in which time he graduated as Master of Arts, and in addition taking the degrees of Bachelor of Agricultural Science and Bachelor of Engineering, with honors in each case. He also was bracketed as joint winner of the Steven Scholarship in Agriculture, which is worth £80 a year.

While at the University, Mr. Watson took an active part in the Agricultural and Engineering Societies connected therewith, filling the office of President in both instances.

Such a scholastic record is one to be proud of, and, knowing Mr. Watson as we do, we have no doubt of his putting into practical application the knowledge of which he is possessed.

On his return to South Australia Mr. Watson put the call of country before personal advancement and enlisted in the A.I.F. for active service. He is at present attached to the Corps of Engineers in Sydney.

Old Roseworthy students will join in congratulating him on the result of his studies and in wishing him a safe and speedy return to South Australia, coupled with a fitting recognition of his value as an officer in the Agricultural interests of the State.

**Criticism**(By X.Y.Z.)

---

We have amongst us a young giant. His weigh is approximately 16 stone, but he carries it well. He is one of our coming ruckmen, but unfortunately last year he met with an accident and was unable to show his abilities until the end of the season.

Being very awkward he thinks nothing of kicking one in the shins or falling on top of someone in descending from his aerial marks. He is also to don the flannels for cricket this year, which is rather a surprise, as the hot weather may play up with his appetite, and on that account loosen a few pounds of his superfluous baby's fat, of which, no doubt, he is proud.

He is one of the champion pugs of the College, and when in a bad mood, being upset with his love affair with —— well, I think you will know who I mean if you take it to be the girl described by Liz., in a few words together with a kerosine tin, it is well to keep out of his way. We are expecting to hear of "Pommy" being invited into the common room to see who is the better man, as our hero was the means of giving one of our foremost first years a three days' rest in bed.

He shines best at dinner time. Some of his table sayings are: "After you, Liz.," when fig jam has been mentioned. "Pull your finger out, Buck, you don't expect a man to wait all day." If he is asked to pass anything, he will say, "Can't you wait awhile?"

He takes a great interest in chemistry, and knows several formulas. In fact he is thinking of putting in overtime at the "lab."

His ideas about his shearing capabilities are rather exaggerated, but to be correct I should have said they were, but after a certain occasion in the shearing shed with "Jack," he has somewhat quietened down on this subject, in fact this year he was "conspicuous by his absence" from the machines.

Of course he will be gold medallist next year, as he quietly informed someone that he intended getting an average of 85 per cent; this session. He seems to think that when he is on the warpath, all must flee before him, never-

theless, the first years seem to be able to get their share of fun of late, although on their arrival many of them thought their life was in jeopardy on several occasions, and this explains the fact why the pepper tree by the "gym." had been used so much as a place of safety.

He has earned numerous names, well applied, but perhaps the best of all is the latest, and by looking up another page of this magazine you will find out the reason for our hero to have such a flattering name as "Convict." (With apologies to X.Y.Z.)

---

\* \* \*

### School Notes.

---

There is reason to believe that we could dispense with the daily papers. We have in our midst one Toff, who usually has the latest catastrophies, etc. (mostly, etc.), on the tip of his tongue, fully twenty-four hours, after they occurred.

\* \* \*

An appreciation. Billy, the "farm manager," has been of great service to us during the last session. Without his aid we would not have known whether we knew it or not.

\* \* \*

The "Convict" made his appearance with his "hair off." Perhaps he regarded it as "unsound," at any rate we know his head is. Has he abandoned Gawler because of these things (hear it weep), or did someone in Gawler abandon him.

\* \* \*

"Well, I'll tell yer." "I saw an advertisement in the paper for a man who knew all about horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, in fact knew all about everything," "and took the job and still have it." "They know a good man when they see him." Encore Jack, that's only the tenth this morning.

\* \* \*

Toff, you know, likes cricket, particularly batting. Some of his strokes, however, do not find favor with Piggie; the latter should be more tolerant, he wasn't killing steers. His conduct is in marked contrast to that of Spuey, whose behaviour has "reaching" effects.

## Wanted to Know

---

Who is Uncle Maurice ?

Who is that racing man ?

Who "cuts it out, Laddie?"

Who was watching the trains go out?"



## Answers to Correspondents.

---

Pro. Waxbill.—(1) Cannot give you a definite answer, you should experiment; most probable your olives would hatch into tintacks within a century. (2) Would advise crossing your magpies with ducks to achieve the best results.

\* \* \*

Spuey.—Yes! most people who stutter, only do so when they speak.

\* \* \*

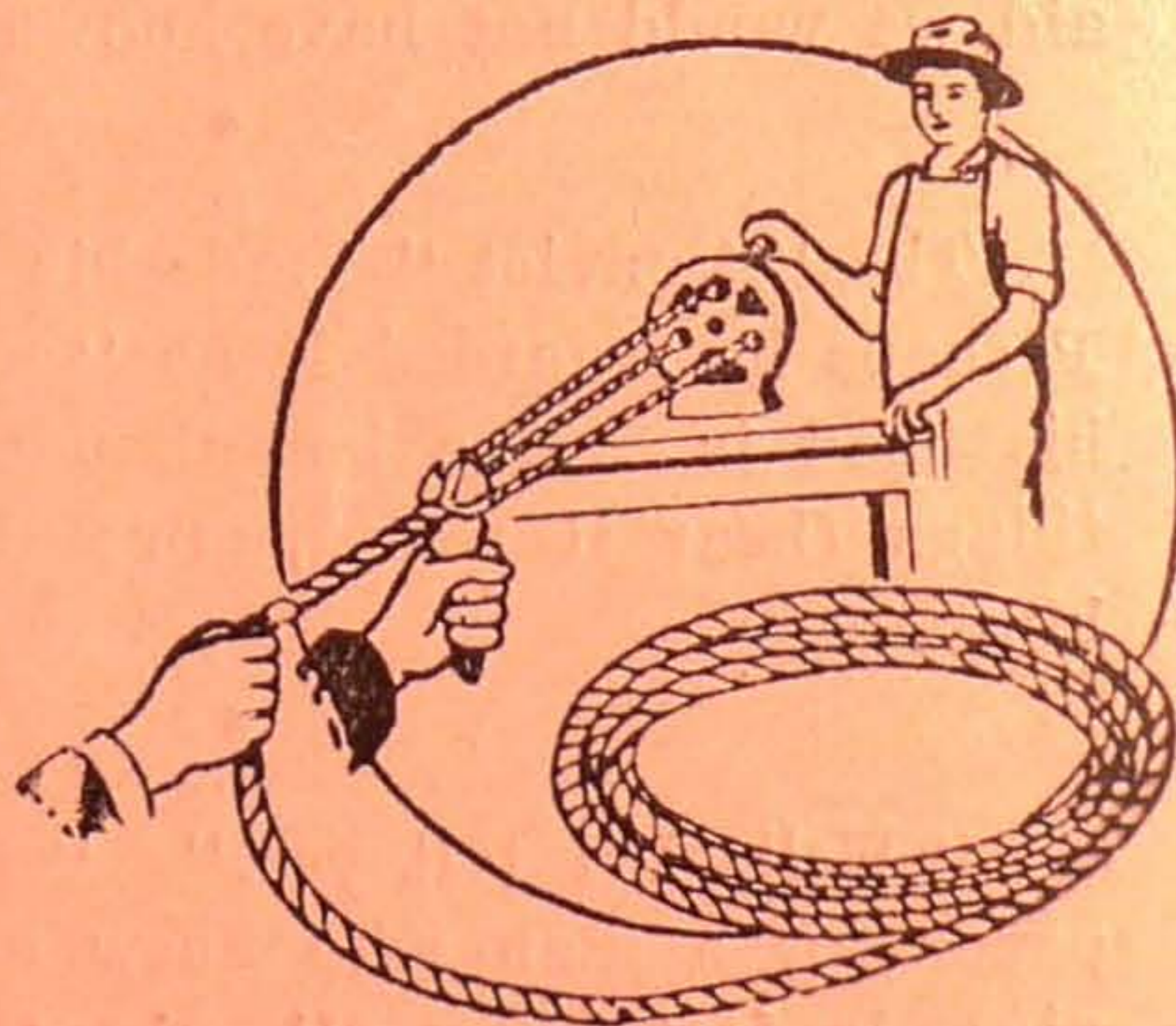
Stromboli.—No! We cannot suggest anything that will enable you to eat faster.

### FARMERS!

Buy a "New Era"  
Rope Machine and  
make your own rope

Price 21/-

All twine used for binding  
your hay can be re-made  
into strong rope.



The "New Era" is a great money saver. It enables you to make from binder twine all the rope you need on the farm. Instead of throwing away tangled pieces of twine or allowing odd pieces left over from harvest to dry out and depreciate, you can manufacture them into serviceable rope at a cost FAR BELOW MARKET RATES.

Write for particulars.

Full directions with each machine.

**A. W. DOBBIE & CO., LIMITED,**  
Gawler Place, Adelaide.