

Honi Soit

Interstate Supplement

NO DAMNING THE EMPIRE



A native dancer seen on the recent N.U.A.U.S. tour of Indonesia.

"Apoliticism" is regarded as a dirty word by many people in National Union circles. Naturally most of these characters come from Melbourne.

What does it mean? To say simply that it stands for a policy of "student organisations for student affairs" is quite adequate, and an apparently inoffensive statement. But southern hair stands on end, and blood-pressure rises—no sane Sydney-sider can understand why.

A historical approach proves enlightening. The term arose during the last few years, during which National Union has become increasingly involved in the gigantic charade of international student politics.

In local affairs it had always been assumed, to that date, that both national and local student representative bodies left alone matters of political contention, whether domestic or international, unless they were of immediate relevance to student life and welfare. But at overseas conferences—those of the I.S.C. particularly—Australian delegates discovered that they were out on a limb in having no specific directions regarding Australian policy on political questions that continually arose.

The most urgent of these has always been Colonialism. Asian student organisations have been prominent in local nationalist movements for the last 20 years, and have repeatedly asked for moral support against their countries' "oppressors." Many National Union leaders have thought that Australia's abstentions on such motions damaged our standing with students in

Asian countries, and there have been rumours of efforts directed to the adoption of a specific anticolonial policy by N.U.A.U.S. Strong opposition has kept these under cover.

Still, there has always been a tendency for Australian delegates to be private supporters of such moves—a tendency which some observers thought excessively strong last year, when the President—David Teplitzky—had strong private opinions on the matter.

Fortunately, there had been a very clear indication from several

The test case was a motion passed at the 1956 Council meeting at Adelaide—the infamous C150, which embodied some observations, supposedly factual, regarding the White Australia policy (another cause of difficulty in dealings with Asian countries). Sydney opposition at and after the meeting was vociferous, and the motion came back to the 1957 Council meeting—but remains on the books! Opposition had, however, been so strong that it appears to have deterred any more venturesome efforts.

their point. Furthermore, the statement of student opinion in Section 4 is a distortion of the results of the meetings it cites.

The general impression given by the motion is that it expresses the personal opinions of delegates to the N.U.A.U.S. Council, and has as little relevance to general student opinion as did several prewar decisions of the British National Union, which was at that time dominated by Left-wing elements. (For example, a motion passed in Britain in 1941 condemned continuation of hostilities!)

The danger then clearly exists that, should N.U.A.U.S. institute the practice of forming policy on other national and international questions, similar personal opinions will reach international conferences glorified as Australian Student Opinion.

The demand for restraint, seen in this light, must appear reasonable. But a stronger argument resides in the fact that National Union—like most of its constituents—has no mandate whatsoever to act as a mouthpiece for students in any field, national or international, on what one might call non-specific matters.

Recognising this, Sydney S.R.C. last year stated that it was "... of the opinion that the International Department of N.U.A.U.S. should be prepared to state clearly and unequivocally, both at home and abroad, that the basis of representation on N.U.A.U.S. is an 'apolitical' one; i.e. that N.U.A.U.S. represents students as students, and not on broad national issues; that at present this is the most mature form of student government, and is the only form acceptable in a country, such as Australia, in which the political opinions of students are their private concern."

This appears the only proper basis of the activity of the International Department, which is constituted to serve students, not to express partially in political questions.

But championship of "Apoliticism" does not imply approval of student indifference to political questions: this, as it exists in Australia today, presents a most disturbing contrast to the acute consciousness of political matters displayed overseas. The fact that Australian students received without a ripple the news of Hungary, and show practically no interest in Federal or State politics, directly damns the intellectual state of our universities. Yet should such apathy disappear, National Union would not therefore become an organ of opinion—it is constituted for service, and should confine its functions accordingly.

Motion C150 passed at the 1956 N.U.A.U.S. Council meeting reads:

"Council, while pointing out that it cannot make any statement on Australian immigration policy except insofar as it affects students as students, transmits the results of student meetings and referenda on the question . . . to the Federal Government. Further, we bring to the attention of the Australian community the facts that:

1. In some cases Asian students have suffered in their dealings with Australians because of racial prejudice.
2. Asian students arriving at our Universities are retarded in adapting themselves to their new social climate because they have preconceived notions that Australians consider them inferior.
3. Efforts by students, student organisations and university organisations to assist Asian students in matters of accommodation and employment have been impaired by racial prejudice.
4. Student meetings and referenda suggest it to be the opinion of the majority of students that a change of policy which allowed a quota system for the immigration of Asians would eventually overcome this racial prejudice and would go a long way in assisting our Universities in dealing with the problem of Asian students."

constituent Councils that they believed that National Union had no right to express Australian student opinion on other than student matters. Sydney was strongest in this opinion, and the then S.R.C. president, Jim Carlton, was and remains a strong advocate of it.

It was interesting that the proponents of C150 felt themselves obliged to justify it by arguing that Australia's immigration policy was directly relevant to student life. As Carlton later pointed out, and as careful examination of the text must demonstrate, they failed to prove

GEN ON A.U.P.

A Newsagency

by Bill Hartley
Editor of "Pelican"

With the issue of this first Australian Universities Press national supplement, one of the chief functions of the nine weeks old organisation is introduced to the Australian University student.

A.U.P. at present plans to issue one of these national supplements for compilation with all papers each term. Their frequency should increase as the agency develops its resources and organisation.

The supplements are being published on the assumption that a degree of mutual understanding and appreciation of common national interests and problems is a first requirement of the Australian University student.

The Editors of seven University papers, meeting at a conference in Melbourne during June of this year, were also guided by this ideal when they decided they would take advantage of the results that could be achieved by pooling some of the Press resources of 26,000 Australian University students.

One of the more obvious will be the economy of scale that can be achieved by creating a circulation area of 26,000.

A.U.P. was set up to produce and pool material for common use, to exchange news, information and pictures, to act as a technical and general consulting body and a medium of contact with the student Press in other nations.

The Editors decided that, while A.U.P. would create a close contact and co-operate with the National Union of Australian University Students—which assisted in forming A.U.P.—the agency would remain independent of official

organisations, this being a necessary prerequisite of a free Press.

The attitude of constituents of the National Union appears to be one of acceptance of this independent role.

The political machinery of most national student organisations, Australia being no exception, appears to have a latent tendency to partisanship. This characteristic, if coupled to a dependent Press organisation, would be likely to emasculate the Press organisation's work in allowing it to operate only as an official mouthpiece.

The ideal of co-operation with the National Union of Australian University Students will be written into the A.U.P. constitution.

But this will in no way prejudice its right to examine analytically the aims and activities of the National Union.

A heavy burden of work is likely to fall on honorary A.U.P. officers until the organisation becomes sufficiently strong to employ a journalist to act as a writer, general secretary and organiser. If the governing council of A.U.P. decides, at its Hobart meeting next year, that this is necessary, Editors will probably be browbeating their readers into providing the necessary 9d each year so the appointment can be effected.

So 1957 has seen the advent of a second national student organisation to Australia. A.U.P.

has moved off to a sound beginning and is already an operating reality.

In forming the agency, the Editors reflected the imagination and dynamic frame of mind that will need to be applied to pursue an expansionist policy so that the full value of the idea can be realised.

A.U.P. could potentially be a major agency of news and information for the whole South Pacific. With a circulation potential of 26,000—moving upwards—for its publications, advertising prospects see it having the characteristics of a commercially profitable organisation.

Above all, its media should ensure that A.U.P. is well known and popular, which will serve its aim of creating a sense of cohesion among all Australian students.

A.U.P. has filled a void in Australian student Press organisation. In doing so it has preferred the principles of maintaining the means of free expression of opinion and the greatest practicable accuracy and fairness in the presentation and selection of news and information.

This has been achieved by the creation of an autonomous agency. These principles will be protected by the means of an automatic series of checks and balances imposed, not by an official body, but primarily by the inherently free and democratic structure of the organisation.

Your Rep. In Japan

N.U.A.U.S. secretary-treasurer Kim Paterson, West Australian law student, was given 24 hours to get out of the country last week.

He left Perth in a great hurry by air the next day, and was last heard of heading towards Japan. Before he left, he told a National Supplement reporter: "I am going now. But I will be back, and when I come, I'll have more to say about this."

A quarantine officer assured the National Supplement yesterday that as far as his department was concerned, Kim would not be obstructed if he attempted to return to Australia.

While in Japan, Kim represented N.U.A.U.S. at the International Student Association of Japan's International Student Conference.

He was only in time for the final session of the conference, at which he addressed the students on behalf of Australian students.

When the conference was over, he took part in a 10-day study tour of Japan, a report of which will appear in the next National Supplement.

Kim did not hear about the trip until the day before he left. The money (1,000 dollars) was provided by the Asian Foundation of America.—A.U.P. Service.



Kim Patterson

National Literary Supplement

From the inside sensations of nausea

OR: NOTHING MAKES ME SICK

READERS of this first A.U.P. National Supplement will be interested in the news bulletin released today by NUAUS's Public Relations Officer David I. B. Slush.

menagerie

NATIONAL UNION is a seldom-seen beast. It emerges for a few days in January, for its annual congress and council meeting, and that's the last most of us see of it for another year. However, it's about most of the time in various disguises. Here are three of them.

IN THE BUSH



THE NUAUS Annual Travelling Art Exhibition was greeted with dumbfounded surprise when it opened in Coober Pedy yesterday. The National Art Director said in Perth that he believed the exhibition had created even more interest in this thriving town than it had at the universities of Melbourne and Sydney.

He said: "Although the exhibition was supposed to have arrived in Hobart today, I think, it is most heartening to see such a widespread interest being taken in university art in all parts of Australia."

The annual art exhibition, which is supposed to tour all Australian universities each year, has a long tradition of disinterest, mismanagement, misunderstanding, abuse, and uneven standard of quality, behind it.

This year the show seems to be going on much as before, although, except for the small matter of Coober Pedy, it hasn't gone badly astray yet.

It usually does, at some stage of its tour. It has been known to have been lost for several months at a time. This has meant that sometimes some of the universities have not seen the exhibition at all.

Then, of course, the exhibition is still young. It started in Brisbane under the directorship of John Railton, who battled nobly with his job as local director, and after delaying the show for a week to wait for late entries, finally opened the show early in July.

Entries were received from Perth, Adelaide, and Brisbane. Sydney and Melbourne failed to produce one work of art between them, despite the fact that they had plenty of notice and in any case were the closest two universities to Brisbane.

Prizes were won by John Wilson (W.A.) for watercolours, and Anonymous (Qld.) for pen and ink. No prize was awarded for the oils section.

The exhibition was shown later in July in Sydney, where Sydney's entries were added to the show. Lately, the exhibition has been in Melbourne, where possibly some more exhibits have been added. Times for exhibition in other States are as follow:—

Perth, August 16; Adelaide, September 16; Hobart, September 30; Newcastle, October 14.

After exhibiting in Newcastle, the exhibition will be flown to New Zealand free-of-charge under the NUAUS exchange travel scheme and

will be shown at the New Zealand student congress.

The Art Exhibition has been one of the few, perhaps the only NUAUS activity, to have given every student in Australia a chance each year to see and participate on a national student level.

It has been constantly hampered by student apathy.

The suggestion has been made that the exhibition become a bi-ennial show. If it was only held once every two years, students would take a much more active interest, it has been said.

Unfortunately, this is not true. Each year, in each State, it has been a small group of artists and occasional interested persons who have battled-on to make the show presentable.

Joan Grey, a former National Art Director, once described the exhibition as a "ghastly thing." It mightn't be that this year, but it certainly doesn't reflect much credit on the university students of Australia.

IN THE SUBURBS

ONE OF NUAUS's brisker and more popular entertainments has been the Debating Festival, which will be held this year in Hobart.

As usual, it's mostly talk and very little action, which might not be very satisfactory to some people, but it suits the participants very well and seems to keep spectators amused.

Debates General Secretary Morton Dunn in Hobart tells us that Melbourne, Adelaide, W.A., Tasmania, Sydney and Brisbane have signified that they will participate.

Crossing Bass Strait in hordes, enthusiastic debaters from all corners of the Commonwealth will gather to discuss such scintillating topics as "That debating is a failing Art."

Well, I ask you . . .

Still more appropriate to the mental level of the participants is the debate "That Ignorance Is Bliss." All members of the festival should feel highly competent at this session.

Following this, their discussion of the topic "That Parliamentary Democracy is an Illusion" will not leave many of the members of their audience with any illusions either; and few will



be in any mood to consider whether "Patriotism is the cause of all wars," even though they may well deny "That Britain should not have entered Egypt."

The semi-final topic, "That we would stamp out controversy" may well bring about a strong audience reaction to stamp out debaters.

Although this would achieve a higher standard in the final, it would prevent the enthusiastic debaters from conducting a final de-

IN THE CITY



THE selection of a site for the NUAUS Drama Festival each year is a most democratic business. This year the festival is to be held in Sydney. Next year it looks like being held in Sydney again.

Constituents jealously guard their rights to holding the festival in strict rotation. Any variation of the order usually results in bitter controversy, particularly among the smaller universities, who are usually the ones to suffer by these changes.

Yet strangely enough, the proposal to hold the festival in Sydney again next year emanates from one of the small universities, and from the very university which will stand to lose most.

Perth it was who was supposed to hold the festival in 1958, and Perth it is who strongly supports the proposal to have the festival in Sydney.

The reason is very sound, very unselfish, and is an example of a constituent placing the general welfare of students above its own interests and aspirations.

The UNESCO Seminar on "Drama in Education" is to be held in the University of Sydney during the August vacation, 1958, under the directorship of Prof. Alexander, West Australian professor of Modern History.

Prof. Alexander said last week: "I believe that some of the most profitable discussions regarding drama in tertiary education, will involve the work of graduate and undergraduate dramatic societies.

"The success of the seminar will be greatly strengthened if there is a strong representation of the dramatic societies of all the Australian universities at hand."

He intends to officially approach NUAUS with a proposal that they hold the next festival in Sydney.

Drama Festival will be held this month from Tuesday 13 till Saturday 24. Organising secretary Trevor Morgan says that unfortunately some of the universities may not be able to attend all the time, but the bulk of the festival will be during the second week, when they should all be there.

moralised carousel on Hobart beer—a method of entertainment which usually concludes a successful N.U. debating festival.

And, after all this, what will they debate about in the final? "That Newspapers are the 'Friends of the People' but the Enemies of Decent Men."

They might use this supplement as an example.

The dramatic announcement by Pro. Slush called students' attention to the forthcoming first-term NUAUS executive meeting to be held in Melbourne three months ago.

It highlights weeks of inactivity by this remote-controlled body.

The writer was unfortunate enough to be present at this historic meeting (historic, only for the fact that it has already faded into the mists of the past).

Keynote of this gathering of the cream of the student statesmen was set by President James B. Tommyrot in his opening remarks: "I intend to allow people to speak out of order, interrupt each other, and abuse the chairman. This will greatly facilitate the flow of business."

Speaking on the union's finances, the Hon. Sex/Pleasure Slim Pussyfoot said: "My General Secretary and I, in an unprecedented economy drive, have got away with as little as possible."



General Secretary Roger Hatton, who knows much more about NUAUS affairs than a general secretary should, and nearly as much as students expect him to know, rose gauntly to his feet in reply to a question. He was evading the question beautifully until he remembered that he was no longer on the executive as he was last year, and could now give a direct answer.

Bill Flukit, NUAUS travel director, was the next to entertain the 30,000 students of Australia, personified at this stage by the ink blob on his blotter. Fixing all 30,000 with a cold, unblinking eye, he reported proudly "the red tape entangling this year's administration of the Travel Department leaves nothing to be desired." (Prolonged applause.)

Bill added that he would continue the traditional NUAUS policy of making it more difficult for Australian students to travel to New Zealand than if they booked all details themselves and travelled via Mexico City and Omsk.

The only moment of drama at the meeting came when Vice-President Robert Gordon Carlton stepped from a T.A.A. Viscount into the Melbourne union board room to announce: "Melbourne is bad for my digestion."

Aghast at this dogmatic assertion of a long-suspected truth, Melbourne observers were shocked into silence. However, they burst into spontaneous cheers when he emoted: "I won't stay away from Shell Oil Co. another minute, I'm catching the next plane out."



Faculty Bureau officers are still investigating an allegation that he sneered: "NUAUS has always given me a pain."

One fact which emerged clearly from the meeting was that it is now definitely not done to be all "thing" about Asia any more.

The meeting concluded with a stirring speech by President Tommyrot.

"We have a thousand and one half-completed and inconsequential projects which are more or less in hand, if somewhat out of control at the moment," he said.

"We are confident that our short-sightedness will disappear in the long run. We are building firm foundations for future failures, which we will not hesitate to attribute to lack of adequate preparation wherever it is in our best interests to do so.

"Although we are not sure whether we are going forwards or backwards, we are determined not to stop."

TRAVEL TO
New Zealand
BY AIR CHARTER
\$63 return
Full details from your local S.R.C. office.

the future

no nuaus is good nuaus?

The second group can be seen complaining in dark corners of refectories; they excrete a small number who actually have the courage of their convictions and complain to the people they are complaining about.

It is to satisfy this latter section that NUAUS employs a general secretary, who must be adept at giving two minute summaries of what NUAUS does.

The writer has developed serious neuroses from the various reactions, ranging from cynical curl of the lip to amused incredulity.

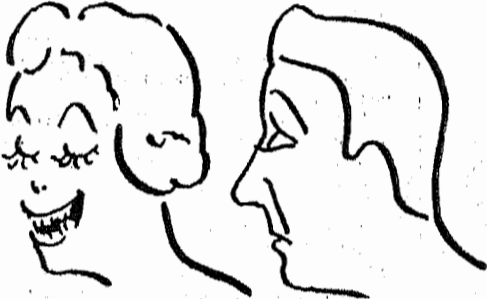
The fact that most people in NUAUS did not even know anything about the organisation eighteen months or so ago illustrates (a) how little is known generally about National Union work and (b) how much can be done by anyone who is really interested.

Well, having got that off my chest, here it comes—it's been coming for a long time, and last it has reached the light of day—a potted summary of what NUAUS does.

And if you stop reading now don't ever complain again about the 3/3 subscription you didn't know you paid.

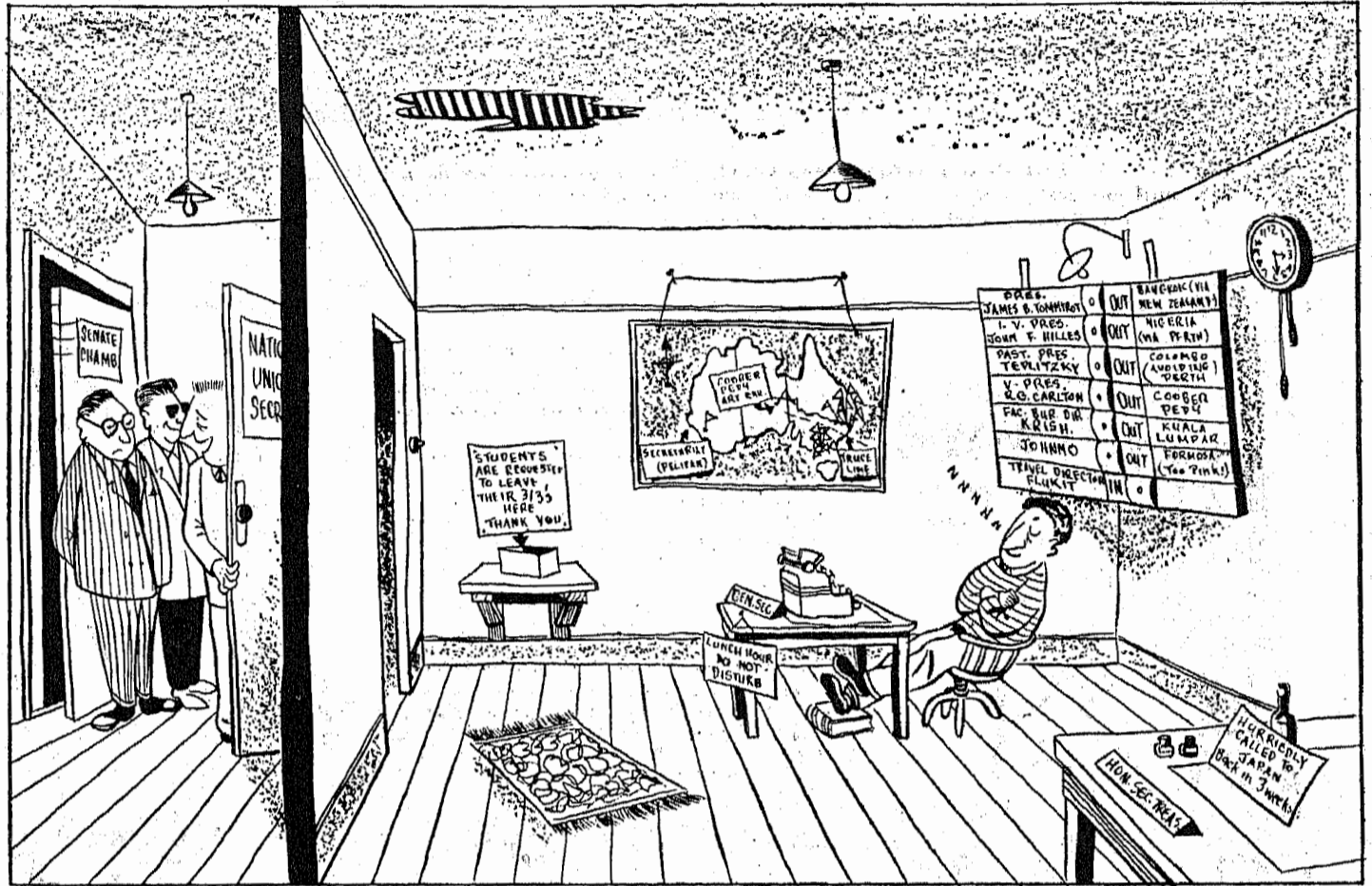
NUAUS DOES THE FOLLOWING:

- Represents students federally, above all in the field of Commonwealth Scholarships.
• Runs the following activities: National Drama Festival (this year in Sydney); Inter-Varsity Debates Festival (this year in Hobart); National Art Exhibition (all universities, including Coober Pedy); Annual Congress (this year in Perth).



- Runs an air charter and boat-booking scheme to New Zealand.
• Sends delegations to visit Asian countries and overseas conferences on behalf of Australian students.
• Develops inter-faculty activities between all universities, e.g., practical training in Australia for Indian Engineers.
• Is attempting to make the Colombo Plan work both ways by making it possible for Australian students to study in Asian universities.
• Is inviting a delegation of six Indonesian students to tour all Australian universities.
• Expects overseas debating teams from England, Ceylon and New Zealand soon.
• Arranges individual visits by students interested in actually living with Indian families in that country.
• Endeavours to secure concessions for students in a wide variety of fields—travel (rail and air concessions); student identity card and handbooks on travel (highly regarded in Europe for students travelling there); education (tax concessions are being sought constantly, as are modifications in the Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme).
• Prints a songbook.
• If you have ploughed through this very general list you will agree that there is nothing worldshaking in what we attempt... or will

STUDENTS come in two groups—those who complain about their compulsory contributions to student affairs and those who don't. Commonwealth Scholarship holders fill most of the first group. They don't even know which student affairs they DO pay for, and which they don't.



... and on this side, we have the office that looks after the STUDENT interests ...

you? Perhaps if you give any one of the above topics any serious thought you will realise that to take on any of the tasks involved in addition to one's studies is not to be done lightly.

As things stand, the Union has one paid employee—the general secretary—but in a few months' time there may also be a salaried education research officer, who will investigate student education problems throughout the Commonwealth, thereby giving NU a firm basis for all its representations to the Federal Government on your behalf.

Apart from these officers, the entire responsibility for carrying out not only the program outlined but also some 300 individual resolutions annually, covering many vital projects and administrative matters, rests with some six honorary officers.

They are the president, international vice-president, education officer, travel director, faculty bureaux director and honorary secretary-treasurer.

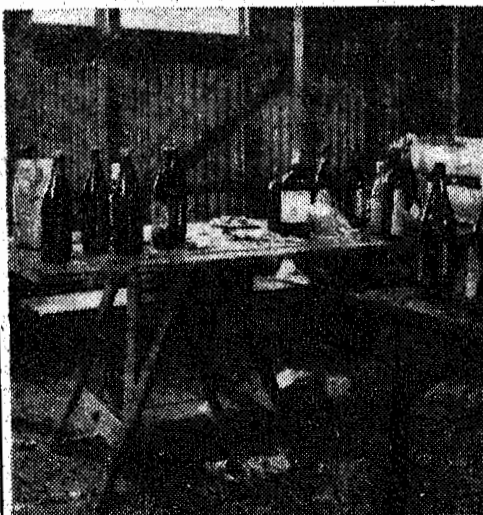
When you remember that it costs at least £1,000 to send a delegation representing all universities to any Asian country it is clear that the responsibility placed on these officers in one field only is quite enormous.

The average SRC or Union fee is several pounds. Your NUAUS membership costs only 3/3.

If you grumble at all about paying it your grumble should be proportionately smaller than your grumbles about your local council.

ROGER HATTON.

SYDNEY STUDENTS AMUSE THEMSELVES AT RECENT ARTS CONFERENCE



Wayne Cartwright is a man of many parts. He is well known in Sydney for his poetry and fictional works. It is through his genius that these two pages were collected from scraps of uncooked parchment. Thanks, Wayne.

the national supplement's cartoon comment

PUBLICATIONS

right on the chin

QUADRANT

EARLY this year a new literary magazine, Quadrant, appeared in a blaze of glory. Probably all this publicity was due in great measure to the influence of its sponsors, the Committee for Cultural Freedom, and the committee's influence on the Press.

On the showing of the first two issues, where does Quadrant stand? The first impression may well be: "Nowhere." For no recognisable consistent editorial policy emerges from a perusal of its contents.

But wait. Let us take a look at the editorial comments. In the first issue, after a ponderous and awkward justification of the name of the magazine, the editor seems to say something of interest.

He carries himself away in a flurry of pseudo-scientific moralising which leads him to the conclusion that Quadrant must oppose liberalism or leftism (the same thing to him).

This liberalism (or leftism) is all that prevents rural development, technological education, a decentralised economy, happy family life and a universal intellectual order, he says. Rather a big mouthful for a little magazine.

But this outburst is only a gesture to John D. Rockefeller and his fellow magnates, whom the CCF admits are its financial backers.

Apart from the editorial, Rockefeller doesn't get much for his money, for Quadrant is a rather peculiar hotchpotch of material which could as well have appeared in other publications, including the sensational Press.

Many people believe that the aim of Quadrant is to put Meanjin out of business. This may be true, but there is no chance that Quadrant could replace Meanjin unless it achieved the genuine liberalism and breadth of outlook which make Meanjin great.

This might horrify the CCF but it is a fact that must be faced; there is no place in Australian life for an openly rightist literary magazine.

The editor has apparently discovered this already, for in the second issue we find him dissociating from his opinions his imposing front of big-name editorial advisers, while himself embarking on a heroic moralistic crusade against the French Revolution and its traditions.

Quadrant's advisers display a real intellectual genius in providing a rationale for "big

business" and "private enterprise." It normally would be surprising to see so many oil, steel, banking and insurance firms advertising in a literary journal.

No doubt with such solid support Quadrant can keep going; but it is hard to imagine many Australians being particularly interested.

(Any correspondence on this article should be addressed to National Supplement Editor, c/o Pelican, Uni. of W.A.)



STUDENT POSITION AT PRESENT

To the dismay of the practical man the world is fast being turned over to the man with the trained mind, and those responsible for this training are now keenly enquiring into its character. The modern student must be trained not only for his expert work but also for the responsibilities of leadership including a reverence for goodness, truth and beauty.

Britain and the British Commonwealth are, at their universities, still educating an elite in a highly specialised way, and relying on their schooling and background to provide general education.

Sixty per cent. of the British students are State aided, with grants more liberal than in Australia. These grants make it possible for a student to attend the dearest university, and so there is fierce competition to enter all British universities.

The fact that students are now drawn from all economic groups in the country means that the majority of British students are of a new type, and have not always had the advantages of home education which were assumed in the past.

The British student has been criticised as interested only in his course, unwilling to give time to sport, talk and culture, lacking in leadership and initiative, and concerned only with getting a good job as quickly as possible. These criticisms are far too sweeping.

Financially poorly off, the British student feels himself driven to concentrate on his work and to narrow his interests.

But he is nevertheless a person of considerable independence of mind and a practical idealist.

In this connection it should be noted that religion is the top subject of interest among British university students. Everyone is agreed on this, but there is considerable disagreement concerning the reason for, and importance of, this interest. It at least is certain that the British student is deeply concerned with the question of values.

In America, the cry is "A college education for all"; there are 1,800 institutions of higher learning in the United States. All must be educated, and all must be given a general education before proceeding to specialist training. The doctor must do a Bachelor of Arts in general education.

Furthermore, the American student expects the university to provide him with opportunities to paint and act, hear music, a good student paper with international coverage, full athletic facilities, a complete social round, including perhaps a mate, and finally a good job.

He, too, is criticised as being only interested in his career. This is not the case! American students made great financial sacrifices to help their Hungarian fellows. On every campus there is a considerable social welfare organisation, and the American student is highly self-critical.

The dating conventions have led to much criticism of the American student in his social relations. But these conventions have much to commend them, and the American students as a whole are handling this problem well.

It must be borne in mind that in a wealthy country, marriage is possible at a much earlier age. The American student has a full sense of his responsibilities.

With the exception of the University College of North Staffordshire, the British universities have not espoused general education. They feel that she is rather a trumpery dame and not a true lady of learning. Instead, they are turning to indirect measures such as the magnificent union buildings at Leeds and Nottingham and to the residential halls which are springing up like mushrooms.

Even Scotland has succumbed! Students will go where they can find residence. Thus, all the modern British universities are

now stressing the provision of residential halls.

There are two possible types, the small residential hall of 150, or the American dormitory type of, say, 500. Even the famous Basil Spence has been pressed into designing the new Women's Hall at Southampton.

A feature of Universities which causes concern is the lack of association between staff and student. Residence will help here, and the new union buildings provide special joint staff and student common rooms. The British residential system with its emphasis on academic staff in residence is in this regard preferable to the American residential systems.

However, the American problem is quite different on account of the numbers involved and the rich variety of types of residence in America, the fraternity, the co-operative and the dormitory, especially in the matter of student self-discipline, can teach us a great deal.

In student government the cry of apathy arises in England and America, as here. The British student councils have a strong tradition of independence, except at Oxford and Cambridge where the colleges reign supreme.

The Vice-Chancellors co-operate closely with student councils, thus benefitting the University as a whole. In America, except at the odd University like Michigan, the student council has perhaps less independence.

High grade administrative officials, Deans of Men and Women, act as liaison officers, and student councils are consulted even in academic matters. This liaison system is something we might copy with great advantage. Two remarkable things are student self-help, mainly through domestic service at £1 an hour, and student self-discipline through the Honour and Judiciary systems.

American students must also be given very high marks for courtesy.

A disturbed and competitive world makes the British and American student more serious than his Australian counterpart. But in general, students in Asia, Europe and America form a world association as yet unconscious, but with similar interests and ideals and great potentialities.

J. H. REYNOLDS,
Warden, St. George's College,
University of Western Australia.

I.V.F.

Student centres and student activity are growing rapidly in Australia. And in the past 12 months the Inter-Varsity Fellowship has expanded even more rapidly.

At its January meeting this year the general committee of the I.V.F., then consisting of the various Evangelical Unions in each University, created the Teachers' Colleges Christian Fellowship, the Technical Colleges' Fellowship and a Theological Students' Fellowship. More than 1,000 students in the E.U.s, together with those in these new groups, form a large body.

Back in Australia, various activities within the universities have occurred this year: Sydney's eye-specialist Dr. John Hercus conducted a week of meetings in May in Adelaide's Medical School at the A.U.E.U.'s invitation.

The theme was "Man Meets God"; similarly Melbourne's Mr. Frank Andersen spoke at a series given in the Queensland University this term.

It has been to us a great privilege to see some 20 odd now graduated E.U. members during this last year go to foreign mission fields the world over. Our members are continually being faced with the missionary challenge and many even now are preparing to go.

Attention is being focused at the moment on the General Conference for all students, this year to be held at Hamilton, Victoria, December 28-January 6.

Conference speakers will include Dr. Allan Wilson, Dr. Leon Morris, Dr. Harold Stewart and Dr. Alan Cole.

Meanwhile of course, the unions and fellowships continue in the daily prayer meeting and weekly study of God's word, which are their central activities.

NOEL HARRISON.



"Man Meets God"

Attack On Faculty Bureaux

Any article on Sydney Engineers' part in interstate affairs will be vague—Sydney's part is vague. Admittedly there is an organisation set up to handle this sort of business, but no one seems to care very much whether it exists or not.

Here in this fine old institution, we don't worry too hard about the poor unfortunates in other States. In any case, those who do know something of interstate work are mostly dissatisfied with the established organisation, Engineering Faculty Bureau.

This dissatisfaction is due mainly to a strong dislike of having students from other universities in any position of authority over us. The feeling is "we can

do very well on our own, thank you," and there is a lot to support this attitude.

In the past, many of the functions of Faculty Bureau have been badly bungled, or have just faded away. One notable example is the Indian Exchange Scheme, which may or may not get properly under way.

(This is a scheme which would allow Indian students to do their practical work in Australia, Australians in turn being permitted to do their work in India. It is independent of the Colombo Scheme).

Principally because of the total incompetence of the director elected for 1957, the scheme almost fell through this year, and is still being restored to life. This sort of thing makes us very apathetic towards all similar suggestions.

Another thing in which we are, frankly, not interested is the Faculty Bureau magazine, "Torque." As a newspaper, its three-times-yearly issues are useless, as a technical magazine it is empty, and anyway it never arrives.

However, some sort of liaison is needed, and this is where Faculty Bureau can be useful. Here in Sydney we are running a Course Revision Committee, Melbourne is doing the same. Working in together would be a big help, and we intend to do something along these lines.

But a large, top-heavy show with plenty of useless jobs with fine-sounding titles is not wanted.

There is one aspect of Faculty Bureau's work which has proved worthwhile, and most successful—the organisation of Symposia. In June this year, Sydney ran a Symposium on Automation. The interstate attendance was encouraging, about a dozen turned up from Sydney.

The talks were really good and the social events were duly enjoyed, and those at the discussion on the last morning unanimously decided that Symposia should become a regular yearly event. Next year's will be in Adelaide, the subject being "Nuclear Energy."

So the feeling here is that interstate co-operation between engineering students is a good thing, but it does not require an organisation of a size comparable with Faculty Bureau to handle it. "Apathy is militant."

E. N. Lawler, Eng. II.

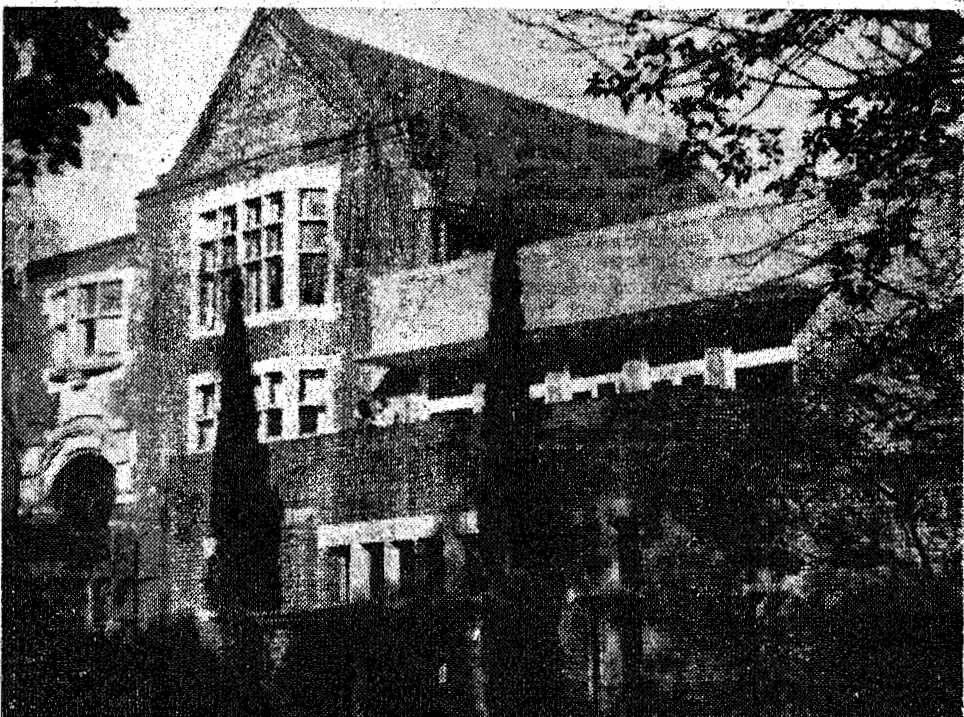
A.U.P. GETS SUBSIDY

Constituents of the National Union of Australian University Students have agreed to subsidise the newly formed Australian Universities Press organisation to the extent of £150 for 1957.

£100 will be made available from reserve funds, and £10 will be transferred from the News and Syndication Scheme appropriation. £40 has already been made available from the P.R.O. budget.

This move results from the confirmation of circulating resolutions initiated by the N.U. executive.

The first national supplement to be produced by A.U.P. will be issued from Sydney on August 1st.



Manning House houses Sydney's Women's Union.

How Far To Perth?

Dear Editor,

Do you know they're holding the next N.U. Congress in Perth? Perth of all places. Honestly, when I first heard that I thought National Union must be crazy (I still do sometimes) because how could they hope to get students to go all that way? Anyway I asked our Local Secretary about it and he told me that they had one in Perth in 1952 and it was very successful.

They got well over 60 students who came by train and another 20 or so who hitchhiked or came over by car. Quite an idea if you feel like making the break.

Anyway, I thought I'd find out some more about this Congress because it takes time to decide to go all the way over to Perth. The Local Sec. said he'd had a letter from the Congress Director and that arrangements were already under way—pretty smart work.

Apparently it's being held from January 13th to 23rd at a camp site up in the Darling Ranges about 15 miles from Perth; it's quite an attractive spot with a good swimming pool.

There are going to be the usual policy sessions on N.U. affairs, and as most of the N.U. Executive will be there we might have a chance of making them listen to us for once.

There will also be some meetings to do with Faculty Bureau—that might be a good idea be-

STUDENT QUERY

cause you know people like Arts students never seem to do anything on a national scale except at Congress.

I said surely to goodness they weren't going to keep about 150 students cooped up in a campsite for 10 days. No. They're actually going to take a trip to Rothenst (I've heard there's a jolly good hotel there besides fabulous swimming), as well as being let loose in the city for a couple of days.

And then everyone's going to see an open-air play or something connected with the Festival of Perth—whatever that is.

Of course we'll have to listen to some speakers. I've forgotten what the theme for Congress is, but I suppose some of the speakers will be interesting—we can sleep through the rest.

Anyway, I hear the next term National Supplement is going to be exclusively about Congress. Would you please make sure that I get a copy because as you can see I've just about made up my mind to go, and would like to know a few more details.

STUDENT.