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Balfour's

Vol. 10.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1940.

No. 9.

Off to See the Wizard

This is a report, more or less verbatim, of what one woman was heard saying to another woman about something someone else had heard—evidently and sort of—if you see what I mean, my dear!

"Oh, my dear, I've just heard the most marvellous story. You'll die honestly; you've just no idea. Of course, I oughtn't to tell you one has to be so careful because of spies, but I just know you wouldn't repeat it, and there's no one listening, is there? That man behind you isn't taking any notice: he's just scribbling things on bits of paper. No, don't tip your chair back, you might hit him.

"Well, she told me—of course, I can't tell you who she was, but you can guess there's only one woman with that awful hair, and you can't believe half she says—well, she said that she'd heard that three people down here had to go up to town to see about some Communists or some professors—or perhaps they had to find some or see some. I don't know—they might even have been professors, but I don't think they were, because she said that one was a woman or a lady or something, and I'm sure they weren't Communists, because they would have been repressed by now and they obviously aren't—Oh, no, my dear, if you knew half I know you'd know they weren't—Well, then, they needn't have gone up to town—Oh, yes, I'm quite sure they did.

"Well, they had a simply lovely time—everything was so jolly and everyone so pleased to see them. Of course, they had to wait for nearly an hour. You always have to in—but, of course, I can't say what sort of offices they went to. It might be of value to the enemy, but there were an awful lot of notices round the place. One said, 'Ladies Only,' but what ladies would want to do up there I can't imagine; and there was another notice saying 'Information,' but there wasn't anyone there; but there must have been someone who knew something. And there was a horrible man in a khaki

coat going round polishing all the door knobs—collecting fingerprints on his duster, she said, which scared them no end. But I don't know why; anyone can go in a door saying 'Ladies!'

"Well, while they waited they proceeded to take in their surroundings—that's what all well-trained—but I can't tell you what they were or you might guess who they were. Well, everything was no nice, even the fire-extinguishers had bottoms up notices all over them, and they felt quite at home, and there was a perfectly delightful flight of stone stairs to sit and wait on, and only one of them was so paralyzed with cold as a result that the other two had to talk hot air behind him for ten minutes to thaw him. But, of course, that's no trouble to people like that.

And they were having lovely fun. They played 'cart the body' up and down the stairs (they were quite strong men, you see) and then to keep warm they practised throwing the discs up and down the passage, and there was even sand to play with and red buckets too, with writing on them. You know it was really palatial with people coming and other people going—and that reminds me, she said a lovely young man came in all dressed up like a soldier with three pips and a pipe and a military secret tucked under his arm, and, of course, everybody heard it. But the real story began when one of them almost had to be thrown out by an armed guard just for opening a cupboard door and looking in—and, mind you, the notice on the cupboard door wasn't very big—and he was just going to see what would happen if he—oh, my dear, just look at that hat!"

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Coming Events

- Wednesday, May 8.**
 Women's Sports on the 'Varsity Oval at 2 p.m.
 Arts Association Meeting in Lady Symon Hall at 8 p.m. "The Prattler" of 5CL will prattle.
 Presentation of diplomas by the Board of Social Studies in the George Murray Hall at 8 p.m.
- Saturday, May 11.**
 Rugby Ball in the Refectory.
 Law Students' Smoke Social.
- Tuesday, May 14.**
 Union Debate against W.C.T.U. in Refectory on the subject of Wet Canteens. The Lord Mayor will adjudicate.
- Wednesday, May 15.**
 Adjourned Union A.G.M., 1.20 p.m., in the George Murray Hall.

- Saturday, May 18.**
 First term ends.
- Saturday, May 18-Wednesday, May 22.**
 S.C.M. Conference at "Holiday House," Mt. Lofty. The study will be on the nature of a true University and its place in modern life.
- Monday, June 3.**
 Second term begins.
 Carnegie Gramophone Recital in South Hall of Conserv. at 1.10 p.m.
 Brahms' 3rd Symphony will be played.
- Saturday, June 8.**
 Med. Ball in Refectory.
- Wednesday, June 12.**
 Graduates' A.G.M. and Reunion in the Lady Symon Hall at 8 p.m.
- Saturday, June 15.**
 Football Dance in Refectory.

GOWNED?

With its customary ingenuity, the Debating Society managed to cloak the paucity of its subject matter with a mantle of seeming wisdom, learning and understanding for yet another time in the George Murray Hall on Wednesday, May 1.

The subject under discussion was, "That Section 1, Chapter XVIII, of the Statutes of the University should be enforced." If you are one of those poor nitwits that do not know the Statutes, this particular chapter requires University students to wear academic dress to lectures, and on other suitable occasions. The pro side was supported by Messrs. Gent and Wighton, with Miss McDougall, and Mr. Hawkins, Miss Teesdale Smith and Mr. Wells opposed them. Mr. Roger Willoughby was in the chair and Mr. Cornell adjudicated.

Mr. Gent—Brightly Bombastic.
 Mr. Gent treated his audience to a half-humorous flight of oratory, praising the academic gown as the symbol of the University, as it should be opposed to the sports coat and flannel bags which represented the University as it is. One felt that with a little more encouragement, Mr. Gent might believe what he was saying. His, however, was a very good opening speech on a difficult subject.

During the course of it the chairman's coat and trousers came under fire, but the question of whether to deprive him of them or not was unfortunately shelved.

Mr. Hawkins—Paternally Controversial.
 Mr. Hawkins denounced the whole scheme as an exploit of the Nazi fifth column. The individual liberties of the undergraduate were slowly being taken away. He challenged his opponents for not wearing academic dress themselves. Intellectual honesty, he said, would not admit a student to wear a gown—it is useless to try to supply dignity where there is none, and unnecessary where there is.

Mr. Wighton—Comfortably Lethargic.

Mr. Wighton smoked a cigarette while speaking, partly to steady his nerves and partly because the Wighton manner requires a cigarette while speaking. He claimed that the wearing of the academic gown would make towards ultimate world peace. The course of this argument was most delicately traced. Mr. Wighton is not one of those debaters that emphasize their points by shouting and waving their arms about.

Miss Teesdale Smith—Bitterly Practical.
 Miss Teesdale Smith claimed the psychological effect of the gown on students would be harmful. There would be no differentiation of man or woman in gowns, which were ugly, black, ill-fitting, green, frayed and altogether detestable. The possession of a gown would be a source of continual mental worry.

Miss McDougall—Economically Sound.
 Miss McDougall held that an introduction, or re-introduction, of gowns to the University would stimulate the cloth trade. A gown was not as other pieces of clothing are, merely to wear; it could be used for a multitude of purposes. You could sit on it, tear pieces off it to use in time of royal mourning, wipe your pen on it, clean your shoes with it, hide cribs for examinations in its sleeves.

Mr. Wells—Coldly Logical.
 Mr. Wells is in the army. When he is in the army he associates with brass hats, and studs that brass hats tend to concentrate rather more on clothes than on the way to win wars, and so it is, says Mr. Wells, with regard to University gowns. Clothes make the man—perhaps, but clothes certainly do not make the mind.

After a mild cloak of scriptural quotations by the two leaders in their replies, the adjudicator gave his verdict in favour of the negative side, and the meeting was closed.

Arts Association
 Hear —
THE PRATTLER
 of 5AN-CK-CL
PRATTLE
 in the Lady Symon Hall at
 8 p.m.
TO-MORROW
 Supper as usual

Hu-Cha-Cha

Last Wednesday the Swing Club invited a number of musicians along to play in place of the usual recorded programmes. They provided a most entertaining jam session.

Unfortunately, Val Sence on saxophone had a borrowed instrument which was too low in pitch for the piano, and so we were deprived of hearing his hot reed solos. We were as disappointed as he was. This threw an additional load on to the trumpet player, Geoff. Williams, who did a very good job.

Full marks go to Russell Melville for his powerful and clever string bass breaks. His part in "Tiger Rag" almost stole the show. With him all the way were Jango Kahn on Spanish guitar and Ron Keats the drummer. Outstanding was a solo by Jango, "Lady be Good," and Ron delighted the audience throughout with his work on the drums. Finally Wally Lund at the piano kept things going well, and at times burst forth into brilliant piano solos.

The Swing Club Committee hopes to arrange more of these impromptu programmes during the year.

Warning

The Men's Union Committee would like to make it known that persons damaging Union property must pay for damages, and are also liable to be fined. One person has been fined for damaging a table in the G.M. Building, and it is hoped by this warning to make members more careful of Union property.
 Also, those people who use lockers in the G.M. basement will have their locks ruthlessly removed unless they give their names to G. M. Neuenkirchen before the end of this term.

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On the Trail

By The Watchdog.

The latest reports from Norway seem to indicate that the hope that Germany had over-reached herself are unfounded. In spite of early naval successes, the Allies have been unable to prevent steady enemy advances, until, at the moment, an Allied withdrawal from southern Norway may be necessary to prevent further troop losses. We must conclude either that the difficulties of the campaign were fatally under-estimated, or that the action taken was dilatory and slovenly, or that the public has been deliberately misled. In any case, the Chamberlain Government will have to answer these charges—if it can. The present situation confirms the impression that there are too many passengers in the British Cabinet. In addition, it contains Sir John Simon and Sir Samuel Hoare. If there are two men where past records should delbar them from any share in the conduct of British policy, they are Simon and Hoare. And you will remember that Mr. Chamberlain announced on his return from Munich that he brought Peace with Honour.

The ill-success of the Allies in Norway has brought about an increasingly hostile tone in the Italian Press. It may be that at their Brenner meeting Hitler and Musolini agreed on just such a course of action as at present seems likely; that the Allies having become deeply involved in Norway, Italy would move into the Balkans. Yesterday British shipping diverted from the Mediterranean to the Cape route. That may mean that Italy is expected to move any time now. But it is just possible that the diversion was made in order to impress the Italian Fascist Council when it meets to-day. And that is my guess.

Mr. Menzies is apparently still set upon bringing before the House the agreement to allow the manufacture of cars in Australia. Such an expansion of secondary industry in war time would be unwise and might well be dangerous. The Tariff Board has reported twice upon the question of the establishment of a motor car industry in Australia. Both reports are adverse. And yet the Government, which we can be certain has not the ability, experience or knowledge of the Tariff Board, decided to set the report aside. It seems quite clear that in doing so the Government was considering neither the economic needs nor the defence requirements of the country. We know, and we are certainly reminded by the Government, that this war is going to cost an astronomical amount. Why then should we start producing motors at a cost far in excess of what we pay for those we import? Secondly, why should the Government go out of its way to increase the already acute shortage of highly specialised workmen and toolmakers? Thirdly, if the new industry is to help in the defence of Australia, perhaps someone would explain what would happen if command of the sea were lost and raw materials necessary to manufacture motors could not be imported. Finally—assuming that this war is to end—when peace comes it must be obvious to all that Australia, along with every other nation, must do everything she can to stimulate international trade. That being so, only such an expansion of secondary industries should be allowed as is absolutely necessary for the carrying out of the war effort. After the war we must not allow such industries to claim protection. In the same way as we disband the army, we must scrap as much of the wartime growth of industry, as it is too costly to maintain.

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"ON DIT" STAFF, 1940.

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Business Manager:
J. C. Mellor.

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Miss E. Teesdale Smith, K. Sanderson,
E. F. Johnston.

The views expressed in "On Dit" through correspondence, etc., do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Editors, and we reserve the right to obtain an answer to any letter and publish it in the same issue.

All Is Not Lost

Last week, under the heading of "Editorial Note," we made a somewhat vague statement believing that people could, would, or should read between the lines. Our statement was deliberately vague, because the facts as then known were far from complete; nevertheless, many readers, judging by what they had fortuitously heard, considered the "Editorial Note" was rotten. In point of fact they were right—last week. The statement concerned Government censorship of "On Dit," and the whole matter has now been reviewed by the Union Committee with the following result:

Under the National Security Regulations, the Government Censor has power to compel any publication to be submitted for approval. In point of fact, this power is only exercised when a publication commits a breach of the regulations, and a breach consists in the patent propagation of "subversive" doctrines which are calculated to hinder the war effort. This does not mean a restriction on bona fide criticism of the Government—such a restriction would be totally untenable even in an imperfect democracy.

To some, this distinction seems difficult to draw, since there is at least a potential restriction on complete freedom of speech. We submit, however, that despite a firm belief in that principle, it is obviously impossible for any discrimination to be made in favour of "On Dit" merely because it is a University publication.

Accordingly, it has been decided by the Union Committee that "On Dit" should carry on making the greatest possible use of the scope allowed by the National Security Regulations, with which the editors are fully acquainted. And in the light of what has previously appeared in this paper, that decision we consider is the wisest and best possible.

Now you can read last week's Editorial Note and judge for yourselves how rotten it was.

The Cloistered Life

"In the spring, a young man's fancy
Lightly turns to thoughts of love."

It's only autumn, you say?

But spring must be in the veins of two ebullient dental students and friends who dined a quatre in middle of the Refectory last Thursday. It is also rumoured that afterwards one of said dentals escorted fair damsel to the very door of her lecture room. What's he afraid of, anyway?

"Just wait till I finish this row," echoes round the quad as 2 o'clock approaches, and scarves for the Air Force, Navy, Engineers and Infantry are one row nearer the end, and likewise socks for said Air Force, Navy, Engineers and Infantry are also nearing completion.

Have you, too, got to finish that row? If not, don't forget, everyone, that wool for the Fighting Forces' Comforts Fund is available at the Union Office. NOW is the time to get it.

By the way, we haven't heard of any enthusiastic replies to the suggestion of a University procession. Wake up, 'Varsity!!

The latest thrill to female students with an outlook on the Jubilee Oval is the training of Air Force at 10 a.m. One rainy day, we believe, they took shelter under the Barr Smith verandah, and on being warned not to disturb students, were heard to remark that one charming lady near the door was so intent that nothing short of heavy bombardment would ever disturb her.

What Is a University?

Do we know: why we are at the University? What kind of education it should give? What we students owe to it and the community? Is it a technical training ground and recruiting place for the professions, or should it provide also a sound understanding of the political and economic system in which we live? Or should it go deeper and develop an adequate conception of values which can be the only true basis for future activities? The essential nature of studentship is an unbiased seeking after all things for a knowledge of the truth in all things.

What are the practical implications for us as students?

Peace saw this ideal unfulfilled and war presents a further threat which few of us even begin to realize. Behind the curtailment of liberty at

Fashion spotlight this week shines on the dude who donned an apple-green blouse—sorry, shirt—intricately embroidered with black dogs.

On Field-Marshal Tregoeing throwing his weight about in one small bell tent in the form of a chic white jumper at the Athletics on Friday.

On "Spog" Rowe, of the yellow ochre hair, in Myer's latest line of combinations, plus zips.

The proceedings were greatly enhanced by the asthmatic microphone which emitted occasional bursts of profanity—or was it Mr. Hill?

We mithered the bright socketh of a thertain second year Med. thudent who cynth he wath occupied with a particular body in the anatomy thcool wath unable to be prethent—we apologize for slight impediment.

The audience decided that in the mile, competitors should avoid wearing jumpers of yellow hue, as said colour is apt to clash with wearer's face.

Mr. Thornton was so preoccupied with his "Strictly cash business in the stand" that he was forced to sprint to his 200 yards handicap mark in the mile, and had to strip exit route.

At 5.30 we went home, leaving the athletes to run a race against closing time.

At last their conscientious abstinence is at an end!

home and the extinguishing threat of Fascism abroad there is yet a deeper problem which has always existed and always will exist.

What do students owe to the community?

Is studentship our whole service to the community?

Do we serve society better by taking part now in non-student activities or by remaining aloof till we are trained to serve society adequately?

These are a few of the questions which any genuine University student should be prepared to discuss. In consideration of this, the Student Christian Movement in this University has arranged that its conference from May 18-22 is to be on this very problem. Details are on the notice board and application forms must be handed in before May 13.

Front Office News

TRAFFIC RULES.

The Council has laid down rules for the parking of cars and control of motor traffic within the University grounds. Notices are now in course of erection indicating that the western roadway from North Terrace to the western end of the Anatomical Building is reserved for inward traffic only, and that the two middle gateways to North Terrace for outward traffic only. The word "slow" has been painted in large letters on the roadway at the entrance to the western gateway on North Terrace, and at the entrance to the grounds from Kintore Avenue. No traffic within the grounds should exceed the rate of 10 miles per hour. The old tennis court at the rear of the Prince of Wales Building has been lined to facilitate the parking of five rows of cars, and motor traffic from this area or the vicinity will be required to go out either by the roadway at the northern side of the Jarrah Building or by the Kintore Avenue gateway. Other notices being erected refer to the restriction or limitation of parking at the western and eastern sides of the main building.

ARMY APPOINTMENTS.

Dr. C. T. Madigan, in response to an application received from Army Headquarters in Melbourne, has been granted leave of absence by the University Council to take up full-time military service, with the rank of major, as Chief Instructor of the School of Field Engineering at Liverpool, N.S.W.

Professor Sir Stanton Hicks has also been called up for part-time military service, and has been attached to Army Headquarters Staff, with the rank of captain.

Learn a New Word Every Day

- The duchess dropped her jewel
Down the newel.
- The Air Force recruits are training
noisily behind the Bonython Hall.
Will the noise of the Air Force
trainees
Awaken the Bonython manes?
- The army lets a fellow join the band
If he knows a fair amount about
notation;
But the navy won't allow him off the
land
Till he knows a fair amount about
natation.
- Longeval.
A man may reach his dotage
Before he's a centenarian,
But can he reach his nonage
Before he's a nonageranian?
- Homonyms.
His poor old hair was grizzly;
They gave him all the gristle.
His face became quite grisly
As he began to grizzle.
- Flu.
Said the maiden, all blushing and
tentative,
Can you sell me a certain preventative?
Said the chemist, politely attentive,
"Won't you let me suggest a pre-
ventive?"
- Drunk.
"You are brought before this bench for
inebriety;
Have you anything to plead against
a fine?"
"Yes, sir, I plead habitual ebriety."
"Then a slightly larger fine will be
condign."

Graduates' Week Abandoned

At a committee meeting of the Graduates' Union last Wednesday it was decided that, on account of the war, Graduates' Week would not be held this year. The only function arranged is the annual general meeting, to be held on Wednesday, June 12.

The committee was also unanimously in favour of cancelling the Graduates' Dance and Bridge Evening, and of donating the money usually spent to the Union Comforts Fund unit. A resolution was not passed on this point, however, as the committee felt that it would prefer a vote to be taken at the annual general meeting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IN REPLY TO "V.S.D."

Dear Sir,
The Women's Union Committee at their last meeting considered the letter signed "V.S.D.," which appeared in "On Dit" of 23/4/40. It was suggested in this letter that a Voluntary Service Detachment should be formed at this University, as the Red Cross was encouraging the formation of new groups.

If the writer of this letter would get in touch with the committee personally and produce enough people willing and able to join such a group, the proposition would be given further consideration, but in the meantime we would like to mention that the V.S.D. formed here last year began with forty enthusiastic members and finished with seven, which we think proves the impracticability of making a detachment in the Varsity. We suggest that students anxious to do the course should join outside groups and not run the risk of wasting a doctor's time at ill-attended meetings of a University V.S.D.

Yours, etc.,

SECRETARY UNIVERSITY
WOMEN'S UNION.

PROCESSION.

Dear Sir,

Let us have more of "A Good Thing" as suggested by T. B. Hunter. Anything which is in newspapers for more than one day is a "hit" in Adelaide; and that is what the last procession attained. If I remember correctly, there were more letters to the "Advertiser," etc., about the procession than on any other subject. Is this not the symbol of success?

At the time I was of too young and tender an age to see such "a disgraceful atrocity" as some people termed the procession. This fired my imagination, and I determined not to miss the next. I feel that I am not alone in my desire to see such a procession. As I stated before, anything capable of attracting the attention and criticism in such a way as did the 1936 procession must be "the goods."

It is interesting to note that the self-same people who so strongly criticised, and said that had they known that the procession would be so disgraceful they would not have gone, on being asked why they stayed and watched it could give no answer. Personally, I know of many people who, although they profess that the last was immoral, etc., continually ask me when the next procession is to be; and to me their faces have seemed to attain a positive leer when they talk about our last effort.

Is it fair to the public of Adelaide that it should be derived of its fun any longer? Let us consider all types.

(a) The person who goes and admits he (or she) enjoys it. He forgets most of the things in a few weeks, but still tells everybody, "It was a pretty good show—bit suggestive in parts and all that, but I enjoyed it."

(b) The person who goes and enjoys it, but won't admit it. He remembers all of it and delights in saying how terrible it was, and then relates the worst part to illustrate his point.

(c) The person who doesn't enjoy it.

(i) Is there any such person?
(ii) Assuming there is, and he (or she) strongly deplores the fact that the Varsity is so "degraded" (?)

This person, in view of his convictions, should not go, and if he does he should keep his eyes shut. Otherwise he is only proving to others that he doesn't believe himself what he expects others to believe of him, viz., he is a person of purity and innocence.

Financially, any Varsity procession after the reputation gained by the last would be a decided success, and as that is our aim, let us have our "Good Thing" and do our bit to raise some cash.

Yours in favour,

J. A. ROBERTS.

'Varsity Procession

Will any bright people with bright suggestion for a Varsity procession in aid of F.F.C.F. communicate with T. B. Hunter or J. M. McPhee?

STRANGE NOISES.

Dear Sir,

On the Friday night before last I was appalled to hear strange noises coming from the far end of the Refectory. I paused from my work and tried to place the noise—surely no one had set my cat trap and managed to mangle some of my precious meat. No! It was different from that. At last I placed it. Surely with some modifications, less screech, less banging, it may have resembled the noises that come from the Lady Symon ou Swing Club days.

On investigation, I found that the whole of a meeting was enjoying this strange babble. I believe they called it hot jazz, but I have another name—something hot all right. How anyone who respects his ears and the Union property could sit within throwing distance, I cannot say.

Having satisfied my curiosity, I tried to continue with my work, but that noise absolutely prevented me. I quickly came to a decision that I would have to apply to the Union to construct a special madhouse in which to put these enthusiasts on such occasions, or else to provide me with means of reaching Alice Springs extra quickly when I see a man with a gramophone and some records.

On considering the question, I thought that if I knew as much about music as about flour, I might appreciate that din. Then I realized how glad I was that I knew so much about flour.

I must put in a protest as well on behalf of my wife, for a man must protect his wife from all evils. You don't know with what difficulty and reluctance—no, that's the wrong word—I persuaded my wife to recover from her many swoons that evening. It only needed another record to start and she went away to faint mutterings of "They call that music?"

If the youth of to-day enjoys hot jazz, and also consider themselves wise, I fully believe in the old saying, "Tis folly to be wise."

Yours, etc.,

W. T. S. GOODALL.

TURNER BOUT.

Dear Sir,

"Turner" seems to have a poor knowledge of facts when he can write a letter such as he did in the last issue of "On Dit" under the heading "Let's Go Digging." He said he would leave it in our hands, but I would be prepared to say he played into our hands.

Really, the letter should be treated with contempt and not answered, but just in case some poor misguided person regarded this as an opinion held by more than one person in the University, I thought it necessary to reply.

It would appear as if he were a fresher—if not a fresher, one who does not follow University happenings, a non-technical student, and one who has just done something awfully patriotic. In fact, he speaks in the scathing terms of one who has just been promoted to an acting lance-corporal on the H.Q. office staff, and from such a lordly position bemoans the fact that everyone else has not joined the A.I.F.

I think "Turner" could be classed with Judge Piper, who "wouldn't know a coal mine if I fell down one." If he knew the slightest bit more he would not make the suggestion that University students should work the mines during the strike.

Hoping every other reader sneered as much as I did on reading this article.

Yours, etc.,

ENGINEER.

FREE SPEECH.

Dear Sir,

I do not seek, however long the conflict may last, a muzzled Opposition. Our institutions, Parliament, all liberal thought, free speech, free criticism, must go on. It would be a tragedy if we found that we had fought for freedom and free belief, and the value of every individual soul, and won the war but lost the things we were fighting for. The Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, in the House of Representatives, September 6, 1939.

Yours, etc.,

MAX HARRIS.

TURNER AGAIN.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Turner leaves "it" in our hands! He leaves us the suggestion that we should become "scabs." The present coal strike is an indirect outcome of the desire of miners to bring their existence just one point nearer the life that Mr. Turner himself leads. Admittedly, this is a bad time to choose for a strike, and on the surface may appear to be due to lack of patriotism; but only when their services are in demand can workers hope to have their requests heeded. The idea, therefore, that we should help to force the issue—which the Government is quite capable of doing, anyway—is beneath anyone with a sense of fair play. How many of us are physically fitter (pampered by "that priceless thing") for coal-mining? If Mr. Turner intends to go digging, let him go; maybe what he sees and does then will make him start a rebellion to further the miners' cause.

Further, Mr. Turner is inconsistent—he suggests that we should "all get together and demand a special branch of the services to be at our disposal!" But isn't this exactly what people deplore in the present strike: the demand made by a section of the community on those who have been placed in authority over us? There was a movement last year to form a Varsity regiment. It was ruled out because it was impossible to accommodate men with specialized ability, and, after all, those who wanted to offer their services had already joined units which made use of their particular talents. Prof. Sir C. Stanton-Hicks has told us that moves to establish an O.T.C. at the Varsity have been discarded by the authorities as being undemocratic; for consistency, any such unit would be ruled out.

Your correspondent's inconsistency is surpassed by his aetherial vagueness. In one paragraph we are people who would benefit by attending to elementary rifle drill; in another we are highly trained specialists, who should be conscripted to form the backbone of technical units.

If we are to win this war—the prospect of defeat is rather horrible—we are not going to do so by shouting from the housetops, or attempting to change our national life in five minutes. We must make, step by step, the least possible changes that are necessary to overcome obstructions as they arise. (N.B.: Idea not original.) The war requires of the individual psychological adjustments which cannot be as rapid as economic changes in a nation's trade.

Let Mr. Turner, therefore, bear in mind that—

(a) No Varsity student is so unskilled in the use of the rifle that he couldn't make Mr. Turner hop at 500 yards.

(b) Very few people, if any, have any idea of the ultimate result of the war. If Japan is such a menace, then we'd better not send men overseas.

(c) Every man here is allowed his own opinion, provided it does not lead to the detriment of the community; if you deprive men of this privilege you deprive them of the very ideals for which the war is being fought.

Let's leave it in the hands of the Government.

C. D. SWAINE.

CENSORSHIP.

The Editors.

"On Dit" was submitted to Government censorship for the second time last week.

The Union Committee considered the situation last Thursday, and decided to continue publication under the conditions explained by the censor. At the same time, it was urged that the committee should express its disapproval of the present extent of censorship in Australia, and that "On Dit" should agitate for the limitation of the censorship to measures necessary to guard against the divulging of

military secrets. This suggestion was repulsed by the committee with only one dissident for the somewhat incredible reason that by doing so "On Dit" would become partisan.

I am completely unable to understand how a paper which agitates for the right to give expression to all opinions can be described as partisan. The contention seemed absurd, but it is, at least, interesting to learn that Milton's Areopagitica is henceforward officially to be classed (and damned) as partisan literature. I venture to suggest that the objection arises from a failure to distinguish between the support of an abstract right (in this case, free speech and discussion), and the purely fortuitous incidents of that support at any one time. It is an incident of the support of the right of free speech at the moment that one is (for this purpose) opposed to the present Government, which is responsible for the censorship regulations. But we would be equally opposed to a repetition of the Labour Party censorship in the last war. The fact of opposition to some particular party is fortuitous and irrelevant; the essential matter is the support of the right and to assert that support of the right of free expression of opinion is a partisan act is to assert what is plainly erroneous.

Another member urged that the University should remain impartial—granted. But this does not mean that students are not to form opinions upon matters merely because they claim the attention of party politicians, but that such opinions should proceed from an investigation of the facts uninfluenced by the loyalties of party politics. To retire from the field is to be, not impartial, but impotent. And is it not plain that the impartiality of the University must depend finally upon freedom of speech and discussion? Impartiality, as I understand it, means a willingness to approach a problem with a mind free (as far as possible) from preconceived notions and to examine all the evidence and the views of others on the subject—how can that be done when some views are suppressed? Freedom of discussion is the beginning of impartiality, and when that freedom goes the University is the institution most vitally affected.

It was said by another that we ought to give all aid to the Government and not raise "side issues"; but we are told by our betters that the preservation of free speech is one of the first objects of the war, and it is therefore scarcely a side issue even in the Government view. But with the University it can never become a side issue; free speech is the very life blood of learning. It is the function of the Union to protect the interests of students. This matter is vital to every student, more vital even than the Refectory lawn and the Union crockery. In declining to disapprove the present censorship the Union Committee has, I think, completely failed to realize the importance of the issue and its own responsibilities.

It is ludicrous to suggest that criticism of the Government should be stifled in order to increase the efficiency of the war efforts. There is no situation so desperate as to demand the surrender of reason, and certainly no Government so perfect that its policy cannot be improved by examination and free discussion.

ELLIOTT JOHNSTON.

[We still retain the right to express our disapproval of the censorship if we should so wish. The Union Committee refused to pass the above-mentioned motion, and one reason may have been that they did not wish "On Dit" to become a partisan paper, but the other reason was that they did not wish to set themselves up as judges of "On Dit" policy.—Eds.]

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Women's Sports Day

The days of days—women, as you seldom see them!! Hot and hurried, red noses, struggling under nets, stamming with skipping ropes!!! Come along and join in the fun on Wednesday, May 8, at 2 p.m. Afternoon tea provided (the catch is 6d., but think of the Hockey Club's finances).

Women's Hockey

"A" GRADE.

Blackwood d. University, 6—4.

Goal-hitters: Y. Seppelt 3, P. Robinson.

General play was dreadful, and, although the rough and slippery field may have accounted for many mistakes, there was no excuse for the lack of combination and of team-play, nor for the failure in stick-work. Good stick-work is just as necessary as speed, and there is room for improvement in both.

"B" GRADE.

Plympton Park d. University, 4—3.

Goal-hitter: B. Cane 3.

The criticism of the "A" applies even more forcibly to the "B" team play, and not only individual brilliance is essential, and both can only be accomplished by hard and conscientious practice, and by using brains as well as muscle.

However, don't be discouraged. It was the first match, and enthusiasm will work wonders, so settle down to it.

Women's Pennant Tennis

As soon as we got over our surprise at Inter-Varsity being held, practices for I.V. were begun. Those chosen to practise were:—Barbara Welbourn, Elizabeth T. Smith, Helen Chamberlain, Joan Chamberlain, Betty Kidman, Pat Fraser, Annette Mackay.

Practices are held twice a week. On performances to date its seems probable that the first four named will be included in the team to go to Sydney in May.

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Non-Pennant Tennis

TOURNAMENT RESULTS.

Nine out of the ten events have been completed in almost record time. Here are the results of the finals:—

Open Singles Championship: Lock d. Rudall, 6—2, 5—6, 6—1.

Open Singles Handicap: Schwarz d. Rolland, 9—7.

Club Singles Championship: N. Wallman d. Rosenthal, 6—3, 6—1.

Club Singles Handicap: N. Wallman d. Colton, 9—5.

Women's Singles Handicap: B. Cane d. M. Matters, 9—6.

Open Doubles Handicap: Rudall, Batty d. Rosenthal, Schwarz, 6—3, 1—6, 6—3.

Club Doubles Handicap: Snow, Mills, d. Osman, Lindsay, 6—1, 6—5.

Mixed Doubles Handicap: Wells, Teesdale Smith d. Mills, Cane, 5—6, 6—5, 6—5.

Women's Doubles Handicap: Teesdale Smith, Welbourn d. McKay, Fraser, 6—3, 6—4.

Table Tennis

A Varsity team, consisting of Ford, Price, Potter and Fletcher, met Customs last Wednesday night at the Sports Academy, Franklin Street. We were beaten 11 rubbers to 7, but the match was very closely contested. Price was our best player, winning three out of four rubbers.

Even those teams that didn't win on Saturday lost in fine style. After all, it's not so much what you do as how you do it. What happens to the egg if the hen sits on the roost to lay it?

Basketball Club

On Saturday the Ladyped team amused itself with our "A's," leaving them finally with a score of 31—6 against them, and with many good resolutions about future practices. Although our team did its best, the opposing players were superior in every way except, if it may be mentioned, in fouling. In this direction two or three of our members were particularly brilliant.

The "B" team is a much brighter subject. It recorded its second win on Saturday, this time against Menaydes, and with a noble score of 45 to their 28. Nice work, "B's"! Ros. Halls, in goal, played a remarkably good game.

As for the "C's," misfortune seems to take a delight in accompanying them. This time, the Association's fault, we hastily add; no umpire appeared, and after a rather scrappy match against Coles, the score was 29—24 in favour of the visitors. Bad luck, "C," but remember, third time lucky.

In view of the fact that the women's sports will be held on Wednesday afternoon, this week there will be an early morning practice on Thursday. See the notice board in the Lady Synon for further particulars.

Rugby

University "A," 12; A.N.A.-P.A.O.C., 9.

This was a close game, the score being 9 all until a few minutes before full time, when Waterman passed to Hamilton on the blind side and he dived over for the deciding try. The opposing forwards were superior in the open and in the loose rucks.

Edwards was the Varsity star forward, and crowned his efforts by scoring a try in the first half. The best of the backs was Jeffries, who made several penetrating runs at out-centre, and Richardson, until he retired hurt, gave strong support both in attack and defence. It is pleasing to see Rischbieth settling down into the 5-8th position so quickly. Osman kicked two penalties.

'Varsity "B," 3, lost R.A.A.F. No. 2, 12.

The less said about this game the better. It was a glorious scramble from start to finish. Each side tried to out-do the other in aimlessly kicking the ball, the Air Force more successfully judging by the results. The 'Varsity players will have to learn that Rugby is not synonymous with Soccer. They must get into the rucks and heel the ball out to their backs. The latter must run straight and not be timid about taking a tackle. Smith was the best of the forwards, scoring the only try for his side. Kerr held the backs together as much as possible. When the team has trained together for a few nights they should improve out of sight.

Tickets for the Rugby Ball, Saturday, May 11, are obtainable from any member of the Rugby Club, as well as from the following young ladies:

Ruth Jauncey Naomi Richardson
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Brenda Oldham Joan Porter
Peggy Esple

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Football

The "A's" and "B's" suffered their first losses on Saturday, while the "C's" continued their success of last week.

The "A's" were beaten by Semaphore Centrals in a very hard game.

Two things were most clear from this defeat—one, the necessity for tall, agile ruckmen, such as Bunny Masters, who we hope to have back with us soon; and two, the necessity of sticking closely to our attacking opponents. Berndt was one of the chief offenders in this respect, and this fault undid all the good work in the air.

Ligertwood played brilliantly and worked very hard to get his five goals against the State keeper, Arthur Inglis. John Dunstan played another excellent game, and his accurate foot-passing made Ligertwood's job much easier. His kicking, however, goes sadly astray when he is kicking for goal.

Phil Young played a good game on a half-back wing, his marking being greatly improved. McMichael, a new-comer to the "A's," playing in Kleinschmidt's place, who is in camp, came under notice several times for strong back work.

Captain Betts, after playing his usual steady game, had to leave the field at the end of the third quarter because of an injured ankle. His place was taken by Law-Smith, who shaped fairly well, although he showed a tendency to come too far down towards centre, and to be out of reach of his goalsneak.

Scores: Semaphore Central, 10.26; 'Varsity, 12.10.

Goal-kickers: Ligertwood 5, Dunstan, Mansell 2, Madigan, Hill, Gurner 1.

Best Players: Dunstan, Steele, Young, Ligertwood, Betts.

In the "B's" Dawson played an outstanding game in the first half, but his lack of training began to tell and he tired badly. Green scored six goals, but he tends to wait until the ball comes to him.

As in the "A's," Cowell's slowness was a handicap to him, and he won't watch his man carefully. There is a noticeable lack of leading by the forwards. This must be overcome if they are to win many more matches, and the rucks must knock with more purpose.

Scores: Payneham "B," 15.17; 'Varsity "B," 12.6.

Goal-kickers: 'Varsity "B"—Gun 6, Harris 3, Cowell 3, Cherry 1.

Best Players: Dawson, Gun, Rosenthal, Bridgland, Wallman.

The "C's" won against Prince Alfred Old Collegians by a comfortable margin. White and the captain, Wagener, played well.

We learn with regret that Bill Betts has injured his ankle to such an extent that he will be unable to play for some weeks. The team will sadly miss his untiring efforts and fine leadership.

'Varsity "C" v. P.A.C. Old Scholars.

'Varsity, 11 goals 17 behinds, defeated P.A.C.O.S., 7 goals 9 behinds.

Best Players: Stain, Shierlaw, White.

Goal-kickers: Day 4, Ford 3, Gordon 2, Solly and Gray each 1.

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