

# ON DIT

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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNION.

Vol. IV.

Friday, 3rd May, 1935.

No. 3.

## ARE WE SNOBS?

### *The Function of the 'Varsity.*

There seems to be some doubt in the minds of the community and of the students themselves as to the true place and function of the University, and, consequently, within the University there is maladjustment, and outside it suspicion and often contempt. "On Dit" seems a fitting medium for discussing this important question of the University, the student, and the community—for it is an important question. Why is the University student looked upon universally as a snob, and an ignorant snob at that?

First, the University—what is its true nature and task? This it would seem. Its primary task—and it does not claim a monopoly—is that of communicating knowledge, of stimulating the search for knowledge, of so training the intelligence that by the practice of habitual self-discipline its students may learn to distinguish for themselves between that which is poor and transitory, and that which is enduring. While it claims no privileges, the University does claim the right of making its power available wherever need arises. It does not (as many, students and others, mistakenly think) claim a monopoly in education and training. At its highest the University realises that education is co-extensive with life, and that in pursuing his vocation a man may be educating himself in a way for which all the Universities in the world can provide no substitute.

Therefore, the University is not an end in itself. It is merely a means to an end, and a not indispensable one. That is where so many students make their first mistake—they regard the University as a be-all and an end-all, and so are quite content to sit down in a metaphorical sealed chamber, right out of touch with the outer world. The University certainly has the task of raising the intelligence and bringing it to bear at its fitting point for the service of the community.

So much for the function of the University. On whom does the onus for the successful working of the University fall? On the student primarily. Does he realise it? It is a moot question. We doubt it. The average student can see little further than his own nose, and has little genuine interest in anything beyond his immediate surroundings. To him the University is an end.

He is either an intellectual snob, a social snob, or a nondescript.

He does not realise, either, what the University gives him or what it cannot give him that he must collect outside its precincts. And he is disgustingly complacent about it all. Until he realises its limitations it is doubtful whether he will ever realise the potentialities of the University. If he wants to get the best from it he must look at it in relation to the rest of the community. That is tantamount to saying that he must keep in contact with life outside the covers of books and beyond the Refectory lawn.

No leader ever arose out of inactivity and negative virtue. Granted that while one is a student his primary duty is to study, but for what purpose? With an eye to future personal gain? Prob-

ably, and we do not censure this attitude—it is a perfectly natural one. But if the student is going to take the best that the University has to offer him he must supplement the gift before it is given. He must keep his fingers on the pulse of ordinary community life.

If we are to believe that mind has a very special and important place in the welfare and development of the ideal state or commonwealth, surely the University, by virtue of its very nature, has the privilege of raising the intelligence so that new systems can be evolved and order created out of chaos. Therefore, the University student must watch his world. He must learn to know it at its lowest and at its highest levels. And when he has come to know and understand conditions, his is the task—and the University is preparing him for it—of remodelling and rebuilding.

There is little to be gained from mere knowledge, and from a mere realisation of facts unless you can use those facts constructively. Certainly going and serving behind a shop counter, or digging drains, or driving a milk-cart, or sweating in a wholesale dress factory with the people whose whole life moves in such places will give a broader outlook and a wider, more sympathetic understanding. You no longer censure shop-girls and factory hands for spending all their money and their spare time on cheap, bright clothes and dancing. You don't condemn the painted faces and the plucked eyebrows and the hectic ties. You have moved a step out of the comfortable, vision-destroying atmosphere of the purely academic world, and you are a better man—or woman.

But merely finding out that five families live in one room, or that six children share one blanket, and being sympathetic about it all, is not much of an advance unless that knowledge is used for a practical purpose. And that is where the University training should come in. The University has the power of making available trained capacity to meet common needs. Plato, in his Republic, stresses the importance of "special function," and in the present situation this seems fundamental. We cannot go on repatching for ever, some time we must rebuild. At present the University is the only instrument for creating or moulding minds to carry out "special functions."

No woman can come into her full heritage unless she has seen the joys and griefs of other women, and no man can rise above the mere "clod" unless he has come into sympathetic contact with the labourer and the rest of the people who ordinarily are not admitted into his wretched little social world. Until the student can bring the University, himself, and the man in the street into harmony, or even begin to try, he is not worthy of his position. If he does not realise his obligations as well as his privileges as a student he is a snob. Great are his privileges—he has every opportunity of being "better," but equally great and greater are his obligations—he ought to be better. Until the student realises these obligations he has nothing to justify his existence. He remains what the majority are—a negative quantity.

## Mudspots (and other notes).

We refuse to publish unsigned articles or letters in "On Dit." If you are ashamed to admit your authorship to the Editorial staff do not bother to send stuff in to us. Our W.P.B. won't stand it.

We wish to congratulate the Secretaries of the various sporting clubs on the way in which they have sent in the results of Saturday's games. The men Secretaries can learn quite a lot about reports from the women, who appear to know their job.

Nathan Bear is 100 per cent. pure. Pure what?

Once upon a time a small boy was given a toy, but his brother, a year or two the elder, thought that only he knew anything about mechanical toys. So he took the toy away and kept it locked up, and the smaller brother was only allowed to watch it serving its natural purpose when the elder brother chose.

So the younger boy scratched his head, asked his mother for a few shillings, and built himself another toy, and then the Elder brother realized that after all his younger brother had just as much, if not more, idea of mechanical toys as he had.

"Bring sheets, pillowcases, towel, rug, Bible."—S.C.M. circular.

Cleanliness before Godliness?

We observe that several of the more or less junior members of the A.U.L.D.D.S. have been reading the Constitution of their Society, and have decided to reintroduce the custom of nominating intending members. This is to be done by existing members. Many of them have not been nominated, and so, constitutionally, cannot now be members. We doubt if any of the Committee were members of the Society in 1931, which was the last year in which intending members were nominated.

So what can they do?

The idea appears to be to cut out those whom they do not want. Wouldn't it be a good idea to have the members elected from the house, and give another of the Varsity cliques a chance to show its methods?

## NOTICE!

### INTERVARSITY DANCE

Athletic and Rifle Clubs  
Refectory, May 30th.

## "Gumtops."

To find a volume of verse worth reading gives one a great deal of pleasure, but to find a volume by one of the Adelaide University undergraduates which is not only worth reading, but is enjoyable, is a pleasure that should be made public so that others may share it.

"Gumtops," by Rex Ingamells, is a book worthy of a place in the bookshelves of those who know a little of Australia apart from the large towns, and who would like to relive some of the happy moments they have had in the past when away from the turmoil and din of the cities.

Mr. Ingamells has set down some of the impressions that he received while in the true Australia in an endeavour to show others something of this country. He has succeeded in doing this, sometimes in excellent verse, and sometimes in poor verse. "The Afghans" and "Billy Gray" are two examples of his work which ring true.

In addition to his Australian poems Mr. Ingamells has included a section entitled "The Sea," and one entitled "Miscellaneous." Of these "Sea-things" and "By the Fire" are remarkably good.

Apart from his verse, Mr. Ingamells is to be heartily congratulated, as it is seldom that an Adelaide University undergraduate has the initiative to publish any of his work. He has shown that there is someone in our University who is not afraid to do something worth while.

We recommend "Gumtops" to all our readers who appreciate either verse or Australia. It has been excellently printed and bound by F. W. Preece and Sons in a small brown covered volume with an attractive green wrapper, and can be obtained from the publishers at a very moderate price.

## DON'T FORGET THE DATE

### MAY 11

## BASKET-BALL DANCE

## MEDICAL STUDENTS!

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## ON DIT

Friday, 3rd May, 1935.

## NO FUN.

The irresponsible wildness of the University student is a tradition which is fostered by the Press, and indeed seems to exist in other Universities. In Adelaide we are well provided with buildings and books and professors and so on, but the well-known undergraduate unruliness is nowhere to be found. Whether the various restrictions which have been placed on the happy student have tamed him or whether he is just naturally tame is an interesting subject for speculation.

It is the fact that during recent years there has been a systematic crushing out of every sign of conduct considered by Authority to be not quite gentlemanly.

There is, or was, the question of beer in the Refectory. We never, of course, had beer, but at least we drew the authorities into a discussion on the subject. But beer was verboten. It was suggested by the humble students that liquor might be allowed to be consumed on the occasions of dinners. The suggestion was imperially rejected. The ban is largely, we fear, the result of an inability, common among old gentlemen who guide the young, to distinguish between drinking and getting drunk.

Initiations, too, have been stamped out. Perhaps the holding of initiation ceremonies is as much a part of the University tradition as is the drinking of beer. The ceremonies were suddenly banned, not because the authorities at last became aware of them, for they were conducted fairly openly, but because the public was informed through the daily press. "Oho," says Authority, "we mustn't let this get about. Stamp it out."

And the Annual Procession has suffered a similar fate. "It has developed," say the Great Unknowns, "from being only frolicsome into being merely vulgar. It is to be stopped." It is stopped.

These things have happened in previous years. This year the process of taming the Undergrad. is to be continued. For it looks very much as if the number of dances in the Refectory will be drastically reduced.

No beer, no more initiations, no more processions, less dances, it is a sad list. Where lies the truth? Have we been tamed, or were we tame anyway?

## THE LIT. AND DEB.

## Something Wrong

At the last meeting of the Adelaide University Literary, Debating, and Dramatic Society, a report of which appears elsewhere in this issue, the President said that there had been certain criticism of the Society in "On Dit" and elsewhere, and that if any members had suggestions for the improvement of the Society they should communicate with a member of the Committee. The suggestions would then, he said, be considered and, if thought good, acted upon.

We have considered these remarks, but we cannot think that he or the Committee would disregard well-founded and well-meant criticism from wherever it might come. Moreover, as the matter is, or should be, of general interest to all students, we have no excuse for appending some remarks upon the present state of the Society.

## Its Object.

The Lit. and Deb. is one of the few Societies which are open to the whole University. It surely should be the ideal of the Society to have the views of students of all the faculties upon literary matters, and to have all kinds of students join in the debating and dramatic activities. Indeed, its full name implies that it is representative of the Adelaide University! If it be agreed that this is a desirable object of the Society, it must also be agreed that it is not at present attaining this object—of which more in a moment.

If there were more students at the University, the Society would almost certainly be split into three Societies, Literary, Debating, and Dramatic. As it is the three are combined, as they can quite happily be. But this being so, it seems reasonable to ask that no further activities be undertaken by the Society, as it has quite enough to do to fulfil its present functions. In fact, of course, other things are done. Last year it was the custom to spend the latter part of the meetings in dancing, which diversion it is hardly necessary to point out, is perfectly adequately catered for at other and more suitable University functions. There are, too, musical recitals and lectures upon outside subjects. But these things, faults though they be, are small, and there are larger sins of omission. Let us take the three subjects separately and in their order.

## Literary Discussions.

Perhaps the most serious criticism to be made of the Society is that there are scarcely any papers given or discussions held on literary matters. We cannot remember having heard more than one literary paper during the whole of last year, and we find no record of any others in the issues of "On Dit" for last year. Literary Societies flourish at the larger colleges, and as the members of those come up to the University, they would surely join in similar activities here. It would not be unreasonable to ask that the Society have a literary paper at each meeting.

## Debating.

There should be more debates. Until the sudden activity last year of the Men's Union in holding debates, the Lit. and Deb. was the only body which held debates on general matters, and it failed, as it still fails, to do the thing in a proper fashion. The debates were always upon more or less frivolous subjects, and consequently conducted in a more or less frivolous manner. And although the Men's Union has in part filled the breach, yet there is still a case for the betterment of the Lit. and Deb. debates. It is this. So far as we know the Women's Union holds no debates, and so the Society is the only place where they may debate. And if they want to be represented in the Adelaide team for the Intervarsity to be held in Adelaide this year, they must have some opportunity to practise, and to display their capabilities.

## Dramatics.

The Dramatic section of the activities of the Society is open to little criticism, although perhaps again the plays produced might be of a more serious character. A. A. Milne plays and similar productions might be varied with something a little less frothy. In spite of this criticism, however, we are bound to say that the light plays are performed extremely well, and in particular, "Private Lives," performed last year, was simply splendid. Its success would justify its revival this year.

Excellent as the plays are, however, there were a considerable number of them last year, and it is questionable whether they have not in the past tended to crowd out other activities. The point might be considered.

We offer these criticisms to the President and his Committee with a genuine desire to help in the reformation of the Society. If we have been unusually serious it is because we consider the matter a serious one. And besides, are we not ourselves criticising the Society for its undue frivolity?

## Rifle Club.

Although the conditions were exceedingly unpleasant, many excellent scores were recorded last Saturday at 800 yards. Walter was top scorer with 76 out of possible 80, closely followed by Brooke and Starling with 75 each, and McFarlane with 74. Brooke was exceedingly unlucky to miss the possible in his second round, scoring an inner with his last shot.

It was pleasing to see the good form shown by our new members, and it is to be hoped that it will be maintained until Intervarsity week.

## Science Association.

On the 15th April, in the Physics Lecture Theatre, the Patron, Professor Kerr Grant, addressed the Society on "Artificial Radioactivity." He dealt with the subject from an historical point of view, leading up to an account of the phenomenal advances made in recent atomic physics. An unusually large attendance was recorded.

The next meeting was held in the Men's Lounge on 29th April. Miss Beryl Barrien read a paper on "Heredity in Plants," which she illustrated by lantern slides. A second paper was given by Mr. K. Berndt on "Number," in which he traced the evolution of numerical notation. A spirited discourse on modern mathematics followed.

Do not miss the

## Second Annual MEN'S UNION DINNER

### Saturday, 18th May.

Full details later.

Note the date—Keep it free.

for  
better

## TAILORING

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INTERVARSITY  
TENNIS

Most of the visiting players arrived by the Melbourne Express on Thursday, 18th April, and spent the afternoon practising at the Memorial Drive.

Matches began on the Friday at 10 a.m. Because of the fact that two of the Melbourne players did not arrive until Friday morning, the arrangements for the Sydney-Melbourne match were slightly disorganised. Some brilliant tennis was seen in this match.

Poidevin (S.) made Derham (M.) cover a lot of court in the first set of their single, but the latter, with some wonderful retrieving, pushed Poidevin to 9-7. The effort was too much, and Poidevin ran through the second set 6-0.

Another excellent single was the meeting of Spencer (S.) and Derham. Derham took the first set by hard hitting at 6-3. Then Spence began to hit out, and won the next two sets 6-3, 6-0.

Perhaps the best of the doubles rubbers in this match was that between Sydney third double—Tuthill and Mathieson—and Melbourne first double—Derham and Lawton. Mathieson broke up the Melbourne pair by his consistent tossing. Derham smashed severely, but Lawton showed a weakness overhead. Sydney won 6-4, 9-11, 6-4.

The match was finished on the Saturday morning, when Sydney won 5 out of 6 singles. Sydney won by 18 rubbers to 3.

In the Adelaide-Hobart match Adelaide had an easy win of 21 rubbers to nil. The Hobart players were not at home on the grass courts, and offered little opposition. Adelaide's first pair were not on their best form.

Green, Hobart's first player, went very close to defeating Dicker, Adelaide's No. 1. Green led 6-1, 4-6, 5-1, but Dicker managed to pull through and win the third set, 7-5.

The final round, between Sydney and Adelaide, was commenced on Saturday afternoon.

The best match of the day was between Dicker (A.) and Poidevin (S.). Dicker won a close and exciting game in the third set.

Both Searle and Wight played well to take a set off West and Mathieson respectively in their singles matches. Sydney finished the day with a lead of 7 rubbers to 1.

On the Sunday the visitors were taken for a drive through the Gorge to Milbrook.

Rain delayed the play on Monday morning, but matches were commenced at 1 p.m.

Taylor and Dicker were in great form against Poidevin and Spence, but were defeated after a long three-set game. Taylor's smashing was particularly severe.

Wight was out of touch in the second doubles match against Tuthill and Mathieson, and although Searle played well the pair were beaten in straight sets 6-3, 6-4.

Brown and Homburg played good tennis, but found the opposing doubles too strong. Homburg is to be congratulated on winning the second single of the match.

Taylor and Dicker won their doubles matches against Sydney's second and third pairs, and thus gave Adelaide 2 of their 4 rubbers.

Wight improved in the match against Poidevin and Spence, and Searle drove and volleyed well to push the Sydney pair to 8-6 in the second set.

Sydney defeated Adelaide 17 rubbers to 4.

Melbourne's match against Hobart was interrupted by the departure of two of the Melbourne players on the 3.30 express on Monday. But Melbourne won the match with a lead of 13 rubbers to nil.



# CORRESPONDENCE

## MORE WAR.

Sir,  
I am as surprised as you are at the suggestion advanced by your correspondent "G'wan" that "more officers will be stabbed in the back than in the front in the next war." Why stab a man because he happens to wear a Brass Hat? Are officers the cause of war? A truly novel thought.

But surprised as I am, my surprise is mingled with pleasure—we have pacifists among us! And now I hope, in time of peace, to have someone to fight, if it is only a verbal fight.

Let me fire my first shot, at least. It seems to me that verbal arguments against war are entirely and utterly useless if your enemy refuses to argue with you. What if he hits you, actually hits you, first? Will someone answer me that? What do you do, you pacifists, if the other fellow doesn't stop to argue, but hits you first?

I am, Sir, etc.,  
"C'MON."

Sir,  
Your worthy pacifist correspondents are again beating the air with much enthusiasm, and trying to prove to us all that self-evident truth that war is a great evil for all concerned. From the foolish bleatings of "G'wan," it would seem that he is already in terror at the thought of what might happen to him should war break out; he may as well complete the picture by imagining his condition under foreign domination, to which, of course, he would submit rather than take up arms (except to assassinate some unfortunate officer, perhaps, because he happens to have a liver rather less lily in hue than that of your correspondent). Surely by now everybody realises the terrible results of modern methods of warfare; but what we want is not the terrified forebodings of the fertile pacifist-at-any-price mind, but constructive thought and action leading to peace. And as such a constructive thought, I put forward the suggestion that your correspondents at once join some branch of the local militia. This force can never be strong enough to threaten the peace of the Pacific, though with enough co-operation, it may look just formidable enough to deter a possible invader. Anyone afraid of the noise of a rifle could arrange to become a cook or mess orderly, where he should be safe enough.

Yours, etc.,  
"CANGARU."

## THE BOMBSHELL.

Sir,  
You will, I am sure, excuse our forwardness in writing to you. We make so bold because we have a bombshell to burst. It may not prove a dud, but it looks like a bombshell.

According to our latest advice, to be a member of the Lit. and Deb. you must be nominated by someone who is already a member. For the system to work, then, it is essential that there be a member or members already. Now it is unthinkable that anyone could be a member now who had not on his entrance been nominated, seconded, and duly admitted to the Society. So that only those are true members who have passed through these processes. Have you followed us so far, Sir? Very well, then. We now throw the bomb.

There are only two real members of the Society, and we are they! We are, we believe, the only two members of the Society still living who have passed the tests. We so passed them in '08, after which year the tests were abandoned. We are, therefore, the Society, the Society is ourselves. We intend to dismiss the present Committee, expel all the members, and start afresh.

Now what do you say?

We are, Sir, etc.,  
K.G.C.  
M.L.A.

[Whoopie!—Ed.]

## EPSTEIN'S "ECCE HOMO."

Sir,  
As usual, along comes someone with nothing to say, making a great fuss over saying it. Your correspondent, "Le Beau Juif," is apparently just another member of that large army of ignoramuses, ninnies, morons, cretins, and so on, who, not content with simply hearing the sound of their own babble, like to see the babble in print.

These pestiferous nit-wits do not, of course, realise that they are about as qualified for the job of artistic criticism as the lower animals are. Many of the greatest art critics of the day find much to admire in Epstein's work, and if they adversely criticise they have intelligent reasons for doing so; the nit-wits, as is inevitable, imagine themselves on a plane of equal intellectuality and reasonableness, when—finding themselves in front of certain works of art, and probably with feelings similar to those of dogs at gateposts—they lift their metaphorical hind leg out of the way, and relieve themselves, unashamed.

"Can anybody who has any Christianity in his make-up even defend the approval (of one who evidently has not) of such a travesty?" asks "Le Beau Juif"—as though Christian sentimentalism can be called in to decide a matter of artistic appreciation!

The Editors of daily papers realise that the people who write blithering rubbish for publication form a considerable proportion of the total number of subscribers, and for fear of losing their subscriptions their letters are not ignored. "On Dit" did right in publishing an article dealing with some of the correspondence that has appeared in "The Advertiser" from idiots who (like your correspondent, "Le Beau Juif") are incapable of ever approaching art correctly—let alone comprehending it.

Yours, etc.,  
"S. J. DAYADHAM."

## To Contributors.

### In General.

Contributions for the next issue are invited from all members of the Union. They must be put in box XYZ in the Front Office, or in the "On Dit" Box at the Refectory, by Monday, 13th May.

### In Particular.

R.L.C.—We read it in "The Advertiser" some time ago.

N.H.—Thanks.

A Modern Youth.—Let's have something shorter next time.

Timothy.—Leave it to A. A. Milne.

One Dot.—Not our style.

## I.R.C.

The International Relations Club held a meeting on Tuesday, 30th April, at 8 p.m., in the Lady Symon Hall. The first part of the evening was devoted to the election of officers for 1935 which, owing to the disappearance of the Constitution, had been deferred at the last meeting. Officers elected:—President, Prof. G. V. Portus; Vice-Presidents, Miss E. Wells and Mr. N. F. Goss; Secretaries, Miss M. McKellar Stewart and Mr. John Stokes; Treasurers, Miss N. Newland, Mrs. L. M. Bills. Committee Members—Miss E. S. Taylor, Mr. R. Ingamells. Professor Prescott then addressed the Club on his impressions of the Russian system. Much light was thrown on what to the general public is a strange and insane country, by Professor Prescott's talk, which emphasised the success and sanity of the Russian co-operative and collective systems. After this very interesting and enlightening address there was a short general discussion when Professor Prescott answered various questions. Supper brought the evening to a close.

## THE BARRETTS OF WIMPOLE STREET.

Rudolf Besier's famous play has reached Adelaide in the form of an American film nearly five years after its first performance on the stage. It is the story of Elizabeth Barrett, the invalid daughter of a Victorian father who, having been accustomed to handle slaves in Jamaica, dominated his daughter and the whole household, even including Flush the dog, at 50 Wimpole Street, London, in the year 1845.

I suppose that the audience amidst which I sat in the murk of the Theatre Royal felt sorry for Elizabeth, as indeed they were meant to, but to feel sorry for Elizabeth one must forget that one is watching Norma Shearer, and that I could not do. She is far too alive an actress for the part. Confined as she was for the most part to her couch, she could not contrive to appear pale or fragile, and she was, as Miss Shearer always is, perfectly capable of defending herself with her tongue. In a review of the play as presented in London in 1930 which I have just read, the reviewer says of Miss Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies, who then played the part, that "she excels in these pathetic and passive parts." As Miss Shearer excels in parts like that for instance of Amanda in "Private Lives," she would be well advised to leave these pathetic and passive parts to Miss Ffrangcon-Davies.

Charles Laughton as the dominant Edward Barrett is superb. From the moment he enters the sitting-room full of happy people and, in the sudden frightened hush, walks slowly to the fireplace, turns his back to it and says in a cold, measured voice, "I am most displeased," you feel that you cannot see enough of him. He makes a most fascinating brute.

Of Fredric March as Browning it is difficult to know what to say. Browning was himself, I learn, not at all what one would expect a poet to be, but as portrayed by Mr. March he seems so virile, so active, so much more in fact like a life insurance salesman than a poet, that he fails to convince. And if you were persuaded that a poet could be like that you have only to hear him pronounce the word "Aix" to have your illusion dispelled.

The minor parts are well played; as to Flush the dog (he is billed as "Flush as himself," an unlikely coincidence of nomenclature) I suppose the usual ecstatic comments will be made. In fact, he appears to be a clever dog, though how far his cleverness is natural and how far it is contrived by an astute cameraman is hard to say.

A circumstance worthy of remark is that, so far as memory serves me, it rains incessantly through all the scenes of the film. This is Hollywood's way of telling us that the scene of the play is London.

"FAN."

## THE WAR SCARE.

### The Situation.

A student of European political affairs cannot help but feel and fear the inevitability of another such bloody orgy as occurred in 1914-1918. Nations are concentrating not on the problem of disarmament, but that of maximum rearmament. Mussolini turns covetous eyes southwards, whilst Hitler looks enviously to the north. China and Eastern Soviet Russia dread the invasion of the Japanese Imperial army. The British Lion passively and expectantly watches, feeling insecure despite his strength. Treaties and pacts are made and repudiated, diplomats rush hither and thither, nations openly express distrust in their neighbours. The man in the streets feels helpless. Thus much we gather from our press and conversation.

### Professor Blackett's Theory.

The two most aggressive nations in Europe and undoubtedly Germany and Italy, the two most passive Sweden and Russia, the basic reasons for which being evident on consideration of the types of government. As stated clearly by Prof. Blackett in his "Whither England" series, "Fascism is not something peculiar to the Italian and German temperament, but it is the logical end of a policy which meets the world crises of capitalism by restriction of output, by economic nationalism, and by the consequent lowering of the standard of living of the working class." Continuing, he states that there are but two ways a country may choose, one leading to Fascism and war, the other to Socialism and peace. His conclusion may be best cited in his own words: "I believe that the only other way (apart from Fascism) is complete Socialism. Scientists cannot in the long run refuse to make up their minds on which side they stand."

### Application to Europe.

Applying this to the present situation, we find that the Fascist countries, Germany and Italy, are the chief belligerents. Russia and Sweden are the most Socialistic, and the least aggressive. This seems at least a strong indication, if not absolutely conclusive, that one makes for war, the other for peace. The close proximity of these two extreme types of government makes the war scare in Europe very real and foreboding, as well as the presence of so many differently constituted democracies which will be drawn into the war, not entirely against their will.

### Invitation for Opinions.

The man in the street knows not what to think nor what to do, it is his lot to fight and die. That he himself does not want war is obvious. How can he prevent himself being involved? Should he do so? The writer has conversed with a number of University students on this question, is convinced that very diverse opinions are held, and invites an expression of those opinions, a consensus of which will be published in "On Dit." If you have an opinion on the war question, now is your opportunity to express it, and it will enable a good summary to be made as to what Varsity opinion is. Address your letters to "War Question," Box B, and have them in as early as possible, that no side may be excluded from the consensus.

ON MAY 10th

Come along to the  
VARSITY SPORTS

ON THE OVAL.

THE GIRLS WILL ALL  
BE THERE.



QUALITY in CHOCOLATES

## Society Notes

### CARNEGIE GRAMOPHONE SOCIETY.

Considerable interest and support has recently been given to the formation of a University Music Club, following on a gift made to the University undergrads, by the Carnegie Corporation. The gift was munificent. It included a complete electric gramophone, 800 records, as many and more scores (all accurately catalogued), and a small library of books on music and musicians. The latter, at present in the South Hall, will probably be moved at some later date down to the Barr Smith. But in all, the set presents unrivalled opportunities to all those interested in music to cultivate and develop their musical taste and to become acquainted with a range of standard works, ancient and modern, which would otherwise be unattainable.

The only problem connected with the gramophone has been to arrange a system of control which will give a minimum of inconvenience to those who really wish to use it, and yet which does not expose the set to risks of abuse. The following scheme has been evolved: Under the direction of Mr. Horner, a nominal committee has been appointed. Membership of this committee, as in the membership of any other club, is open to all those who are interested in music, who are nominated by two members of the committee, and whose nominations are accepted by the remainder. Members of this committee who can prove themselves competent to handle the gramophone are then at liberty to use the instrument at any times which are not prescribed by the Conservatorium time-tables. The supervision and certification in this matter are in the hands of Mr. Horner. Members thus qualified can obtain the key to the gramophone on request at the Conservatorium office, where the signature of the user is taken before and after the recital. The weekly lunch-hour recitals, together with the organisation of the programmes, are in the hands of the committee. Request numbers may be applied for by entry in the request book in the South Hall itself, or by notification to a member of the committee.

Such, then, is the tentative organisation of the Carnegie Gramophone Society. If, as we may rationally expect, the present committee is swamped by applications for membership and altogether overwhelmed by the clamorous demand of the hot polloi, the present system may undergo radical revision, and a new system emerge with a formal organisation and a formal constitution. Let us hope, however, that such a calamity may never ensue; that conventionalities shall be forever excluded, and that the society will always be composed only of those who love music for no sake other than its own.

Committee: Mr. W. D. Allen.

### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB.

The International Relations Club, from 30th April, will be holding its meetings on alternate Tuesdays in the Lady Symon Hall. There will be addresses, papers, and debates on international questions, so all those who are interested in such matters are urged to attend.

### S.C.M.

The Student Christian Movement will hold a week-end conference at Holiday House, Mt. Lofty, from 10th to 13th May. The subject is "Christ in the Twentieth Century." Addresses will be given on "The Challenge of Science to Christianity," speaker Mr. Frank Mitchell, B.A., B.Sc. (Chairman), "Christ and the Industrial System," Professor G. V. Portus; "A Christian Foreign Policy for Australia," Principal Kiek, M.A., B.D.; and "The Challenge of Christ to the Individual," Principal Lade. There will also be a World Student Christian Federation session and an Open Forum.

### LITERARY, DEBATING, AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

The A.U.L.D.D.S. held its first meeting for the year on Wednesday, 17th April, at 8 p.m., in the Lady Symon Hall. The President (Mr. E. R. Corney) was in the chair. The Secretary (Mr. G. Bridgland) read the minutes of the last meeting of 1934, which were confirmed. There was a vacancy on the Committee made by the resignation of Mr. R. D. Hammill, and Mr. R. B. Ward was elected to take his place. Mr. Corney then addressed the meeting on the aims of the Society, pointing out the need for more constructive criticism. The original conditions of membership have been reinstated, i.e., a student must be proposed and seconded by two who are already members before he himself can become one. Mr. N. F. Goss gave a short talk on "Psycho-Analysis: the Ego and the Id." Mr. David Cox then played two pianoforte solos, Krenek's "Blues" and Moussorgsky's "Gopah." These were followed by a debate, the motion "That an Adelaide University Nudist Club be formed," being proposed by Mr. M. Finnis, supported by Miss H. Wighton and Mr. L. Crisp; opposed by Mr. J. O. Clark, supported by Miss E. Irwin and Miss H. Paine. The decision was left to the house, which approved the proposal. Supper brought this excellent first meeting to a close.

### FOOTLIGHTS CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of the Footlights Club was held in the Refectory on Friday evening, 12th April. Mr. K. A. MacDonald, last year's President, was re-elected to that position, and occupied the chair until his departure for parts unknown shortly before the meeting closed, when his place was taken by Mr. R. S. Dawe. Other officers elected were:—Secretary, Mr. John Duncan; Assistant Secretary, Mr. Bob Stokes; Committee—Misses Elsie Stewart, Pat Richardson, and Mavis Short, and Messrs. Bob McKay and Dean Hay. The Treasurer, Mr. Dud Searcy, has been reappointed by the Sports Association. On Mr. Hay's motion, it was decided to hold a theatre party at the Tivoli Theatre for members of the Club, and this will take place shortly.

### LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY.

At the first meeting for the year of the Law Students' Society, which was held in the Lady Symon Hall on Tuesday, 16th April, Mr. E. E. Cleland, K.C., delivered the Opening Address. Professor Campbell presided, and the attendance must have been a record one. Mr. Cleland drew on a fund of reminiscence collected during his forty-five years at the Bar. He had stories to tell of the giants of the past of both the Bench and Bar of South Australia, and of his experiences when appearing before the High Court and the Privy Council. There were, he said, properly speaking, only two professions, the Church and the Law, and he impressed upon his hearers the dignity and the independence of their future calling.

Among lawyers or law students no anecdotes are better appreciated than those which are of a legal nature, and as even the speaker's hints to artful clerks were in lighter vein, the audience was delighted.

A most hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Cleland and the meeting adjourned for supper.

The following gentlemen, who are all old members of the Society, were on 24th April last admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of South Australia: B. G. Tuck, K. L. Litchfield, L. D. Hunkin, A. K. Sangster, M. S. Sergeant. The usual celebration which follows the admissions was held in the King's Theatre Ballroom, otherwise known as the Aubrey Hall, where the proceedings were of a light nature.

### WOMEN LAW STUDENTS.

The Annual General Meeting of the Adelaide University Women Law Students' Society was held in the Law Lecture Room, on Monday, 8th April.

## RELIGION AND SCIENCE.

An Thursday, April 18, in the Rennie Theatre, the University heard Dr. Kagawa on the Harmony of Religion and Science.

He pointed out that during the last half-century many students had been attracted to a position of agnosticism and scepticism, as a result of Darwin's Theory of Evolution.

He then gave a brief outline of the development of the modern quantum theory, and with some fallacious reasoning showed matter to be non-existent.

He based his argument on the idea that matter was made up of electrons, which can be regarded either as particles or as waves, and that the waves appear solid as they travel so fast.

A wave consists of a series of vibrations in the medium through which it is travelling, but the term wave is used nowadays to mean a flow of quanta. Now quanta are electric charges, and therefore have energy and therefore mass. When an electron changes its orbital path in an atom it emits quanta, or energy. The atom must, therefore, have energy, and hence mass.

Dr. Kagawa then talked of astronomy and the theories of the formation of the planetary system, from saying that since matter is quanta, and light is quanta, the Genesis account of the creation, "Let there be light," is correct. Most of the Bible fables can be translated in such a fashion.

Then followed a talk on the wide distribution of the essential elements, hydrogen and oxygen, and on the anomalous behaviour of water near its freezing point. Since the temperature of the densest water is above freezing point, it means there is a medium in which sea things may live when the surface water is frozen. These were given as examples of some underlying purpose.

Next came the Mendelian Law, and talk of men and monkeys.

Dr. Kagawa concluded by saying that the more one studies Science the more one believes in the wonderful underlying wisdom and design. The permanent characteristics of the universe are:—Law, selection, growth, change, energy, life, and purpose. Matter and space are merely appearances.

The advance of Science has, therefore, given us every right to believe in God. Some narrower minds still can see only the one attribute of the universe of growth, i.e., evolution. But those who take the wider view cannot fail to see the power and purpose of God.

The Christian uses the term God; the Agnostic, some similar term. The idea of a controlling power is certainly brought out by Science.

But it is interesting to try to find harmony between Science and the idea of a man-God. Science has yet to find a case of parthogenesis or of life returning to a body three days dead. It has yet to show that the law of conservation of mass is untrue, and that five small fishes and two barley loaves, or some such, can feed 5,000 souls (I mean, bodies).

Maybe they are compatible, but to many this does not seem to be the case.

In the absence of last year's President, Professor A. L. Campbell, who was elected President again, Miss J. Gilmore took the chair. Miss R. Mitchell, the retiring Secretary, read her report, and was awarded the prize for debating presented by Miss S. Maddeford. The Treasurer's report from Miss J. Wilson, was very solid. A Sub-Committee was appointed to revise the constitution, and with Professor Campbell as general adviser our new constitution should be a very workable one. This year's Committee is Miss G. Matthews (Secretary), Miss J. Wilson (Treasurer), and Misses A. Gregory, J. Atkins, and J. Barnes.

## Sports Notes

SATURDAY, APRIL 27.

### BASEBALL.

A's lost to Kensington, 0—7.  
B's lost to Kensington, 0—14.  
C's lost to Goodwood, 2—12.  
D's drew with Goodwood, 19—19.

### FOOTBALL.

A's defeated Underdale, 16—16 to 11—16. Goalkickers—Dawson, Sangster (4), Goode, Tillet (2), Cowan, Pfätzner, Playford.

### LACROSSE.

A's lost to West Torrens, 5—12. Goalthrowers—George (4), Osmond.

### NON-PENNANT TENNIS.

The following are the winners of the Non-Pennant Tournament Events:—

Open Singles Handicap—A. J. Wight.  
Club Doubles Handicap—G. W. Hills and Kuchel.  
Club Women's Singles Championship—Miss Jean Wilson.  
Club Singles Handicap—R. F. McAskill.  
Open Women's Doubles Championship—Miss M. Todd and Miss M. Colebatch.  
Club Doubles Championship—M. K. Todd and G. T. Colebatch.

### GOLF CLUB.

The A.U. Golf Club has had its annual meeting and is looking forward to a successful year of inter-club matches and Club competitions. In brief, the scheme for Club competitions is this:—

Kooyonga Golf Club have given us the use of their course on payment of the usual green fee and without the necessity of formal introduction by a Kooyonga member. Note! This means that anyone who can't afford to join a golf club can play golf and enter for A.U.G.C. competitions!

The events will be in the form of bogey competitions, commencing on 1st May, and held during each month. Entry fee is 1/- per month, and entitles the player to hand in as many signed bogey cards as he wishes during each month. Handicaps will be adjusted by the Committee on the S.S.S. system. The best card at the end of each month will be announced the winner and will receive a handsome trophy in the form of a cup or beer mug.

These competitions will be worth while, and will give all golfers and intending golfers a chance to play when they like, win a valuable trophy, and have a chance for the Intersarsity Golf Team which will play in Sydney this year!

During this golf season there will also be several teams matches, probably against Royal Adelaide, Kooyonga, Victor Harbour, and Mt. Lofty. Join in this excellent winter sport, even if you aren't a member of any Club.

See the Secretary (H. G. Andrew), and watch the notice-board for further details.

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB.

A practice match was held on Saturday, between the A and B teams, in preparation for Association matches, which start on Saturday, 4th May. We will again be represented in three grades this year.

### BASKET-BALL MATCHES.

Varsity A lost to Cheerios, 23—24.  
Varsity B beat Acubra's, 22—20.  
Varsity C lost to St. Mark's, 20—33.

Are you all coming to the Basketball Dance on 11th May—the first and biggest of the year? A good orchestra, and a chance to win all sorts of prizes. Tickets from the Committee or Secretaries, J. Laurence and M. Seddon.