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192 King Wm. St. (below Sec. Office).**The BIGGEST of the
BIG TOBACCONISTS****ON DIT**

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY

STUDENT UNION.

Vol. 6

ON DIT, TUESDAY, 22nd JUNE, 1937

No. 12

**Bridgland Sees Vice-Chancellor
POSITION DEFINITELY IMPROVING**

Last week the local press informed us that Mr. Bridgland had been to see the Vice-Chancellor. He found in Sir William Mitchell, who had read his "On Dit," and was therefore prepared for the visit, a ready and sympathetic listener. Here is the exclusive story of that interview.

Mr. Bridgland first explained student discontent with the present lecture system of dictated notes and compulsory lectures, and proposed that printed notes be used. To this the Vice-Chancellor replied that he was sure that if the students in each class approached their respective lecturers, they would be glad to receive suggestions, and act upon them.

The student President, sceptical since he had heard recently of two cases where such applications had been refused, suggested that it might be better to approach the Deans of each Faculty, and to ask them if they would consider the whole question within their respective faculties.

"I feel sure," replied the Vice-Chancellor, "that the Deans would be only too willing to co-operate with the students, and to put into practice any reasonable suggestions."

Plan of Campaign.

We thoroughly appreciate the fact that every class has different requirements, and therefore heartily approve of the proposed idea of forming a student committee to approach the Deans. It has been further suggested

that each faculty should hold a meeting, to which it would invite its own Dean. At that meeting students from various classes would be able to propose various improvements in the classes in which they are particularly interested. For in some subjects printed notes are essential, and in others discussions would be of the utmost value.

Rally All!

So far, student action has found sympathetic support, but the rest remains with us. First, we must go thoroughly into the vexed question of lectures with the Deans, and if that is successful, must make the most of our new opportunities. A good discussion group evolves only after practise in talking. It will be a hard, uphill pull at first to make the system work, because ever since we started our education at school we have been drilled into a certain way of thinking and acting.

The prospect is rosy. The Vice-Chancellor is with us, and the proposed reforms have the whole-hearted support of a number of the staff. It is up to us to carry the matter to its logical conclusion. We must all do our bit, first, in working for the new system, and then in supporting it.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH PHOENIX, ANYWAY?

What is "Phoenix 1937" going to be like? That is what we are all wondering.

What was it like in the past? Our mothers thought the first Phoenix mildly disgusting, so they told us. Our fathers dismissed us as adolescent. Graduates criticised both numbers as "precious" and very self-conscious. Others found "Phoenix 1936" a very mixed bag—ragged and uneven. The average student scanned a few pages, murmured, "Aw, Nerfs!" and sent it off to his maiden aunt as a Christmas present. The science student said, "Oh! Just the Arts crowd up to their tricks again." The History School just protested apathetically, "Oh, well! The Honors English clique seem to have collared that rag." The Philistine nudged his friend and pointed to the illustrations—anyway, three people between them did all the illustrations that were ever in Phoenix! Of course, some of the highbrows in other Universities have said nice things about the production side: "Nicely got up, and all that"—but we have not heard them say much about the standard of the stuff. Altogether, then, we gather that it was pretty widely criticised.

Was It So Bad?

But do past editors deserve the criticism they have received, and what of the criticisms which will doubtless face the new Editor? To begin with, we think that critics of the general conception upon which Phoenix is built show ignorance of the development of similar magazines in Melbourne and Sydney. For we are moving hand-in-hand with M.U.M. and "Hermes." Anyway, those who glory in being "lowbrows" or "Philistines" can read "On Dit" or look at some of those nice Victorian pictures in the Art Gallery or the illustrations in "La Vie Parisienne." The History School has never

done much in the shape of really worth-while articles, though Mr. Stokes courageously carried a Socratic peace campaign into Phoenix last year. The simple fact is that Phoenix is not the sacred preserve and asylum of our Honors English "intellectuals" (if any). That Phoenix contributions tend to be precious, self-conscious, uneven, or adolescent, is, however, criticism which can be answered only by a more mature Phoenix this year.

But let us take a leaf from Perth's book. Though the quality of the latest "Black Swan" is uneven, the scope is admirable. To get ballast or balance—which ever you will—the Editor has not been afraid to go to the staff for contributions. The result is that the magazine ranges over literature, art, and politics with a happy abandon.

The present Editor of Phoenix (Mr. R. A. Blackburn) is only too ready to publish anything on any subject, provided only that it reach a sufficient standard. If a contribution does not quite fit in with his scheme it will always be welcome in "On Dit." So don't delay—get on with the job for Phoenix. Don't let the English School have it all their own way. All power (and contributions) to Phoenix!

**PLEA FOR
COCKROACHES**

The Zoology Department wants cockroaches—as many as possible, preferably in captivity. All finders please bring them to the Darling Building—Third Floor.

**REWARD
HELP THE CAUSE OF
SCIENCE**

**MORE THOUGHTS ON THE LECTURE SYSTEM
DOUBTS AND SORROWS**

We are pleased at the amount of discussion and controversy which last week's issue stirred up—for it did so not before time. The overhaul is overdue, and we hope that we shall see in the future that there has been some stock-taking—personal and general—amongst those responsible for lectures and the lecture system.

We Are All in This.

Some interesting points have been raised. Most interesting of all, perhaps, is the attitude of a large number of students in the Science Faculty towards reform; they are simply left cold by the idea. Miss Wilton's letter (published elsewhere in this issue) puts an extreme but considered view: it is worth thinking over. But we happen to know that some of the most unfortunate dictation of all goes on in one or two instances in the Science Faculty. If the Science students have developed habits of mind which cause their progress to be best served by dictation, then we think that they would be better if jerked out of such ways, for they are far from being the best in reality.

But that is hardly the point. The worst side of the lecture system is an evil which touches some in all faculties—the dissatisfaction is widespread. Even if the Science people are content to go on as their fathers and forefathers before them, they might at least look at this matter with supra-faculty vision for a moment. Surely they, too, want to see our University progress and become up-to-date wherever it possibly can.

Law and Engineering.

A large measure of our support has come from the Law and Engineering Faculties—in particular we would appreciate something of the Kriewaldtian spirit and co-operation in the School of Mines part of the Engineering School. In so far as our students attend it, the School of Mines is a University, surely, and not a "school" in the popular sense of the term. Let the era of printed notes begin, and the age of dictation pass away. To this end we hope the engineers will co-operate with us by opening immediate negotiations with their lecturers. The law students are already well organised, and we feel sure that, in the face of Mr. Kriewaldt's example, the law lecturers will co-operate to humanise the processes of the law and its learning.

The Med. School.

The Medical students are fortunate to have lecturers of the quality of Professor Hicks and Goldby. Yet there, too, others still have the dictation habit. In such subjects as obstetrics and gynaecology the Melbourne University prints what notes are required. Why not duplicated notes here on subjects where lack of textbooks make notes necessary (e.g., medical zoology and bacteriology)? Two terms of lectures on forensic medicine, for which students have already themselves had notes printed, might well be considerably curtailed, according to senior medical people. The inadequacy of text books available forces the lecturer in biochemistry to dictate some three or four notebooks of material during one year. This is obviously a case for printed notes. First year students in Zoology and Botany tell us that in their subjects, too, copious note-taking can be relieved only by the printing of notes.

The Arts Faculty.

The Arts Faculty is a problem—it sometimes seems that the average of intelligence among its students is the lowest in the University. Yet it has almost boundless possibilities if handled sympathetically and scientifically.

To begin with, the Honors students—in some respects a race apart—are a problem in an under-staffed faculty. How are they to be dealt with? Are they to be accorded the special treatment which men like Prof. Hancock lavished upon them, at a great sacrifice of time and energy to himself; or are they to be left to fend for themselves? In any case, many of the lectures they have recently been receiving in some schools have been rather a waste of time.

Yet these same lectures are hungrily lapped up by many of the "ordinary degree students," who have apparently not developed as well at their schools and colleges in earlier years as the better pass and honors people. If we had larger funds, these two classes could be both provided for adequately; yet even now some improvement could be achieved by a little thought about the matter. Take, for example, the course known as History II: a "good" school preparation should make this course passable in three weeks' work (covering text books and notes, and excluding the two terminal essays). Yet because there are no printed notes in the History School, the honors, and at least the better pass students, spend a year's note-taking on the subject. This is just an instance, not without parallels.

Melbourne issue notes in at least Ethics, Philosophy I, History of Philosophy, English A, B, and C, French I, II, and III, Mixed Maths. II., and Pure Maths. II. (Hons.). Surely where notes are necessary (and they may not be necessary in the same subjects here as in Melbourne) they might well be typed and duplicated.

We are asking for something real and something considerable. The Vice-Chancellor says he is sure the heads of Faculties will be ready to co-operate with us. But we would be well advised to heed Miss Wilton's very pertinent letter and its warning. The advance from the staff must be met by a suitable response from us. The age of the sponge must come to an end otherwise reform will be of little use. On the other hand, we ask the staff to be patient if at first the bulk of students respond but slowly to new ways—they have to throw off the old ways, and recondition their reflexes to the new.

[We had thought to flood the paper this week with letters, but have decided instead to summarise in the above article much of the material which has come to hand. We hope correspondents will appreciate our position and decision.—Ed.]

- DANCING!
- RHYTHM!
- ROMANCE?

You will regret it all your life if you miss the biggest show of the year—the Students' Night Out—

THE UNION BALL.

SATURDAY, JULY 3rd.

TICKETS, 1/6 (including Tax).

AS WE PLEASE

EICHENFORMIG ABJECT

"Et ne me putetis nesapium esse, ualde bene scio, unde primum Corinthea nata sint."

Paint me a slimy isle of mud
Cast in a dirty estuary;
Faint me the filthy mangrove swamps
And water sliding oilyly.

Display the Gorgons up above,
Reviewing the insurgent smell
That fills the sweaty atmosphere
And makes the place a tepid hell.

The noises in the library
Arouse some students sleeping
there:
They shove their papers round the
desk
And push their fingers through their
hair.

These strange rheumatic jumpy
cranes
(Machinery with St. Vitus' dance).
Perform their yawns and jerks, and
then
Return into a studious trance.

The dead and fishy staring sky
That Huxley saw in Italy,
Is ours as well, and out of doors
Is glaring disconcertingly.

Then Eichenformig takes a large
And (in the spirit) dusty tonic;
He starts to fill a green slip in
To take the learned volume home.

The large and heavy, dumpling-souled,
The frowsy-authored "Thermidor"
(Incredibly distasteful work!).
Escapes his grasp and bangs the
floor.

The Nereid at the nearest desk
Wakes up and jumps and starts to
squeal;
Repents and blushes at her book,
And calls emotion back to heel.

Athene's penetrating gaze
Abashes those who break the peace;
The learned somnolence resumes;
Vulgarity and tumult cease.

Notes.

Not only the title, but the plan and a good deal of the incidental symbolism of the poem were suggested by Professor Diogenes Teufelsdröckh's work, "A Short Account of the University of Adelaide" (10 vols., Leipzig); and I recommend it (apart from the great interest of the book itself) to any who think that the elucidation of the poem worth the trouble. I am also indebted to "Poems, 1909-1925," by T. S. Eliot, to the Oxford English Dictionary, the Encyclopaedia Britannica, the Canons of the Council in Trullo, and to "1066 and All That."

Line 2: Cf. Fenner, "South Australia, a Geographical Study," pp. 266-9.

5: Cf. "A Shorter Classical Dictionary" (Everyman), pp. 223-4.

14: See Higginbotham, "Nervous Diseases of Cranes and Gantries."

23: A phenomenon which I have often noticed.

25: "Thermidor," par Eadwig de Sale des Oeuvres-Nombreux (Paris, Librairie B. Klinckschank, 1916).

29: This, of course, is less common. 30-33 [This incident is, of course, purely fictitious.—Ed.]

35: Athene is commonly regarded as the goddess who presides over learning. It is less generally realised that she presides equally over the failure to learn. The popular misconception is due to her obvious preference for at least a decent pretence of learning. See Ovid, *Fasti*, vi. iii.

"On Dit"

Editors: HELEN WIGHTON, FINLAY CRISP.

Editorial Staff: Misses IRWIN, WARD, and RICHARDSON; D. C. MENZIES.

Business Manager: E. F. JOHNSTON.

Tuesday, 22nd June, 1937

MISSING! MR. THOMAS FROG

*Little Tommy Tadpole began to weep and wail,
For little Tommy Tadpole had lost his little tail;
And his mother didn't know him as he wept upon a log,
For he wasn't Tommy Tadpole, but Mr. Thomas Frog.*

—C. J. Dennis.

Mr. Thomas Frog is still missing. His ghost appeared at the Graduates versus Undergraduates' debate at the end of last term, but since then he has vanished into an even more impenetrable oblivion than ever before. And all we have to take his place and shoulder his responsibilities are lots and lots of dear, cheery, little Tommy Tadpoles, who are willing in their own small way, but not nearly as capable as Thomas.

At this point our thoughts soar from the primitive tadpole to that superb creation—man. In particular, we are referring to debaters in the Adelaide University. There are dozens of light, frivolous speakers, but not one good, serious debater, by which we do not mean a heavy or uninteresting talker, but one who knows his facts and can put them over to his audience.

As we have been reminded by "Vortex," last Thursday's Union Debate was an extreme example of the new spirit in Varsity debating. The debate was infinitely amusing, because the longer speeches were riddled with humorous and often clever interjections, and no attempt was made to bring a note of seriousness into the shorter ones. The subject was meant to be treated in a more or less serious vein; instead, it was burlesqued. Again and again there were roars of applause from the house as Mr. Joseph wittily answered back a derogatory speaker, or Mr. Amos talked on the curve of sardines.

We rejoice to see how many students are now willing and able to stand on their feet and talk in front of others, but at the same time we regret that they have nothing better to say. Adelaide's reputation among the inter-Varsity debaters is far from great, and until speakers learn to put a little more serious thought and argument into their speeches that reputation will never improve. We do not say cut out all wit. Far from it. But when you come to a debate try to find time to prepare something first, and temper your facts with wisecracks if you will.

FOR THEY ARE JOLLY GOOD FELLOWS

Recently the Union Secretary received £10 from the Students' Engineering Society towards the Men's Union Building Fund. We thank the engineers most sincerely for their generosity.

ANOTHER BONNIN ACHIEVEMENT

At 4.15 p.m. last Friday afternoon a small crowd collected outside the Refectory. One was eating; one was timing; one was looking anxious; and the rest were merely amused.

It turns out that one Alan Percival Cherry bet one Lance (lot?) Bonnin that he could not eat twelve of Mrs. Goodall's eclairs in as many minutes. Bonnin, having wanly awaited for his moral support, won the bet and astounded his onlookers by performing this amazing feat in eight and a half minutes.

We believe that this is a record, and will hold it as such unless otherwise notified.

ALDOUS HUXLEY, TOO!

On Mediaeval Survivals

"Of all the universities, Oxford and Cambridge contain the largest proportion of non-professional and merely snobbish and athletic students. But they make up for this offence by having the best system of teaching. It is possible at Oxford and Cambridge to obtain a degree without ever attending any lectures at all. (I myself never attended more than, at the outside, two lectures a week.) One is not passively taught at Oxford or Cambridge; one is encouraged to acquire knowledge actively. At most other universities, an entirely disproportionate importance is attached to lectures. Students are compelled to attend innumerable courses, and it is made difficult, often impossible, for a man—however intelligent or well-informed—to obtain a degree who has not attended these courses, and is, therefore, unable to reproduce, parrot

fashion, the favorite ideas and phrases of the lecturing professor. Lecturing as a method of instruction dates from classical and mediaeval times, before the invention of printing. When books were worth their weight in gold professors had to lecture. Cheap printing has radically changed the situation which produced the lecturer of antiquity. And yet—preposterous anomaly!—the lecturer survives and even flourishes. In all the universities of Europe his voice still drones and brays, just as it droned and brayed in the days of Duns Scotus and Thomas Aquinas. Lecturers are as much an anachronism as bad drains or tallow candles; it is high time they were got rid of."—From "Proper Studies."

AQUINAS SOCIETY

On Monday, June 28, at 1.20 p.m., in the Lady Symon Hall, Rev. Father Dalton, M.S.C., of Sydney, will address the members of the Aquinas Society, and any members of the Union who care to come. All are invited.

STUNT EVENING

The Stunt Evening held last Wednesday, in the Lady Symon Hall, was an inter-faculty competition. The judges, Miss Roxy Sims and Miss Jean Gilmore, awarded the victory to the Arts students, who presented 'Coronation Through the Ages.' In the beginning, Boadicea (H. Paine) appeared with her loyal subjects singing their national anthem—the Wood song. Then came Ethelred's empty throne; William the Conqueror (J. Hewett) taking his crown from the hands of the dead Archbishop and crowning himself; King John (A. Anderson) looking for his crown in the wash, accompanied by realistic washerwomen. During the Wars of the Roses, Warwick, the king-maker (R. Smith), pulled strings. Then came Cromwell (A. Anderson) with a wart on his nose—and so to George VI., when the Duke of Norfolk (J. Hewett) discussed the tragic situation with the Archbishop of Canterbury (J. Ward). The final scenes took place in a chateau in France, where a certain notorious woman (M. Higgins) sat listening to the broadcast of the Coronation.

The Law students gave a marvellous rendering of a Breach of Promise Trial. G. Woodger was both the appalling plaintiff and the drunken defendant. The case depended on the fact that the plaintiff, while taking her nightly walk in Victoria Square, had asked the defendant, gently residing in the cannas, what the time was, to which the defendant replied, "I'm fast," and had thereupon slipped a ring on her finger and led her to hope for the best. The counsels were P. Frick and M. Barnes. The verdict was given in favor of the plaintiff by the judge (J. Atkins).

The Meds-and-Massage gave the Mad Hatters' Tea Party (with M. Bateman as a very superior type of dormouse) and a dramatic version of The Ancient Mariner (B. Quin Young), with much flapping by albatrosses and dying by sailors.

The Science faculty produced a Cavalcade of Scientific Discovery, written by P. Mawson, based on authentic facts, and presented with many long pauses and effective "black-outs." Early worms were discovered wriggling out of very early mud, and they were the beginnings of life. Archimedes (P. Yelland) tried out his principle. A piece of cheese, some straw and a trap changed into a white mouse under the magic of an early alchemist (M. McKay). Gunpowder was discovered by Roger Bacon (D. McCarthy). The state of civilisation 1,000 years hence was portrayed at a tea party, at which the guests were fed by rays, made by a very superior scientist (B. Barrien).

The Social Science students gave short scenes of sad doings in Adelaide, entitled, "Can This Be True?"

The evening ended with supper, brilliantly organised by Lesley Bidstrup, the secretary.

ST. MARK'S COLLEGE NOTES.

The Tutors, Club Committee, and Members of St. Mark's would like to express here sympathy with our Master, Dr. Grenfell Price, in the loss of his mother, who died on Friday morning.

Charles Wells & Co.

CHEMISTS,
60 KING WILLIAM ST.
INVITE YOU TO CALL UPON THEM.
As a TOOTH POWDER they recommend
SODOX
—It WHITENS the Teeth.

KRIEVALDT LEADS THE WAY

A BREAK FOR THE LAW SCHOOL

One of the first responses to our appeal for a saner lecturing system has come from Mr. M. C. Kriewaldt, Lecturer in the Law of Property. Mr. Kriewaldt has announced that he will in future supply printed notes, and use the hours he spends with his students as they should be used—in helpful discussion.

"On Dit" and the student body thank Mr. Kriewaldt for this ready co-operation, which, we hope, will be the signal for a widespread, and, indeed, universal change in the right direction. We congratulate the law students on their good fortune, and ours—for what is for the good of one course is for the good of the whole University, and in that we are all interested. We are sure the Property Class will show its appreciation by making the 1937 Property results the best in living memory.

[We are withholding correspondence which we have received from the law students, as we feel that it will soon be no longer applicable.]

A FAR CALL

SOUTH AFRICA AND LECTURES

From "Wu's Views" (the official newspaper of the students of the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa) for 13/5/37:

"Dear Sir,—Allow me, through the medium of your esteemed paper, to make an appeal for typewritten notes. As your readers are all students and with the same difficulties, I am sure that they would cooperate in a movement which would bring about the desired end. . ."

MEN!

Have your next Hair-cut and Shave in the new Men's Hairdressing Saloon at

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Men who take a pride in their appearance—and men with an eye to personal comfort, too, cannot speak too highly of the new and beautifully appointed Hairdressing Saloon on the first floor. Read the advantages: eight chairs, attended by highly skilled craftsmen, modern steriliser and stainless steel fittings, ensuring meticulous cleanliness of all instruments. Natural lighting, pleasant surroundings.

THE NEW

MYER

STORE FOR MEN

SPORTING NEWS

SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

At the general committee meeting on Tuesday, 15th, the President announced that the 3 per cent. cut on all grants would be restored, owing to the profit of the Varsity Ball being over £50.

The A.U.S.A. has substituted the word "student" for the word "undergraduate" in a certain clause of the constitution, thus enabling all Universities to play any person in an inter-Varsity contest, who will ultimately obtain a degree, certificate, licence or diploma.

The Association has to share with Sydney the loss from the Combined Universities v. M.C.C. cricket match. A strong protest is being made against the Universities of Melbourne and Queensland who ignored the request for a guarantee and are paying nothing.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB.

Results of Saturday's matches:—A's defeated Graduates, 5-1; B1's lost to Shelton, 3-1; B2's lost to Sans Souci, 5-3. The last result is very praiseworthy, the team scoring more goals in this match than they have during all the season.

Through "On Dit" the University heartily congratulates the three members of the A team who have been selected to represent the State. As everyone knows, or should know, they are Jocelyn Ray, Joan Cleland, and Jean Ward. This is a unique honor for the University team. Several others of the team are graduates. Altogether seven members are, or have been, members of our A team. The State team will play against the Anglo-Scottish team on the P.A.C. Oval next Saturday at 12.30 p.m. All hockey enthusiasts would do well to watch the game.

BASKETBALL NOTES.

Basketball picture evening, "Piccadilly Jim" at the Theatre Royal. Tickets from the members of the club, 2/6. Friday next, 25th.

Results:—Varsity A d. Rovers, 35 goals to 27; Varsity B. lost to Y.W.C.A., 36 goals to 32.

WOMEN'S SPORTS DAY.

The women's sports, organised under the blessing of the Athletic Club, will cater for all capabilities in the sphere of running, sacking and egg-and-spooning. The championship cup will be presented to the winner of most events (all are cup events) at the end of the afternoon by Miss Hope Crampton, who will also present the other prizes. Wednesday, 23rd, is the great day.

THANK YOU, GIRLS! AND BOYS.

Mrs. A. K. Macbeth would like to thank all those of our young ladies who braved the more hard-hearted of our males in their endeavor to sell Junior Red Cross buttons last Friday. Actually, to total amount collected here at the University reached the odd but gratifying sum of £7 0/8½ (the buttons were sixpence each—work it out for yourselves). Sellers and buyers may be assured that their efforts will greatly benefit the Crippled Children's Home, which the Junior Red Cross support.

COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY—	
Women's Sports	2.0
THURSDAY—	
Medical Students' Society	7.30
French Club	
FRIDAY—	
Dental Ball	8.0
Carnegie Gramophone Society	
General Meeting	1.20
Basketball Picture Night	8.0
MONDAY—	
Arts Association	7.45

LACROSSE.

Successful Run Continued.

Saturday was a successful day for Varsity lacrosse. The A's upset the calculations of all newspaper critics by defeating Sturt, hitherto second team. We have thus climbed another step up the premiership ladder. It is very encouraging the way the team fights back. On Saturday we were down 3-1 at quarter time, but with every man playing well we added 3-0 in the second quarter, and thereafter, in a titanic struggle, we maintained the lead.

The B's were never troubled by Goodwood.

Results:—A's defeated Sturt, 6-5. Goalkickers: Barnfield, Nicholson (2), Harry Taylor.

B's defeated Goodwood, 19-7. Best players: Kayser, Snow, Kelly, Duffield. C's received forfeit from West Torrens.

FOOTBALL.

The A's, who have been playing good football in recent games, suffered a relapse on Saturday in their match against Underdale at the west park. Varsity had matters their own way in the last quarter, but inaccurate kicking for goal dashed any hopes we had of making up the leeway. Phil Goode (ruck) was the best man for us.

Results:—Underdale, 19.9; Varsity, 11.19.

Goalkickers: Parkin (3), Parker, Page and Rice (2), Hammill and Brown.

Best players: Phil. Goode, LeMesurier, Rice, Brown, Playford and Parkin.

B's v. Saints' Old Scholars B.—Varsity B, 7.14; Saints B, 6.13. Goalkickers: Varsity—White (3), Homberg, Fletcher, Lloyd, Hutton. Best players: Varsity—Masters, White, Michaels, Hutton.

Julius Cohn & Co.

Leigh Street

Manufacturers of Travelware of every description—

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Special Concessions to Students.

Also SPORTING GOODS HOCKEY STICKS. AMMUNITION.

S.A. Distributors for the Celebrated PROSSER RACQUETS and MILNECRAFT GOLF STICKS.

RUGBY NOTES.

The A's succeeded in advancing one step upwards on Saturday. Adelaide proved no obstacle in spite of the newspaper's forecast that they would win under any circumstances. Our forwards rose to the occasion magnificently and overwhelmed the pack that has been described as the best in the State.

The backs did some good work, but still let slip opportunities when they seemed to have then grasped. Scores: Varsity 17 d. Adelaide 9. The B's retain top place with the greatest of ease.

UGLY WIRES TO BE REMOVED

While talking with the Vice-Chancellor last week, Mr. Bridgland suggested that the wires which obstruct the view over the Torrens by the footbridge be removed. Sir William, after an immediate tour of inspection, heartily agreed with the proposal, and it is to be hoped that it will not be long before the wires are placed underground.

MEN'S UNION DINNER

The fourth annual Men's Union dinner was held last Saturday night at the Victoria Hotel, with Mr. N. H. Wallman presiding. It was hoped after last year's dinner that a large number would be present, but the attendance was very disappointing. It is rather disheartening and a little puzzling as this is the only official function of this nature run by the Men's Union. Perhaps next year, when—as we were informed—the dinner is held in the new Union Building, more members will see fit to come along.

However, for those present the dinner was a success, this being borne out by the fact that it was a little difficult at times to hear the speeches. The toast of "The Men's Union" was proposed by Mr. J. A. LaNauze, who spoke on the aims of the Men's Union and the benefit that should be derived from the completion of the new Union Building.

We were also privileged to hear—most of us for the first time—Professor Goldby, who responded to the toast of "Our Guests." We were impressed and would like both to see and hear more of Professor Goldby, who is a distinct acquisition to our professorial ranks.

However, the highlight of the evening—with all due respects to the speakers—was the singing of Max Worthley, which was little short of excellent. He was enthusiastically received and confirmed the impression which he created by his performances in last year's revue. After listening to him the community singing, for all its heartiness, seemed rather flat.

DIVOTS

Society.

Sir Wallace and Lady Sandford and Miss Joan Sandford . . . have recently returned from a visit to Oxford, where they saw Mr. Alabastair Sandford, who is studying law, and will take his final exams. shortly.—"News," 17/6/37.

Lotte Lehmann Gem. To-Night's Programme.

"I'm Herbert" (Franz).—"Advertiser" Ad., 17/6/37.

This turned out to be "Im Herbst!" What a pity! We thought our Piper was to have his praises sung.

BUMPING RACES

Fortune smiled upon the second year crew. They started first, because their predecessors had won last year, stayed ahead the first night because Freshers broke a swivel, and the second night because Freshers were bumped in no time by Seniors. On the third night, however, they really aided their own victory, unbacked by mishap, kept easily ahead of the experienced Senior crew, in spite of the fact that J. Rupert Magarey was in it, and remained Head of the River. Perhaps fortune liked the second year faces, their stroke, McGlashan, is so dashing handsome; or perhaps she objected to the confident self-sufficiency of Seniors.

Third year, who won last year as second year, were unfortunate in having their main source of motive power, in the shape of a woolly rhinoceros—viz., F. F. Espie—only at quarter pressure. He had a cracked collar-bone, contracted, they say, in a Brisbane brawl, which prevented the use of one arm.

The composite crew, ably stroked by Maurice Finnis, and steered by Michael Quinn Young, in his oldest clothes and quite prepared for a swim, only appeared on the last night, and retained its position at the tail of the river.

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Correspondence

THE LECTURE SYSTEM

Dear Sirs,—I am on my deathbed, so I will not waste words. About twenty years ago I attended the Adelaide University. I was a conscientious student, and attended every lecture during my course of study. My lecture books I have since had bound, and they have been a source of great joy to my children, who delighted in illuminating the margins of the pages with their childish scribble.

The problem which faces me is how I can best dispose of these works in my will. Can you tell me, sir, if it would be better to hand them back to the lecturers concerned, so that they can see that the passing of time has not brought corruptions into their original notes; or to donate them to the Barr Smith Library for all future generations of students?

Yours in trouble,
DICK TATED.

[We can vouch that the last twenty years have brought no corruptions to the lecturers' pages, and feel, dear Mr. Tated, that your bound collection of notes would be of inestimable value to students, if placed in the Library. By the way, what course did you do?—Ed.]

Sirs,—In many cases the recent criticism of the present lecture system comes as "Welcome notes to weary bands," but not in all, for we do find some to be beneficial.

Certainly we condemn the lecture, if we must call it such, that for one dreary hour is loosely liberated into the atmosphere, and possibly to one or two notebooks, presenting useless material that is totally uninteresting, imparts little or no information, and makes no contribution to the ultimate end in view. For such as these—and they are not unknown—no criticism can be too severe.

Dictated notes have drawbacks, but they may also have a definite value if the quantity is not overdone, and the pace not made so hot as to render any concentration on the meaning impossible. One's own hand-written notes are read much more easily and profitably than typewritten information.

Thus, though, perhaps, not perfect, a highly satisfactory system (one employed by several of our lecturers) is that in which about one-third of the time is given to concise dictation, and the remainder of the time taken up by the lecturer, who is ever ready to answer any reasonable questions. Better again is the setting apart of the last ten minutes for discussion.

Dictated notes have the effect of guiding the student's work in a definite course, while the rest of the lecture supplies assistance to that work.

D. G. MACK.

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Sirs,—The problem of replacing the obsolete dictation-lecture system should be regarded as an aspect of a general reformation of our educational system.

One can scarcely be mistaken in anticipating that the chief question which will exercise the world in the next half-century is that of social reconstruction. In a democracy which desires to retain its peculiar virtues, there can be only one preparation for such a situation: more education of the type that aims at a higher degree of competence in the art of finding one's own information. Only this can avert the bogey of Fascism, and only this can make possible an intelligent appreciation of the problems we are about to face.

This is not our aim at present. This University attempts to do no more than fill the professions with men of sufficient technical ability. It is thus strictly no more than a technical high school, and, curiously, feels no further responsibility towards the State to be more. We are content to produce lawyers to become statesmen, with no knowledge whatever of the potentialities of the scientific forces which are shaping society. And on the other hand, the education of the scientist leaves him indifferent to the social consequences of his own activities. The difficulties of the situation seemed to have induced a paralysis of will among the authorities.

There seems only one possible solution, which is not too revolutionary or too expensive, and that is to concentrate on producing a type of student with broad interests, accustomed to find for himself assimilable information on a variety of subjects. A course of reading in universal history, with particular emphasis on the history and achievements of science, should be compulsory for all students.

Present educational practices achieve a diametrically opposed end. Exams. are the thing, and it is inexpedient for anyone to take an interest in matters of no examination value. Only the lecturers' dictated notes have examination value; broader reading and private research carry a penalty which the ambitious student cannot ignore. The abolition of the compulsory dictated lecture and the narrow exam. it presupposes is a first step in the right direction, and it is to be hoped that the Council will grant our requests.

E. H. MERCER.

Sirs,—In your correspondence and articles I have seen the blame for our bad lecture system laid upon the lecturers or the higher powers that be, but never upon the students who most deserve it. I attend a course of lectures where the lecturer does his best—he gives us typed notes, yet half the class does not use them in lecture! He encourages discussion, but his class is dumb. And this case is not unique. How can we expect the authorities to increase our opportunities for discussion when we make practically no use of those we have.

And, Sirs, I was amazed at the number of letters on this subject whose authors were apparently either ashamed or afraid to sign their names to their effusions.

CLYVE WILTON (Science).

Sirs,—It would seem that the issuing of printed notes, and the form that his lectures shall take, are matters for the individual lecturer to decide—a point overlooked by the majority of your correspondents.

If the rules of attendance were relaxed, it seems probable that those lecturers averse to printed notes and tutorial classes would be forced to subscribe to the system of the more progressive.

We should like to remind them of the Socratic belief that knowledge can only be won by personal participation in research, and cannot simply be handed on from one man to another.

—J.

Union Debate.

Dear Sirs,—Last night's Parliamentary debate was a complete washout. Apart from the speeches of Messrs. Stokes and Joseph the others were rambling, meaningless attempts to be witty. Some were but only the sort of wit a schoolboy in the very early days of adolescence enjoys. All Parliamentary debates in this University must fail simply because the undergraduates are incapable of debating a serious subject seriously; until the University can do this (the Graduates set them a good example a few weeks ago), Adelaide will continue to adorn the tail of the Inter-Varsity Debates.

VORTEX.

(We agree absolutely and accept that part of the blame which attaches to us personally.—The Eds.)

Ugh!

Sirs,—Though by nature of peaceable mind, There are moments when really I find There is cause for complaint; So without more restraint My woe I will straightway unwind.

The "Karatta" has scents of its own, And the zoo is oft best left alone;

But neither, I tell,

Can e'er rival the smell

In the Lady Symon building on the morning after the night before.

In other words, Sir, the Lady Symon building is rapidly becoming uninhabitable by reason of the curious and insidious odors which creep through it and lurk in its farthest corners.

BEFUGGED.

—:—

Button Day.

Sirs,—More organised blackmail! Or would it be better to say that the "button racket" had hit the Varsity again? This Friday every gate has its sentinels and the guard is regularly changed. It is bad enough to be badgered all round town, but now, apparently, we cannot win asylum even in our own domain. There are times when the fair women of Adelaide are attractive—(we'll bite, when?—Ed.); but that is not when they fall in vivacious hordes upon the unbuttoned male.

STILL UNBUTTONED.

—:—

TOC H AND 'VARSITY MEN.

Toc H's attractive Australian secretary (Mr. Cowling) addressed students last Thursday at lunch time, under the auspices of the Men's Union. He told us something of the settlement work done in London during the last thirty years by Oxford men—of the difference which that work has meant to the settlers and settled alike. Mr. Cowling thought that there was plenty of scope here in the working class suburbs for a similar work, whether conducted through the organisation which he served or through quite independent channels. He particularly emphasised the need of young people between 14 and 20 for help, assistance and encouragement at this present time—people of our own age but of less fortunate circumstances.

INTERJECTIONS EXCEED FACTS

LIVELY UNION DEBATE.

With Mr. Kriewaldt as its very efficient Speaker, the Union held its first Parliamentary Debate last Thursday night. Both Ministers and speakers from the House are to be congratulated on the magnanimous way in which they evaded the point at issue, namely, the proposal of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Joseph) that "the British Government is grossly mishandling the international situation."

Among the graver questions raised before the official debate opened was that of Mr. Bridgland, who wondered whether the Great Australian Bight was in any way connected with the high cost of foodstuffs in this country. In answering, the Minister for Public Enlightenment (Mr. Amos) declared that the problem was vitally connected with the curve of sardines, dentist bills, the specific gravity of salt water, the Ching dynasty, and the great itching in China, and car races. Rising to flighty rhetoric, he asked: "If a piece of string weighs 4 lbs., what's the time, sir?"

Opposition Proposal.

The debate was opened by the Leader of the Opposition, who spoke at considerable length on the subject of whether or not the Foreign Secretary is an imbecile. Mr. Joseph was inclined to think that the hideous moustache worn by the object of his attack was a very strong proof of his insanity. Later, Mr. Anderson, from the House, reminded those present that the Leader of the Opposition himself has an incipient moustache. With the air of a scientist giving his invention to the world for the first time, Mr. Joseph declared: "We have not yet been able to devise anything better than the League of Nations." ("Who says so?" from the House.) "With a little more good fortune, that interjector might have been a half-wit." (Roars.) Mr. Joseph's next discovery was that the late Lord Palmerston was the last Prime Minister with brains—with the exception, of course, of his colleague, Mr. Arthur Henderson. ("Mr. Arthur Henderson's dead." "A disembodied spirit," came from the House.) There was loud applause when the Leader mentioned that Mr. Henderson had been a leading spirit in the Disarmament Conference. Mr. Joseph's strong point, he asserted, was his attack on the armament manufacturers.

P.M.'s Reply.

Amid several very rude, though well-timed interruptions from Mr. Joseph, the Prime Minister (Mr. Stokes) gave a sketch of the world as it is to-day. He was about to tell something he had read in Thursday morning's news when a shout of "Advertiser" forced him to break his train of thought, and explain that he meant news with a small n. Mr. Stokes then proposed a non-aggression Pacific Pact, but was again compelled to stop by a question of "Big P or little p?" from the House. "I think I have tried to outline British policy, and that it fits to some extent with the facts," said the P.M. (Loud applause.)

The Scrum.

Mr. Kriewaldt then limited succeeding speakers to 4½ minutes. Among these were Miss M. Richardson and Messrs. Carmen, Amos, Anderson, Bunday, Crisp, Johnson, and Geisler. Miss Richardson (Minister for Nothing in Particular) was all for the bulldog tradition. Mr. Mattison then proposed that the Mistress of the House be asked to cross the floor. Mr. Johnson, with characteristic volcanic action, made the sweeping statements that "We gotter get down to facts," and that "One John Bull equals five French girls, two Germans, and a dog." He satirised the Government's attempt to raise the numbers in the defence forces by increasing the rum issue to the navy, and brightening up the service. (Mr. Johnson here reminded us that he is not a Methodist parson). Mr. Crisp likened the opposition platform to the S.P.C.A. and said that he himself was prepared to form a Ministry, and go all out for a Bieger, Brighter, and Bonnier Empire, so that when he reached the Gate he would not be refused, as he would have done a man's work.

The motion was won by 23 votes to 15.

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