

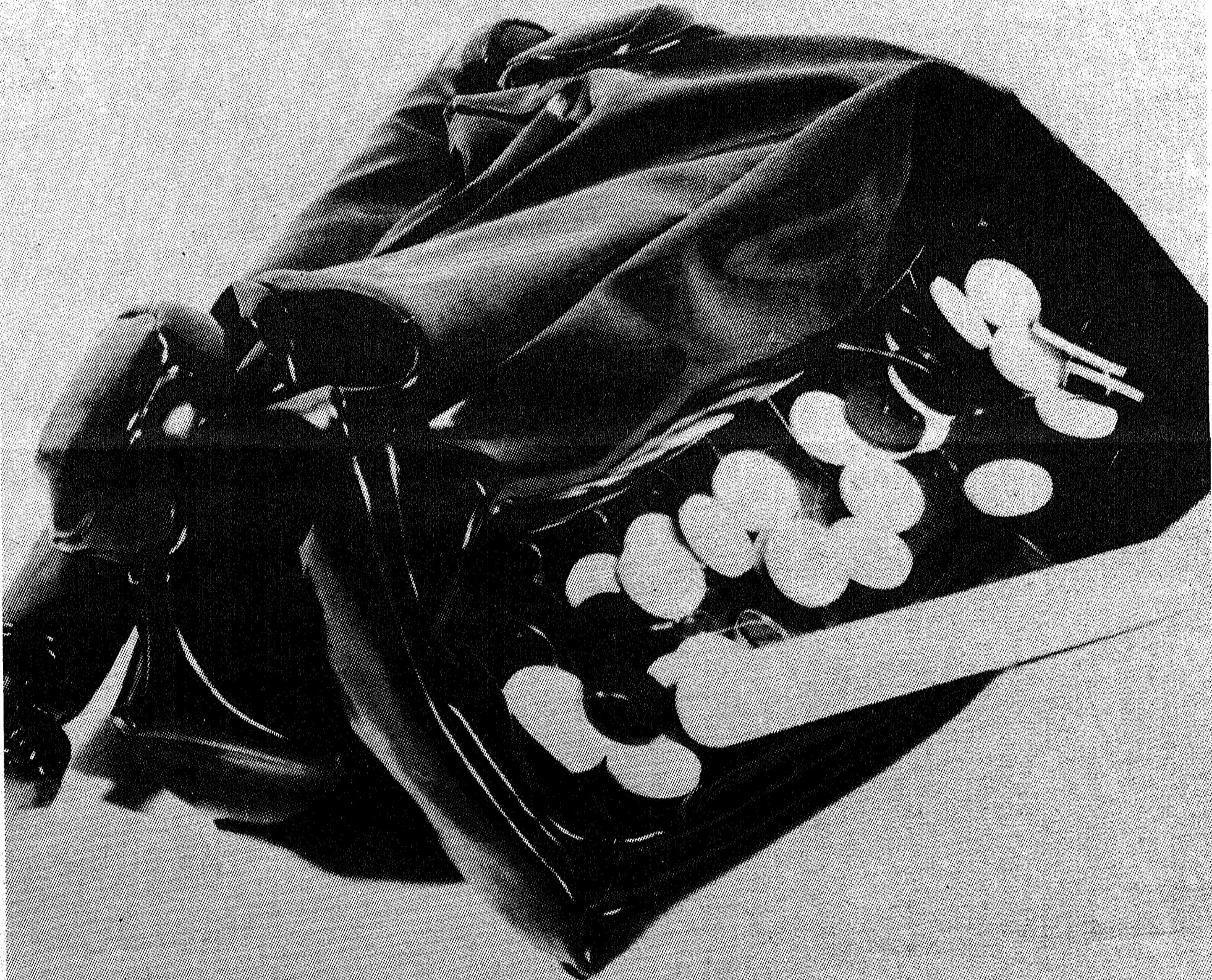
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STRENGTH ROOM

ON DIT

Vol. 42, No. 12 July 19, 1974



TIRED EDITION

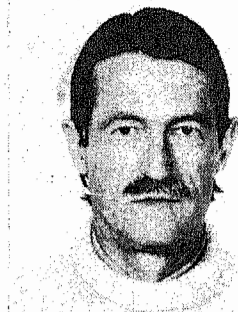


ON DIT 12.

Edited by
Rosemary O'Grady

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This supplementary edition is produced in order to correct omissions from the Constitution. Refer to Sections 4, 8, and 13, and Dr. Medlin's statement. Ed.



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Reader in Physics.
Chairman, Union
Council and member
since 1959. Member
University Council
Senate Standing
Committee, Performing
Arts Committee, Non-
Collegiate Housing
Board and many others.

Honorary Union Archivist, Director Union Bookshop. Federal Executive member University Staff Association Chairman Union Hall 1959-71, President, Theatre Guild 1960-66. Sometime member of innumerable student, S.R.C., A.U.S., graduate, theatre, Union, staff and University Working Committees. Continued aggressive development of participatory democracy, open government. Student staff, graduate involvement at all levels of University government. Abolition of all fees. Books, equipment, maintenance grants for students. Preservation of Union autonomy. Increased involvement of Union members in determining further services to be provided, e.g. campsite, pleasaunce, creche etc.

PROPOSED AMENDED CONSTITUTION OF THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION,

UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

1. NAME:

The name of the body shall be the Students' Association of the University of Adelaide (hereinafter referred to as "the Association").

include at least fifteen of the petitioning members, and such request shall state the exact form in which the question(s) shall be put.

2. FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTS:

The functions of the Association shall be to promote and further the interests of the student Members of the Adelaide University Union, and in particular:-

- (i) to increase and promote student participation in the consideration of matters affecting their interests;
- (ii) to organize general gatherings of students;
- (iii) to publish such magazines as may be determined from time to time;
- (iv) to promote the social life and intellectual culture of the students;
- (v) generally to collaborate with the Council of the Adelaide University Union in securing the objects of the Union and furthering the interests of the University.

Such functions to be carried out by the Committees hereinafter described by the Members of the Association.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

Members of the Association shall be all students currently enrolled.

4. COMMITTEES:

- (a) The Committees described hereunder, shall be elected annually, and will be bound by the decision of a General Student Meeting conducted in the manner set out below.
- (b) All committees shall hold at least 3 meetings a term and shall give three academic days notice of venue and time.

5. GENERAL STUDENT MEETINGS:

- (a) General Student Meetings shall be convened by Students Association Executive hereunder known as "The Executive".
 - (i) at the request of any Committee;
 - (ii) at the written request of 20 Members of the Association provided that at any meeting called under this Clause the quorum hereinafter provided shall

- (b) Meetings will be held within 7 academic days of receipt of request for such a meeting.
- (c) The question or questions to be resolved shall be posted on prominent Union notice-boards for at least 3 academic days before the G.S.M.
- (d) Any amendment to the notified resolution accepted as relevant by the Chairman and carried by a majority of the students voting at such a meeting shall become the substantive resolution.
- (e) No resolution submitted to a G.S.M. shall be passed unless a simple majority of the students present at such a meeting vote in favour of the resolution.
- (f) 100 Association members shall form a quorum for a G.S.M.
- (g) Decisions of a G.S.M. are binding over all committees of the S.A.U.A. and can not be overruled except by another G.S.M. or referendum.

6. REFERENDA:

- (a) A vote on any question shall be submitted to a referendum when such is required by:
 - (i) an unanimous vote of any Committee;
 - (ii) a petition signed by 40 members of the Association; and the request shall state the exact form in which the question shall be put.
- (b) The question or questions shall be posted on prominent Union notice-boards at least 3 academic days before the commencement of the referendum. The referendum shall commence within 10 days of the receipt by the Secretary of the Executive on a request for such referendum and the poll shall remain open from 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. daily for 3 academic days, provided that no further petitions for referenda shall be received until the first requested referendum is decided.
- (c) A decision on a motion carried by a majority of those voting in a referendum shall overrule any decision reached at a G.S.M. or Committee Meeting provided that at least 200 vote at the referendum.

7. ALTERATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION:

- (a) This Constitution may be altered by referendum as hereinafter provided.
- (b) The question as to the meaning of extent of any term or provision in this Constitution shall be determined by the Executive, but its decision shall be subject to revision by a G.S.M.

8. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES:

- Only members of the Association shall be eligible to vote or stand for election except that no person shall be a member of the Executive and any other Committee at the same time except by way of their office as Chairman of an SAUA Committee.
- (b) Any committee member missing four meetings of that committee consecutively or having attended less than four in ten consecutive committee meetings will be no longer a member of that committee. The Executive has on request of the committee, the power to waive this clause.

- (c) Positions left vacant in committees due to resignations or forfeiture (Clause 8(b)) may be temporarily occupied, until a by election can be held, by appointment by the Executive. The Executive may make appointments on request of the Committee.

9. THE EXECUTIVE:

- (a) The functions of the Executive shall be:
 - (i) To carry out the day-to-day administration of the facilities of the Students' Association.
 - (ii) To coordinate the activities of all Committees (minutes to be received from each committee).
 - (iii) To call General Student Meetings and organize the running of such meetings.
 - (iv) To appoint a Returning Officer, who shall not be a candidate in the relevant election, and to conduct all elections and referenda as provided for in the Constitution.
 - (v) To act in the name of the Undergraduate Association where the situation demands such action and time is not sufficient to call a General Student Meeting.
 - (vi) To have the power of veto over decisions made by other committees by a 2/3 majority of the Executive present.

- (vii) To have the power of arbitration between and within committees on request of any committee member.

- (viii) The Executive shall have the power to appoint members to any committee on request of that committee.

- (ix) Any individual or groups can appeal to the Executive from a decision of any S.A.U.A. committee. A committee member can also appeal from a decision of a committee of which he is a member if he considers the decision is outside the aegis of that committee, unreasonable or unjust. All persons must give the committee of first instance 3 academic days notice of their intention to appeal. The Executive must consider all appeals mindful of the functions and autonomy of all committees comprising the S.A.U.A.

- (b) The composition of the Executive shall be:

- (i) The President
- (ii) The Vice-President
- (iii) The Coordinating Treasurer
- (iv) The General Secretary of the Association
- (v) Chairman Social Activities Committee
- (vi) Chairman Education & Welfare Committee
- (vii) Chairman Media Committee
- (viii) Chairman Public Affairs Committee
- (ix) Chairman Australian Union of Students
- (x) Appointee from Clubs & Societies Council
- (xi) 2 elected members of the Students' Association

- (c) A quorum of the Executive shall be 6.

- (d) The functions of the President shall include:

- (i) To act as spokesman for the Association.
- (ii) To act as spokesman for Committees to mass media and other outside bodies as requested by the Committees.
- (iii) To act as Chairman of G.S.M.'s
- (iv) To actively further student welfare in such directions.
- (v) Chairman of the Executive.

- (e) The functions of the Vice-President shall include:

- (i) The performance of the functions of President, when necessary.
- (ii) Chairman of the S.A.R.C.

- (f) The functions of the Coordinating Treasurer shall include:

- (i) The preparation, in conjunction with other Committee Treasurers of the Association, annual submission to the Union.
- (ii) The coordination of the requests for finance from all Committees which are to be resolved as provided in Clause 17 (c).
- (iii) The administration of the Annual Reserve Fund in conjunction with Clause 20 (f).

- (g) The functions of the Secretary shall include:

- (i) Dealing with all correspondence of the Executive.
- (ii) Reporting decisions of the Executive in student publications for students to be aware of the Committees major decisions.
- (iii) Ensure adequate publicity for elections and referenda.
- (iv) In consultation with the chairman of the committees of the S.A.U.A., produce an annual report of the S.A.U.A.

10. STUDENT ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

- (a) The function of this committee will be to:
 - (i) Report to the Executive on University and Union matters.
 - (ii) Suggest appropriate policy to be taken by the S.A.U.A.
 - (iii) To present student policy and opinion to the University and Union.
- (b) The composition of the S.A.R.C. will be the Vice President (Chairman) and all those representatives of the S.A.U.A. who are appointed on to University and Union committees.

11. PUBLIC AFFAIRS CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE:

- (a) The function of the Public Affairs Co-ordinating Committee will be to co-ordinate the activities of the P.A.C. and A.U.S. in political and social issues.
- (b) The composition of the P.A.C. will be the chairman of the P.A.C. and A.U.S. and two other members, one from the P.A.C. and one from A.U.S.

12. PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE:

- (a) The functions of the P.A.C. shall be to create and maintain student awareness concerning social and political issues and to provide a vehicle for the propagation of student views on these views as expressed at G.S.M.'s.
- (b) The composition of the P.A.C. will be 5 members from whom will be elected a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
- (c) P.A.C. will co-operate with and assist the activities of the A.U.S. portfolio holders dealing with social and political issues.

13. A.U.S. COMMITTEE:

- (a) The functions of the A.U.S. Committee shall be to publicize and implement A.U.S. policies and interests in carrying out their functions as A.U.S. office holders.
- (b) The composition of the A.U.S. Committee shall be all those people elected or appointed as A.U.S. office holders. Elections shall be held annually for the following positions:
 - (i) Local A.U.S. Secretary (Chairman)
 - (ii) Incoming Delegations Officer
 - (iii) Local Travel Service Officer
 - (iv) Local International officer
 - (v) Local National Officer
 - (vi) Local Overseas Students Service Director

The following positions will be appointed to the Education & Welfare Committee.

- (vii) Local Education/Welfare Officers
- (viii) Local Race Relations Officer
- (ix) Local Social Action Environment Officer

- (c) Within this Committee the Local A.U.S. Secretary shall be Chairman, and Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

- (a) The functions of the Education and Welfare Committee shall be to promote and coordinate student interests in the fields of education and welfare both on and off campus and to organize Freshers Camps.
- (b) The composition of the Education and Welfare Committee will be three annually elected members who will hold the office of Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. There will be elected a Local Education and Local Welfare Officer, Local Race Relations Officer, Local Social Action Officer and Local Environment Officer, which are annually elected to the A.U.S. committee.

- (i) Role of Chairman - to call meetings of the Education and Welfare Committee to assist with the budget applications.
- (ii) Treasurer - to receive all expenditures of all groups and authorise payment by the Executive of the S.A.U.A.
 - to record all financial transactions and to convene meetings of all group treasurers regularly.
 - to coordinate budget submissions from the various action groups comprising Education and Welfare Committee.
- (iii) Secretary - to record all minutes of Education and Welfare Committee meetings.
 - to transmit to all groups relevant correspondence relating to the Education and Welfare Committee.

- (iv) If no nominations are received for any of the three committee positions these positions shall automatically be taken over by the corresponding member of the Executive.

- (c) (i) The Education and Welfare Committee has the power to look into the affairs of those groups receiving money from the S.A.U.A. and a corresponding power to withhold funds on a majority. See par E (i, ii).
- (ii) The initial action groups composing Education and Welfare are Education Action, Abschol, Bowden Brompton, South East Corner Group, Contact Tutoring, Greek Social Action, Friends of the Earth, Migrant Education, Elderly People, Alternative Community Project, Freshers Camps.

- (d) Each action group of Education and Welfare Committee shall appoint one delegate to Education and Welfare.

- (e) (i) Budgets shall be prepared by each group in 3rd term for submission to the Coordinating Treasurer. It shall be the responsibility of the action group treasurer to see that moneys are spent only on those items as listed in the budget.

- (ii) Any capital items deemed necessary to purchase must be submitted to the Education and Welfare Committee Treasurer for authorization of reallocation of money in the budget. If deemed necessary, a meeting of treasurers should be called for discussion of reallocations.

- All capital items purchased remain the property of the S.A.U.A. If any action group wishes to donate or sell any such items, authorization must be obtained from the general committee. The Education and Welfare Committee Treasurer shall notify the Coordinating Treasurer of all capital item expenditure over \$25.

- (iii) Action groups comprising Education and Welfare should be able to reallocate money within their budgets provided they give notice to the Education and Welfare Committee. They may also make grants to other groups within Education and Welfare Committee be similarly given notice to the committee.

- (f) As a general policy - if money has been allocated to an action group then the Education and Welfare Committee should not reallocate it to another group without consultation with all groups concerned.

- (g) If an action group has ceased to operate then its remaining budget can be reallocated by a joint meeting of the committee and representatives of all groups comprising Education and Welfare.

- (h) All activities under the auspices of this committee shall be organized so as to allow maximum student participation in all decisions and spread power and information as evenly and as widely as possible, stop as much as possible the formation of elites and have the widest feasible publicity and advertisement of meetings and relevant information.

Freshers Camps:

- (i) The Chairman shall call for nominations for the position of Fresher Camp Directors from the student body in the first weeks of 3rd Term. They shall be selected by the elected member of the Education and Welfare Committee.

- (ii) The directors shall be responsible for the formation of a committee and the election of a Treasurer who will present the Freshers Camp budget as in E (i).

- (iii) The Freshers Camp Committee will become a normal action group of the Education and Welfare Committee until camp activities have been finalised.

- (iv) The directors shall call for nominations from the student body for cooks. This shall be a paid position selected by the directors with the amount to be fixed by the Treasurer.

15. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

- (a) The functions of the Social Activities Committee shall include the organization and execution of such extra-curricular activities as Prosh, Balls, Orientation Week and other functions students desire.
- (b) The composition of the S.A.C. shall be 5 members elected annually, one member from the Clubs and Societies Council Executive, and the Cultural Affairs Officer.
- (c) A Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by the Committee.
- (d) The committee has the power to co-opt.

16. MEDIA COMMITTEE:

- (a) The functions of the Media Committee will be to exercise control and coordinate all media matters. These include student publications, video and radio.
- (b) The composition of the Media Committee will be:
 - (i) ON DIT Editor
 - (ii) Bread & Circuses Editor
 - (iii) 2 Video Officers
 - (iv) 2 Student Radio Officers
 - (v) 3 other members elected annually.
- (c) The Media Committee will elect a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
- (d) On Dit will be financially independent of the Media Committee.
- (e) All officers will have autonomy over their budget allocation in normal running costs.
- (f) The Media Committee will have the power to co-opt.

17. ELECTIONS:

- (a) Annual Elections for all Committees shall be by postal ballot before the end of second term and shall be conducted as herein described by the Returning Officer, and the Committees duly elected shall assume office within two weeks of declaration of poll.
- (b) Eligibility: Only members of the Association shall be eligible to or stand for election.
- (c) If a person nominates for the Executive and another Committee(s) and gains election contravening (b) he shall resign from the Executive or the other Committee(s) and the vacancy created filled by the unsuccessful nominee with highest number of votes.
- (d) Nominations:

The Returning Officer shall call for nominations for all positions by causing notices to this effect to be printed in On Dit and posted on prominent Union notice-boards at least 14 days before the election, such notice to contain a full list of all positions to be contested and a brief outline of the functions of each position.
- (e) All nominations shall be in writing, proposed and seconded by persons eligible to vote in the election for which the candidate is nominating, and shall be signed by the candidate.
- (f) The Returning Officer shall scrutinize nominations to determine as far as possible their legitimacy and keep nomination forms received under lock and key.
- (g) If candidates so desire space shall be made available in On Dit for publicity of qualifications and politics, and a time and place provided for the delivery of policy speeches to the electors.
- (h) Voting shall be 'first past the post'. Voters shall insert crosses in any number of squares not exceeding the number of positions to be filled for each Committee.

18. BY-ELECTIONS:

- By-elections shall be held on written request of 5 students to fill vacancies resulting from resignations, or insufficiency of candidates at the Annual elections, provided such elections are held more than 12 weeks before the Annual election and shall be carried out as follows:
- (a) Eligibility, nomination and candidacy as above in 17.
 - (b) The election shall be conducted as in 17.
 - (c) The Returning Officer shall arrange polling so that:
 - (i) Voting is secret.
 - (ii) Polls shall be open at such times as are considered suitable on not less than three consecutive days.
 - (iii) Polls shall be manned only by the Returning Officer, his assistants or by members of the Association office staff.
 - (d) All ballot papers shall be initialled by a polling booth official. Voters must present their student cards for initialling by a polling booth official.
 - (e) Ballot papers not filled in properly or not initialled shall be deemed informal.
 - (f) Candidates shall in no way attempt to influence voters within the precincts of the polling place.

19. DISPUTES ON ELECTIONS:

- (a) Validity of any election or return may be disputed by petition to the Executive within four (4) days of the declaration of the poll.
- (b) Such petition shall be signed by 3 persons entitled to vote in the relevant election and shall set out the facts relied upon to invalidate the election or return.

20. FINANCE:

- (a) A joint meeting of the Treasurers and Chairmen of each Committee shall prepare a budget submission and present audited annual balance sheets to the Union Council for the purpose of the annual allocation by the Union Council.
- (b) Each committee shall submit an annual financial statement and balance sheet at an Annual Association Meeting that will be held before the General Elections in second term.
- (c) The allocation of the Union grant between Committees shall be decided by a joint meeting of Committee Treasurers, or a representative with each exercising one vote, or decided by a General Student Meeting if requested by at least four committees.
- (d) A General Reserve Fund will be established and at the start of the financial year will contain an amount not less than 5% of that year's allocation by the Union to the Association.
- (e) Each Committee shall ensure that not less than 15% of its allocation shall remain for the functioning of the Committee between the time of election in second term and the receipt of funds in first term.
- (f) Allocations from the General Reserve Fund shall be decided by a joint meeting of the Treasurers or representatives of each Committee and such joint meeting to be called at the request of any Committee.
- (g) Any income augmentation by a Committee shall be paid into the General Reserve Fund.
- (h) The cheque signatories for expenditure on behalf of Committees other than the Executive shall be the Committee Treasurer and the Co-ordinating Treasurer and the cheque signatories for the Executive shall be the Chairman and the Co-ordinating Treasurer.

21. STANDING ORDERS FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

As for S.R.C. with relevant amendments.

22. STOCK CONTROL AND ASSOCIATION OFFICE:

As for S.R.C. with relevant amendments to 109, 110, 111, 113, 116, 118, 133, 137. (Forget the rest.)

Of shoes
and ships
and
sealing-wax
and
cabbages
and
referendums . . .

If any student has been around for the last twenty years then his reaction to "Constitutional Changes" would probably be a bit like God's on a bad day with a happy bunch of reformed sinners, flush with Reform and Light singing his praises. "Not Again", would mutter the Omnipotent, "but thanks for the effort".

Well, budding enthusiasm is about to bloom on campus with pious reforms. Note "reforms". In these days of rabid conservatism, "radical" is a no-no, so instead the cruising elite has decided simply to formalize the way the Students' Association has been heading for the past eighteen months.

The need for an authority group has been conceded by expanding the present Central Executive Committee to twelve and will henceforth be known as the Executive (wow). The Publications Committee becomes the Media Committee, since it will embrace both video and radio. The Public Affairs Committee remains the same as with the Social Activities Committee. The Education and Welfare groups have successfully jostled themselves into a formal committee with an independent executive and committee membership drawn from the constituent action groups. The Education and Welfare Committee managed to produce an incredibly wordy document rivalling the size of the rest of the whole constitution. Still partic. dem. ever onwards and the new Constitution looks pretty withering from size alone.

The basic change is that the committees in the Association still having complete autonomy and their own budgets have a right of appeal to the Executive on any issue they care to take up. Also any groups or individuals dealing with any committee can appeal from its decision - wonderful.

Innovation: There is to be established a Union/University Committees Representative Group, to keep all student members on committees throughout the University in touch with each other, attempt at feedback - a nice idea.

All that's needed to effect these lovely changes is to vote 'yes' at the referendum included in the forthcoming elections. There will be a G.S.M. to discuss the proposed Constitution at a date to be notified soon.

PHILLIP BRODERICK