

ON DIT

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No. 21

SCOOP

WINNING CENTENARY ODE.

The Editor, at great personal risk and at the cost of bribing three professors and a janitor, has been able to obtain an advance copy of the winning Centenary Ode. Here it is in all its native and naked beauty, still redolent of the gum tree and the sheep dip!

Hail unto thee, hail, bonzer South Australia!
Compared to thee, all others are a failure.
And hail to thee, Queen City of the South,
That beautifies the limpid Torrens mouth,
On whose broad bosom swans are kept at peace
By effort of the untiring water police.
Hail, and re-hail, thy towering citadels,
Gaunt T. & G.'s and fair hued C.M.L.'s
Massive and tall, the symbols of the thrust
Behind our country's progress—so we trust,
'Neath which there wind with many a plaintive whirr
The gaily painted trams of Goodman (Sir).
And thee we hail as well as we are able,
Though yet unreared, great prototype of Babel—
The Premier's magnificent erection—
And contribution to the State's direction.
Nor should the city fathers we abuse
By leaving them unhonored of our muse.
So Cain, our able mayor, we justly praise
The prime defender of unbutton days;
And Rymill that a mile as nothing recks,
The greatest dress designer of his sex.
What should he want with bridges that erstwhile
Ran manfully for half of the half mile.
And even yet to stride, he has been marked
From the town hall to where his car was parked.
So unto Rymill should our praise be lent,
The queenly city's rightful ornament.
Then, hail Bonython Hall, a stone sublime
Bequeathed for annual use, if we can spare the time.
And, lastly, hail gaunt ghosts of other years,
By which we mean our sturdy pioneers,
Whose great self-sacrifice and noble souls
Have been rewarded in their grandson's Rolls.
And so on this Centenary of our State,
Thankful, remember, while you celebrate,
These are, indeed, the things that make our country great.

Erasmus Posthlewaiite,
629, High Street,
Oodnadata.

Biographical Note.

Erasmus Posthlewaiite, notorious Bard, born 1917 (reasons unknown); expelled from Saint's 1933, sent down from University 1934, released from Yatala 1935, admitted Adelaide Club 1936 (he admits nothing else). Sports: Noted oarsman, heavyweight marble's champion of Oodnadata. Hobbies: Life in all its moods and manifestations. Clubs: W.C.T.U., L.V.A., Royal Society for the Feeding of Liver-wort to the Children of the Lower Orders. Unmarried; five nephews.

THE CONVERSAZIONE

The Conversaz? Well, yes, we did go. In fact, we spent the whole day there on Saturday. From one well equipped science building to another we walked. Science without art, however, would make a funny world; and so, to retain equilibrium, we included the art display in the Elder Hall, and the old and rare book display in that imposing centre of University culture—the Barr Smith Library. Impressions? Well, we formed a few.

First, a question. Where were the law students? We know, of course, that their open season is earlier in the year, when annual meetings and constitutions are in the air, but we did miss them and their points of order. Fortunately, the public did not.

Nor did we see our commercial students in action. Not so much as a stock or share raised its head during the whole day. We cannot but feel that in the constantly thronged anatomy building there was much scope for the collection of statistics of individual and collective morbidity. Every adolescent who saw the Conversaz. made a point of visiting that place—so did many older folk; so, of course, did we.

The proverbial practice of separating sheep from goats must be familiar to you. But have you seen red tennis balls drafted into one pen and white into another by means of a photo-electric cell? We saw it, and found no fake.

Dear old lady (half-way through the touching story of the evolution of the horse as told by a fair young scientist): "Yes, but what's it all for?"

For your protection—the electrical apparatus which records the heart-beats of unhatched chickens. Install one in your kitchen and save yourself the trouble of cooking eggs on which the fowl has outsat its welcome.

Possible explanation of the heaviness of that ball you topped at the first tee last Saturday. Messrs. Crook and Mills had treated it to a bath in the liquid air they had to play with in the Johnson laboratories.

Did you see all the anaemic food fads scribbling furiously in the nutrition room of the Darling building? If Mr. Mitchell finds his 7/3 selection of food will keep him in the best of health for a week he is welcome to go on feeling healthy. For our part, we shall continue to eat, drink, and be unhealthily comfortable. Each to his own taste, and may the devil never take the man who has the hardihood to live on oranges and peanuts.

The rest of the University may well take its hat off to the more technically bent of our fellows. We and the public were astounded. One lady was so impressed that by taking notes of all our demonstrators told her she endeavored to work through to a B.Sc. in half a day.

With the aid of explanatory notes we were able to follow the French play moderately well. When the actors became really animated (which was often) the pace proved too hot and we lagged sadly.

The Arts Association did creditable work with "Lucrezia Borgia's Little Party." In the interests of historical accuracy we must cry out against the casting directors for their choice of the blue-eyed, blonde-haired Aryan giant (Mr. Dawson) to play the part of Machiavelli, but not at Mr. Dawson's playing of the part.

It would have been too like a busman's holiday to hear the staff lecturing on science's new wonders, but the public were edified and the lecturers were gratified.

The Conversazione was one of the

INTER-VARSITY DEBATING

The Adelaide University debating team lost in the first round to the ultimate winners (Sydney). The subject was "That Trial by Jury Should be Abolished," and Adelaide were affirming. They were opposed by a team of three lawyers, Messrs. Bowler, Officer and Robson. Adelaide's only legal adviser was the emergency (Mr. Kelly), who had to writhe under continuous misstatements of South Australian law. Mr. Piper opened with a review of the system, and stated that it no longer fulfilled its original functions, and then, having five minutes to go, threw in half of Mr. Ward's speech for good measure. Mr. Ward, thus left naked, worked up a fine fury about the low intelligence of juries. "You cannot get truth," he said, "by counting twelve heads, if they happened to be sheep's heads." He followed this with a magnificently involved passage on the arithmetic of majority verdicts, which left his meaning perfectly obvious.

Miss Irwin gave the best speech for Adelaide, her main point being that the jury system was obsolete. The highlight of her speech was a metaphor involving aspidistras, old maids, and cross-fertilisation. Mr. Piper's summing up was better than his first speech, but the verdict was unanimous for Sydney. Sydney were a much more polished team, speaking very clearly and well, though with very little variety and little humor. They were very much better all round than Adelaide and thoroughly deserved their win.

The debates as a whole were lacking in both fire and humor—most of them had a funeral-parlor air. The one exception was the redoubtable Mr. Speed, of Melbourne, whose last speech, on stud farms, queen cities, and the public house as a measure of distance, was superb.

The Adelaide team showed lack of experience and lack of practice—the Men's Union debates this year. If Adelaide is to succeed there will have to be fortnightly debates next year. This was less evident at the dinner, when Mr. Piper made one official speech and Mr. Ward five unofficial ones—all successes. As for the social side, debaters will understand when we say that it was a complete success.

CRICKET.

The imminence of the cricket season—it starts on October 3rd—has decided that the annual general meeting of the Cricket Club is overdue. This gathering will be held in the men's reading room at the refectory on Thursday next, September 10th, at 1.15 p.m. The officials for 1936-37 will be elected, and a report of last season's activities presented. It is hoped that all intending to take the game up this summer should attend both this meeting and the early practices so that we may have some idea of the talent at our disposal.

really instructive and worth-while of the Centenary celebrations, and those who organised and took part in it are to be warmly congratulated. The only regret is that it could not have gone on for several days longer. The conversazioni are of tremendous value in building up a spirit of understanding and unity between the public and the University. They help the public to feel that it is their own University and not a detached and faraway place haunted by dreaming scholars and unpractical scientists.

C. F. ANDREWS

Today the University will have the opportunity of hearing one of the world authorities on the color problem speak on a question very much to the fore in British politics—the relation between India and Britain. At first sight C. F. Andrews is not altogether impressive. He is tall, but not well built; a bald, almost spherical head, and quite a genuine Father Christmas beard. It takes some time to realise that he has worked alongside Gandhi in the efforts to modify the indenture system of Indian coolie labor in South Africa, at a time when the natives were little better off than slaves. His work was so effective that he has been recalled several times to advise the Government, and has been twice to Fiji and the United States and South America to take part in effecting conciliation between white and black. Here in Australia we are not seriously confronted with the color problem; but such activities as negro lynching in U.S.A. reveal what a live issue it is elsewhere. Mr. Andrews is also thoroughly informed with regard to the present international situation. He has recently visited Geneva, and is a close acquaintance at home of such men as the editor of the "New Statesman." At a time when the question of peace or war has made so large a splash in our own tiny little millpond, his contribution will be very welcome, especially as he is so well fitted to interpret to us the temper of Japan and the East. He urges pacifism, but not by any means a passive pacifism. He stresses that international conciliation is just as vital in time of peace as in time of war.

As has already been observed, he does not look a burning intellectual; his appearance rather expresses the

KEEP AN EYE

on the Notice Board for
THE BIGGEST SHOW OF THE YEAR
After the Exams.

other side of his nature—the mystical. In India, in the silent vastnesses of the hills, and particularly at Tagore's retreat at Santiniketan, he has learnt the art of prayer and meditation. His mind is like the waters of a reservoir—clear and calm, but deep. In habits he is straightforward and utterly unself-conscious to the point of eccentricity. Indeed, it is hard to realise that a man with such a luminously transparent personality, and such a profound mystical trait, should at the same time have so shrewd a grip of world problems. Mystic and realist he is; yet he would probably protest that they are only different aspects of his religion. He strikes me as being among the few people who have no need to preach his religion, it is expressed in every phase of his nature.

Besides yesterday's address he will be speaking on more specifically religious subjects on Thursday, Friday, Monday and Tuesday. He will also be available for interview during the afternoons of his visit (8th-17th), and those who wish to make his acquaintance are welcome to the opportunity.

"THE LIGHT THAT FAILED."

We regret that the Centenary issue of "On Dit," which was to have been published during the Conversazione, died prematurely from lack of copy. The Editors realise now that such a venture is well-nigh impossible to launch during the holidays—heaven knows, it is hard enough during term time—when most of you are having a well-earned (?) spell or taking part in inter-varsity contests.

ON DIT

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Wednesday, 9th Sept., 1936

EDITORIAL NIGHT-CAPS ADIEU

And so with this number, On Dit comes to the end of its publishing year,—the Centenary year of our State, and the sixtieth birthday of our University. A year marked by the generous donation of a bridge, which links together the two great spheres of University activity, by the establishment of a Medical Research Institute, and by the opening yesterday of the completed Bonython Hall by an old friend, very dear to all of us, His Excellency Lord Gowrie. A successful conversation has just been staged. In December next, also, we herald the Christmas season with a procession, the first for many years, and with the most ambitious Centenary revue which the Footlights Club has yet attempted,—more grease to their elbow! This paper too, we believe, has progressed. Starting the year, for the first time, as a weekly publication, it later became enlarged, and last term the political was added to its several aspects. A dangerous aspect, we admit, being so easily abused,—yet a very necessary one. "Only a small minority of students throw themselves into political and religious societies, or concern themselves much in the life of the community. . . . In the result, the Australian student class is rather isolated and politically immature. Australian students do not materially influence public opinion." (The Australian Intercollegian, 1/8/36.)

Old graduates returning now to these scenes of their devotion to the grey-eyed goddess Minerva, must notice great changes. And great changes, we hope, will continue to be wrought until with the old Oxford student we can justly dedicate the books we write "to my former teachers in that Home of Youth and Age, so venerable, so lovely, so serene . . . who, by her ineffable charm, keeps ever calling us nearer to the true goal of all of us, to the ideal, to perfection. And who by her memories keeps her alumni forever inspired."

So God rest you merry, gentlemen and ladies. May He guide your frail barques through the rapids and shallows of next November. And with these parting words we doff our Editorial night-caps. Adieu!

**BROWSE AMONG THE
UNLIMITED RANGE
OF BOOKS
At
PREECE'S**

INTER-VARSITY BASEBALL

A team of eleven represented Adelaide in the annual triangular inter- varsity baseball series in Sydney this year. The team was led by A. J. Stevenson, and consisted of five A grade, four B grade, and two C grade players, as follows:—Stevenson, Sutherland, Magarey, Gould, Rielly, O'Grady, Brummitt, Bohlman, Wilkinson, Mills, and Welch.

Although the team was well below the standard of the A team in club games, it performed very creditably in winning two of the four games played. Sydney won three out of four, annexing pride of place from Adelaide, a position we have held for some six carnivals. Melbourne only managed to win one game.

The first game against Melbourne was closely contested, although errors were frequent on both sides, the extremely fast nature of the ground seeming to upset both teams. The final result was 8-7 in Melbourne's favor. In this match Reilly pitched to Gould, keeping the batters down to eight hits, but errors allowed the Melbourne runners to score on two notable occasions with six and two. The remainder of the field was Stevenson first, O'Grady second, Brummitt short-stop, Magarey third, with Wilkinson, Bohlman, and Mills in the outfield.

The first match against Sydney found us also behind (7-2), Sydney scoring 11 hits to our 5, with errors more prominent on our side. In this match Sutherland pitched 7 innings and Reilly the last 2. The infield was the same, Welch being brought in to the outfield towards the end.

The second match against Melbourne was more satisfactory. This game was played in the Goodyear diamond at Camellia—a diamond planned to correct American specifications, with sand track between bases and raised pitchers' mound. Adelaide won this match (8-5) after a better game than on the first occasion. Sutherland pitched to Gould and kept Melbourne down to 4 hits. Up till the sixth innings the game was of fairly high standard, the scores being 4-0 in our favor, but errors crept in on both sides to allow the scores to finish at 8-5. Adelaide batted more strongly for 8 hits, Reilly (3), Stevenson and Gould (2), Magarey and O'Grady being the hitters.

The return match against Sydney was also better from our point of view, for we ran out winners at 6-3. Reilly pitched to Gould for 6 hits, and better support from the field kept Sydney quiet. Welch took some very good catches in this game, playing at right field. The hits for Adelaide were 6, being scored by O'Grady (3), Gould, Reilly, and Stevenson.

Fielding throughout the series was not very good, as ground errors were frequent, but Stevenson (the only A grade player playing in his normal position in the field) was always safe, and gave a very good performance throughout. O'Grady on second was slow to start, but held that bag down well in the latter part of the series. Gould (catching) gave a very sound performance, and of the others Wilkinson was the best. He was always safe at left and threw in accurately.

Reilly and Sutherland shared the pitching. The former concentrated on slow curves, which greatly troubled our opponents, while Suth. soon settled down to accurate control of curves and fast ones, giving an excellent performance for his first serious efforts on the pitcher's slab.

Our batting was variable, but not weak, as few batters were struck out. We certainly gave the field plenty of work, and when someone did lift one over the infield they travelled far. Magarey smashed out a homer, while Gould and Stevenson each collected two three baggers. O'Grady topped the batting with 7 hits, all nice placements, while Gould with 6 hits and Stevenson and Reilly with 5 each were the other most successful batters.

We were able to renew our acquaintance with a number of former inter-

LACROSSE

Another Good Win by Adelaide.

For the second year in succession Adelaide won the annual inter- varsity lacrosse match, this time by 15 goals to 8.

Until shortly before the match it was doubtful whether Harry, the Adelaide captain, would be able to strip, as he was suffering from a leg injury. However, shortly before the match he decided to play. A similar doubt about the Bonnin brothers had existed, but their decision was not quite so long delayed.

Adelaide attacked hard in the first quarter, and as a result of good forward play the quarter ended with the score 4-nil in our favor. Melbourne had not had much of the game up to this stage, but their back men, considering the strength of the Adelaide attack, did well to keep Adelaide down to 4 goals.

In the second quarter Melbourne had more of the play, but did not take advantage of it, and Adelaide maintained its lead. The Adelaide backs kept their men well out from the goals to have long shots, which Harbison, in goal, was able to stop, with the exception of 2 goals, the result of brilliant play by Melbourne. At the interval the score stood at 7-2.

In the third quarter the standard of play improved considerably, both teams brightening up their stickwork, which up to this had been rather ragged. Adelaide continued to dominate the game, and the quarter ended with the score 10-3.

The last quarter opened with a determined dash by Melbourne, which temporarily disorganised the Adelaide backs. However, they soon pulled themselves together, and sent the ball again into the forward line.

Nicholson, who had been playing the game of his life, scored a couple of quick goals. Harry followed with one, his sixth for the match, most of which were obtained by brilliant dodging, and then, after Bonnin and Brookman had each added another, the final bell rang, the score then being 15-8.

After the match the players, supporters, spectators, etc., gathered below in the dressing rooms, where the health of all and sundry were proposed seriatim.

The result of the match was particularly gratifying, as the team had not been very successful in association games during the season. This, no doubt, has been largely due to a long series of injuries, and it appeared that bad luck was to follow the team to the bitter end. However, the strongest team available took the field fit and anxious to win.

Much better system was displayed in this match than previously, due largely to the efforts of Dr. H. M. Fisher, who gave up a considerable amount of his time during the last few weeks to the coaching of the team, and the large margin between the scores reflects on the way he stirred up the team and made them improve their stickwork.

Goalthrowers: Harry (6), Nicholson and J. M. Bonnin (each 3), Brookman (2), and George.

Best players: M. F. Bonnin, Nancarrow, Nicholson, and Taylor.

varsity men at an excellent dinner. Our Sydney hosts provided us with marvellous entertainment and, combined with excellent weather, we could not have had a better trip.

Both Sydney and Melbourne players are very anxious that next year's series should be played in Adelaide, and it is hoped that this will be achieved.

INTER-VARSITY BASKET- BALL CARNIVAL

After last year's effort of getting within two goals of the Melbourne team, who have been premiers for the last eight years, we set off to Melbourne full of expectation and hope for another good tussle with a possible victory.

We were greeted, welcomed, and entertained in grand style, thanks to the generosity and efficiency of the Melbourne girls. A welcome afternoon tea on the Monday after we arrived put us in good stead for our first match on Tuesday, when we defeated Sydney 30 goals to 15. This good win was mainly due to the consistency of our backs—Lois Dawkins and Pattie Whitford, and the good attacking play of the half-goalie, Joy Tassie.

On Wednesday the match against Melbourne was played. During the first half the Adelaide team played a very scrambling game, and we were down badly at half-time. During the third quarter Pattie Whitford and Mary Colebatch received knee injuries. An emergency was brought on, and our play improved. But Melbourne's lead was too big, and they defeated us 32 goals to 21.

To cheer us up we were taken to the theatre to hear the witticisms of Ivan Menzies, and to an all-day picnic to a log hut on Mount Dandenong, when the Adelaide team distinguished themselves by screaming with delight at their first sight of falling snow.

With two emergencies playing Adelaide defeated Tasmania 34 goals to 19, and with that last win still prominent in our minds we arrived at the basket ball dance that night ready to enjoy ourselves. We did! During the evening the cup was presented to the Melbourne captain, and the combined varsity team was announced. We all congratulated Lois Dawkins on her inclusion in the team. As runner-up we congratulate Melbourne once more on winning the contest, and we thank them for the marvellous time they gave us, including the extra good farewell luncheon at the Wattle.

INTER-VARSITY HOCKEY.

This was held in Melbourne on August 17th-24th. The trip was most successful from all points of view save that of hockey. On the Monday we played Melbourne and were defeated, after a very close game, by 3 goals to 2. The next day we lost to Sydney, 1-nil. On the Wednesday there was no match, and the day was notable mainly for a visit to a brewery. On Thursday we drew with Queensland, but the match was played too early in the morning for us to be on our best form. The next day we played Perth, and again the result was a draw.

The dinner was held on Friday evening, and was a great success. One member of the team so disgraced himself that he had to leave hurriedly for Sydney in the middle of the night.

The combined match was played on Monday, 24th, and resulted in a draw, Allen and Fenner being the Adelaide representatives. A present was sent to Mr. Albert Puddy in recognition of his past services to the Hockey Club. We trust he appreciated it.

The team returned bit by bit during the following week, crowned with few laurels, but in no way depressed.

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Special Birthday Supplement

On Dit's tribute to the Varsity's
sixty years of progress

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ON DIT, WEDNESDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER, 1936

Our Varsity

Being an airy view of Varsity history from before the beginning

FOREWORD.

It is an author's privilege to put a word in first before the reader (or would-be reader) condemns his work outright. Even if the sight of several solid columns of print deters you, the fact remains that the 'Varsity' (like most other institutions) has a history which you ought to know before you go delving into the ancient annals of Tacitus and Julius Caesar. Persevere. If you don't enjoy the beginning, try starting halfway through. But be sure to reach the end, or else our labors in the cause of history and tradition will have been lost. There's a hundred to one chance that you will find at least one paragraph that interests you. Who knows?

WE BEGIN.

Preserved in the dim depths of the Barr Smith Library, is an illuminated address, dated December 8, 1874, from the University to the Honorable Sir Thomas Elder, G.C.M.G. The words, which are shrouded in a thick red cover, lined with peacock blue silk, run thus:

"The members of the Adelaide University Association beg to offer you their grateful thanks for your munificent donation of 20 thousand pounds for the purpose of the University.

"They trust that both yourself and Mr. Hughes may be long spared to see the good fruits of your munificence, and are well assured that your names as **founders and patrons** of the University of Adelaide will, not only live in an affectionate remembrance of the present generation, but be handed down to the grateful respect of those students who shall hereafter receive instruction in the halls of this institution, and under the professors who will be appointed through your liberality."

The period of which these gifts were the culmination covered more than twenty years. Before 1872 there was no higher education in South Australia, and anyone who wished to enter the professions, or gain the polish of a University education, had to go off to Melbourne or Sydney, or, more often, abroad for several years. Young men had no other finishing schools than the colleges such as St. Peter's and Prince Alfred's.

The necessity for a University was realised very early in the State's history, and in 1850, when St. Peter's College was transferred from the Trinity Church School room to its present site, it was proposed by Captain William Allen that a University College should be established in conjunction with the school, but the plan was abandoned. In 1861, examinations akin to those now conducted by the University Public Examinations Board, were held at Government House, when Governor Sir Richard McDonnell, himself, corrected the questions on Homer.

The year 1872 is the landmark of higher education in South Australia. Firstly, the Melbourne University came to the rescue of advanced

students, by sending over sealed packets of examination papers, and afterwards correcting them with the papers of Victorian candidates. Secondly, Union College was opened on June 21. The formation of this theological college was due to the co-operation of the Congregational, Presbyterian, and Baptist Churches of South Australia, and it attracted a number of students from all sects. Soon afterwards, the College Council, in its efforts to raise funds, waited on a wealthy Presbyterian pastoralist, Captain Walter Watson Hughes, and were staggered by his generous response. They hastily convened a meeting, and on September 3 a committee consisting of the Revs. John Davidson, James Jefferis, Silas Mead, and Messrs David Fowler, Alexander Hay, and George Young, was appointed "to communicate with members of various religious bodies and others concerning University apart from theological teaching." Two large, representative meetings soon followed, and on September 23, the Adelaide University Association was formed, and it was unanimously decided that Captain Hughes should be asked to pass over his £20,000 to a University instead of to Union College.

Hence the two Hughes Chairs of Classics, comp. philology, and literature, and of English literature, mental and moral philosophy, to which the Rev. H. Read and the Rev. J. Davidson, who had both belonged to the teaching staff of Union College, were appointed. Such affairs of the University as then existed were manipulated by the original University Association until the passing of the Adelaide University Bill in November, 1874.

SIXTY YEARS AGO.

The Adelaide University Bill was guided through a wavering Parliament by the Attorney-General, W. H. Bunde (who was later knighted, and became a judge of the Supreme Court). Besides a grant of £2,400 a year, 50,000 acres of land, somewhere in the bush, worth £1 an acre (and subsequently repurchased by the Government for £40,000), and a promise of a 5 per cent. interest on all permanent endowments up to a limit of £10,000, it gave the University four and a half acres on North Terrace. At first, the site was that now occupied by the Exhibition building, and although the Government yielded, after a little gentle persuasion, and altered the North Terrace frontage, no amount of hints or threats could induce them to give up the land through to the Torrens. So for years the site of the Refectory and the Barr Smith, and many of the more recent buildings, was occupied by mud dumps surrounded by a galvanised iron fence. The other clauses of the Bill explained that the University was to consist of a Council and Senate, and gave the Governor the job of selecting the Council within three months of the passing of the Act,

which was all duly done, and twenty august citizens were chosen to rule a University, which, as yet, had no students. The first chancellor, who unfortunately died within a few months of taking office, was the Hon. Sir Richard Davies Hanson.

Although Sir Thomas Elder had evidently decided to add another £20,000 to the University funds, he cannily withheld his gift until after the passing of the University Bill. Had the members of the Government known of his intention, they might not have agreed so readily to pay 5 per cent. on all permanent endowments. To fill the two new chairs thus created, Professors Lamb and Tate were selected by a committee in England, and installed in Morialta Chambers, Victoria Sq. West, to teach aspiring students. The first registrar (who had to do everything, from giving out information to collecting fees), was William Barlow, B.A. (later knighted) and the first lecture rooms were by the offices of Baker and Barlow, and, indeed, are still occupied by that firm, although years have added weight and dignity to their appellation, and they are now Baker, McEwin, Ligertwood and Millhouse.

During 1875, Profs. Read and Davidson gave a series of "popular lectures," but the public did not appreciate these efforts to raise their intellectual status, and the lectures were discontinued at the end of the year. The first real students were enrolled in 1876, and on Tuesday, April 25, of that year, the University was officially opened by the Governor, Sir Anthony Musgrave.

Last year, the University came into the "News" because, allegedly, it had suddenly become the haunt of a species of Lepidoptera. The fallacy of this belief is shown by the annual report recorded in the University calendar for 1876. "It is a gratifying sign of the times that so large a number as 33 ladies have, as non-matriculated students, attended some of the University classes during the first year of its operation, for it is certain that high mental culture on their part must react on the other sex and give a powerful impetus to self-education and the acquirement of literary as well as social knowledge."

It is no wonder that the "ladies" in question did not bother to matriculate, as every student had to satisfy the examiners in Latin, maths., English law, English history, and geography as compulsory subjects, besides others which were optional.

But we are straying. Let us return in thought to the University Act of 1874, which said that there must be a University Senate composed of at least 50 graduates. The question was, "Find the graduates?" A State-wide appeal was made, and from every nook and cranny they came. There were graduates of every University in England, Scotland, and Ireland (except Durham) five from Germany, one from Dorpat (Russia), one from Toronto, and two from Melbourne.

On Wednesday, May 2, 1877, exactly one week after the opening of the City Bridge, the first commencement was held at the Town Hall amid much pomp and ceremony and applause. The first to receive a degree was the Acting Chancellor, Bishop Short, and as he could not confer a degree upon himself, Chief Justice Way did it for him. Bishop Short then admitted the 75 other graduates of the State to ad eundem degrees, and the Senate was constituted.

Although lectures had begun, it was not until 1882 that the University had a home of its own. On July 30, 1879, in the presence of about two thousand people, the foundation stone of the first University building had been laid by the Governor, Sir William Jervois. Three years later, on April 5, 1882, the buildings (which had cost between £31,000 and £32,000) were officially opened by the same Governor, and the first commencement, on the University premises was held.

In 1881, Queen Victoria granted a charter willing and ordaining that degrees in arts, medicine, law, science, and music conferred by the University of Adelaide on any person, male or female, should be recognised as fully as any University of her United Kingdom. Our University was the first in Australia to be given the power to grant degrees to women and degrees in science. The charter has since been extended. In 1913 our surgery and engineering degrees were recognised, and in 1924 the Adelaide University was given unrestricted authority to constitute degrees. There is now nothing to stop the authorities, except their discretion, from granting degrees in housework, jazz composition, or gardening.

MUSICAL MOMENTS.

The University of Adelaide has another distinction. It was the first University in the Empire, outside the United Kingdom, to establish a Chair of Music (1884). In 1885, Professor Joshua Ives, Mus. Bach., was appointed to fill the new Chair. In its early years the University had to struggle against the most harsh and short-sighted newspaper criticism, and the School of Music was not allowed to go unscathed. For instance, on November 7, 1895, one paper (happily now extinct) declared:

"The annual farce of the Ad. University—the examinations of music—is now being performed at that institution, to the intense satisfaction and delight of the proud papas and mamas of the candidates who pass, and the great glorification and pecuniary benefit of the teachers of music, who cater for this absurdity. Surely the public, even those who know very little about music, must see that it is supremely ridiculous for one man to pretend to examine in theory of music, piano playing, organ playing, singing, the violin, cornet, trombone, flute, Jew's harp, bagpipes, penny

(Continued on next page.)

OXFORD PROFESSORS I HAVE MET

By J. J. Pritchard.

When I first arrived in Oxford, the medical school was chiefly interested in neurology, for the Professor of Anatomy, Le Gros Clark, is famous for his brain researches, and the Professor of Physiology, Sir Charles Sherrington, is known the world over for his studies of reflex action.

Mistaking Professor Le Gros Clark for a student, the very first day I started demonstrating in anatomy, I asked him if I could be of any assistance with the brain he was so closely inspecting. He very mischievously let me deliver a lecture on the thalamus to him, and then thanked me quite warmly for my help. I did not discover my faux pas until next morning, when I went to a neurology lecture, feeling quite excited in anticipation of hearing the professor lecture on his favorite topic, "The thalamus and its evolution."

Sir Charles Sherrington is a small man, with a small voice and a red face. In his lectures his extremely simple and direct narrative style manages to confuse 90 per cent. of his audience, who come with heads chock-full of long words and half-understood catch phrases. I was fortunate to hear him at all, for he retired at the end of my first term. His place was taken after much deliberation, by Prof. John Mellonby, an expert on all matters appertaining to the digestive system.

In biochemistry, Prof. R. A. Peters knows more about vitamin B than most people. Besides this, he reads an immense amount of original literature, so that his general knowledge is encyclopaedic. The histology dept. is managed by Dr. Carlton, who recently took over the editorship of "Shafer's Text Book of Histology." He has a slight impediment in his speech, which is a source of great amusement to those attending his lectures, besides which his stock of droll stories is unlimited. In this respect, his wife, who is a senior anatomy demonstrator, is not far behind, and her tales have livened many a dull afternoon for me.

South Australians are very much to the fore in the pathology dept.—Prof. Florey and Dr. Brian Macgrath, both hailing from Adelaide University. The pathology buildings are probably better equipped than any similar buildings in England, but this cannot be said of the other scientific departments, which are for the most part, very badly accommodated.

It was my privilege and good fortune to meet J. S. Haldane one Sunday afternoon at tea, in his home in North Oxford, a fortnight before he died. He was bent almost double, yet his activity was amazing, and his piercing eyes under long, bushy eyebrows, would gleam as prelude to a witty anecdote or sparkling retort. His guests that day, with the exception of myself—I was relegated to one corner with the young ladies of the household—were all men, accustomed to homage in their own particular spheres, yet this goblin-figure dominated the room, for his greater genius was apparent. He suddenly tired of his company, and grasping me by the arm, he led me to his laboratory and showed me his latest invention—a supersensitive gas-analysis apparatus, with which he hoped to measure seasonal variations in the CO₂ content of the atmosphere. Suddenly we heard a clap of thunder. We almost ran outside into the garden; murmuring "I haven't got a sample of N.E. wind yet." He filled a small bottle with the said wind, corked it and returned in high glee to his laboratory.

My desire to laugh was checked as I suddenly realised that this man, nearly four score years in age, was still thinking of things other people hadn't thought about.

For some reason, I have had a much greater respect for scientific research since that afternoon than ever before.

whistle, and in fact, anything which may be included under the comprehensive heading of 'playing upon orchestral instruments' as stated in the University calendar."

Sir Thomas Elder died in 1897, bequeathing £65,000 to the University by his will. Part of this bequest was used to endow a Chair of Music and to erect the Elder Conservatorium. No time was lost, and in November, 1898, a large crowd assembled to witness the Governor, Sir Powell Buxton, lay the foundation stone of the Conservatorium. The scene, according to the "Observer" of the day, was a brilliant one. The paper records the "beautiful dresses of the ladies," the rich coloring of the academical gowns, and the "profusion of bunting." Perched on a dais was the Conserve orchestra and at the back was a portrait of Sir Thomas Elder, "wreathed with flowers taken from the dead knight's garden at Mount Lofty." The proceedings ran comparatively smoothly until the Minister for Education remarked facetiously that he hoped that if the students did not develop into Mendelssohns and Mozarts, it would only be because they were Haudeis and Rubenstein. This was asking for trouble, and as the leading people walked away the undergrads, who were screened off behind the aforementioned "profusion of bunting," loudly whistled the "Dead March." The atmosphere was distinctly tense, to say the least, when the assembly broke up.

In two years time the Conservatorium was finished, and in 1900 was opened by no less a personage than Lord Tennyson.

The Elder Hall has since witnessed an amazing series of events within its walls. There, ad eundem degrees have been conferred upon members of the Royal family and some of the most famous men of the day; musicians of all ranks have given concerts from its platform; and its floor has been thronged with dancers—for, until the Refectory was built, the Elder Hall was the recognised abode for such events as the Varsity Ball.

Here, also, certain students perpetrated the skeleton escapade, which outraged the authorities and caused those responsible to receive severe punishment. But many years have since rolled by, and although we can still appreciate the awkwardness involved at the time, we cannot help but see the humor of the situation. On the occasion of a visiting graduate of another University, who had risen to a high position, and accepted an invitation to become a member of the Adelaide University by admission ad eundem gradum. When he was presented by the Dean of his Faculty to the Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way) there was a very great stir in the hall, and those on the dais noticed that every face was turned towards the roof. Looking up they saw a cloth-covered object dangling high above. Gradually the cloth was drawn away by someone in the roof, and a human skeleton was slowly lowered for some distance, stopping directly over the head of the guest of honor. The position was tragic as the huge audience gazed in horrified amazement, and burned with indignation at such an insult to an honored guest, the Chancellor, Council and Senate.

COMMEN. VERSES.

In the early days Commem. was always a great day for the students. They stood at the back of the hall, and when they were not actually up to mischief with alarm clocks and skeletons, they sang home-made verses on topical subjects. There was always a special song to each new graduate as he stepped up to receive his degree. Here are a few samples of the more polite verses that are fit to be recorded in print.

Our History Goes

She raised her eyes of heavenly blue
And said, "Your suit my dad'll aid
If you can manage to get through
The examinations at the U
Niversity of Adelaide!

Ten, twenty, thirty summers flew,
My mental eggs were addle laid;
Ten times in spite of all my stu—
With care they plucked me at the U
Niversity of Adelaide.

To H. K. PAINE (Graduated 1904).
Great pains he took did little Paine
And now he's Paine of High Degree,
The pains and cults of wondrous brain
Have made him "Stow" and LL.B.

To B. B. BROCK (Graduated 1904).
All the year did Brian workee
Allee nightee long,
Now his B.Sc. he takee,
Singe happy song.
Soon he go to West Australia,
Welly far away,
There in battery golden ores he
Grindee all the day.

Chorus.

Chin, chin, pretty girls, muchee,
muchee sad,
They afraid marriage trade velly, velly
bad.
Noee joke, mining bloke, soon the
Right must cross,
Plenty muchee sadee girl mourn his
loss.

To DEAN DAWSON (Graduated
1905).

Dean Dawson, what do you do here?
'Tis no place for a Dean we fear;
You should rightly be in church,
Not leave your dear flock in the lurch.

Your second name gives you a right
To stay out very late at night,
For Dawson's whisky, so they say,
Affects most people in that way.
Ta Ray Ra.

To DOUGLAS MAWSON
(D.Sc., 1909).

Raw feet, raw feet, down a hole,
Rough seat, rough seat, on the pole,
Seal fat, seal fat, come and see
Douglas Mawson, D.Sc.

Mineral, mineral mineralogy,
Petrol, petrol, petrology;
Heave him up, heave him up, sliikaree,
Douglas Mawson, D.Sc.

Boomalacka, coomalacka, bow wow
wow,
Chingalacka, chingalacka, chow, chow,
chow;
Boomalacka, chingalacka, who is he?
Douglas Mawson, D.Sc.

To SIR ANGAS PARSONS
(Graduated 1891).

Imagine me now if you can,
A promising sort of a man,
A young LL.B.,
A would-be M.P.,
And Consul of Japan.

The further historical facts about the Adelaide University are recorded precisely in the University Calendar, and there is no need to dwell on them here. The Calendar also gives a long list of our very generous benefactors; the years in which the various chairs were established, and the names of the men who have since occupied them; and the dates when the various buildings were opened. It remains for "On Dit" to record the beginning and growth of student activity at the 'Varsity.

SPORTS UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

To-day the Union and the Sports Association are separate affiliated bodies, each with its own constitution, subscription, and committee. But in 1882, when the University moved into its new quarters, there were so few students that they naturally did everything together without forming themselves into definite associations. At first they were allotted an underground room beneath the present history

lecture room in the main building, and now used for stores. In this room, known under such names as "The Cellar" and "The Dungeon," the men students talked and ate, and played pitch and toss on the cold slate floor. Students either had to bring their lunch or go up to town, where the usual meagre diet was a bun and a glass of milk.

The sporting facilities in the 80's were very limited. One of the first clubs was the Boats Club, and as early as February, 1885, the Tyas Cup was awarded to W. F. Hopkins for champion sculls. This cup (presented by an early registrar) is still used for the annual inter-faculty rowing. Lacrosse was another of the original 'Varsity sports. As there was at that time no oval of any description attached to the University, and very little clear, flat space, the lacrosse enthusiasts went out to Medindie parklands to practise. In 1889 the 'Varsity team joined the Lacrosse Association, and in 1890 they were premiers.

The first actual sports ground was the tennis court just at the back of the original main building. Of course, there was no pre-arranged schedule of matches, nor any inter-varsity contests, although a team of enthusiastic players toured the countryside during one vacation. The court had not been long in use, however, when, returning to work in 1886, students found that it had been built upon—in fact, it was no more. In indignation they elected the twenty-two members of the Council vice-presidents of their club, and in that way extorted almost as many guineas, with which they were able to pay for another court. This one they placed out of harm's road on the site of the W.E.A. bookroom. A stone wall ran along the southern end, and the students who were not playing used to bask on the wall in the sun and watch the tennis during their lunch hour. In 1891 another asphalt court was put down nearby. From here, after the erection of the Conservatorium in 1898, the students who were musically inclined (or more probably those who were not) imitated the trilling of Mme. Delmar Hall's singing students.

FIRST SIGNS OF STUDENT ORGANISATION.

The first real move towards organisation of student life came in 1890, when the first 'Varsity concert on record was held in the old upstairs library. Two women students sang, and after all the items were over there was a dance. In about 1894 community singing was introduced by a Melbourne professor, and the students met in one of the lecture rooms to sing "Upidee," "Billy McGee McGaw," and other songs from the Students' Songbook. This brought all the students together, and a movement was put afoot to form a Union, with a building "to be a home for the Union and a centre of social life for the students." At the beginning of 1895 the Graduates' Association accepted a proposal to admit undergrads into their organisation. Gradually the movement for a real Union—not just a nominal one—spread. In February, 1896, at the suggestion of the Union, the Council appointed a committee to work with the Union Committee towards this end. One of the most enthusiastic workers was Prof. Bragg. Funds were collected, and on August 6, 1896, the foundation stone of the new Union room (now occupied by the W.E.A. bookroom) was laid by the Governor. The tennis court was again obliterated. The new courts were put down later on the ground in front of the anatomy building, now occupied by the car park. A famous four used to play on these courts—Prof. Jethro Brown and Kerr Grant, Mr. Gartrell and Mr. Portus (now our own G. V. Portus, Professor of History and Political Science)—amid the cheers and shouted advice of med-students. Prof. Kerr Grant's words,

On . . . and on

"You keep to your side," are remembered by his barracks to this day.

The first student society was the Law Society, which was founded in April, 1898. A most imposing committee, under the patronage of the Chief Justice, Sir Samuel Way, was elected. Many of its members have since won their way to high positions in the field of law. The original committee consisted of Prof. Salmond (later knighted), Messrs. d'Arenburg, F. L. Stow, H. N. Barwell (later knighted), F. W. Young (later knighted), P. E. Johnstone, A. B. Hardy, and R. B. Stuckey. The secretary was Mr. I. H. Solomon. There is a famous comment about Sir John Salmond, who came from N.Z. to the Adelaide Chair of Law. It runs:—

Swimming from New Zealand, fish-hooks in his jaw,
Spouting Jurisprudence, gurgling Roman Law,
Hodge went down to meet him, shook him by the fin,
Put him in the Chair of Laws 'stead of in a tin.

The constitution of this society remained practically unaltered for 25 years until the intrusion of the alter-the-constitution-on-principle student into our midst in the 1920's.

COW PADDOCK TO OVAL.

"The Sports Association was first formed in 1897 by the amalgamation of the Lacrosse, Lawn Tennis, and Boat Clubs," says page 51 of the Students' Handbook, produced annually for the edification of freshers. Gradually this new Association swallowed the Union, and from 1903 until after the war the two had no separate existence. The Women's Union was formed in 1902, and continued as an independent body until the formation of the present Union. Women students, like the men, were at first granted the use of a room in the main building, but later moved their headquarters to "The Cottage," which formed, and still does form, a part of the old Police Barracks.

In 1910 the University obtained the lease of 6½ acres of cow paddock (an area later extended) from the Corporation of Adelaide for a University Oval. It is comforting to feel that the lease has forever protected the oval from grazing animals, intoxicating liquor, unemployed shacks, and, not least, a puny caretaker, for it expressly states that the caretaker shall be sworn in as a special constable. Students, under Profs. Henderson and Naylor, got to work straight away, digging and trenching and making the land into an oval, while at the same time they appealed for subscriptions towards a pavilion. Among the subscribers were His Excellency Sir Geo. Le Hunte, Lieut. (Sir Ernest) Shackleton, and many members of the Council and the staff. About the same time, Mr. Barr Smith gave the money for a new boatshed. Before long the grandstand was finished, and the oval became a very popular place with the students, despite the fact that they had to come practically from North Terrace (the refectory site did not belong to the University until 1925). The two popular routes were via the Frome Road Bridge or through the tin fence by the river and across the Torrens (when mud took the place of water) by stepping stones.

MUD DUMPS TO REFECTORY.

Until after the war, the University progressed slowly but surely, adding new buildings, chairs, and prizes, until in 1919 it was suggested that there was not enough room for expansion on the site then occupied. It was proposed and passed that the University should be moved to the site of the Parkside Mental Hospital. Fortunately, the scheme fell through, because, although the spacious grounds at Parkside would

have saved the worry of a footbridge over the Torrens, they were too far from the city, with its Public Library, Adelaide Hospital, lawyers' offices, and other institutions. Just think how long it would take the massage girls to get round from Parkside to their work at the Children's Hospital!

At the same time, a movement for the resurrection of the Union was started and a new Union building proposed as a memorial to the Varsity men who had fallen in the war. The development of the scheme has been recorded in the "Magazine" (November, 1925): "Some time ago, in 1921 or thereabouts, the Graduates' Association took the matter up (of making the Union an active issue in University affairs). Tentative proposals were made and plans were drawn up and agreed to by the Graduates' Association; but for some reason or another (utter lack of sympathy and support probably) nothing was done."

"In 1923 the Students' Representative Council was formed, with the Union as one of its principle objectives. That body received such a disillusioning douche from the indifference of the students—the only notice that was taken of its existence was ribald and unkind—that it felt itself impotent to tackle larger things. But it has gradually made its way, and now has the undoubted support of people who have any regard for anything more than themselves. This year (1925) it was considered by the delegates that they were in a position to act with regard to the Union. A proposal to the Graduates' Association was accepted and a joint committee of Graduates and Undergraduates formed, which has covered a good deal of preliminary ground. A suggestion was made to the University Council that a committee should be appointed to undertake and be responsible for the raising of funds, the building and organisation of the Union." From that time onwards the Union scheme progressed rapidly. In that same year the University at last managed to get possession of the land along Victoria Drive, and part of it was set aside for a Union building. The only snag was lack of money.

In 1926, during the Jubilee Celebrations (during which letters of congratulation were received from 173 different Universities), Sir Josiah Symon gave £10,000 to build a Women's Union building, and great were the rejoicings in "The Cottage." Magnificent plans were drawn up by the University architects, including, beside the Lady Symon building, a refectory, a Men's Union building, and cloisters, continuing right around the refectory lawn. Building started and a drive was made for funds. A Union Building Appeal Committee, consisting of two representatives from each of the Students' Council and the Sports Association, was elected at a general meeting of students in 1927 to appeal for voluntary subscriptions amongst the undergraduates. There were many promises of donations made by the students, but when they found that to join the Union they must pay 25/ as well, most of them reneged. A conversation was held in July, 1928, and £195 taken as profit. In the same month a meeting to consider the Union constitution was led by Dr. F. Hone and Prof. Campbell. The Council set up a committee to consider the building plans. Only one dissentient voice was heard—and we very much doubt its sincerity—and that was from a contributor to the "Varsity Ragge" (May 8, 1928):—"There have been horrible rumors afloat that men and women will be allowed to mingle promiscuously at tables in the new refectory.

"If this is true, I wish most vehemently to protest against such an inconsiderate freedom . . . Surely the committee will have sufficient common sense to divide the

refectory into two parts by a sound-proof glass partition, so that men can enjoy their food in peace and quietness."

Yours in great agitation,
"Horrified Male."

As everyone can see, the money ran out and the building was not finished, but it is to be hoped that the Men's Union building will be erected before long. A special appeal is being launched for this purpose. The Lady Symon and refectory were opened in 1929, so that this is only their eighth year of existence. Mr. and Mrs. Goodall have managed as caretakers from the beginning, so it is no wonder that they know the ropes.

To furnish the Lady Symon, the U.W.U. held "A Pageant of Learning" in the courtyard of the old Police Barracks, and there are in existence precious photographs of Grecian dancers and banner-waving academics who took part in the performance.

We fear that the original purpose of the Union building as a war memorial has been almost lost, especially following the decision of the Council to place the bronze tablets inscribed with the names of the Varsity men who served in the war above the stairs of the main building instead of in the western portion of the refectory cloisters. But, undoubtedly the venerable old building is a more suitable place.

No sooner was the refectory finished than the Dance Club shifted its headquarters. After the war, a few students had joined together, hired the Aurora Hall in the city, and started a fortnightly Dance Club. The use of the refectory, despite its somewhat "heavy" floor, gave a tremendous stimulus to the membership list, and the Dance Club became the Varsity Club between 1930-34. In 1930 there were 450 at the Varsity Ball, and at one of the Dance Club cabarets there were about 900 dancers. Then the members of many of the University clubs and faculties saw a way of turning this craze for dancing into funds, and in one year the Dance Club was ruined. Sad though it is, the Dance Club is definitely done for.

ODDS AND ENDS.

Another club of remarkable growth is the Footlights Club, a recent product of the old Varsity concert and affiliated with the Sports Association. There was a time when students had a bit of fun on commem. day, and held their grand procession through the streets of Adelaide (as we hope to do on December 5 this year). There was also a rowdy annual concert, when tomatoes were hurled from the gallery and various articles suspended over the audience. The only sign of the old spirit we have seen of late was a wheelbarrow race held in the city last year by certain engineering students after their annual dinner.

In 1931 a letter from one, Dean Hay, was printed in the "Varsity Ragge," suggesting the organisation of the Footlights Club to run the concert, which was usually a last minute affair and inclined to be vulgar. Since then the show has become more and more organised until now we have an excellent clock-work ballet, and humorous, but unoriginal, skits filling most of the programme. The Varsity Revue is a money-making concern—the concert was not. There lies its power.

There are other interesting facts which of necessity we must exclude—such as the gift of Mr. Peter Waite in 1914 and the foundation of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute; the establishment of St. Mark's College in 1925 and of St. Andrew's in 1927; the building of the Barr Smith Library in 1930, and the subsequent grant of the Jubilee Oval to the University; and the new Bonython Hall. The University has its fingers in many pies. The Council appoint the committees of the Observatory and the Cancer Campaign. It is represented on the Museum and

SINCEREST THANKS TO SIR LANGDON BONYTHON

MEMORABLE OPENING OF THE BONYTHON HALL.

Distinguished guests, the colorful pageantry of academic dress, and really good speeches marked the opening of the Bonython Hall yesterday morning by the Governor-General, Lord Gowrie, in the presence of nearly 1,600 people. The President of the Union carrying the mace preceded the Vice-Regal party, and the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, and the Warden of the Senate to the crimson-carpeted dias.

"The first thought that occurs to me on an occasion like this," said Lord Gowrie, "is how fortunate South Australia is in having among her citizens men of generous and patriotic spirit who do so much for the benefit of the State."

Lord Gowrie congratulated the Architect, Mr. Bagot, and Mr. James Henderson, the Clerk of Works, and all who had taken any part in the construction of the hall. They have realised that every building, great or small, had its own character and formed part of a prospect on which many eyes would rest, and that the designers of these buildings had a duty not only to those who occupy them, but to those who pass by as well. In this building he felt sure they had combined these two important factors.

The Vice-Chancellor made a delightful speech in which he described the revisiting of this University by Sir Anthony Musgrave, who presided at that first meeting in the Town Hall sixty years ago.

Finally, the Union would like to take this opportunity of voicing its warmest thanks to Sir Langdon Bonython for his very generous and beautiful gift.

Public Library Committees. And it is affiliated with Roseworthy Agricultural College, the School of Mines, and the Teachers' Training College (whose members it has admitted to University courses free of charge since 1898). In 1919 an additional grant was made by the Government on the condition that the University might provide all the professional men of the State, and it is the express intention of the Council that the professors and other full-time teachers in the University should be able to devote half their working time to advance their province of knowledge.

Bibliography: Such records of the Varsity's humble and rather theological origin as are preserved in the Front Office, the Barr Smith, the Public Library, the Archives, and the Union Office. Sundry back numbers of the University Calendar, the Magazine (which only seems to date back to 1910), the Varsity Ragge and "On Dit" (which did not start until the 1930's). All other information is somewhat scattered, and has been mainly collected by word of mouth. Our thanks are due especially to Charles Hodge, Esq. (former Registrar), Drs. Goldsmith and P. S. Hone, and Messrs. H. Solomon and Eardley. We hope we have not forgotten anyone. If we have, we offer our apologies and thanks.

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SYDNEY TO ADELAIDE AUX PIEDS!

There is one great advantage hiking has over motoring: you become acquainted with so many more people—and among them the most variegated assortment of "characters." They crop up in a manner, to say the least, astonishing, and always in the most unexpected places.

Swaggies we met by the score; or, rather, wretched unemployed fellows looking for a job—and finding none. The Ocean or Prince's Highway seems to be their great trunk route. They travel mostly with a roll of blankets and a billy; a few laden with cases—which they discuss in terms none too complimentary. God knows what they live on: a crust and a slice of charity; but they always stopped us with, "Got a smoke, mate?" and we would proffer our tobacco. "Just enough for a smoke—aw thanks—where are you making for? Melbourne? Strewth!"—and meanwhile the tobacco tin has half-emptied. Our usual words of parting sounded cruelly ironic: "Well, keep smiling; cheerio."

In the Macquarie Pass the temperature was about a hundred, and as we steamed up hill through the dust we stopped at a creek. A sedan car was there and a party of picnickers, a riotously cheerful party. We were asked to have a cup of tea—we had just finished lunch, but accepted—we ended by having a most sumptuous meal. The man was Irish; before the war he was a vaudeville artist. Harry started humming "A Long, Long Trail," and that set him going. His star turn was as a swaggie, when he would sing pathetic ditties to his koala bear, Micky. Micky used to set the house aroar by drinking beer from a bottle and performing silly antics. But the beer proved too much; Micky's growth was stunted and eventually he died of heart strain. Our friend apparently also drank beer from a bottle. He went to the war and came out rather the worse for wear—he used to take part in the "Splinters" review—but now he specialised in road-making, except when he downed tools, as he often did, to go afishing. Road-making is a very comfortable profession—plenty of work and no worry. Not that an Irishman like he could worry. His father boiled the billy. His wife fed him and poured out more tea. One of the children nearly fell in the creek; the dog wove a maze about our legs. More tea and an endless stream of banter. "More tea—" "We must be going, really." So we left them sitting by the creek on the chequered pattern cast by the elm trees—a cheery hand wave, tousled black hair and swift eyes, more tea, a bit of smoke, hands—and we were round the bend.

At Canberra we saw everything there was to see. It is indeed a city of vast open spaces, especially when they have to be crossed on foot. We did not meet Mr. Lyons nor Mr. P. (now Sir) Archdale, but the janitor (vide "On Dit," 1935) was very helpful. He told us the carpet in Parliament House cost I don't know how many pounds, and the wood was all Australian. Someone else told us about the Street of the Laws and the Prophets—a row of magnificent houses built by lawyers who did well by the High Court and by landowners who profited during the building of Canberra.

Long Plains are a freak of nature: a level saucer, ten miles by twenty miles, treeless, and perched four thousand feet on top of a rugged mountain range. We began by getting bogged in the source of the Murrumbidgee River. After that for five miles our approach was heralded by a mob of steers which thundered on before us. We met a real Buffalo Bill—sombre, caparisoned broncho, and all—who directed us to the shearing sheds. There we met the Radium King, a democrat if ever there was one, with advanced views about the bloodiness of Fascists, soldiers, and scouts—agents of reaction trained to line revolting workers against a wall and shoot them. For a living he fossicked

for radium; in fact, he had just made the richest find in Australia—and his little Citroen car was still away there in the mountains. If only he could get petrol to the car, or capital to the ore, or get a mate to help him. And we had to get to Adelaide, which was bad luck. Well, he would find someone; he always kept moving. "They say a rolling stone gathers no moss, but if it stays still the birds drop on it." . . . I suppose Radium is still moving; he left a Citroen in the Brindabellas, a horse in the Bogongs, a cycle up at Castlemaine, and now he was going down the river to Hay.

Along the Murray it was very hot. We walked in very short khaki shorts; our legs were brown and our socks rolled to the ankles. I went up to a house to get some apples. An old dame, who had been leaning on a fence, came quizzically towards me, then looked much relieved. "I wondered what you men down there were doing; I thought you had no trousers." We had; and I received a bumper shirt full of apples and pears.

In the Grampians we had an amusing, if a little alarming, experience. We arrived in the evening at Hall's Gap, intending to spend three days in the mountains. We spurned a guide, but bought a map of sorts, and received endless contradictory information. We bought four loaves of bread and set out for "The Pinnacle" at 2,300 feet, where we could camp—and "find any amount of water." When we got there (quite unexpectedly, for we discovered we had been following the wrong track) the view proved to be magnificent, but there was no water. Then we lost the track entirely. The map was a maze of leaning towers, fallen giants, and a lady's hat; and anything might be a leaning tower if looked at the right way; and a lady's hat only needs imagination. In the dusk we found a track, and as we tossed our loaves of bread (which had come unpacked) across a chasm and followed after ourselves, we recognised that we were indeed at the nerve test. We tossed our bread down Silent Street and squeezed after; we saw the lady's hat (a very conventional hat); we found Echo Cave and Cool Chamber and explored them; and at the Elephant's Feet we found pools of water. We camped on the path with ants for company. Next day (Thursday) we calculated that it was not Thursday at all, but Friday, and we were due in Hamilton (60 miles away) in 24 hours. We left the mountains and returned to the deserted road. Just when we were giving up hope we were startled half out of our wits by a motor and trailer drawing up beside us. "Would you like a lift?" and bananas were offered to us. We hardly waited to say "Yes." The wind froze us and nearly blew us from our perch on the trailer, but we reached Hamilton in good time.

The people of south-west Victoria are very hospitable. We arrived at one homestead and were dossing in an outhouse when an old hand came up to us and, in between telling us we were all sorts of fools, told us to camp like kings with beds, tables, chairs, oven and utensils in the shearers' quarters, and to go to the house and demand a wayfarer's right of meat, tea, sugar, jam, and tobacco. And he shooed us off, cursing the hands for not having brought meat to us—in all his born days—"and there's plenty of wood on the pile and good water." Late next day, after twenty cars had left us in a cloud of dust, a sedan pulled up, and the driver offered to take us on a few miles. They came from the station. The wife drove the car, and I believe she was just as efficient in driving the family—firm hands and a charming voice, with a good sense of humor. The squatter was brown and wizened to the bone; a little grey of hair, but his knotted hands were strong, and he had a clear eye for the sheep and cattle. As for his slim young daughter, she was not

A.U.R.C.

Final Stage of Championship.

This stage was fired last Saturday at 800 yards in fairly good conditions. The lift was good, but the wind was inclined to make some rather quick changes, much to the detriment of some of the less experienced shots.

C. G. Starling, who had hit the front after the last stage, continued to shoot well to increase his lead, and score a comfortable win from S. W. Smith, with C. H. Mutton one point further back, third. Starling has been shooting consistently ever since he joined the club, and his success is well deserved. S. W. Smith's position is a tribute to the improvement he has made since the start of the year.

Mutton's form needs no comment, except that the fact that he was again top scorer with 75 out of 80 shows that he was particularly unfortunate not to be disputing the lead with Starling.

The handicap section was also won by Starling by one point from K. W. Smith, with S. W. Smith third. Mutton scored a comfortable win in the Cooper Cup from Starling and Brooke.

The third spoon, presented by Mutton, was won by K. W. V. Smith with a net 80 from Hamilton 79, and Starling 78. Final scores:—

Championship: Starling, 431; S. W. Smith, 422; Mutton, 421; Walter, 418. Handicap: Starling, 455; K. W. V. Smith, 454; S. W. Smith, 451; Allen, 443.

These scores are not as good as last year, but that is due not to a lower standard of shooting, but to harder weather conditions.

SATURDAY'S SPORT.

Women's Hockey: Varsity B2 were defeated by Miramah, 8—3.
Men's Hockey: Varsity B's defeated Kenwood, 11—2.

Everyone who remembers Pat Greenland will be interested to know that he has recently been appointed secretary of the University Appointments Board of Sydney University. As a St. Mark's man, P. C. Greenland gained his M.A. with honors in English in 1933. From 1929 to 1934 he was secretary of the Union and Sports Association. He then became secretary and tutor of the Workers' Educational Association of Tasmania. At the end of 1934 he went to Sydney University as secretary of their Sports Union. Last year he became resident tutor at St. Paul's College, and this year he was appointed sub-warden.

half her mother, but her eyes were ever so blue, and momentarily I saw the sun glint on a silver bubble at the arching of her lips. And what a shadow-catching laugh! We wished we had shaved and were not quite so hot and dusty.

We explored the relics of Portland, and then tramped cross-country forty boiling miles through loose sand and past empty waterholes to Mount Gambier. But we were compensated by the strange, white splendor of the sandhills, by finding remains of pre-abo. times (flint-chipped spear-heads, and so on), by the mysterious Swan Lakes and herds of emus and other wild animals driven hither and thither by a number of nearby bush fires, and, finally, by a broken-down hotel, corral, and steeplechase course, once the haunt of Adam, Lindsay Gordon.

Two miles after crossing the Glenelg River, at the tiny holiday fishing village of Nelson, we came to the Victoria-South Australia border. We ate the rest of the bread we had bought at Hall's Gap—eight days old now—walked half a mile to fetch some water with which to drink our health, sang the "Song of Australia," and marched triumphantly into South Australian territory. There was no band!

—"JOHN S."

OURSELVES AND INDIA

On Tuesday, the 8th, the Vice-Chancellor introduced Mr. C. F. Andrews to the University in the Rennie Lecture. Theatre. Mr. Andrews made the first of his "Bids for Indian-Australia friendship." Mr. Andrews himself was largely responsible for the abolition of the old inhuman system of Indian indenture in the islands of the South Pacific.

He stressed the need to the Empire of keeping the Anglo-Australian air route open. To that end it is not sufficient to have the Indians remain grudging, sullen, or coerced. Even from a point of view of interest, it is best that we have a willing, friendly India in the Empire. Yet at the present time India is discontented and disappointed—a state of mind extending through all classes and races. Three causes in particular are responsible for this state of affairs.

Government of India Act.

After seven years of incessant talk, the new Constitutional Act has brought only disappointment, for self-government at the centre is as far off as ever. Thus some 80 per cent. of the Budget at the centre will be untouchable, as far as the Federal Assembly (the Indian Parliament) is concerned. Foreign affairs and defence will remain to the British Executive. Election will not be direct, and a third of the members of the Federal Assembly will not be elected at all, but will sit as nominees of the Princes (many of whom are extraordinarily reactionary). No powers of revision reside in the Assembly for ten years, and then the field for revision is small. Every revision will mean a Bill in the British Parliament. The new Act has, however, done some good work in the Provincial system. But the Indians will go down-hearted to the work of the Federal Parliament.

Shadow of Abyssinia.

There is discontent over the fate of Abyssinia, bitterness at the betrayal of a country with whom India had extensive friendly commercial relations.

"IS THERE A PRACTICAL PEACE POLICY?"

MEN'S UNION OPEN FORUM,
TUESDAY NEXT, at 7.45 p.m.

But the unhappiness goes deeper. The Hindus see it as the final limit—the last Oriental kingdom has gone down before the Imperialism of the West. The Mohammedans have been linked traditionally with Abyssinia—Abyssinia had helped Mahomet himself.

Trouble in Palestine.

The open rebellion in Palestine concerns restless India, too. The rebels are Arabs; they are the centre of Islam, the people from whom came the Prophet himself. So the newspapers of India's 80,000,000 Moslems repeat everything that happens to-day in Palestine and the Mohammedan peoples of India are not happy about it.

A Promise Unfulfilled.

After discussion in the years 1919 and 1921 the Dominions and India signed a Reciprocity Agreement. Amongst other things, India recognised the White Australia policy. In return the Dominions said that they would "welcome as temporary residents, Indian students," and would send our own students to India. Now, the United States spent the Boxer Indemnity on University scholarships for Chinese students, with the result that Chinese statesmen to-day, educated in America, look out with friendship to the country of their Alma Mater. Why should we not have Indians here—the intellectually brilliant but poor students of the Indian villages—to do their advanced work with us? Spalding has given a Chair of Oriental Philosophy to Oxford, and the first professor is an Indian. Why can we not give some scholarships to the students of India. That way, by extension of the principle, lies world peace.

Mr. Andrews will speak in the Rennie Lecture Theatre each lunch hour this week at 1.20.

FOOTBALL

Adelaide's Great Inter-Varsity Win; Second Win in Fourteen Years.

When we saw our chances fading of gaining inclusion in the final four in Amateur League this year, we decided to compensate by winning the Inter-Varsity—a seemingly impossible task; but we have done it.

Disaster overtook us before the match in that Elix and McFarlane, our captain and vice-captain, were both badly injured in the Amateur League Carnival. Nevertheless, we took the field on the Tuesday each man brimful of the confidence and determination that had been instilled into him by the captain (Elix) and coach (Merv. Evans).

We started off well and had by far the most of the play in the first quarter, but we were unable to clinch our attacks with goals, and when we changed over for the second quarter we were only a few points in front.

In the second quarter Melbourne played a little better than did our men. The football was not of a high standard owing chiefly to the slippery ball, but each side was battling hard, and there were many fierce exchanges in the scrummages. At half-time Melbourne had secured a lead of five points.

After half-time the standard of the game improved considerably, especially as the ball was now dry. This quarter was probably the best quarter ever played by an Adelaide team in the inter-Varsity matches. Our back men, playing superbly, frustrated every attack made by our opponents and prevented them from scoring a single point for the whole quarter. Our forwards led out well, and kicked accurately in front of goal to put on six goals three.

Melbourne started the last quarter with a deficit of 34 points, one large enough to break the hearts of most teams, but they came very close to overhauling us. Two isolated attacks earned for us a goal each. Other than on these two occasions, the ball was in the Melbourne forward lines for the whole quarter, and it was only the determined resistance of our back men that saved us. The final scores were, Adelaide 13.10, Melbourne 10.13, and so we gained our first victory in these contests since 1932, our second since 1922.

Goalkeepers: Sangster and W. P. Goode (4), Betts (2), Hammill, Page, and Elix.

Best Players: Playford, Kleinschmidt, Anders, South, Rice, and Bentley.

OUR PROCESSION

It is the intention of the University students to revive the University Procession this year, and the committee hope to enlist the active support of all faculties in their endeavor to make it a success. The date fixed is December 5th—a Saturday morning, after all examination worries are over.

The individual faculty societies have been approached, and the majority of faculties have voted it a very sound idea, and have proposed to enter exhibits in the procession. The committee want all faculty and other societies, to participate and co-operate—to which end the committee is considering the presentation of a prize for the best entry. At present most of us are busy with our examination preparations and have little time to consider any other activities. Nevertheless, let every student keep it in the back of his or her mind—**Procession Day, December 5th.** The Footlights Club annual review will commence on December 12th, and this function considerably augments the funds of the University Sports Association. So don't forget—help the procession to help the Footlights Club to help the Sports Association to help you.

Committee—G. L. Amos, President; D. Cowell, G. Bridgeland, Arts Ass. Reprs.; N. Wallman, Law; Miss K. Francis, Footlights Club; — Stevens, Engineering; C. King, Dentistry; K. Heard, Medicine; Miss H. Wighton, Women's Rep.

Send in your ideas to your representative. Those societies and clubs not at present represented, send your representative along the see George Amos.

WOMEN'S INTER-VARSITY HOCKEY.

The first match of the inter-varsity contest was played between Adelaide and Melbourne, the latter winning 5-1. The Adelaide defence was brilliant, but the forward line was disappointing, J. Cleland scoring the only goal.

On the following day the Adelaide team was defeated by Queensland. The game was fast and vigorous. The Adelaide team played hard till the last bell, but were overcome by the terrific hitting of the Queenslanders.

The match against Tasmania was again disappointing, resulting in a draw—1 goal all. But as a final climax the whole team played brilliantly against the Sydney team to win 3-1, B. Winterbottom and N. Newand shooting 2 goals, the third was from a penalty bully.

Two combined teams were chosen to play the N.S.W. State teams I. and II. B. Cleland played full-back for the I. Combined team; J. Ray and B. Winterbottom played left half-back and right wing for the II. Combined team. The team work of the N.S.W. State teams proved to be too good for the combined teams in both cases.

Adelaide's final position was third, equal with Tasmania, Melbourne tying for first with Queensland.

The really important part of the trip—the entertainment—was excellent. The teams sailed on the harbor and admired the navy, the houses at the water's edge, and the bridge. The teams went to receptions, pictures, farewells, and departed at the end of a week after a definitely fine time in Sydney.

LADY SYMON LIBRARY.

Will those who have borrowed the following books from the Lady Symon Library please return them at once, as these books are wanted by other people:

- "Testament of Youth"—Vera Brittain.
- "The Idiot"—Dostoevsky.
- "The Brothers Karamazov"—Dostoevsky.
- "Hangman's House"—Don Byrne.
- "Renaissance"—de Gobineau.
- Works of Shelley.
- "Jude the Obscure"—Thomas Hardy.

VISIT OF TRINITY COLLEGE

They arrived on the Monday of the last week of the vacation and left on the Friday, but between those days enjoyed an enormous number of various forms of entertainment.

St. Mark's was very much alive, and plenty of noise and activity occurred in college each day from late in the morning until early in the morning.

Sandwiched in between a visit to West End Brewery and a motor trip to Gramp's winery at Rowland's Flat was the famous football match.

This fierce struggle, which has become an annual affair, is looked forward to with eagerness by members of each college. Trinity arrived with the blood lust in their eyes and their boots in their bags, eager to avenge their defeat at the hands of St. Mark's in Melbourne last year. They certainly had their revenge, and scored a meritorious victory with consummate ease. Whether it was the picturesque surroundings of St. Peter's College Oval which engaged our attention or the grief of having our gallant captain (John McFarlane) hors de combat, somehow St. Mark's didn't get going—in the words of the old saying, "We couldn't take it!"

Features of the match were the fine goal-getting combination of the sub-warden of Trinity at centre half-forward, Mr. L. C. Kilcher, and the sneak, "Blue" Steward, who each scored seven goals, also the loud barracking of Ike Galbraith (the visitor's captain) by a section of the crowd for dirty (?) play.

In the evening a delightful dance was held in the college common room by Mrs. Price, where there were 50 blushing damsels for the visitors to choose from, those remaining being rapidly snapped up by local men. There we all said good-bye to Ron Cowan, who sailed away next day by the "Strathaird."

The following night everyone enjoyed themselves again at the inter-varsity ball. Motor drives through the hills and to the beaches, visits to the "Grot" and other places, all filled up our guests with "bon homie" and also their time. In spite of mistaking the East West for the Melbourne express, the mislaying of luggage, and all the girls down at the station to farewell them, the majority got away safely, urging us all to hurry up and come over next year. A few who had arranged the necessary "finance" stayed a day or two longer to further enjoy the delights of Adelaide in its Centenary year.

Altogether a most enjoyable visit.



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46 King William Street.

CORRESPONDENCE

Peace or War?

Sir,—I felt so very proud when I saw your latest issue of "On Dit." No, not at the extra pages, but to think that there are among us such brave youths as those who signed the manifesto of arms. It will be nice, too, when we shall be able to supply officers for the proletariat Armageddon on the playing fields of Adelaide. Christ, I am sure, said something apropos; anything he omitted to say, by a careful selection of the facts, history can easily prove. But there will not be any headlines in the newspapers, because there will not be any newspapers. History will prove that for sure. Wherefore I hate those posters which depict war as but a pageant of horses and bright uniforms. The posters do not depict mutilated faces and the limbs of women and children; therein they lie. Mussolini at least promised death to the men who went to Abyssinia; our Government stoops to deception.

You may say our warlike preparations are only for defence, that our intentions are entirely peaceful. So say also the Germans, Italians, and Japanese. They seek only peace. Do we believe them? When they say that, nevertheless, at the same time they must preserve and strengthen their own prestige, further their own inalienable rights and inevitable destinies. Do we believe that their two aims are compatible? Rather, we say, of course the Germans want war! But why should the Germans and Japanese be obliged to believe our own innocent protestations of goodwill? What of our inalienable rights—our White Australia and standard of living? What of our prestige—our tariff policy and dictation from Japan? Peace and inalienable sovereignty are utterly antithetical; we must realise that. Someone must make a start. Why not we who boast of our freedom? What value is our liberty if we do not use it? By peace we further the cause of liberty; by war we destroy every liberty and life itself. Armaments are for war. We modestly refer to our own and British armaments as defence forces. Nevertheless, the only conceivable purpose for armaments or defence forces as now constituted must be for war. The League of Nations works for peace; to it must be made subject any forces that are necessary.

When we defend our homes (and here in Australia we have yet to hear from what specific enemy) we bring sure destruction on them. There are, indeed, two courses open to us. Either we may hope that war is not inevitable, when our only intelligent course is not to destroy our great hope by building up our arms and making the devastation of war inevitable; or else we may say that at present war is inevitable, which, being so, destruction also is inevitable for a large number of us. Nevertheless, if we refused to fight the destruction would be minimised; moreover, we would have the satisfaction of knowing that we died on the side of God and justice—which is the side of peace—rather than on the side of hell—which is war, the provocation of war, and retaliation of arms. In the last war the cry was, "Come, die for liberty!" No one can again believe that cry. Liberty can no longer be achieved within national boundaries. Our sovereignty must become subject to the League. For the liberty that lies in that League, indeed, let us fight until but two remain. If the League fails—as it may—and war is still inevitable, let us still die on the side of right and future liberty; let us adopt the foolishness of Christ and Socrates, accepting the inevitable

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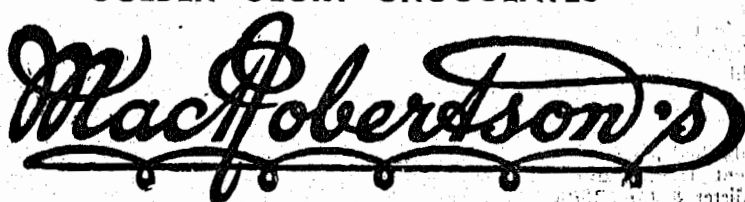
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CORRESPONDENCE (Continued.)

courageously and in silence, yet laying a foundation on which our sons and their sons and all future generations may build. Let us be the fools who with our own blood will refuse to perpetuate the charnel house of war, preferring to establish a foundation of truth, on to which the groping generations of the future may grip, steadying themselves as they labor at a dam to stem the reeking tide.

We who are Australians, so proud of our democracy, might well open yet another sphere for the control of law and order. Let us with determination say that we will fight for a decision of the League alone, and until our Government accepts a League policy let us refuse to offer it our support in arms. It is no good temporising and saying that this is an interim period before the arrival of internationalism and that for the present we must arm. By such actions we prolong the agony of birth, we kill our hope, we make war and anarchy inevitable. A League policy may involve war, but the issues which will finally emerge will be very different from those emerging from national war. The Commonwealth policy at present is not a League policy except when suitable to our profit.

Why did the League allow war in Abyssinia? For one reason only. Our own Government and all other governments had not the courage to intervene. Armed intervention, quite apart from the abstention of non-league members, could have closed the struggle in a week. Even if losses were incurred they would have been less than the losses of another world conflict. Even had world war ensued it would at least have been a fight for the justice of the League. But, like cowards, one and all, we refused our full responsibility. What responsibility we in Australia accepted we shirked and tried to escape from as soon as was diplomatically possible. And so it will be at any future time until our own and all governments will accept the full sovereignty of the League. Why should we be the first to start? Why not? We at least are free of the trammels, built up through many ages of history, which bind Europe.

But you are not convinced. Psychologically war is inevitable and biologically it is desirable. But a more correct psychology says that men fight because they fear; they fear because their minds are filled with lies. As for biology, the species does not flourish when a C3 man kills fifty A men and women with a single gas bomb. This one thing I know and history teaches: that the fight for liberty must enter ever new realms. The history of the abolition of the slave trade is instructive. Clarkson, the mind who marshalled all the other minds in that great campaign, draws a diagram showing a river making towards the sea. It begins as an absurd rivulet, starting away back in 1600, with the names of Louis XIII., Descartes, and others. Through the years tributary streams add themselves—Milton, Dryden, Locke, Montesquien, Pope, the Quakers, Gray, Mansfield, Burke, Wilberforce—until at last in 1807 a great current sweeps into the sea which abolishes the slave trade and later gives liberation. What patience there through 200 years. What vested interests; how impossible the task! Our task is a hundred miles more difficult, but the urgency much greater. Already our stream begins to flow, and every day it finds fresh supplies. A rivulet now appears in the University of Adelaide. The rocks of prejudice, interest and ignorance—a beam of parochialism which prevents us seeing clearly in our brother's eye—check the stream. If hearts beat beneath those rocks and beams let them be cleared away, and may the stream daily increase. How absurd, little Adelaide! But do not forget, many thousands—millions—think with us all through the world.

JOHN STOKES.

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Sir,—At no time in the past has the question of national policy been of more importance than it is today, and, in my opinion, only one of the theories so far advanced—and that modified in some degree, has any possibilities of keeping the peace.

Four reasonable theories have been put forward, but two of them can be dismissed in so many words for "absolute pacifism" is hardly practicable and "total rearmament" has failed time after time, so much so, that we may disregard it entirely.

Two systems stand out therefore:—(a) Britain's policing of the world, as championed by Mr. Wright; and (b) "peace through the League," as printed in "On Dit," August 4. Both of these theories depend on an international police force, based on the peace obtained in policed countries, and that appears to be the obvious solution to the problem before us; but for the life of me I cannot imagine Britain maintaining that position for long—if at all. For what are foreign Powers going to do while Britain is rearming, if Britain is to be the self-appointed policeman? Why should foreign Powers believe that Britain was arming solely for policing duties and not for private gain? Would he believe it of any other nation? And, again, what nation with an ambitious future and with proud traditions would bend her knee to Britain and forget a little "colony dabbling" on Britain's part no so long ago? In short, it is hard to find any support for Mr. Wright's views, no matter how patriotic and how much in accord with British Israelism their views may be. I, therefore, agree with the supporters of (b) as mentioned above, but would suggest the two following essential modifications.

Firstly, you may commit murder in self-defence, and on these grounds, if Australia were attacked, I would fight, immediately advising the League of the position and calling for her aid.

Secondly, of what possible value is an International League without arms to support it? In short, trained men are necessary to crush an offender, and these trained forces can be obtained only by conscripting (or a voluntary system of equal numbers would do)—so many men in proportion to the population from every country, and having them trained in their own countries. These forces would be under the complete control of the League so far as strength is concerned, and the League must needs consist of delegates from every country in the world, the number of delegates from each country depending on its population.

I would, therefore, hesitate before advocating total disarmament, as arms are absolutely essential in a successful international policy.

A. P. CHERRY.

Sir—Oxford and Cambridge students have earned the derision of the thinking English public. Their vow not to fight for England was dismissed by Mr. Duff Cooper, England's Minister for War, as a wild statement by a pack of hot-headed, irresponsible youths. Your equally ridiculous decision to "fight only at the dictate of the League of Nations; not for national defence or for national aggrandisement," deserves similar treatment. You as much as confess your contentment to shelter under the British flag, sharing all a Briton's privileges, but avoiding his responsibilities. When all's said and done, what weight do your (yes, mine, too) opinions carry?

I agree that the League is a very fine ideal, and that it can become more than an ideal, but not with nations like the U.S.A., Germany and Japan out of it. Therefore, I believe that a powerful, well-armed Britain is the only protection against war. From an Australian point of view, I also share Mr. Duncan-Hughes' opinions, which received such severe criticism in "On Dit" of August 4. Surely it is obvious that our only way lies along the path outlined by the Senator.

Wake up, Pacifists.

D. B. TAYLOR.

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

Capt. A. S. Blackburn, V.C., City Coroner, after writing this letter to "On Dit," came to a meeting of the group referred to and discussed the points in his letter with them. Their answers are included below printed in black type.

Sir,—As a graduate of the University, and as one who ardently desires world peace, I was very interested and pleased to see the declaration of ideals of peace by certain undergraduates in your issue of 4/8/36.

May I congratulate the 17 who signed same upon their courage in propounding thus publicly their views.

With many of their sentiments I, in common, I think, with almost every citizen who has experienced war, am in complete accord. So that certain of the views expressed, however, can be fully understood by me, may I ask the signatories to answer the following questions:—

1. In paragraph 6 your signatories state:—"We must surrender the control . . . of our national forces to the League."

(a) Are your signatories in favor of the continuance in Australia of "National forces"?—Yes, if they are under the absolute control of the League.

(b) If so, how is the personnel of same to be found—by voluntary means or by compulsory?—By whichever the League finds necessary.

(c) If voluntary means fail, do your signatories favor compulsion?—If the League favors it.

(d) If, for example, Russia and Japan commenced war in Manchuria, would your signatories favor the sending of a force of Australians to fight both nations to endeavor to stop the war if so ordered by the League?—Yes. If so, would your signatories be willing to give up their own positions in life, leave their families dependent upon the charity of some unknown source and risk their lives by obeying the command of the League?—Yes.

2. In paragraph 7 your signatories state:—"We will fight only at the dictates of the League of Nations; not for national defence."

(a) If, for example, Japan invades Australia and announces its intention of annexing it as part of the Japanese Empire, would your signatories then be willing, irrespective of the attitude of the League of Nations, to fight Japan?—No.

(b) If consequent upon the brutalities and bestial dictates of modern war members of an invading army proceeded to outrage the sisters and wives of Australia (even possibly of some of your signatories) would your signatories be willing to fight irrespective of the dictate of the League of Nations?

(a) Our policy should be to give no country occasion to invade us. The best way of dealing with typhoid is not to cure it, but to prevent its breaking out.

(b) Any resort to modern war leaves the women and children as vulnerable to gas and bombs—yes, and rape, too—as the men in the so-called "fighting line."

The only way to defend sisters and wives is by preventing invasion, through international co-operation.

(c) If so, how would they expect to do so if untrained and lacking modern war equipment? Has the object lesson of Abyssinia's lack of preparation in this direction struck no warning note?

3. If the League of Nations refuses to actively interfere in favor of an attacked nation, as, for example, when Japan recently attacked China, is the attacked nation to submit to be taken possession of without any resistance?—Yes.

It may well seem to your readers that the situations outlined by me as the basis of my questions will not arise. However probable that may seem, I feel confident that plain answers to the questions, on the assumption that these situations may arise, will be instructive to all.

ARTHUR S. BLACKBURN.

Sir.—The fact that Mr. Wright is willing to back Great Britain as the world's policeman to the last milepost, even if it means war, shows that he is unselfish enough not to consider his own safety, but the safety of those who will follow after, to make sure that they will have peace. Such an attitude, in my opinion, is the long-sighted one. What matter if we die provided we definitely establish an organisation which will prevent war for the rest of time? France and all the nations left in the League would support England as the world's policeman. And, why? Because France and these other nations respect England. They, in spite of Mr. Allen, "respect her impartiality, her essential gradual ability always to suggest a middle course acceptable to both parties, her adherence to ideals higher than their own." Therefore, I say, let the British Empire arm like hell; let us have nothing to do with the weak-kneed "peace at any price gang"; let us go ahead, even at the price of war, since that war will finally bring peace.

A. R. MAGAREY.

Sir—While commending the stand taken by those people who in your last issue signed their names to eight points for peace through the League, I feel that the points agreed on are obviousities to any sane and unprejudiced thinker.

Clause 7 says: "We will fight only at the dictate of the League of Nations, not for national defence." I presume this involves opposition to national re-arming, and, therefore, to national military training, which is, after all, only the unmechanised side of armament. With this in mind I should like to see more conviction on this vital point of military training. This is one of the few directions in which vested financial interests can have no ultimate influence, since the success of a system of training, either compulsory or not, depends on the willingness of the trainees.

It now becomes the duty of the signatories to the aforementioned statement, and any others who think honestly, to inform the Federal Government that under no conditions will they consent to be trained for national military service. It only requires sufficient potential trainees to take this stand now (and it would not require many, for any Government will think twice before taking on the responsibility of dealing with a score of peacetime conscientious objectors) and we'll hear no more of this compulsory training tyranny.

I feel sure that there are no compromises on this point, either your outlook is national or it is international—and, if international, then wholly so.

L. W. PARKIN.

Sir—On the front page of your last issue some University worthies appended their names to a reaffirmation of faith in Imperialism. Sir, with one exception, I know them not. They study none of the social sciences, they do not raise a voice at union debates. What are their qualifications to express their opinions? Let them declare themselves.

"Who are these coming to the sacrifice? To what green altar, O mysterious priest, Leadst thou 'these heifers,' lowing at the skies?"

I cannot but feel that there is more behind them than meets the eye—perhaps some mysterious priest from the temple of Janus of Keswick. Such qualifications as I have heard attributed to them would not indicate a full realisation of even the principles which they expound, let alone conversance with the fuller implications of the principles which they laud so glibly. Are they sheep not having a shepherd? Or, who is the shepherd? Assuredly they in their present path shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. For they will join the Australian army and see the world. No, Mr. Editor, not this world, but the next.

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