

ON DIT

PUBLISHED FOR THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY S.R.C.

Vol. 15, No. 2.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1947.

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UNIVERSITY ATTACKED!

SWAN SONG?

DEPARTING SCIENTIST SLATES

Brian Claridge Relates

An open attack on the policy of this University towards research work was made by Charles Spencer Swan, M.D., D.Sc., in a press statement on March 13.

Dr. Swan is now on his way to London to carry out pathological and bacteriological work, but before leaving, he made a parting shot at the principles of his own University. His points were these:

- "The Adelaide University showed a marked tendency to put money into buildings without paying attention to the men who were going to work in them."
- "That men such as Florey, Cairnes, Olyphant, given adequate financial support and facilities, could have done their work here."
- "That there were young research workers on the staff of this University who were earning less than the basic wage, or, many of them, less than the cleaners."
- "Some departments were unable to carry on research because inadequate staff was overburdened with teaching, and, in some cases, professors were keener on administrative work than research."
- Requests should be encouraged so that research work could be furthered, and that Government grants were totally inadequate."

'UNIVERSITY POLICY DEFENDED

Mr. A. W. Bampton considers that Dr. Swan was not in a position to know all that was being done in research. Of late years, an increasing amount of research had been done in the physical and social sciences and medical sciences, and this year there would be a substantial increase in all three departments as a result of special grants received from the Commonwealth Government.

Until recently, most of the University buildings had been erected as a result of private endowments, although the Engineering and Physics building was presented to the University by the State. No more recent buildings and those at present under construction, are being provided under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme, the Commonwealth Government advancing the money for this purpose.

Mr. Bampton said he did not know

from where Dr. Swan could have got his information about salaries of research workers. If a young qualified man were appointed to a full time research position, his salary would be in the vicinity of £400 a year, and, in some cases, much more. Experienced full time researchers were paid, in many instances, at the same rates as members of the teaching staff. It was pointed out, however, that many of the men doing research work were only part time, devoting the rest of their time to pursuing their own studies towards a higher degree.

Further, Dr. Swan had totally and conveniently overlooked the work being done by the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, where State money was being spent at the rate of £28,000 a year (besides over £3,000 received from private endowment) on agricultural research alone.

Cancer research here had been by no means dormant, many valuable contributions being made to the knowledge and treatment of cancer.

The Sheridan Research grant is one provided to assist medical research. It could not be denied, however, that the staff was inadequate and overworked, and Mr. Bampton admitted that facilities here weren't all they could be, but, given money, they could eventually be got, and the people to use them.

UNDERGRAD SAILING . . . P. 4



The Carina, shown above, is a 21-footer and carries off fastest time honors for engineer Ralph Crook. —Krischock photo.

"It was unfortunate that Dr. Swan's opinions were published without any previous reference being made to the University authorities," were Mr. Bampton's final words.

Professor Sir Kerr Grant was wary as ever. Asked to comment on Dr. Swan's views, he said, "No! Not on your life!—My goodness!"

Speaking generally, Sir Kerr said he felt that, while he agreed that research work was an essential of the University, it was possible to overweigh its value in relation to other aspects.

"Would we have any more capable research workers if grants were doubled?"

And so

Those are the points.

Shall we weigh the pros and cons? (Modulate to page 3)

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WHAT'S BEEN COOKING?

OUR ANTI-SOCIAL CORRESPONDENT TELLS ALL

I know now why they call them freshers! Putting on my blindest look and a little less rouge than usual I attended a couple of their functions. Was I a mug! You need to be mighty fresh to survive that sort of rough-house.

The afternoon tea spread was satisfying, but the new ones who hovered politely back and waited for others to start the demolition are wiser men by now. The place was full of old hands, most of whose right to be there was obscure.

The Sec. of the Jazz Club was lucky he did not hear one lad who was looking for a sports sec. Young lad catching sight of identification card said, "He's no good." That is also the private opinion of many of his acquaintances, only they are more discreet.

We boosted the circulation of "On Dit" by giving away a few hundred copies free. Heck, we've got to get rid of them, somehow!

The "Freshers' Ball" was murder. In any other circumstances it would have been a riot. The floor was about as slippery as adhesive plaster —when you could find a space for your foot. Usually it turned out to be either on top of or underneath someone else's outsize hoof — a characteristic of most of the recent events down here.

Lots of the sweet young things sat sedately on the chairs round the walls whilst the gentlemen nervously cluttered the doorways.

An uninvited guest, in the form of a big shaggy dog, had the most fun. Was that animal smart! It tried to rip one demure damsel's dress off. It has probably been prowling round the University at some other ball and was quick to learn a new trick.

But who were the forthright couple embracing in the doorway round about half past eleven? Did they mind that there were about a dozen lights illuminating the spot—they were blind to such things.

Due to some regrettable oversight the "Social Editress" forgot to mention in the last issue that quite a few girls from that most exclusive of colleges, the A.H.S., are starting this year. A momentary aberration on her part I'm sure.

A recently formed student theatre group whose name I shan't mention, as they are good advertisers, certainly has some crack pot schemes. At their "studio warming" members are requested to bring a pillow and a rug (your guess is, as good as mine) and crawl through about half the buildings in Adelaide before entering. I wonder if they intend to have dancing at their ball or some more artistic pastime.

Has anyone noticed that fascinating ex-naval type with the beard? You have! Well, I've seen the other two men with face fungus.

It was noticed that a certain red-headed law student was still at the Freshers' Ball at 11:30 p.m. Must be losing her touch!

FOURTEEN DAYS TO THE APOLLO PLAYERS'

Theatre BALL

Freemasons' Hall, 8-12 (Midnight)
 Tickets 2/6; Union or W.E.A. Offices

On Dit

Published for the Adelaide University Students' Representative Council.

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EXTRAORDINARY ELECTIONS!

The S.R.C. by-elections are extraordinary on two counts.

The first and least important is that they are special by-elections to fill vacancies on the Students' Representative Council created by the resignations of D. Stalley and D. O'Sullivan.

The most extraordinary factor in these elections is that they are not elections at all!

Such is the general apathy of students towards the management of their own affairs and activities that D. A. Dunstan was the only one nominated for Men's General Representative, while there were originally two nominations for the Law vacancy.

After some discussion about not suiting the policy of "the Socialist bloc," Jeffrey Scott withdrew, leaving only John Roder in the field.

Both these nominees are automatically elected—the act of nomination therefore constituting an election. So does an interested minority impose itself upon a disinterested majority!

Student apathy is not wholly to blame. Inadequate publicity of the elections also played a part. For some obscure reason the whole elections were precipitately rushed, so that no information could be given in "On Dit."

When it was suggested that the closing date for nominations be held over till more adequate publicity was achieved, many and varied were the threats of what "the Socialist pressure bloc" would do about such "unconstitutional proceedings."

It was loosely stated that "the Socialist Club, St. Mark's College and the Student Theatre Group were behind Donald Dunstan" and that no one else stood a chance, anyhow.

The whole affair is unpleasantly reminiscent of the deplorable pressure group tactics which have been insidiously working in N.U.A.U.S. activities of late.

Through their disinterest the Conservatives of this University have elected a Socialist!

In future remember to read your notice boards and display a little more intelligent interest in University affairs. Wake up to the fact that the rest of the world is active and flowing past you while you complacently remain in a backwater of stationary stagnation!

Take an active interest in your S.R.C. and see that they are keeping on the job. "On Dit" will publish the names of all members at S.R.C. meetings so that you will know who is absent.

Unless you elect working representatives and keep an eye on their performance in the S.R.C., you may find your interests are being neglected.

The S.R.C., or some fourteen members thereof, devoted the entire second week-end of March to discussing and ratifying N.U.A.U.S. Council proposals concerning your welfare.

This was a good job; but only slightly more than half the S.R.C. took part.

It's up to you; you elected them!

DON THOMPSON.

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COMMENT ON COMMEM

Lightly . . .

The Commemoration Service, in all its pomp and glory, was a thing of beauty. The professors and lecturers of divers sort were dressed to kill. The most stunning gowns of the day were those of the Medical and Dental Faculties, eye-searing shades of red designed to brighten the dullest assembly—and this was one which gave them ample scope. The graduates sat in a restless pack in the front of the hall, whilst hundreds of eyes focused relentlessly on them. Their black gowns flowed about them like the folds of Mandrake's cloak as they stepped proudly but self-consciously up to shake the Chancellor's hand and bow nicely to the Governor while the oft-repeated formula was announced to all and sundry that they had been good boys and girls, having done all, or more, than was required of them.

The hall was packed tier upon tier, foot upon foot. By standing on a chair in the gallery I got a good view of the backs of half a dozen heads and a stone pillar and a small slice of the platform, but try as I might to avoid it, I heard

every word that was said. The Chancellor comforted everyone by explaining that Universities the whole world over are too crowded and ours is no exception, so that a degree has nowadays little value (except to rid the University of excess material). Then the good man shook hundreds of hands and smiled into hundreds of faces.

About three-quarters of the way through I beat it outside, partly in an endeavor to get some fresh air and partly to watch the exodus. This procession was a very happy event, smiles of relief and satisfaction showed in every joyous face. The whole affair simply oozed with the spirit of tradition. Solemnity and thanksgiving were the keynotes of the day with an undertone of jubilation on the part of those lucky enough to be receiving their degrees. They had the knowledge that years of work well and nobly done lay behind them, and they faced the future with the earnest, steadfast confidence of youth ready to conquer the world. Amen.—I.L.

. . . and Politely

"It is a delight to everybody that Professor Kerr-Grant has become a knight," according to the Chancellor (Professor Sir William Mitchell), at the Annual Commemoration Ceremony. The audience included His Excellency, the Governor, in his capacity as Visitor of the University, the Premier, Chief Secretary, and Minister of Education. Continuing, Professor Mitchell remarked that since 1909 Sir Kerr had lectured to more than 10,000 students and had "always been at their service."

In what appeared to be a direct reply to the attack on the University's lack of interest in research activity made by Dr. Swan in the preceding evening's "News," the Chancellor declared that it is the first duty of lecturers and professors in a University to teach. Certainly the University needs fundamental men to gather new knowledge, but such gathering must not be dissociated from the teaching entrusted to lecturers.

While in theory it was the approved policy of the University to see that lecturers devoted half their time to teaching and the other half to their own study and research, it was evident that such an arrangement broke down when lecturers in the Chemistry Department, for example, were asked to teach 720 students in their first year course.

The growth of the student body was no doubt due to many causes. Among these the Chancellor especially dwelt on C.R.T.S. influx of servicemen accounting for 25 per cent.

Health Service

Bookings of appointments can be made on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Afternoons, between the hours of 2 and 4 o'clock, at the Health Service Office, in the Entrance Hall to the Refectory. Enquiries can also be made at the Union Office.

of the increase, the increase of the number of Leaving Bursaries to 48 which meant that in a few years a permanent 250 students in all faculties would be educated by State grants, and the fact that the Teachers' College would this year send 473 students to the faculties of Arts and Science.

After the feverish building operations during the past three years, many undergraduates probably considered that the 'Varsity building programme had reached its limits. Sir William quickly dispelled this idea by announcing that new land had been acquired on the eastern side of Frome Road for the building of a new Medical School. When this was completed, the Anatomy Building would move there, the Geology School would take over the vacated Anatomy premises, while the University's largest, but much neglected Arts Faculty would move into the Geology School.

During his address, the Chancellor stated that he hoped to be soon in a position to announce the formation of a Chair of Economic and Mining Mineralogy. Sir Douglas Mawson envisaged this Professor taking an active part in mineralogy prospecting, especially for iron ore, and silver-lead lode, within this State and at Broken Hill.

After speaking briefly to the newly-created graduates on the subject of graduate unemployment, the Chancellor concluded his address with two epigrammatical statements, which, while addressed to the graduates, should also stir the minds of all in this University—"It takes four years to learn Engineering, but it took four centuries to gather the knowledge," and "Australia is a great country, but no greater than it is made."

JOHN RODER.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
FREEMASONS' HALL
Apollo Players'

Theatre BALL

Tickets, 2/6. Now available from Union Office or W.E.A.

Just Arrived!

Macbeth: Organic Chemistry

Gray: Textbook of Anatomy, 1946. Lemon & Ference: Physics

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Research on Research

Final Movement Swan Overture

(Modulated from page 1)

Dr. Swan, in his attack on the research policy of this University, would, it seems, have some few axes to grind. His statements, in the main, are apparently personal (ah!—the freedom of speech!) and have little general foundation.

NO FOUNDATION

But we can agree on one or two points:

- Complete facilities aren't here yet, nor the people to use them if they were. Mr. Bampton admits this much, but claims we could have both, provided we had the money.
- Staff is now, by necessity, flat out with teaching and administrative work. That has been the result of abnormal conditions—floods of students, rearrangement of courses. But it is silly to say that nothing is being done to meet these new demands. Everything as far as present circumstances permit is being done. It is somewhat foolish to suggest that the University authorities are blind to the situation. But many people are too ready to criticise without making any attempt to discover first just what is going on in the inner sanctums of the Front Office. I think we can credit the inhabitants of these sacred regions with at least a smattering of foresight.

The cry that insufficient salaries are offered are not always well founded. The fact is that it is becoming increasingly hard to find men with sufficient qualifications to do the work required of them. And, as Sir Kerr Grant pointed out, it is unfair to say that some professors are "keener" (ask 'em!) on administration than on research. What if they are? They are making indirect contributions to the carrying out of research by keeping the very machinery, by which research can be done, in good running order. "They also serve"

OUT OF THE HORSES' MOUTHS

The general opinion of the research workers themselves do not reveal quite the dissatisfaction that might be expected from Dr. Swan's statements.

Research work is encouraged, and equipment is usually forthcoming on request, while buildings are available practically at any time.

The biggest moan, so far, relates to salaries in relation to work done or expected.

As far as some departments are concerned, hardly a penny comes from the University itself which, it is claimed, "bludges on Commonwealth research grants and C.R.T.S. money" which are still quite inadequate.

The normal grant is £150 a year to each researcher with a degree who, generally, is expected to do a certain amount of demonstrating or lecturing. A degree is required, and some have first class honors.

ARE ADELAIDE DEGREES WORTHWHILE?

Last year, graduate demonstrators in some science departments were getting 7/6 an hour, others only five bob.

The feeling is that this University does not recognise its own degree. Teaching and demonstrating duties have steadily been forced upon men

who would normally be devoting their time to research, leaving only the barest time for them to do research (often at night—"after hours") while they are being paid in effect, for that work by their research grants. Also, work that should be done by technicians and cadets has been left for researchers to do.

As a consequence, in one department, only about half a dozen minor papers have been able to be prepared in the last five years. Few people have the financial backing necessary to carry on research here (which is generally directed).

In other departments, it appears that there is almost a complete lack of facilities for field work (trucks, etc.) which is fundamental to many branches of their sciences. What is done must be paid for by the researchers themselves.

These views are necessarily general, without reference to specific departments, and are a summary of the opinions of workers expressed in discussions on these matters, rather than at interviews.

Those who require more specific instances can find them out from these people themselves.

One more point: Heads of departments approached have been very wary of what they say. ("This is not for publication, of course, but—") and it is the researchers themselves that have given us this inside information. If this conflicts with the Front Office opinion, it is because both sides of this question have been sought.

'VARSITY'S ROLE IN RESEARCH

Fundamental research (which Dr. Swan advocates) seldom has its potentialities realised at the time. Many years—ten, twenty, or even fifty—may elapse before the results of a particular piece of fundamental research are able to be in any way practically applied.

The classic example of this is Einstein's Relativity Theory, the connections between that purely theoretical and abstract work, formulated many years ago, and the recent developments made in the atomic energy field are now, Sir Kerr Grant assures us, obvious. Sir Kerr and I may not see things in quite the same light, but I know whose opinion you will back. (Thank you!)

But the fact remains that fundamental research seldom has immediate implications, and when final applications come, like as not, the name of the original worker will have been lost in antiquity.

Opposed to this, we have the research carried out to find answers to immediate and pressing problems. Shall we call it "developmental" research?

This is the type of work done by laboratories attached to large industrial establishments to investigate the possibilities of their particular sphere of production, and to discover quicker or more satisfactory means of carrying out their processes. C.S.I.R. is engaged on such enquiries, but in many fields.

IS 'VARSITY A POOR HOUSE?

To which of these two fields of research is our University best fitted? At the moment we have limited facilities and money not over-abundant, while there are in existence universities and institutions with every facility at hand.

Developmental research requires the access to technical and specialised equipment and knowledge peculiar to the demands of the particular course of investigation being followed. Obviously, the diversity of problems which present themselves in this field could never hope to be covered by any one local institution alone, and it is for this reason that specialised research groups have sprung up to cover the specific problems as they arise or are foreseen within the concerns associated with that particular work.

So we find industrial establishments equipped with laboratories to work on the problems of their own lines, and success is aided immensely by the fact that the relative technical knowledge and equipment is on the spot, ready to be tapped as required.

Developmental research is a much more practical and material thing than any fundamental or academic research. People with practical outlooks, people with inventive initiative and patience are the ones suited to take their places in the developmental research laboratories.

REALISM IN IDEALISM.

On the other hand, fundamental research does not require to any great extent specific industrial knowledge or equipment relating to one industry or process. The more fundamental the research, the less equipment is required—it becomes head work with possible testing of conclusions, and may be carried out with the absolute minimum of equipment, provided that the person undertaking it is really a fundamental researcher at heart. Of course, immense sums could be spent, but need not always. Very few people are true fundamental researchers at heart. It is a rare quality to find in a man—this pursuit of knowledge for knowledge's sake, knowing not nor caring much where it will lead.

The universities have long been, and still are, held as the true home of such work, and it appears that this is the role we should play.

Naturally, the value of fundamental research depends entirely on whether long range or short range views are taken. Dr. Swan claims "that it is only through fundamental research that great contributions to knowledge were made." No one is disputing that.

No other place really can provide such complete freedom of thought and freedom from biased environment as can be established in a university, and these are essentials to successful fundamental research.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The research that is going on here may not appear to be very great. Some departments can claim only little, but what is done is of noteworthy significance. But, if reports of all the work done were published—reports of the work done off the University's own bat and work done in an advisory capacity to outside bodies—then I think Dr. Swan might open his baby blue eyes a little wider. Research is not dead here, though it is admittedly hampered by lack of funds and the necessity of teaching work. And while on the point of teaching work, look at it this way: These are stone-cold, hard, dry facts: The number of students to be taught is greater than ever before. Qualified teaching staff is mighty hard to come by. Consequently, as the students just have to be taught the staff we can get must do it. There is no getting away from that!

WHAT ELSE?

A list of publications of reports of research work done here is to be incorporated in this year's Uni-the problem of researchers having

BACKGROUND TO BEAUTY



This week's pleasant 'Varsity background is the view from the George Murray sun-roof, and highlights our attractive social editress (See "Gallop" Poll).

to do teaching, in the Commemoration address of the Chancellor.

At the time the University is primarily training men, some of whom find their way into research jobs or to teaching.

Thinking more especially of science graduates, most really capable ones versity Calendar, to appear shortly. Reference was also made to this, and to the research done here, and are immediately snapped up by industrial bodies to work in their laboratories, or by the teaching profession to help in the training of people who will eventually do the course as they have done it, and who in turn will swell the research workers.

What actual work that can be done here, is done. We are ready to do more whenever that is possible, but, until the time comes when we can absorb most of our capable graduates, or even encourage those of other universities to come here, we can do no more than is being done at the moment.

Mind you, though—this is no laissez-faire policy, or should not be. It should be carried out with a definite view to increasing facilities and potentialities here as quickly as possible. Good facilities and financial backing will attract any keen research worker.

FINALLY

Obviously, most of these views are personal, but I feel (vainly or otherwise) that there is a deal of truth in them.

In his outburst against the research policy of the Adelaide University, Dr. Swan appears to have overlooked some of these points.

Whether it is impudent of me to set myself up against him or not is another matter. He has his views; these are others.

But I do say that, before sweeping statements of criticism are made on such issues, a little unbiased consideration and realisation of prevailing conditions should be aimed at.

This is applicable to most things of this nature, as it is to the present question, and too much harm is done by the thoughtless torrents of verbosity bred of biased opinion.

Every man, we are told, is entitled to his views, and the airing thereof, but downright destructive criticism is seldom appreciated.

This is the end of the Swan song. But, in parting, "On Dit" has decided (and before the appearance of Dr. Swan's hit at the Varsity, incidentally) to publish from time to time the results of research work carried out here, and we have been promised the co-operation and fullest assistance from the departments already approached.

And thoughtful opinions on the foregoing matter would be welcomed, too, especially from anyone engaged on research work.

REMEMBER!!!

APOLLO PLAYERS'

Theatre BALL

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

SHEET IN THE WIND

BOB DISHER REVIEWS VARSITY SAILING

South Australia's sheltered suburban coastline is an ideal playground for the amateur yachtsman. To feel the speed of running free with the wind, to see the puff of a sail when full and by, to know the rigors of good seamanship, all these belong to the Saturday afternoon sailors who compete in a sport which can be as exacting on the body as it can be thrilling to the imaginative mind.

From Seacliff to Outer Harbor, whether they are the owners of Seevogels or just plain little insignificant Tom Thumbs, the skippers of any of these boats will tell you that success lies not so much in the design of their craft, but in the team work and knowledge of the crews who handle them. Knowing the rules of the road is not enough, sailing demands a cool head in an emergency, and the ability to make split second decisions.

When I set out to compile the data for this article I found more than a few nautical-minded personalities in this University, and they ranged from fresh undergraduates to seasoned professors. I found a smattering of salt sprinkled amongst the representatives of the various faculties, and here are a few of them who, I think, typify this sport in question. Take John Remilton, for instance. John sails with the Somerton yacht club in a V.J. named "Foam" which is 11 feet 6 inches long, and has won a race.

The V.J. is unique in that it is a safety boat. Should it capsize, it can be righted again by standing on the centre-board. The V.J. by the way, was designed by a naval officer named Sparrow. He was a Sydney man and this type of craft first originated in Sydney Harbor. With regard to technical points, the V.J. carries about 200 square feet of sail, and has a mast 18 feet high. The "Foam" was built by Peter and John Remilton, two brothers who live at Glenelg. John Davenport has sailed with them on one occasion.

V.J.s are popular down at the Bay, because Helen McLeay also gives a few glowing reports concerning them. Helen doesn't own a boat, but has interests in yachting. She has sailed in "Venture" and also "Musket." Twice each season the boys allow the girls to take the helm in the female skipper race. Helen once brought "Musket" home to win, though in her own words "the boys sat periously close to the tiller." On another occasion Helen gracefully relinquished command a mile out from the shore. Helen was apologetic about her knowledge of the game, but underneath all this modesty, she is a keen sailor at heart.

One of the most enthusiastic yachtsmen is Mr. R. Parsons of the School of Mines. Mr. Parsons is the skipper of a 12 foot dinghy called "Spindrift" and sails with the Seacliff club. He and his son Ralph, better known as "Perce," who recently graduated with an Engineering degree, and is now en route for England, built "Spindrift" in their spare time. It took them a year all told. The plans came from the Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Squadron in Sydney. By working on Saturday afternoons, and to quote Mr.

Parsons, who continued with a certain amount of guilt "on Sundays, too," this little craft was completed in record time. It was a production feat which made the Whyalla dockyards envious. "Of course," Mr. Parsons added, "workmanship should not be gauged on the fact that we come next to last in most races."

However, "Spindrift" has won races on handicap. Ralph and Mr. Parsons once won a trophy, and as a reward for their victory they were given the right to choose their souvenir of that auspicious occasion. They chose a couple of pairs of socks each, and the better part of that trophy now hangs from the clothes line on Mondays.

Tom Hardy has graduated, and is no longer with us, but he comes from a family of fine seafaring stock. The name of his father, the late Mr. Tom Hardy, lives on in the records of past giants in the sport.

BEAUTY AND THE BOAT



Helen McLeay is one Varsity lass who goes sailing—and one of the reasons why so many other undergrads go sailing, we imagine!

His mother, too, was intimately attached to the business of sailing. Tom is the proud owner of "Lialeeta" built by Don Hazelgrove and himself. It took them 3 years to build it, and the design was partly taken from an American magazine, and partly from Tom's original ideas.

The "Lialeeta" is 24 feet long, and carries 315 square feet of sail. The biggest race it has been in is a 60 miler, the Orontes Cup. "Lialeeta" didn't win it, but as Tom said, "we're trying hard." This boat can be classified as an auxiliary sloop, intended really for pleasure cruising, and with accommodation for 4 at a pinch. Tom has sailed over

to Kangaroo Island in her, and during one holiday covered 400 miles in a fortnight. Tom's fiancée, Barbara Begg, is also a keen yachting enthusiast.

Peter McBride recently purchased "Lakatoi," a name derived from the Hawaiian word for outrigger. It's a 20-footer centre-board, gaff rig sloop with auxiliary, and he intends to sail it with the Royal South Australian Yacht Club. "Lakatoi" is a locally built craft, and Peter is planning to enter for the race across the gulf at the end of this season.

Peter originally owned "Alva" for several years. "Alva" was 40 years old when he sold her, and in his opinion was still in excellent shape.

Professor Robin of the faculty of Engineering owns a small boat which he built himself. Its rudder is made of marine plywood. So far he has not raced it.

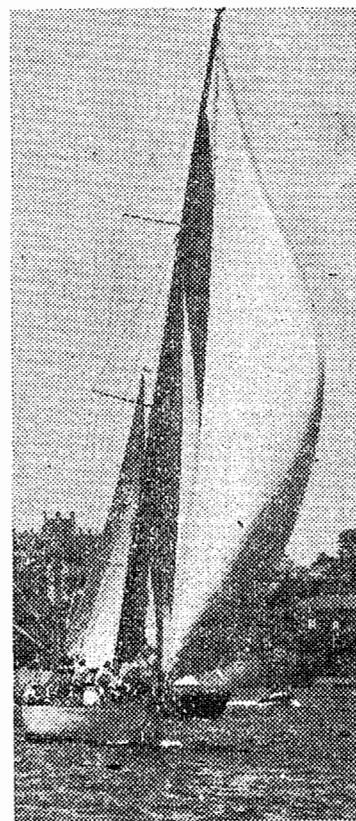
Ralph Crook is now the skipper of a 21-footer called "Carina." With bunter rig, 450 square feet of sail, and a crew of six she is a formidable opponent to come up against in a race. "Carina" sails with the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron. Before the war she was owned by G. W. Verco of Sydney, who enlisted and made a startling comeback on return to civil life by winning 6 out of 7 races. "Carina's" log shows a record of which she can be justly proud. This season Ralph took her over to Melbourne for the Forster Cup. "Carina" came second in the last heat, being beaten by only 2 seconds. Some of the boys who regularly make up her crew are Alan Brame, Frank Bazeley, Eng.; Peter Healy, Sc.; and Brian Kildea, Phar.

Jim Hall is to be found in one of the evil smelling chemistry laboratories. He owns "Chance," a cadet dinghy which was built in 1936. He has owned her now for 2 years and has won 3 races this season. Several weeks ago "Chance" was in the news for her part in the rescue of the crew of a stranded sharpie. "Chance" sacrificed her position in this race to pick up survivors, and then after getting two of the crew safely ashore she went out to the ill-fated sharpie towing a line, which was in reality two life-saving reels tied together. In this way they got the sharpie back into the shallows. Such is the spirit of our Saturday afternoon sailors.

Jim also had a good word to say about the cadet dinghy. Firstly it's light and easy to handle, and it is possible for one member of the crew to handle a 12-footer by himself on a moderate day. Secondly the cadet dinghy responds quickly to the tiller.

Jim intends to go up to Barmera for the regatta during the short Easter spell.

Last, but certainly not least, was Professor Mitchell who seemed to own so many boats that he didn't know what to do with them. He commenced by telling me that he had a number of yachts, and I was about to enquire into their names when he continued with the startling revelation that he owned 5 cadet dinghys as well as a 21-footer called "Nerana." In answer to my question whether he had sailed for any lengthy cruises on "Nerana" he amazed me by explaining that he



Sydney yacht Morna which did so well in the recent ocean race to Hobart.— Courtesy "News."

used his two additional motor yachts for these occasions. This was too much! These two motor yachts by the way are named "Grelka" and "Utrama," and Professor Mitchell gave me some interesting highlights about them. During the war, "Utrama" served as a Naval auxiliary patrol vessel and "Grelka" was converted to a Naval supply ship. She was attached to the submarine base H.M.A.S. "Leeuwin," in Fremantle, for several years.

Professor Mitchell had the distinction of holding the rank of commodore of the Yacht Squadron from 1938 until 1945.

It would have been practically impossible for me to have located all the yachtsmen who are connected in some way or other with this University, so varied are their occupations, and so large is the field of exploration. Therefore, I hope I have done no one an injustice by omitting to mention his or her name. Among the other names which were mentioned to me in my interviews were those of Mr. Ide and Mr. Schneider (School of Mines), Dick Jordan, G. B. Harvey, Eng., Dave Williams and P. R. Sanderson.

I learnt some points through these short discussions. One of these was the surprising number of architects who had built their own boats. The fact that I did at least come across the names of two lasses who are in the sailing business is proof enough that the call of the sea is popular with both sexes. To prospective buyers of yachts I say that if you're keen, they're a worth-while investment, but I trust you won't be disheartened when you find that like everything else these days they're obtainable at a price. Better hold your thousands for a year or two yet, and in the meantime satisfy your sailing impulses some week or the other with the Gulf Trip.

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SOMETHING SPECIAL!!

SOMETHING DIFFERENT!!

Most of the so-called "jazz" or "swing" heard on the radio is what the players themselves call "commercial" music—dance arrangements of popular tunes designed with a sharp eye on the market. Some of this music, whatever its aesthetic value, is very ingenious and brilliantly played, and all of it is one way of making a living. But jazz is something else.

JAZZ IS AN ART

SAYS ROLAND FORSS

Jazz is a natural music language which American musicians, both negro and white, have been speaking for more than 30 years, and which they play for their own pleasure. Most of the writing, comments and publicity about "jazz" and "swing" have been about the commercial forms; the genuine, from-the-heart jazz is often an intricate, spirited music or natural language. It is for this reason that jazz is indefinable. A rough sense of it may be obtained by listening to it. Beyond that, what it communicates will be involved with the knowledge the hearer has of its forms.

ORIGIN IN FOLK MUSIC

Jazz springs from folk music, and it still has many of the qualities of folk music. It is relatively brief, spontaneous, full of improvisation and the frequent lyric subtlety of men speaking a beloved language with enthusiasm. It suggests intense Negro spirituals, revival meetings, street parades, blues, ballads and hard rhythms beaten out for hard dancing. Its rhythms are extremely varied and persuasive, and since it is a natural music, it is best heard when the players have no obligation to an audience.

There is every reason why at first this music may confuse even a very elastic musical ear. It is generally unfamiliar in rhythm and tonal coloration. But those who will apply to it one of the bromides of musicology—that the way to appreciate music is to study its form and hear it repeatedly—may get a new kind of musical pleasure.

Several of the great composers and conductors of to-day and yesterday—for example, Stokowski, Stravinsky, Ravel and Milhaud—have been interested in the furtherance of jazz. Those who have studied it can see that the advance guard composers in the early years of the century felt that nineteenth century traditions left many musical possibilities unexplored. So came the trials in Western music of poly-rhythm, poly-tonality, atonality, and so on.

Russolo has written—"Noise is triumphant and reigns supreme over the sense of man. . . . Beethoven and Wagner for many years have wrung our hearts. But now we are satisfied with them and derive much greater pleasure from ideally combining the noises of street-cars, internal-combustion engines, automobiles and busy crowds, than from rehearsing for example the 'Eroica' or the 'Pastoral'."

RHYTHM, RAGTIME AND IMPROVISATION

At first, a great deal of confusion and disgust was apparent in people's attitudes towards radical experiments in music, especially in operatic music. But experiments continued. American ragtime developed, but although jazz and ragtime have a common ancestry, it is incorrect to say that jazz is a development of ragtime.

Many people seem to find it difficult to become interested in the subject of rhythm. There are some who

tend to associate it with exhibitions of hip-rolling, jitter-bugging, etc., while others appear to regard the rhythmic aspect of music as somewhat inferior or rudimentary. Distinguishing between beat and rhythm, we find that beat is the fundamental pulse of the music either played or understood, while rhythm is the pattern in time played with the beat as basis. Syncopation is the "shifting or displacement of the regular metrical accent." About 1900, there began to appear innumerable popular songs with many effects of syncopation in them. Thus "Alexander's Ragtime Band" is not true ragtime but a popular song taking a few syncopated hints from the piano "rags."

In jazz there is a great deal of improvisation which springs from the singing of the old hymn tunes by the southern Negroes: the hymns were often retarded until perhaps 10 seconds passed between one syllable and the next—from each note, each singer would start off on a little vocal journey of his own, wandering up, down or around in strange pentatonic figures, but coming back at the right instant to common ground—the next note of the melody proper. If one had by chance just succeeded in attracting tacit attention by an exceptional note, phrase, or rhythmic figure, there would be a dozen others to attempt, starting from the next note, to outdo him. The total effect



Australia's leading jazz band—the Southern Jazz Group: Bill Munro, trumpet; Bruce Gray, clarinet; Dave Dallwitz, trombone; Bob Wright, tuba; Lou Fisher, piano, not shown.

may be chaos to the unaccustomed audience in the middle of the chorus, but a strange and moving harmony at a distance.

The similarities between this and group-improvisation are apparent. Blues are similar in style although they are usually sung solo, and are written as twelve bars of music.

Jazz should not really be termed music, as by doing this, comparisons may be drawn between it and classical music which is wrong, as jazz is played and written on an entirely different basis from classical music. Basically, jazz is an interpretation of a theme or melody and the rendition of the piece is concerned only with this interpretation and not with the melody itself. Hence it is the players—the artists—who take the limelight and not the tune. As Sig-

mund Spaethe writes: "An artist is a person who succeeds in transferring his own thoughts, moods and emotions to other people."

Obviously then, this art—jazz—is almost diametrically opposed to other forms of music; and hence should be appreciated and criticised as such.

The foregoing may give lovers of other forms of music an indication that jazz is not the result of the coming together of a number of mentally deficient musicians, but an art worthy of as much attention as they give their own favorite works.

ROLAND L. FORSS.

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A TASMANIAN DREAM

S.R.C. SECRETARY PULFORD REPORTS
N.U.A.U.S. CONGRESS

The possibility that the National Union of Australian University Students would hold a Student Congress in Hobart was discussed by Council members at Brisbane in February, last year. A Congress organising committee was later formed, comprising members of Melbourne and Hobart Universities, and plans drawn up for an educational and social gathering of students slowly materialised. The theme of the Congress was "The Student in Society," the programme consisting of plenary and commission sessions, addresses by prominent speakers, and recreation activities. Every Australian University and University College was represented, and from Adelaide some 30 students found their way to Brighton Military Camp, 16 miles from Hobart, by Sunday, January 19.

The Congress was officially opened by the Premier of Tasmania, Mr. Cosgrove, in the Hobart Town Hall, on Monday, January 20. Also present were Admiral Sir Hugh Binney, Governor, the Lord Mayor, the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Tasmania. Mr. Cosgrove said students must repay Australia for education benefits, and he stressed their responsibility towards the future progress of the nation. Welcoming delegates, the Chancellor, Sir John Morris, said that he regarded the Congress as a most healthy sign in University life, and the existence of N.U.A.U.S. would

have great influence in breaking down barriers between the Faculties, and opening the road to mutual education.

On Tuesday morning, the activities of N.U.A.U.S. were reviewed by the president, Mr. Gordon Ross, and in the afternoon we were present at the Town Hall again to hear Sir John Morris address us on "The University in Society." At night, a public "Open Forum" was held, four speakers discussing the question, "How Should Modern Society Deal With Its Criminals." Plenary and Commission sessions were inaugurated on Wednesday morning, when the topics, "Student Government and Student Activities," "Student Health," and "University Government and Influences on It," were discussed. Lunch was followed by an address on "Industry, Agricultural Development in Australia," by Professor Dallas, of the University of Tasmania, and on "Land Settlement in Tasmania," by Mr. F. W. Wicks, of the Department of Agriculture. Discussions followed. At night, Melbourne and Adelaide Universities each presented a one-act play. Despite almost overwhelming difficulties, Adelaide producer, Roy Leaney, made the most of the opportunity, and our show—a G.B.S. farce—was one of the camp's highlights.

The organising committee must have decided that hereabouts some recreation work be justified as my

diary informs me that on Thursday we made an all-day boat trip to Snug, on the mainland in D'Entrecasteaux Channel. At night, pictures were held in the camp theatre. Friday brought more commission sessions on the subjects, "Graduate Employment and Research Opportunities," and "Institutes of Technology," the day being concluded with a dance in the Town Hall—another happy gathering. The week-end was free; Mass and an S.C.M. Church Service were held on Sunday, and a bus trip to Mt. Wellington was arranged.

Plenary and commission sessions terminated on Monday and Tuesday, the subjects reviewing "Student Journalism," "Decentralisation of Education," "International Student Affairs," and "Faculty Surveys, compiled by Universities during the year." An address prepared by Professor R. C. Mills and Dr. W. J. Weedon, entitled "The Work of U.N.E.S.C.O.," was also given, and by the time Congress activities were summarised on Tuesday afternoon, most of us had to acknowledge rather regretfully that our sojourn in Tasmania was almost over. The last day, Wednesday, January 29, was occupied with another full day travel tour, this time to New Norfolk, and we set out for Launceston—and home—on Thursday, with happy impressions of one of the biggest and brightest Inter-varsity shows on record.

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DEAR EDITOR — DEAR ME!

GENESIS

To the Editor,

Sir,—With many other suckers, I purchased Vol. 15, No. 1. of "On Dit," 1947. To my dismay, I, again with many others, turned back and fore looking for something interesting to read. To start with, the front page consisted of unadulterated rubbish acclaimed proudly to be the product of one Claridge, whose idea of humor is apparently to write something facetious and then add a few words in parenthesis to make the whole thing screamingly funny (in that writer's opinion, but not in this one's). Sorry, sport, it failed to impress as did the continual references to a brew known as Cascade, which suggested to Freshers that the "Special Representative" of "On Dit" was a confirmed alcoholic. (Who denies this?—Ed.) Next in line for criticism is the use of 25 per cent. of the paper for a discussion of India's politics. Very important subject, I admit, but certainly not a very interesting topic for reading in a Friday lunch-hour at the Refec. (Unfortunately article was not only about politics.—Ed.) I say this fully realising that there will arise that old cry about the apathy of University students toward "outside" affairs, but one can't deny the truth in that old saying about leading a horse to water, etc. Probably not one person in 10 read this article right through. (1 in 200!—Ed.)

Turning over, the Fresher was advised which were the "best" (according to the headline) of the Univ. societies. Your opinions, Mr. Editor, may not be viewed with respect by members of other equally "good" societies. If we have a review of the "best" cannot we also be told which are the "worst" (too numerous to detail.—Ed.)

Opposite this, we found the article on which the Editor probably spent the Univ. vacation—a rave about the Australian education system, among other things. He may be right in parts, but surely his Australian education, however confined, has taught him that Eire is not in the British Empire (and never likely to be). (Really!—Ed.)

Most of page 3 was also wasted—due in part to the effort of some misguided creature who occupied a whole column merely to prove (and not so successfully as others) how much nothing can be expanded, and to which she honestly tagged the title "My Daze."

Now, Mr. Editor, you may rightly expect some constructive advice. Well, I don't derive half as much pleasure out of that as I do pulling your paper to pieces. I will suggest, however, that it might be more economical to save the paper used in "On Dit" (in addition to the wear and tear on the printing press) for better purposes than devote 40 per cent. of its space (approx. 65 per cent.—Ed.) to a disclosure of what the Editor thinks is wrong with the world to-day. A little more in the entertainment line would be more appreciated provided it is not undiluted piffle.

Anyway let us hope, the faults are only temporary and that "On Dit" No. 1 is not to be the criterion for later editions. As for the obvious rejoinder I have not the slightest intention of doing better myself.

For that reason I shall remain,
ANN ONNIMUS.

(We inaugurate our new entertainment policy by publishing this

REMEMBER!!!

APOLLO PLAYERS'

Theatre BALL

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

letter, although the signature of the writer was not attached as a sign of common courtesy and good faith.—Ed.)

... AND NEMESIS!

To the Editor,

Sir,—On seeing one's own writing slated and belittled in the vulgar press, one's first impulse is to reply immediately with vehement vindications.

That was my first impulse.

A little quiet reflection, however, has set my mind at rest, for I see now that I have, after all, attained the very pinnacle of literary standing. I am one with such eminent contributors to the Australian press as Douglas Wilkie and Walter Murdoch. My article has been torn to shreds and hypocritically vivisectioned. My humor has been degraded to the lowest possible levels. My reporting of a Students' Congress has been described as "unadulterated (that is a small mercy!) rubbish." I am not wanted. I am an outcast. No one reads what I have written. As I say, I am one with Wilkie and Murdoch. Just as the one's views on world affairs and the other's on various pertinent questions are unwanted and debased (if one is to heed the letters that have appeared in the local papers from time to time) so are my reports of students' activities, in the light of the above correspondence to you, Sir, unwanted and unsympathetically received.

So I join the ranks of the great unwanted—spurned, rebuffed.

My head is bloody and bowed. My character and self-respect gone.

May I thank Ann for her honest opinion of my efforts? Of such encouragement is success finally born.

May I quote

"The man who slates another with malicious sland'rous word
But leaves no name to show to all
the world,
Is as the worm, that burrowing
deep in fruit
And sealing o'er the entrance of
its tomb, lies curled."

Yours, etc.,

BRIAN CLARIDGE.

P.S.—"Cascade" is a beaut brew. Oh—and it's o.k., Freshers—I'm not a confirmed alcoholic, really. You know how these anonymous writers are apt to get a little bit carried away with themselves at times.—B.C.

PROFANITY?

To the Editor,

Sir,—Could you please inform whether I am leaving myself open to legal proceedings in regard to any statements that I may make about you, which in your capacity of Editor you might publish? If not, I'll tell you what I think about you and your paper.

Yours, etc.,

K. R. THROGMORTON.

(Your opinions will be published so long as your language is satisfactory to our puritanical minds.—Ed.)

LUX SUB CRUCE

—THE LIGHT THAT FAILED

To the Editor,

Sir,—The principle of the rake-off is an old and honored commercial practice, but it is regrettable that the taxpayer and the student have to bear the burden of the University Council's latest effort in this direction.

The three guinea statutory fee first levied in 1946 is in effect a combined Union and Sports Association fee. By virtue of this ingenious piece of financial skull-duggery the non-sportsman pays £1/18/- more than he did in 1945 for the right to have lunch in the Refectory, while

there is an increase of only 3/- for those who play sport.

One may well ask why this 152 per cent. increase in non-sportmen's fees when the Union made a profit of over £300 in 1945. The answer is that in the same year the Sports Association was in grave financial difficulties.

Dr. F. S. Hone publicly admitted that "Sports" Association supporters on the University Council had been fighting for years to make those who do not play sport, pay sports fees. Sport is an admirable pastime. Let those who indulge in such pastime adopt that spirit which cricketers so loudly proclaim as peculiar to their game. Let them pay for their pleasures out of their own pockets and not out of other people's. Out of the 4,310 students, at the University in 1946 only a small minority played sport, and made use of the facilities for which the majority were forced to pay.

There was a strange evaporation of opposition upon the University Council's part to a combined fee late in 1945. The writing was on the wall. The Commonwealth Government was about to lay the Golden Egg. Early in 1946, a University Statute was placed upon the books authorising the compulsory three guineas statutory fee. Within a month, hundreds of ex-service men and women were entering the University and the Council was ready to cash in on C.R.T.S.

The Government, in paying statutory fees for a thousand ex-servicemen is paying large sums of money in sports fees for hundreds of ex-servicemen who either do not play sport at all or do not do so at the University. No voice is raised in protest. The Council stands secure behind the bulwarks of academic oligarchy. We should ponder well the words of Mr. C. M. Ward, M.A., Vice - Principal of the Adelaide High School:

"Few of the general public are privy to University administration. Even those of us who on occasion exercise our right to mark a cross by this or that candidate to our own University Council have little sure knowledge of what goes on in that august body."—"Advertiser," 19/12/46.)

Any doubts that there may have been as to the real reasons behind the imposition of the three guinea fee were shattered by the vociferant barrage of promised "benefits" which was put forth as a cover-up to hide the true purposes of the racket.

The students were given a nice new democratic S.R.C., a body whose authority is negligible and whose only function seems to be to mag for hours in the George Murray Library. By a skilful piece of constitutional casuistry the control of the Union has been placed in a Council dominated by non-student interests.

The over-ripe plum, however, upon which a large portion of the increase in fees was to be spent was the mighty Health Scheme. At first they said it was going to cost £1,400, but when somebody began to smell a rat they rushed the experts down to quell the panic.

Dr. Cowan proceeded to point out the benefit such a scheme would be to the students. He then pointed out what a curse it would be if extended to the whole of the community as was proposed by the Commonwealth Government.

Dr. Hone stressed the University Council's interest in student health. When asked by a rude fellow in the rear why such unhealthy practices as post-vacation examinations and Wednesday afternoon lectures, had not been eliminated, Dr. Hone replied that the fellow was very ignorant and that the Health Scheme would provide another body of agitation for health reform. Dr. Hone

did not explain why, in view of the Council's alleged interest in student health, it was necessary to have yet another body of agitation.

Finally, Dr. Hone let the cat out of the bag when he informed the meeting that the Health Scheme would not cost more than £400 per annum. On the 1943 Union balance sheet such a scheme could have been financed out of the £500 profit without any increase in fees whatsoever!

In 1946, fifty-two (52) out of a possible 4,310 students were medically examined. On November 19 a student was refused an X-ray because the scheme had closed down.

Other benefits, such as extensions to Union buildings and the provision of billiard tables and a full-time steward were suggested during the year. Evidently there is a desire to extend to even greater dimensions premises which have been for years nothing better than a common gaming house, if we are to believe noticeboards, in which it is impossible to install a wireless because the valves are always stolen.

For non-sportsmen who far outnumber "sportsmen," the Union has provided no increase in services or facilities of any importance since the days when they paid only 25/-. The enormously increased membership should have brought about a reduction in fees. Instead, they have been increased 152 per cent.

To-day, hundreds of ex-service men and women are receiving a University education which was denied to them in pre-war years when the University was a playground for the children of the rich. The University Council never lifted its little finger to alter that set-up. It opposed tooth and nail what it was pleased to call "Government interference."

Now that the ex-servicemen have come back and the Commonwealth Government is providing them with rehabilitation benefits, the University Council, aided and abetted by the Sports Association, is mulcting the public funds of some thousands of pounds under the pretext of supplying these men and women with sports facilities which the majority of them do not use, and for which the Council has never previously had the courage to make a general charge.

In doing this the Council has erected yet another financial barrier in the path of those who seek a University education. It has demonstrated once more how inadequately the University of Adelaide fulfils its function in the community.

Yours, etc.,

CHARLIE JOE.

CASTLES IN THE AIR

To the Editor,

Sir,—We acknowledge that a University with only academic achievement is incomplete; we are overjoyed to learn that Jeanette Figg, of Marshlands, is to study Arts; but has no-one told your Social Editress that Mary Smith is to represent Barton Vale in the school of hebephrenology? BOO!!!

Yours, etc., "GOLIATH."

To the Editor,

Sir,—"On Dit" devotes considerable space to sport, but last year, I regret to say, it never went beyond its own teams — results of matches right down to D grade, but overlooked players in teams representing South Australia. Trusting all sporting items of interest will be presented this year.

Yours, etc.,

"WAYFARER."

Boxing enthusiasts note: Annual General Meeting in the Lady Symon, on Wednesday, April 2. All Freshers welcome.

SPORT SHEET

THE A.G.M. OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY BASEBALL CLUB

On Wednesday, March 12, the George Murray Hall was literally packed with all the athletic specimens—young and old—from the 'Varsity. The event—the A.G.M. of the Baseball Club.

The meeting was scheduled to commence at 8 p.m., but owing to the "prompt" arrival of the Secretary, did not start until 8.15 p.m. Rumor had it that he was suffering from a stomach complaint, however suddenly a moustache — no beard appeared in the doorway. From then on things never looked back.

The Chairman, Dr. Dwyer, called for the minutes of the last A.G.M. which were read and confirmed. Continuing, Mr. Beard gave the annual report and also a report on the Inter-varsity Carnival. The latter had been read at the annual dinner, but at that function several of the members' minds were dulled "as if of nectar they had drunk." However, the various humorous comments were fully appreciated at this meeting, but for the benefit of those not present I quote the following extract—

"In the afternoon a large 'all States' party was going by tram to St. Kilda beach when suddenly someone saw a women's softball match in progress. Before you could say 'Jack Robinson' the chain was pulled and the tram flushed of its contents."

At the conclusion of these reports Don Beard stated that he would be unable to continue as Secretary for the club. This was indeed a blow, as all baseballers know the outstanding work Don has done. On behalf of the members, Dr. Dwyer sincerely thanked Mr. Beard for his fine work and for the magnificent way in which he had attended to all the club's affairs.

Election of officers for 1947:— Patron, N. A. Claxton, Esq.; President, Dr. I. M. Dwyer; Secretary, M. R. Page; Asst. Secretary, D. G. Othams; Treasurer, J. K. Fahey; Practice Captain, V. Rose; Coach, G. R. Fuller, Esq.

There was then a lively discussion re the forming of a committee to be known as the committee of management. With much helpful advice from Mr. M. C. Kriewaldt and Mr. N. Johnston, and not so helpful from one "Basher" Brokensha, the Chairman was able to call for nominations, and eventually a ballot was taken. Names of the men selected are at present posted on the notice-board.

Owing to the lateness of the hour and the gnawing pains in most of the members' stomachs, the meeting was hastily concluded and supper was served.

In conclusion, the club extends a warm welcome to all Freshers or intending members. Particulars of practice, fees, etc., may be had from any of the officials, and don't forget to watch the notice-board for further news of the club's activities.

D. G. OTHAMS, Asst. Sec.

"SOCCER-FOOTBALL"

The annual general meeting of the University Soccer-Football Club was held on March 20. W. R. Geisler was elected President, and B. Napier, Secretary. University intends fielding two teams again this year, and if enough recruits can be obtained from the Freshers, we would like to field a third. This year, the opposition will be less than last year, due to the formation of three new teams, and the non-affiliation of one of last year's better teams.

Many new recruits are required. It does not matter if you have not

played before, we will attempt to teach you. If you have played or want to play, contact either the President at Room 105 School of Mines, or the Secretary by means of the letter boxes in the Refectory.

We also want barrackers. If you have nothing to do of a Saturday afternoon, come and watch us play. You will not be disappointed. If you have something to do, leave it and watch. Contrary to beliefs, soccer-football is not a dry, old game, but is a fast, scientific and skilful game. The programme for the season will be published in "On Dit" later, and will also be posted on the Sports Association notice-board. Books containing the rules will be obtainable from the Secretary.

For prospective players, the registration forms are available from the Secretary. The registration fee is 4/-, and the insurance fee is 3/-. Practices are held on the Main Oval, on Wednesday afternoons — come along.

JOIN UP AND PLAY, or else COME ALONG AND WATCH.

LACROSSE

Lacrosse is a wizard game. "Be in it!" If you're slightly interested see Canaway of the Engineering Faculty, or MacIntosh of Law, and you'll be more interested. Failing this, see our notice-board in the Refectory and get the "Gen."

H. BULBECK, Hon. Sec.

NO SPORT

There was no sporting news in the previous issue of "On Dit" as Ken Tregonning was absent in West Australia, and the secretaries contacted by Don Selth failed to furnish any details whatsoever. —EDITOR.

RUGBY

Perhaps some of you have been hesitating over which sport to play this winter. Well, there is one thing rugger has that puts it far in advance of other winter sports, and that is teamwork. The selfish player never gets anywhere. And you are not plonked way out to one side of the ground with one of the other side and do nothing but twiddle your thumbs and never get a kick. You are one of a bunch in rugby, and work all the time with the bloke on either side of you. It's teamwork all the time.

A player who has played Australian football for some years, almost always becomes a better than average rugby player. There is almost no drop-kicking, and very little punting in rugby, but a lot of handling the ball. The Australian Rules player generally has much safer hands than the person who has played rugby all his life, and can pick up and throw-pass much more accurately.

A lot has been said about the roughness of rugby, which in my opinion is toss. You get a lot more knocks in hockey, lacrosse or football than rugby, and not half the thrills. There is no picking up in scrums allowed, so you never get your fingers kicked, and there is no high flying hockey ball to squash them either, so if you're a doctor or dentist or engineer-to-be, and value your fingers, think it over.

Last year, the University rugby team was the only sport to win its A grade premiership, all the others falling by the way. Four of this team were playing their first season, and all were awarded their club letters. Three blues were awarded, and club letters to all who had played in the Inter-varsity. This year, we are sending a team to Melbourne in May, to play against Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth.

We are fielding two teams, and practice begins on the first Tuesday after Easter. Quite a few of last year's teams are back, but we badly need players who can mark cleanly and run. Kicking is not important, nor is size.

The B team should do better this

year, with veterans like granite-jaw Kerr-Grant to stiffen the forwards, and Mellor the backs. The A team will be searching all talent for a full-back to take to Melbourne. Botham, who was going to Fiji, has come back, and we rejoice that the lamb that was lost has returned to the scrum. The treasurer told me the other day that he can account for £9 to the Rugby Club's account in the bank, while there is an actual deposit of £17. Clearly a get-together is indicated, with the President in the chair.

All signs point to a very successful year.

HOCKEY

Freshmen!!! A golden opportunity for you all!

Here is a chance for any one of you to learn a new game. A game that has a place in the team for the big or the small. A game that will give you all the thrills, but none of the knocks.

There are six teams to be filled, and that gives you a much better chance of a game each Saturday, than any of the other sports played at the University. It's easy to learn and fascinating to play. So why not give it a try?

Watch the notice-board for further news.

INTER-VARSITY CRICKET

Last December, the Adelaide University cricket team defeated outright the Melbourne University team in Melbourne, and the Sydney University team defeated outright the Queensland team. In January,

Melbourne defeated Sydney outright; so drawing the argument to a logical conclusion the Adelaide University team is the best University team in Australia to-day.

Adelaide's team was J. Tregonning (capt.), F. C. Bennett (vice-capt.), D. D. Beard, P. A. Dalwood, D. L. Davies, H. M. Douglas, B. R. Goode, M. R. Hone, D. V. Selth, L. R. Smart, R. S. Stagg. The reserves were K. T. O'Loughlin and A. Boase.

The team left Adelaide on Sunday night, December 8, except for O'Loughlin, Beard and Smart, the latter two feeling they had more contacts in Melbourne than the rest of the team and finding it necessary to leave on the Saturday. O'Loughlin missed the train at Adelaide and was picked up in an ice-bound state at Aldgate an hour later. After a more or less normal voyage to Melbourne, the team were met by some of the team that had played in Adelaide the previous year, and safely installed in the Victoria Palace. After practising in the afternoon, the team was taken to dinner and then to a theatre by the Melbourne team.

The match began on the Melbourne University Oval on Tuesday with the wicket soft after the previous night's rain. Alan Dick, M.U.C.C. captain, won the toss, and after a long conference with Charlie, the groundsman, decided to put Adelaide in to bat. Tregonning experimented by using Hone as opening partner to Douglas, but the move wasn't successful, and Hone soon resumed his role as spectator. The rest of the team had similar ideas and at lunch the score was 5/60, with Douglas 30 n.o., after having given a performance equal to "any seen in an Inter-varsity for years," according to one Victorian Sheffield Shield player. After lunch, Dalwood was the only batsman to stay long. He made 32, and when he went, the side was all out for 101.

Melbourne began just as badly, losing their first wicket in the third over, but "Tich" Moore then settled down after a few let-offs, and went on to make 58. Thanks mainly to Beard, who bowled better in this

Medical Students

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Malcolm McNeil

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match than he has this year, and who finished with 5/35 off 14.3 overs, Melbourne was dismissed for 161.

Batting on a perfect wicket next day, Adelaide made 265, thanks mainly to 72 by Dalwood, and solid scores by Douglas, Tregonning, Bennett and Stagg, who got 49 when it appeared that another collapse was setting in. For the second time, Beard was the not out batsman. On the same wicket, Melbourne were dismissed for 127, Beard again being the wrecker with 5/25 off 14.4 overs. (Beard was also the wrecker the night before.) The match ended at 3 p.m. on the third day, and Adelaide's win was due mainly to the fact that "every member of it gave of his best for the team." So said Alan Dick, Melbourne captain, when he congratulated the team after the match. The Adelaide fielding, especially in the second innings when the pressure was on, was excellent, and its bowling much better than in any Saturday afternoon matches. Beard, with 10/60 off 29 overs, stood alone, but Douglas' two opening innings, and Dalwood's innings of 32 and 72—top score both times—placed them both in the running for top honors.

The team also distinguished itself in many other ways.

B GRADE CRICKET

This season 'Varsity won three of the ten matches played, drew one, and lost five on the first innings, and lost one outright.

Our batsmen have compiled 2,371 runs for the loss of 135 wickets, and our opponents 2,337 runs at a loss of 110 wickets, so, on an average, our opponents have scored 3 runs per wicket better than we have, which makes our six defeats out of ten appear less overwhelming.

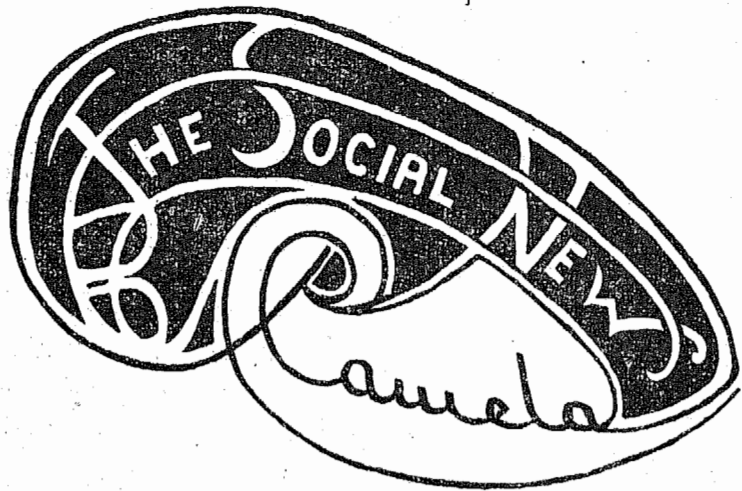
Eighteen of the thirty-six players who have represented the B team have, in this or previous seasons, played for the A's, which shows that this team is serving in its proper function—a recruiting and testing ground for potential A players.

Below are listed the batting and bowling figures for the season:

Batsman	Batting			
	High Score	Innings	To-Not out	Tot. Rns. Av.
O'Loughlin	109	11	-	353 32.1
Wilkin	87	9	1	229 28.6
Williams	57*	10	2	221 27.6
Davies	99	9	-	216 24.0
Cullity	77	5	-	123 24.6
Boase	33*	7	2	108 21.6
Kenihan	29*	6	2	101 20.3
Rook	42	6	-	98 16.3
Hallett	28	8	1	116 16.6
Higginbotham	45	5	-	73 14.6
Whittle	27	7	1	74 12.3
Page	13	6	1	41 8.2
Barrow	11	10	-	43 4.3
Fuller	14	4	-	37 9.3

Bowler	Bowling		
	Wkts.	Runs	Av.
Whittle	16	227	14.2
Page	11	308	28.0
Davies	11	152	13.8
Boase	10	195	19.5
Kennett	8	74	9.3
Rook	6	143	23.8
Barrow	5	112	22.4
O'Loughlin	2	45	22.5
Williams	4	155	38.8
Taylor	2	34	17.0
Higginbotham	3	134	38.7
Fuller	5	64	12.8
Hallett	0	59	-

FOURTEEN DAYS TO THE APOLLO PLAYERS' Theatre BALL Freemasons' Hall, 8-12 (Midnight) Tickets 2/6; Union or W.E.A. Offices



WOMEN GRADUATES' MEETING

The first meeting of the Women's Graduates' Association for 1947 was held in the Lady Symon Hall last Friday night. The committee for this year is as follows: President, Miss Esther Messent; Vice-presidents, Miss Lyndall Morris and Mrs. W. A. West; Secretary, Miss Sesca Anderson; Social Secretary, Mrs. Ray Hone; and Treasurer, Mrs. C. J. Bennett. Other members of the committee are Mrs. W. E. Welbourne, Miss M. Hapley, Miss Lillemore Anderson and Miss Donella Cruickshank.

The hall was decorated attractively with flowers by Mrs. Ray Hone and Miss Sesca Anderson, who also made a floral spray for each guest. Thirty-two new graduates were welcomed and four new interstate members. Dr. Mary Harding, the new Principal of St. Ann's College, was welcomed; also Miss Nancy Stewart, from Perth, who is now psychologist at the Children's Welfare Department, and Miss Mary Kitchin, graduate of Bristol University and formerly head mistress of Roundham's School in Devon; she is now at Woodlands. Also from England is Miss Mary Frost, who has been teaching there since before the war. Interstate graduate is Miss Denise Henry from Sydney, here as a social worker in the Psychology Department of the Education Department. It was interesting to welcome such an influx of important and valuable personalities to our own Graduates' Association.

FRESHERS' DANCE

An attractive floral scheme in dark blue and petunia tonings of asters decorated the Refectory for the Freshers' dance on Thursday, March 13. The orchestra was surprisingly good, and the supper, served in the George Murray Hall, was excellent. The tables were brightened with bowls of pink dahlias and I hear there were even cream puffs there. The whole evening was a great success.

The dance was organised chiefly by Elizabeth Robin and Roger Opie, helped by others in the S.R.C. party. Elizabeth chose a dress of pink silk crepe with an inverted V-neck-line finished with two tiny silver clips. Others in the S.R.C. party were Elizabeth Prest, who wore dark blue crepe embroidered in a contrasting color, and Diana Wauchope, who off-set her dark coloring with a dress of green and red shot taffeta, and a red rose in her hair. Margie Wall chose a simply cut frock of aqua blue with a little turned back collar.

Blue was chosen by Anne Haste and Janette Richards, who topped her blue skirt with a floral embroidered blouse featuring cap sleeves. In the party were also Geoff. Ey, Colin Taylor, Warwick Brown, John Keeves, Peter Hetzel, Vivian Pulford, Don Thompson and John Jackson.

The dance, apart from the S.R.C. party, was exclusively for Freshers. Fresher Enid Harrington looked very attractive in her frock of "view-rose" lace; Esther Mansfield in a crisp blue floral, and Elizabeth Lyon in a dress of organdie with green

"polka-dots" on a white ground. She wore a tiny green bow in her hair and matching bows on the off-the-shoulder neckline.

It was surprising that one of the so-called "Freshers" received his degree at "Commemoration" on the following day.

NEWS FROM ST. ANNE'S

"We are at present learning the rules and trying not to break them,"

Dr. Mary Harding, Principal of the University Girls' College, welcomes some students to St. Ann's.

—Krischock photo.



said one of the sixteen new girls at St. Ann's. The girls are Teresa Haywood, Elizabeth Lete, Jean Forrest and Yvonne Hutchinson, who are taking Social Science courses. Three Mus.Bac. students from the Conservatorium are Elizabeth Crowe, Margaret Honey and Jane Allgrove, who had a very successful school musical career at Walford House; Jane plays both violin and piano, and among her achievements were Honors in both Grade I theory and practice of piano and violin.

Vivacious physical education student at St. Ann's is Betty Porter; and Science courses are taken by Ruth Keynes and Mary Wade. Joyce Sampson is studying Law, and Lurline Barton and Pam Edwards, Medicine. Arts courses are chosen by Elizabeth Crowe and Nadine Ross.

I should like to point out that this news is in no way associated with other social columns in "On Dit."

—PAMELA.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
FREEMASONS' HALL
Apollo Players'

Theatre BALL

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OUR "GALLOP" POLL

—Taken in a Canter of Banter

We all know that gentlemen (?) prefer blondes, but we have a sneaking suspicion that the converse is the reverse—or are we perverse? Anyhow, for the assistance of the Varsity's predatory males we ask . . .

DO BLONDES PREFER GENTLEMEN?

and here are the answers collected from some of our outstanding blondes.

Jan Faulkner, who will be doing geology among other things this year, says, "No, I'd prefer to be friendly with the other 99 per cent. of the Varsity male population."

Our blonde social editress skipped out to Tasmania when she got wind of the poll. We are not too sure whether it was to avoid embarrassing her friends or to check up on those dark and dreadful doings at the recent Students' Congress.

Sultry Barbara Laurie says, "Yes; because they are more thoughtful and reduce the strain on the brain—mangeuvres and so forth. But find me the gentleman in this Uni. and I'll be very pleased. There may be some gentlemen, but they are all

over 60. The Phys. Ed. girls prefer gentlemen but usually collect the other type."

We passed—on to bouncing Helen McLeay: "In moderation, yes. There are too few gentlemen in the University to worry about."

Arts student Pat O'Leary: "A gentleman wouldn't prefer a blonde, anyhow!"

Popular Leo Galvin: "Most definitely! I wouldn't admit it, if I didn't."

Cynthia (whistle!) Cox: "Being a Phys. Ed. no comment is necessary."

Finally, vivacious Mary Harrison says: "Phooey! Wolves are more important."

FOYER FARRAGO

(From John Roder)

"Oh, the pity of it, Iago . . ."

Things certainly have changed since last year when the Varsity started with one theatre organisation—the Theatre Guild—excluding the Conservatorium Opera Group. Now, in addition to the Guild, we have the W.E.A. Theatre, the Students' Theatre Group, and the Apollo Players—the last also a student organisation, but including School of Mines and Teachers' College students among its members.

Rumor has it that Colin Ballantyne may produce one of the Students' Theatre Group's 1947 presentations—Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion." He is also occupied with the production of Chekhov's "The Cherry Orchard," for the Theatre Guild, and Max Hill, W.E.A. Theatre organiser, informs me that Colin Ballantyne will be producing "Othello" in August for his group—at one of Adelaide's leading theatres, so I believe. Max Hill is himself producing "The Cradle Song," a play set in a Spanish convent, and Colin Ballantyne and Gaston Mervale have joined Kester Berwick in lecturing in dramatic art to the W.E.A. Theatre School.

"THINGS TO COME . . ."

April 1st: Theatre Group, "The Wedding Morning," Lady Symon.

Friday, April 11th: The Apollo Players' Theatre Ball, Freemasons' Hall. Tickets 2/6 (plus tax), from the Union Office or W.E.A.

Theatre Group's Secretaries and Organisers: Theatre Guild, Miss E. Wedd, Lister House, North Terrace; W.E.A. Theatre, Max Hill, W.E.A. Office; Students' Theatre Group, Miss B. A. Robertson, University; The Apollo Players, John Roder, University; Miss M. E. Harrison, Teachers' College.