

LEVELS OF INIQUITY

The educational system of this State has been severely tried for several years. An unprecedented upsurge in population has strained its physical capacity to the point where standards were waived, perhaps of necessity, in the face of an overwhelming demand. Simply to complain that unqualified teachers are to be found in our schools is unfair, though truthful. Better a teaching unit in front of a class than none at all!

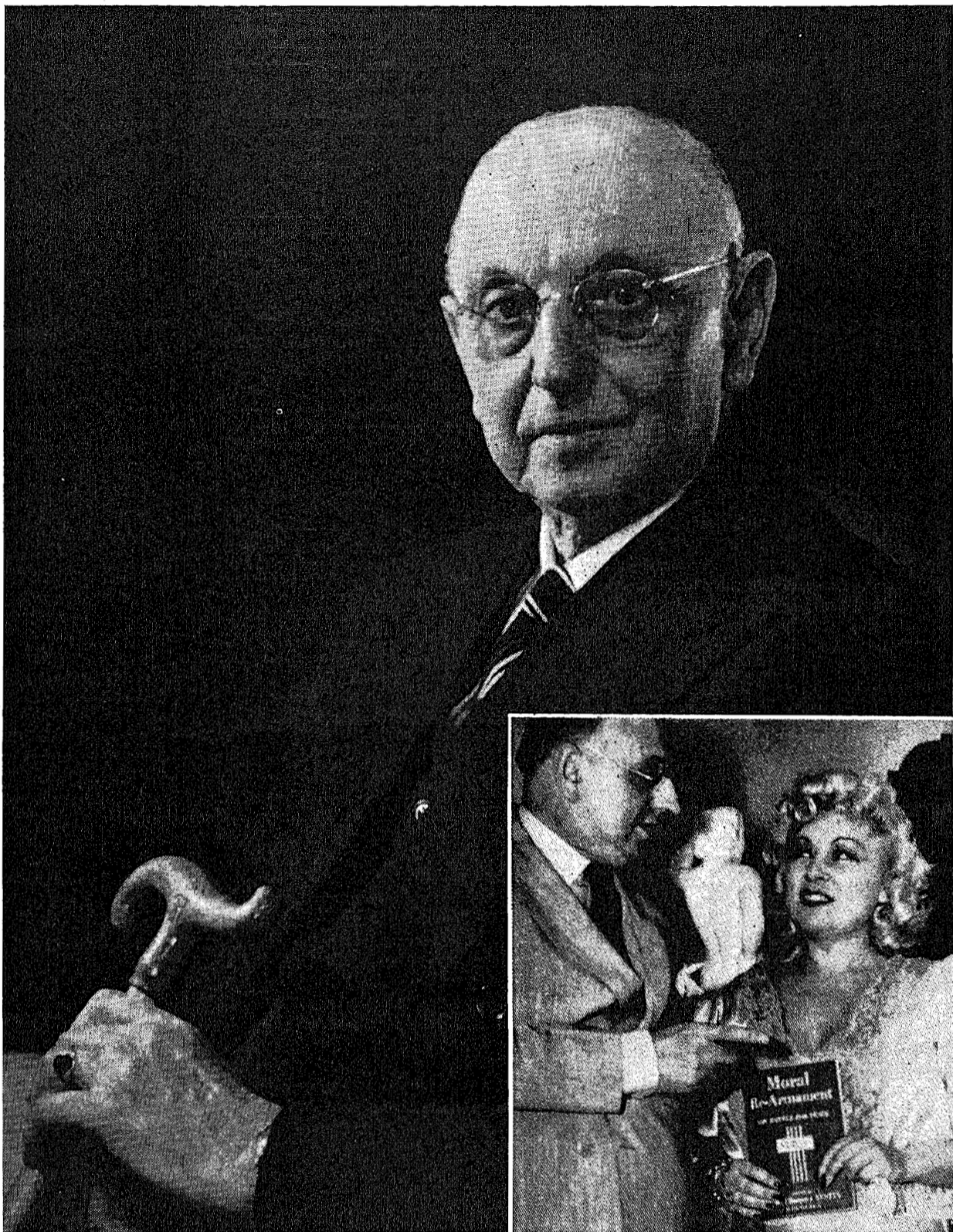
However, even the circumspect and cautious may find some questions to ask about the efforts made to overcome the teaching shortage. Bonds and emergency courses were the very simple, un-sound, but necessary contrivances of those whose task it was to find a teacher for every class of sixty children. No attempt was made to institute longer training courses at the same time as six-month courses were proceeding. Nowhere was an eye turned from the horrific need of the present to the equally important, equally dependent, future.

Not only recruitment was shortsighted. Honours courses were opposed on the ground that such graduates did not stay in the service. Immediately, trainee teachers seeking to do Honours were restricted, at first openly, then subterraneanly by pressure and the devious regulation. Tragically, this war produced a greater aversion to the Education Department and its ways, and the principle of a lumbering, hostile bureaucracy was, by that bureaucracy, firmly laid down by its actions. The individual teacher was, it was felt, of little moment. How many teachers has the Department lost because of this?

Such parsimony, ultimately self-crippling and intensifying the very evils it wanted to eradicate, is, of course, the basic rule with the public educational system. One deficiency of intention, present in the past five years of hardships, was equally present in the previous age of greater plenty. We refer to the habit of relying on "parents and friends" for the provision of amenities. A healthy interest in school welfare among parents is a good thing, but no school library should depend on the benevolence of a parent for its existence and effectiveness. Who can truly say that education is equally available for all in such conditions? Will Brompton provide amenities equal to Burnside's? Does philanthropy flourish in every suburb?

This was only one of the hypocrisies unwittingly produced by our Minister for Education in his recent message. Of parent organizations, he stated that, "They give generously of their time and energy to help provide amenities." He is himself generous to leave room for such munificence.

Yet this is accepted, as is, indeed, Education Week itself. The University conspires with others to decorate our minds, if only for a week. The daily press repetitiously lauds our achievements (yours, and ours) in the field of education. They call upon us (or was it the Minister who called, for their voices are indistinguishable) to resist complacency. Emboldened by this invitation we call upon the members of this university not to forget that all is not well with education in this State. There are high school teachers with only one university subject; there are countless classes with fifty students or over. And yet we hear with weary scorn that we are past the worst. Who has the hide to measure levels of iniquity?



Frank Buchman, the founder of Moral Re-Armament. Inset: Buchman with Mae West, a convert to the movement. An article on M.R.A. appears on page five.

Certainly, this university should not easily be a prey to the willing blindness of the indirectly involved. Space problems, shortage of staff, together with a flood of candidates for the minimum academic honours—all these have made our seat of learning desperately aware of the difficulties where students can receive only insufficient attention.

No tutorials in certain key first-year science subjects; the use of third-year and Honours Mathematics students for tutorials in first-year Mathematics. . . . No person can contemplate this with equanimity; no person can see at first hand the plight of the average first-year science student without indignation and a rampant concern.

The university can afford to admit its troubles, for it is doing all in its power to provide buildings and staff. It has no need to resort to the tactics of those who tell us that there are 173,000 students in this State to 6,000 full-time teachers, with no mention of how many of these "teachers" are inspectors, administrators, officers or headmasters, and with no mention of how many are teaching small schools in the country. For it is only by such concealment that we can achieve a ratio of one teacher to twenty-nine students, a result so criminally far from the true state of affairs in our schools as to be ludicrous, were it not so pernicious.

Education under today's conditions is a new thing. Cramped quarters, overworked staff are basic difficulties, while spiritual confusions result from the violent lip-service paid to educational ideals by the leading members of the community. At the school level we are equipping boys and girls to take their place as responsible citizens—a vital task. At the university level, the graduate is a pearl of great price. Indeed, he is of such worth that his price is a carefully assessed thing and his production a problem in cost accounting.

It is in these conditions that the basic values of education must flourish; where there is no time for

the leisurely development which makes the educated man; where there is no room for inefficiency, and a successful dullness is the order of the day. Things are different from what they were. But listen to speakers of distinguished position addressing the young and one would think that Newman had written but yesterday.

Who can face the student of today, cynical of education as such, and float an Education Week?

Only those who dislocate honesty by making of that Week a political stunt. New South Wales has one once a year. We are more frugal and more judicious—our Week precedes election year. Decency is outraged by this, and democracy is made pitiable by the gullibility of parents who will not protest at their children's plight. Our next expectation is that fifty students per qualified teacher will be the proclaimed standard. The public has been too long horrified to continue in annoyance long enough to keep standards in mind.

Charlatanism seizes on the community's largest hurt, its crowded schools, its Honours Art graduates teaching General Science, and makes of it an election device. Complacency is indeed corroding and those who can read with equanimity that, "There should be no complacency whatever about the British Commonwealth's leadership in the field of education", are those who fail to see that our system of education is bursting at the seams. The Minister of Education has forgotten that he said some two years ago that no State has sufficient money to cope with the rising school-age population. His appeal to the Commonwealth failed then. The truth he uttered remains to indict his Education Week and those who condone it.

Indignation should be vigorous in us all over this cant and wrongdoing. We must not be allowed to forget what education should and can be, simply because we see only what it has been in South Australia for some years.

THE SHAPE OF STAFF TO COME

Undergraduate instruction by machines instead of by lectures could be seen in the University of Adelaide within the next ten years. Already several American universities, colleges, high and primary schools have embarked on extensive experimental programmes with machine teaching. The subjects being taught by machine include all forms of mathematics, English grammar, physics, chemistry, foreign languages, logic, psychology and neurology. Present indications are that almost any material can be adapted to machine instruction and that students can save 50 per cent, or more of their time in learning a given amount of material when this is given by machine.

What are these machines and how were they developed? Why are they so effective? What problems stand in the way of their use in this University?

Teaching by machines is not new. The first machine was patented 93 years ago and there have been many others developed since then. Machines currently being used are of several varieties, but they all use the same teaching method. This is to break down the subject being taught into a series of questions which are presented to the student, one at a time, in a carefully planned sequence.

A typical machine is about typewriter size and has two small windows alongside each other in its top. In the left-hand window the questions appear printed on a 8-ft. roll of paper which can be wound through the machine. The student reads a question and writes his answer on a blank roll of paper in the right-hand window. The answer can be checked by pressing a lever on the side of the machine. This uncovers the correct answer and at the same time slides a clear plastic strip over the student's answer—to discourage cribbing. A second flick of the lever brings question 2 into view and the whole process is repeated. As this description indicates, there is nothing very advanced in the machine itself. In fact one could easily be built from plywood in a home workshop.

The really significant advance is in the question sequences—the “programmes” used in the machines. The development of these programmes has been largely inspired by the work of one man, Dr. B. F. Skinner, Professor of Psychology at Harvard University. For over 30 years Skinner and his associates have investigated the learning processes of pigeons, rats, dogs and monkeys. In recent years they have turned their attention to children and adults. The technique used by Skinner in this work is known as “operant conditioning.” An example will make the technique clear.

Suppose a hungry pigeon is placed in a box and each time it lifts its head it is rewarded by a grain of wheat. The presentation of each reward increases the likelihood of the pigeon lifting its head. Soon the bird is lifting its head to higher and higher levels. The close association maintained between headlifting behaviour and the presentation of rewards by the experimenter ensures rapid learning. Where any delay intervenes between behaviour and reward the effectiveness of the learning of the behaviour is seriously impaired. Skinner argues that in most of our present education practices just such a situation of long delays in obtaining rewards is involved.

Neil Clarke

discourses

on

teaching-machines

Using his operant conditioning methods Skinner has been able to teach pigeons to play modified games of table tennis, and to perform intricate dance steps with each other. Laboratory experiments with other animals, children and adults have shown that by using essentially the same methods behaviour can be controlled to an amazing degree.

What are the essential features of Skinner's procedures? First, the experimenter must so arrange the conditions of learning that the bird performs the required action or part of it, and, secondly, this successful performance must be rewarded immediately.

Both of these requirements are carried over to the teaching machine. The programme writer must so skilfully phrase his questions that students are bound to get them all correct. The immediate rewards are provided by the student finding out that he is correct. If the programme writer finds that students are not getting their answers right he must rewrite the programme. Probably the best developed programme now available is that prepared by Skinner for teaching first year psychology students at Harvard. The programmed course covers about one-third of the year's work and it can be completed by most students in about 15 hours.

The advantages of the new method of instruction, quite apart from the reward aspect, are obvious. For the first time students can dictate the level of instruction suitable for them to learn the material required; the old saying that if the student hasn't learned the teacher hasn't taught is being taken seriously. Also, each student can proceed at his own pace through the programme. The student is active all the time he is operating the machine. If he goes to sleep he cannot miss anything because the machine, unlike the lecturer, waits for him. Finally it is clear that the standard of instruction given by the programme in the machine is guaranteed (by the requirement that students get all questions correct) to be extremely high. All students benefit from this standard and there is no limit to the number of students who can be taught by one programme writer. Compare this situation with the limited number of students who can be taught by the most competent lecturer—and not all lecturers are particularly competent.

Education Departments and Universities throughout Australia do not seem to be doing much about this new development. So far as this writer is aware, the research he is currently undertaking with teaching machines in cooperation with the Post-master-General's Department is the only work that is being done in this field in Australia. Programme preparation takes a

long time; probably three or four years would be needed for a good job. Actual classroom use of the programme is necessary so that difficult questions can be identified and reworded. In 1959 one of Skinner's assistants, Dr. J. G. Holland, revised the psychology programme mentioned after he had made an analysis of students' errors for the previous year. Not only were some of the questions reworded but additional material was added. The new programme was 25 per cent, longer than the earlier one and yet in the next year students took about an hour less to complete it. Why is this kind of research not being undertaken here? Up to the present time the main problem has plainly been lack of knowledge of Skinner's work. But American experience has shown that even when this problem has been overcome educational authorities have been slow to act.

In an article in the Harvard Educational Review in 1954 Skinner said: “There is no reason why the school room should be any less mechanized than, for example, a kitchen. A country which annually produces millions of refrigerators, dish washers, automatic washing machines, automatic clothes dryers and automatic garbage disposers can certainly afford the equipment necessary to educate its citizens to high standards of competence in the most effective way. There is a simple job to be done. The task can be stated in concrete terms. The necessary techniques are known. The equipment needed can easily be provided. Nothing stands in the way but cultural inertia.” This might well be the main problem here.

Fate of an S.R.C. circular

by

Anna Morrison

Of the circulars re staff-student relationships sent out to all heads of departments, 28 received replies.

Of these 11 replied in the margin of the circular; 17 replied on a new sheet.

It should be stated that the circular was sent out early in first term when the staff is particularly busy.

In reply to the question:

Could you suggest any way in which staff-student relationships could be improved?

3 replied no without giving reasons.

6 said that in their department things were pretty good anyway.

1 said that further information could be given personally.

10 gave some suggestions.

5 had no definite ideas.

2 said that it depended on individuals.

Of all of these 6 commented on the overwhelming obstacle of student numbers, apart from the large numbers in first year.

In reply to the question:

Do you consider Orientation Week activities at all successful in providing time and place for first-year students to meet the staff?

10 replied yes (or yes partly).

11 replied no (some gave reasons).

4 replied yes BUT.

2 have no first year students.

Of all heads of departments who replied, 14 obviously think that the staff has some responsibility in improving or maintaining staff-student relationships.

All figures given here are unreliable as the information is over-simplified, and to publish these figures without comment is obviously unfair. However some conclusions can be deduced.

Needs? Policies?

Until the Second World War it was taken for granted that Australian universities were more or less modelled on those of Britain. They were supposed to produce the small number of professional graduates needed and, ideally to do research in which no one was very interested. Since the war the number of students and staff has increased four or five times and it is clear that the character of universities in Australia has changed. What is far from clear is what they have become. Presumably the changes will continue, but they seem to be largely accidental responses to outside pressure.

There is little evidence that anyone has considered what universities in 1970 or 1980 should be like. For instance, is it desirable that universities should only supply the needs of the community for professional graduates, or should they expand even more and provide a general education for many other people? Should they become more and more research institutions with technical institutions doing the training of doctors, teachers, engineers and applied scientists? Some of these questions will be discussed at the World University Service National Conference this year.

The Conference will be held at Mylor from May 23rd to May 27th in the second week of the vacation with the first three days for the topic, “Purposes of Universities in Australia”, and the last two days for W.U.S. policy. The speakers will include Prof. Neal and Prof. Trevasakis, and all staff and students will be welcome. Application forms are available from the Warden's secretary or the S.R.C. Office and should be returned by May 11th.

MORAL LETTERS

My Dear Nephew,

It is not often that a woman of my age and station in life is called upon to justify her actions. But since your Mother has seen fit to investigate our correspondence, to wit, the reading of my last letter to you, she has provoked me to state a “philosophy of life” which I believe most satisfying and commendable.

There is no island of which man can claim to be master, for although he may control that which he senses, yet if he remove all physical contact with the external world, he soon regrets his action (even when he is being paid in an experiment). In spite of this, there are some people who, because of some developed rationale of superiority, disdain to associate themselves with the wide scale of human activities.

In particular, they resist to extinction the sensual involvement required of emotion—literature, art and music recount a tale of emotionality; nor can they be appreciated as abstracts.

There are few who would care to admit with Stendhal that “Love has always been the biggest thing in my life—or rather the *only* thing in my life”; to burn out with clarity is more rewarding than to burn up with jealousy! But to the issue, my dear Nephew, let us press.

To justify any assault upon the “set things” it seems to me that the instigator should be fully conscious of the value of perpetuity and consistency; she should not war without sensitivity, but with a renewing purpose, like “the greatest good. . . . The assault which your mother made upon me betrays her own feeling of insecurity as well as suggesting the rigid attitude resulting from mental atrophy.

I, for one, am constantly re-assessing the basic premises upon which I have built the superstructure of my actions; this is not to suggest that I sweep away what is there, for this would be more than disastrous to my stability of personality, but rather that I rebuilt, little by little, modifying and directing the new structure as seems fit. Nor do I consider any facet of my life “sacred” from inquisition.

And you will want to ask the most proper question: “Why behave in this way?” Well, the least of it is that a certainty which is maintained in the light of constantly widening frontiers of knowledge cannot claim to be built upon knowledge of the external world. Those fortunate people who have the “certainty of religion” are not themselves immune from the searches of doubt. For they have to find the validity of their belief in the effectual working of their lives. To be self-satisfied is like eating to satiation on one occasion and then to exist for the rest of life upon that one meal.

Of course, by far the most important aspect of social living is the persistent recognition and action involved in the neighbour situation—I refer to affection. Dear Nephew, there is no greater gift which anyone can bestow upon me than to develop a friendship; the course is so demanding, the rewards apparently not so great. Nonetheless, to me it is only in the social interaction of different individuals at the deepest possible level, that personality development can take place—how many so-called “individuals” are but wind and bag, signifying nothing.

Although the age of precious “sense and sensibility” has passed into the romantic shades, now (perhaps) it is high time to awake out of sleep those conveniently forgotten responsibilities. If “materialism” means anything, it means that attitude to society which sees people as objects of the economic game, the takeover racket, instead of members of each other. So often it is as this poet expressed it:

“Why is't we must be left alone
To find the never-found, the never seen,

But only felt, always felt:
Slow draining affectations of
The might-have-been.”

What more can I say to your mother? If she cannot understand, it may well be that it is too late for her to recross the line of personal involvement. Or it may seem that old age has got the better of me, and the sentimentalism of declining years has laid a net privily for me. Yet I have some confidence that you will review, relive and finally relive, even at the risk of being despised by those (as Donne says)

“For whom the bell tolls.”

yours sincerely
Auntie Edith

ANOTHER ANGLICAN GONE

a

faithful report

by

Allan Dawson

Dr. Moyes, Anglican Bishop of Armidale, spoke on “God, You and the University” for the S.C.M. in the Union on April 24th. In his address, Dr. Moyes made his purpose plain: to persuade nominal Christians to enter fully into the faith and to persuade those completely outside it to enter the fold. He observed that many people today were content to leave their doubts on religion unsolved, a situation which he considered even less satisfactory than unbelief. By avoiding the issue too many people shut out the spiritual side of their lives.

Students were taught at a University to doubt everything till it was proved. Dr. Moyes held, however, that faith is normal and that it is up to the doubters to prove their doubts rather than for Christians to prove their faith. Dr. Moyes did not develop his remarks at this point; this is unfortunate, as it would appear that there is a possible source of conflict between the Christian view of faith as a supreme virtue and the university ideal of training students to doubt what they cannot prove.

Dr. Moyes went on to suggest three grounds for Christian belief: first, that it was spiritually and emotionally satisfying; second, that the evidence of design in the world was such that the existence of a Creator was overwhelmingly probable, and third, that the Christian miracles, especially the resurrection of Christ, could be explained only by the existence of God. None of these arguments was presented in the

formal manner of traditional Christian apologetics, but each was implied in the Bishop's remarks.

The first of these grounds is hardly an argument at all; this will readily be seen when it is realised that many believers in Hinduism, Marxism, agnosticism, and so on find these beliefs more satisfying even when they have had an opportunity for a close examination of Christianity. The present writer knows of several undergraduates in this university who are ex-Christians having once been in theological colleges intending to become Christian clergymen. On being questioned from the floor, Bishop Moyes admitted that the arguments from design and from miracles, both of which he had appeared to use in his address were invalid. Many Christians like to view these arguments as somehow “pointing to God” even though they are formally invalid. Unfortunately, as even Christian philosophers remind us, sometimes, invalid arguments point nowhere, unless it be to the lack of logical rigour on the part of those who use them.

It is profoundly difficult for many people, such as the present writer, to understand how some Christian apologists can declare to be the main reasons for their beliefs, arguments which these same apologists concede to be invalid. This curious outlook is unquestionably sincere. One is tempted to conclude that this state of mind is the “doublethink” which George Orwell described: the ability passionately to believe by faith two mutually contradictory beliefs. The question arises how long will Christian belief survive when the arguments used to support it are no longer considered valid even by orthodox believers. Alternatively, one may ask whether Christian belief is a pattern of statements whose truth or even intelligibility is irrelevant to their purpose—the psychological comfort of the believers. It is unfortunate for Christianity that remarks such as those of Dr. Moyes should compel one to raise such questions.

Why not a new theatre?

The first of two articles

by

Hugh Corbet

In promoting South Australia's industrial and commercial advances, the Playford Government has been immensely successful. As Shaw has remarked, however, "Success covers a multitude of blunders". The Government has done very little to further the cultural progress of the State. Even public expenditure on schools and higher education seems to stem from economic rather than cultural demands.

Last October a leader writer on *The Advertiser* had to delve back into the last century to unearth an example of public spending on a cultural project. *The Advertiser* was supporting the request of the board of governors of the Adelaide Festival of Arts for a public financed multi-purpose festival hall to provide for opera, symphonic concert and drama. In 1879 building on the Public Library commenced and was completed five years later at a cost of nearly £49,000. Expressed in current monetary terms this figure would represent £2m.

The board of governors had suggested that the Government should, during the

next four or five years, appropriate a sum of say £250,000 each year for the proposed hall. Compared with the Public Library project this was a modest proposal. Were it not for the civic pride and vision of the organisers of the first Festival of Arts, Adelaide's right to claim to be the cultural city of Australia would be even more ludicrous than now. Cabinet decided, though, that "it cannot at the present time agree to the request".

The Minister of Education (Hon. Baden Pattinson) was reported last week to have deplored the "many South Australians who are rather smug and self-satisfied with our progress as a State". If that is the case, then not a few of these souls are in government circles.

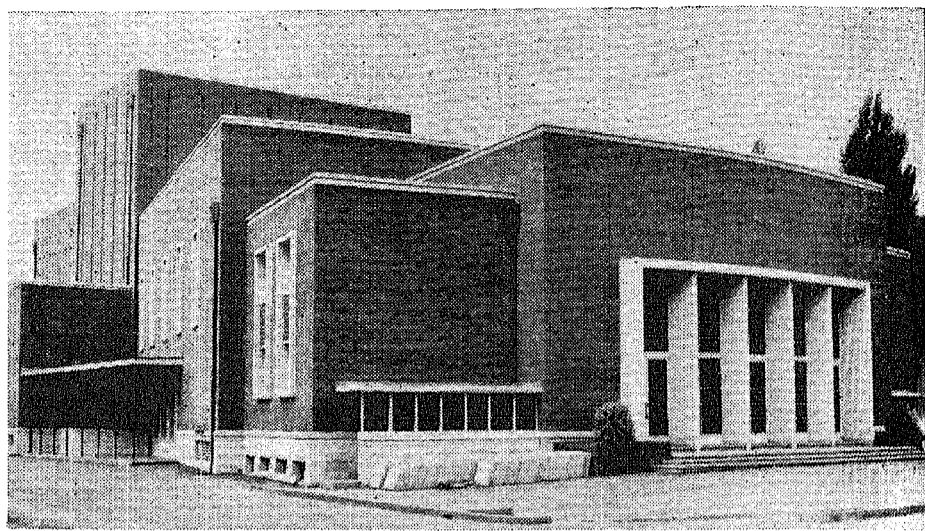
Recalling that succeeding Governments in his generation have not erected any fine public buildings, former Lord Mayor the Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill said in the Legislative Council during the last Estimates debate, "We are still living on the reputation of our forbears because we have done little to add to their effort". Later he went on to say while referring to the festival hall proposal, "Although we are spending £116,000,000 this year we cannot find £250,000 for four or five years for culture of this nature that would be to the advantage of everyone. Why? Is it because it is a cultural matter, or is it because it will not win votes? I do not know". Sir Arthur is not alone in his bewilderment and despair.

When the Theatre Royal finally gives way to the pressing needs of commerce, Adelaide will be without a legitimate theatre capable of accommodating a professional company. The theatre has been purchased by Miller Anderson's, and its life has been limited by an order of a government department. The Tivoli boxing stadium and the Majestic cinema will remain, but they are only suitable for vaudeville.

Acoustically the Town Hall could not contain an orchestra larger than the already small Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, even if the hall were without its purely physical limitations. The large orchestral works require more strings and in these circumstances hearing in the hall would be singularly uncomfortable.

As an agricultural hall, the aesthetically atrocious Centennial Hall is adequate, but for most cultural pursuits it is in no way feasible.

Adelaide's cultural horizons look rather barren. Amongst the principal Australian cities, Adelaide is almost on a par with Brisbane as a cultural backwater. At least



in Brisbane Her Majesty's Theatre still survives.

In the West, Perth produced, chiefly from its own artistic resources, its ninth arts festival earlier this year. Four "live" theatres exist in Perth: His Majesty's Patch, the Capitol and the Playhouse, home of the National Theatre of W.A. In addition, Max Harris reports in *Nation* that "Perth has the two finest open-air theatres in the country," namely the Sunken Garden and the Somerville Auditorium, both in the University grounds. In the Supreme Court Gardens there is also a very fine sound shell.

Sydney, in the East, has five long established professional theatres: the Royal, Her Majesty's, the Tivoli, the Palace and the Phillip Street Theatres. The newest is the Metro-Minerva where the London Prince of Wales production of "The World of Suzie Wong" is currently showing. Proceeds from last week's gala première went towards the Sydney Opera House fund. When this magnificent landmark is completed Sydneysiders will have a new boast, as if the Harbour Bridge was not enough.

In Melbourne, the Comedy, Her Majesty's, the Tivoli, the Princess and the Palais are the main theatres, but then there are the numerous "little theatres"; the Union Theatre, The Bowl Music Hall, the Russell Street Theatre, The Arts Theatre and the Melbourne Little Theatre. As in other cities, the Town Hall is used for concerts, as is the new music bowl. Already endowed with these facilities, Melbourne is planning a cultural centre and finance is being raised for the purpose.

Melbourne has also exhibited a great appreciation of art on canvas and in stone. Of the permanent art galleries, the Museum of Modern Art, the V.A.S. Galleries, the Tasmanian Government Tourist Bureau, Josh McClelland's Galleries, Gallery A in Flinders Lane, the new sculpture centre in South Yarra, the Palette Art in Block Arcade and the Van Galleries at Hawthorn are the best known. Exhibitions are also

held in the Royal Arcade, the Athenaeum, in the Fitzroy Gardens where the Melbourne *Herald* makes its contribution to the city's artistic life, in department stores (Foy's and Hicks Atkinson's), in coffee lounges, schools and banks.

The National Gallery and the four other small galleries, John Martin's, the Royal Society of Arts, the Bonython gallery and the one at Hahndorf, are the sole upholders of this artistic tradition in Adelaide. Occasionally we see an exhibition in the Elder Park or in the Prince Henry Gardens.

Clearly, Adelaide is not to the fore as a city of culture. Over the years the Government has come to owe the city a tremendous cultural debt. The theatrical needs of the city must eventually be satisfied. The *vox populi* seems to demand a theatre, and a public owned festival hall would be a marvellous encouragement to the arts, a source of pride to the city and an attraction to celebrated overseas artists to Australia and in particular to the Adelaide Festival of Arts.

As a "mendicant" State, the governments at the time might be forgiven for their past failings, but since freeing itself from the Grants Commission we expect a little more courage and imagination from the Treasury Benches of our Parliament.

"It's an ill wind . . ."

by

Bryn Davies

Pagodas of Nan Yang and Chou Chin Chow
So lofty, to our wheat consignments how
Bow, mountains sky enwrapped of Chin
Chu Chan
Floods of Ming Ho, your thundering
voices raise
Cuckoos of Ming sou exalt their praise
With geese of Sou chen che and Tang-
tin-tan.

You monkeys of Tou Fou, pray line the
road,
Hang by your tails and all the branches
load
And grab a grain or two as on they throng,
The lorries which transport the subject of
my song.

Frogs of Fou fi o croak from pools of green
Winnow, glad butterflies around the scene
Sing and be joyful every village pig
Goats, sheep and oxen through the pastures
prance
Dungareed villagers direct the dance
And commissars, join in this happy jig.

For from the plains of distant Wallaroo
And from the slopes of far-famed Minaroo
There comes the golden substitute for
rice
Relieving us of all the stuff we'd stored
And held until the market cost had soared
But couldn't find a buyer at our price.

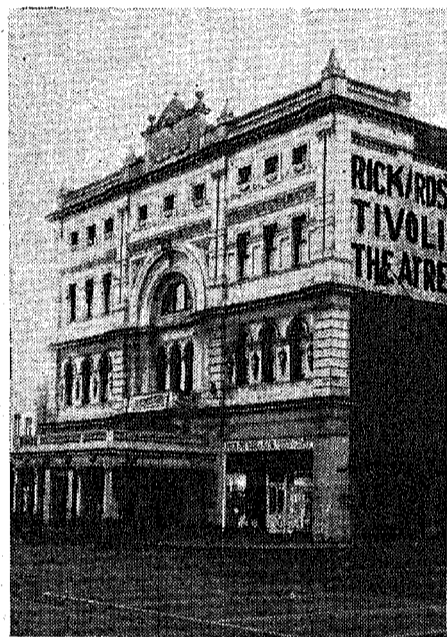
Sing all you shippers who transport the
grain
Sing all you silos, empty once again
And join the swelling chorus all you
growers
And those who manufacture all your
mowers.

Last but not least, the Minister for Trade
Waiting the turn which was so long de-
layed
But now his patience yields its dividend
The silver tael clink sweetly as they flow
Trade balances are up again and lo!
Australia's fortunes are upon the mend.

Cavemen

From the "Manchester Guardian",
Platonic Ideal,
We descend to "On Dit",
Unhappily real.

A.M.



Nix now for Nixon . . .

Five months ago, very nearly half of the United States voted in the presidential elections for Richard M. Nixon. Six months ago half of the Americans were crimson in the face from cheering him, lining the streets to shout and wave crazily when he drove past. America was papier-machéed with luminous pink NIXON stickers; half America's bumper-bars, half America's front doors, half the satchels the students carried proudly around the campus screamed pinkly NIXON! Well over half the American newspapers were screaming it in black and white. The badges and banners and balloons and Nixon hats and Nixon stickers would have filled without trouble the White House and the Library of Congress.

Richard M. Nixon is now unemployed.

It is a strange system which discards, every four years, one of its leading politicians. Because he is discarded, efficiently and completely, a sacrifice to the god of the presidency, or more accurately to the god of American conviction that the loser is a failure. Some angle in American way of thought cannot accept a failure. Adlai Stevenson ran against Eisenhower at a time when Eisenhower would have defeated a Democratic archangel. But though defeat was inevitable, it cancelled Stevenson out of Presidential potential ranks. Although a lot of people told me last year they would have liked Stevenson as Democratic candidate, the statement was always in the conditional. Stevenson played an important part in the campaign, supporting a man far less well-known, far more inexperienced, and far younger than himself. It is a strange and a cruel system.

Stevenson, of course, is now a very important man. But he will never again be a candidate for President—he will never be elected to a high office, but will have to rely on appointment. The Republicans are very unlikely to choose Nixon again, and if they did he would be extremely unlikely to win. (There has been one case in history, somebody told me once, of a failure being successful in a successive election. Nobody ever remembers him. I have forgotten who it was.) That Wednesday morning last year when Nixon conceded defeat was the end of the possibility of presidency for him. He announced then his

intention to run for governor of California; he may win this post, though Governor Brown is very popular. But even if he does, he has begun the downgrade of his career. You could graph it at four-yearly intervals lawyer, Senator, Vice-President, Vice-President, failure, possibly governor, probably lawyer.

I disliked Nixon very heartily. I was one of the class of people who were using pairs of lipstick-pink NIXON-LODGE labels to construct NIX ON NIXON, DODGE LODGE.

I think the man is unimpressive as a person and unsavoury as a politician. But he is a person and he is a politician. And there must be something about him if 49 per cent. of America voted for him. Compared with the cruel discarding of Nixon our system seems incredibly fair—the Leader of the Opposition has a public position, a high vantage point from which to throw mud and a standing chance of its meeting a target. Mr. Walsh and Mr. Calwell are in just as honourable a position as Sir Thomas and Mr. Menzies, and if you want to argue the other way you can say they are in a more honourable one. They have their important positions and their work, they are still regarded as leader by the party which voted them leader, and as potentially leader by the people who tried to elect that party to office.

In a way, of course, it is easier for Kennedy not to have Nixon looking over his shoulder and muttering, "Do something silly and I've got that 2 per cent." or "I told you so!" And it is easier for Kennedy to win the support of the people once they have forgotten Nixon. And they forget very easily. With the parties so close the election differences are usually personal rather than partisan. An alarming number of Americans voted for Kennedy because they thought it was unfair not to vote for him because he was Catholic, or because they thought it was unfair to think he was unfair because he was rich. Or they voted for Nixon because they didn't think this—or these—were unfair. Or because they thought they were. And when Nixon goes politically overboard, and is, as far as publicity is concerned, missing at sea, they forget the silly personal differences and even the sensible ones. A friend who

by

Lyn Marshall

argued me into a constant daze all last November to change me to a Nixonite (or rather a Nixonette—that, believe it or not, was one of the campaign words) wrote last week, "Kennedy is doing a good job, I think, and I think he will go on doing it. I was against him, I suppose, mainly because we knew so little about him, and because I disliked his family. . . ."

There are two other questions pertaining to this subject. Should the election be run on such personal grounds? For it is intensely personal—the issues are personal, the debates about personal opinion, "I do not believe with Senator Kennedy that Cuba is lost". Nixon's TV makeup becomes of prominent importance, and Caroline Kennedy is far more necessary to the press than Lyndon B. Johnson. This is caused apparently by a need for a king-image, psychologically, and for its attendant glories. But it does not make for a rational government.

The second question is the wisdom of the sudden rise overnight to stardom of a presidential candidate. Nixon was a rare exception in this case—few candidates have been both Senator and Vice-President. Most are at best State Governors, many are not even politicians. There is no ladder of ascent to the Presidency, and no logical step, second from the top, for the loser (who has, after all, won second place) to stand on. Even if he has had, like Nixon, some training, some steps upwards, however irregular, the other side of the ladder is a slippery-dip.

The President, secure for four years on the top rung, has assurance of a far more monarchical status. But the intention of the Fathers of the Constitution was that he emphatically should not. There are Americans who advocate a more parliamentary Congress—a saner balance, an Opposition and a Leader of this. Whether it will ever emerge I have no idea, but it would certainly be fairer to the loser—and more like cricket.

by Des Cooper

Sir,

I was astonished at the cheap verbiage which you perpetuated on your first page in the last "On Dit". Surely your author's "unaided reason" needs a good crutch, for we are presented with conflicting and vague suppositions (besides some reasonable ideas), hallowed only, we presume, by hackneyed rhetorical phrases.

Your author allows the Jews the right, in his first paragraph, to remain not "dispassionate" and yet later states, "Analysis, not indignation, better befits civilized man". Who is the "civilized man" anyway, Mr. Editor: your author, Eichmann, or the Jew whose sister was dis-bowelled on the German operating table?

And what eloquent metaphors we are given! How in the hell can a vigorous piece of cancer, now completely cut off from something, still indulge in the "musically sounding" pastime of "sleeping and resting and may yet re-awake" in this something?

Can anyone seriously imagine Eichmann to be considered a martyr—if so, there are a powerful lot of martyrs from the 1946 Nuremberg War Trials. Why also, Mr. Editor, the smear about Eichmann's accusers and judges seeking "canonization" (whatever that means)—what is the difference between an ordinary citizen on trial for murder or even a pickpocket, that makes this trial so special?

It is only with will power that I leave the "Adam and Eve" game at the end without a blasphemous remark (any reader can take the postulation to extremes and start a "Help a Gorilla" campaign).

Perhaps, though, it is not the author's style or even disjointed ideas that I dislike but the attitude of "we are experienced men of the world" type of thing, the lofty condescension to those who dare become passionate, the insinuating and the repetitive use of "we"; an attitude that deepens into a puerile righteousness.

The death of Eichmann will have been justified if one living Jew can now prepare for his own death with a greater peace of mind.

Yours,
PAUL HAINES.

A belch

Sirs,

Having adjusted ourselves to the price increase of "On Dit," we read each issue faithfully, with almost unmixed feelings, although we reserve the right to say quite what these feelings are. However, there is one point which troubles us.

We have examined the contributions of Mr. Colin Nettelbeck from Paris in each issue for 1961, and we find ourselves becoming progressively more baffled. We realise that not everything we see in this world must have either a meaning or a justification for its existence, but we must go on record as confessing our thorough frustration, comparable to that experienced by the gourmet who attempts to eat blanc-mange through a tennis racquet, in attempting to translate his coded utterances.

We have heard it said that the technique of setting down thoughts as they occur is a permissible and indeed a laudable one, but we are surprised to note that not one unclean or impure thought has passed through your Parisian correspondent's mind for the space of four indigestible articles. To us, as mere scientists (and one of us is a near-foundation member of S.C.I.I.A.E.S.) this is not only incredible but downright impossible. Perhaps this is the first concrete evidence that the adherents of science and of the humanities can never meet on common ground, but we prefer to be more charitable and assume merely that Mr. Nettelbeck is suffering a disturbance which we hope will be only temporary.

We sympathise with you in your desire to find sufficient material of high quality to fill the columns of "On Dit" regularly. Because of this, we feel that we should suggest that Mr. Nettelbeck may possibly be enjoying a gigantic fortnightly literary joke at your expense. After all, better men than either of us have been taken in by intellectual hoaxes before—remember Ern Malley?

We have always tried to be fair in our judgments, and we shall make a public retraction of the substance of the above paragraphs if anybody successfully carries out his or her undertaking to furnish us with a sound English translation of each of Mr. Nettelbeck's articles, as and when they appear.

Yours,
JOHN CAMPBELL,
LINDSAY JOHNSTON.

and a comment

I have always regarded the S.C.I.I.A.E.S. with the respect it deserves. This does not, however, prevent me from saying that it is a society the nature of whose exact function has escaped me.

"The Society for the Confining of Immoral Impulses Among Engineering Students." Does this imply that engineering students are the only ones whom the society allows to have immoral impulses? If so, it has the most peculiar implications. Since most engineering students are male their

impulses would be, if the society were successful in its aim, destined to frustration or worse.

Indeed, what would Mr. Hugh Corbet, that noble champion of female emancipation, say if he heard that S.C.I.I.A.E.S. wished to make the life of female students at the University wholly academic? "Purity is all very well but must be taken in small doses." (Cooper, Collected Works.)

I may add that the S.C.I.I.A.E.S. has not been wholly successful in limiting the immoral impulses to engineering students. On the afternoon of November 28th, 1960, near the time I usually have a cup of tea, I was walking down Rundle Street and had an immoral impulse of such violence that, if it had not been for a fortunately but fortuitously passing bus the unwitting cause of the impulse would have called for the assistance of some body other than the S.C.I.I.A.E.S. Despite the fact that the duration of my impulse was but the brief period required for an M.T.T. bus to traverse its own length, its memory is so firmly impinged upon my mind that I defy the S.C.I.I.A.E.S. to take it from me.

Of course the society may do what its name says it does, namely to confine the immoral impulses of engineering students. I am sure, however, that the most handsome temporal manifestation of the society, Mr. Ian Sando, has confined few, if any, of the undoubtedly numerous immoral impulses he receives each day. His well-known "I don't care where she went to school" expression belies any protestations he might make to the contrary.

The domestic organization of S.C.I.I.A.E.S. is, as one can see, one of the most absolute chaos. Hence it is with some surprise that the editors learn that S.C.I.I.A.E.S. has a foreign policy. It apparently wishes to be sure that Mr. Nettelbeck should use his pen to record the immoral impulses he has in Paris in order to titillate the readers of "On Dit." Now I have no objection to titillating readers of "On Dit" but must protest, that I prefer more direct methods. There is after all a great deal to be said for closer geographical proximity than that of Paris to Adelaide in such matters.

D.W.C.

and a plaudit

Sirs,

Congratulations on publishing the Drinking and Driving Survey and congratulations to the 230 students of the 300 interviewed who would not recommend that their children start drinking.

Yours,
K. H. MEAD.

and a complaint

Sirs,

The accusation of "intolerant intellectual superiority" as levelled at you in past editions of On Dit (viz. 7/4/61, 24/4/61) seems apt to come your way time and again unless you change your policy or your attitude, or whatever it may be. As an example of the type of thing to which I refer, we can turn to an article in On Dit 24/4/61 entitled "Drinking and Driving," and we notice at its conclusion a postscript added by the Editors (or Editor) which any average student of this University would be able to ascertain. With a little bit of thought on the part of any person interested in the results of the Survey, deficiencies would become evident. Let me quote from the article as it had already pre-stated what the Editors had reported.

"Of course it must be recognised that in a poll of this nature where a few straightforward questions demand a straightforward yes or no, the pollster is rightly open to criticism. In all fairness, we must concede that each question could rightly receive many shades of opinion, and possibly some of the questions could be more self-explanatory, but the fundamental issue remains the same. Whatever the interpretation of these questions . . . 20 per cent. of those banning alcohol for the bus driver were quite prepared to give this latitude to the individual driver."

The Editors, it seems, are interested in filling empty space with repetition, but it may be that they have an ulterior motive for a repetition of this nature. They have, I think, seen the same implication in the results as the head of the Police Traffic Division, Inspector Wilson; the Vice-President of the National Safety Council for South Australia, Mr. Page; and the Police Medical Officer, Dr. D. Williamson, who have commented on the results, and who must themselves understand the deficiencies which are inherent in such a poll. Maybe they have been injured by the words of Inspector Wilson who is reported as saying: "It looks as though the other fellow needs controlling, but not they themselves." "Intellectual Superiority" may be the charge, but it could be the case that the situation reveals a deeper cause.

In the near future, the members of the said Students' Society may be interested in pursuing this topic using one question only, viz.: "Do you believe a driver of a private automobile should drive after drinking 2 beers, 1 whisky, or 1 cocktail? YES or NO?"

Yours,
VERNON L. BULLAS.

I know little or nothing of the Adelaide University Science Association Magazine except that it should not exist. There is little excuse for the existence of faculty magazines or even, for that matter, faculty associations themselves in their present form.

The University at the moment supports far too many magazines. Each has to dig deep for contributions, most of which are mediocre or worse. The most superfluous of these are the faculty magazines. Both their contributors and readers are almost entirely members of the faculty whose association publishes it. Thus embryo Engineers read about Engineering, embryo Scientists read about Science and so on. Often—no names mentioned—a tedious, stereotyped and usually obscene brand of humour is thrown in with all the "shop."

The tendency, which increases with the size of the University, for students to know only students from their own faculty is reinforced. Where you sit during lunch hour in the refectory depends to a very large extent upon the school you came from or the subject you are studying. These are usually the L.C.D. for any refectory lunch hour group. The preponderance of girls in the Arts Faculty sometimes causes the more adventurous to do some border-hopping; here one must assume that the interests of those who do are not wholly intellectual or academic.

Be that as it may, the potential benefit of having the various departments of the University geographically contiguous is lost. Not only does the University support far too many magazines, it also supports far too many clubs and societies. Again the most superfluous of these are the faculty clubs and societies. Like the magazines which they produce, they reinforce the division of students into groups based on their field of study. Fortunately the diversity of subjects within the Science Faculty makes the Science Association less powerful in this respect than (for instance) its medical counterpart, the parochialism and consequent cultural impoverishment of whose members is the most extreme in the University.

This dissipation of student executive energy over such a large number of clubs and societies is such that there is at the moment no really strong non-parochial club in the University—unless one wishes to call the religious societies non-parochial.

The most discouraging feature of this tendency for a student extra-curricular life to be faculty based is that it is increasing. One of the reasons for this is obviously the increasing size of the University. (It is said

to be worse in Sydney, a larger University.) Australian Universities are very much bigger than their English counterparts (with the exception of Oxford and Cambridge). Also, English Universities are largely residential and so students cannot avoid making contact with others outside their faculty. There is no likelihood of an increase in the proportion (10 per cent.) of students who live in residential colleges in Australia. If anything can be done, it must be done by reorganization from within the University as it is at present constituted.

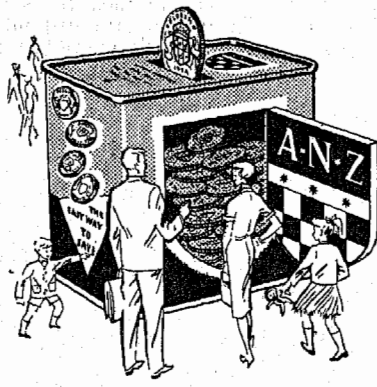
The Science Association could take a modest part in this by adding to its present rather unadventurous declared aims, the aim of collecting as many members from other faculties as possible. At present, its value lies not in the promoting of better relations with the staff, nor in its social life (excellent as it often is, with a multitude of like events within the University, most of these, with the exception of the Annual Dinner, would not be missed), but in the various addresses and debates that it arranges. The pity is that people who hear them are predominantly science students and scientists.

The Editor of this Magazine could also see that the University Magazine (A.U.M.) receives some of his best articles. The University Magazine suffers from the existence of faculty magazines. Material and effort which rightly belongs to it goes into these and as a consequence is read by a smaller and more specialized group of people. The University Magazine is supported largely by those sections of the University which do not have a faculty magazine of their own. These are certain sections of the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Law and, last but not least, the Staff. In consequence it represents only a small section of the University and is not widely read.

These proposals are not made as a panacea for "student apathy," which must be the original sin of all University students and can presumably be atoned for only by total immersion in "student activities."

To encourage members of other faculties to become members of the Science Association and to make available articles to A.U.M. are clear-cut objectives; the latter, if not the former, is easily enough done and should help to make a few students members of the University as well as of their faculty.


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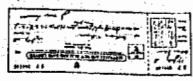
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GREAT INITIAL SUCCESSES

Soccer

The opening matches of the season have been a great success—eight matches, eight wins and all four teams are top.

The standard of the football has been good in all grades, and if the interest of the members is kept up this could be the year we have dreamed of for so long, when all teams will be premiers. However, we must be careful not to sit back on our laurels as this will spell certain failure. The most important thing is to continue to train regularly.

On Saturday, April 5, the A's had quite a comfortable win over Semaphore Centrals, but open play and accurate kicking would have made the game more spectacular. Clarkson and Sage took command of the bounces early in the game, but found some trouble from Centrals' rovers. After quarter time the team really began to move and playing through a strong centre line to Morton and Ravesi they steadily drew away from Centrals to finish at 15.15 to 7.6. Kelly and Morton were probably the best players. Ravesi kicked five goals and Hooper three of the total.

On Saturday, April 22, again the A's played strong football to defeat Riverside, the scores being 15.11 to 7.9. The opening quarter was scrumbly and crowded, but as the match proceeded, the players settled down and the speed and precision of the play improved. One of the main features of the game was the dominating defence shown by Varsity. Grahaime Seppelt and "Boom" Seppelt were rarely beaten, and if the ball went over their heads, Jack Sangster was always there to retrieve and clear it well away. Kelly played a fast and effective game on the wing, giving the

The Blacks have begun the football season well — and just look what the B's have got to say for themselves.

ball to the forwards who were often able to score.

Goalkeepers were: Ravesi 6, Clarkson and Morton 3, Corbet, Laslett and Oaten 1 each. The best players were Laslett, Todd, G. Seppelt, B. Seppelt, Clarkson and Sangster.

In the other games the B's defeated Rosewater 9.7 to 6.2, which was a magnificent achievement in view of this team's past success. The best players were: Ferguson, McNicol, Flew, McCarthy, Stafford and Gambling. The C's defeated Rosewater's Second side 16.16 to 3.2. The whole team played well, but perhaps the best were: R. George, D. Williams, M. Byrne, J. Campbell, J. Wastall, P. Clark and Chris Porter. The D's defeated Eastwood 13.22 to 1.1 with the whole team playing well.

Members of the Club and friends are reminded of the Informal Barbeque-Dance to be held on May 6 at 8 p.m. at the Grange

Hotel. Liquid refreshments will be available. Tickets are available from Bob Floreani and John Ferguson at 15/- double.

The B's started this season better than for many seasons. With two matches played, they are at the top of the premiership table undefeated. As long as players support the B's and demonstrate team spirit and enthusiasm when playing for this team, they will remain undefeated and reach the "four". Remember that the A's are only as good as their reserves! It has been clearly demonstrated that every player in the B's at present is more than capable of holding down a position in the A's.

The first match for the B's was against Ethelton at Ethelton. From the first bounce, the Blacks were clearly superior in all departments, especially in the forward zone. Geoff Gibson played a superb game at centre half-forward and was easily best afield. He combined cleverly with full-forward Ian Milne. When the ball did reach our first line of defence, Bob Flew held up the attacks.

Against Rosewater at Rosewater, the Blacks, in the first half, seemed to play upon reputation gained the previous week. However, in the second half, we began to play with fire and determination, which was needed against the hard football of our opponents. As their home-ground is worth at least five goals to Rosewater, this was a particularly good victory.

Scores:

UNIVERSITY	18.15
ETHELTON	3.3
UNIVERSITY	9.7
ROSEWATER	6.2

SOME GAMES TABLED

Hockey

The University "District" side is almost unchanged from the shape to which it was moulded by our former Coach—the ruthless George Ballantyne. A left-hand is needed to replace Dean Ayres who intends to play for Woodville this season and a vacancy exists at left full-back as Chris Wilson is now working in Melbourne; when these positions are filled we shall have strength in every unit of the team—a potential premiership side. But ultimate success will require consistently smooth cooperation between these units, and our chances of success will be greatly improved by the elimination of last year's tendency to individualistic play.

The lower teams (A1, A2, B, C) are also shaping well, with a good mixture of competent old-stagers and new hot-blooded talent from the High Schools.

A few of our more experienced men have left us to play for the re-formed Graduates team which last competed in 1956 in the A1 grade and will play as an A2 team in 1961. We are sorry to lose Bala Singham, Shanwan Singh and the organising genius Prof. Smart, but wish the Graduates every success in the coming season.

Incidentally, it is interesting to note that, of the men intending to play for Graduates, four are Professors. Hockey for the elite?

Our very active South Australian Hockey Umpires' Association is anxious to make more players fully conversant with the rules of the game and the proper interpretation of them, and have extended an invitation, to all who are interested, to sit for their Umpires' Exam on Monday, 29th May. Lectures on the rules will be given by umpires at their meetings in the National Fitness Council Buildings, South Terrace, on 8th May and 22nd May at 7.30. Players can do much to improve the general standard of Hockey by increasing their own knowledge and, with a 70 per cent. pass in the exam, plus two successful field tests, will also earn the right to wear an Umpire's Badge.

Chess

The University Chess Club has started the season well. A record number of five teams are competing for the University this year and we are confident that we will win at least one premiership. Practice is regular and competition within the club is strong. But we still invite any prospective A graders to pit their skill against our regulars. This can be done in the Union Club Committee's office, above the S.R.C. office, during the lunch hour on Wednesdays. We feel sure that our teams would be strengthened still further if we could locate the really strong but reticent chess players within the University.

As you may or may not know, the International Chess Congress was held in Adelaide last year. Although the publicity given to it was pitifully small (in both daily papers), interest in chess has risen greatly this year. In fact there are so many people playing interclub chess that the A, B and C grades may soon have to play on different nights due to overcrowding of the South Australian Chess Association's clubroom. The congress was won by a South Australian, Mr. Lucino Endzelins, although he finished below two non-resident Russians. Mr. Endzelins is a naturalised Latvian. Yuri Averbach (note the first name, now immortal) actually finished on top without losing a single game. This was not surprising since he is a full-time Chess Journalist in Russia and a highly-rated player.

The world chess championship moved away from Russia last year when Mr. Tal (Latvia) beat Mr. Botvinnik (Russia). Botvinnik is at present in the process of regaining the title in a best out of 24 games match with Tal.

The day is not far off when Australia will produce a really great Chess player to win the world championship. Then a 24-round world championship challenge, held in Australia, would start Australian chess on its way up and it might even get some publicity.

Baseball

The last two rounds of Major A Baseball have shown the University team to be as strong as any in the League. The Anzac Day game was against last year's outstanding team, Kensington, who at one stage owned a record of 17 consecutive victories. Kensington led several times during the match but each time the Blacks fought back and it finally ended in a 6 all draw. Peter Wedd starred in this crowd pleasing game with four hits and a good pitching performance, after relieving Tamlin in the second innings. Othaus and Scarman also batted well for two hits each.

On Saturday University inflicted a 4-3 defeat on the powerful West Torrens side. The Blacks batted well to earn their four runs against State pitcher Fred Medley. Only some lucky hitting by Torrens kept the scores close. Tamlin pitched the whole game and apart from big hits by three West Torrens batters was never in much trouble. He was ably supported by outfielders Baynes and Scarman, who made some good catches. Wedd again led the batting with three hits, giving him a total of eight hits already this season. Catcher Brian Quigley showed a welcome return to form with the bat in collecting two hits. If this victory was a "surprise" as the newspapers recorded it, then there are a few more surprises in store for the other teams.

The Major B's have three consecutive wins to their credit and look early favourites for the title. Pitcher Dennis Smith and Colin Hastwell (seven hits) have been the stars of their three games in which they have trounced Woodville (last year's runners-up), Kensington (5th) and West Torrens (4th).

Once more into the slough of despond we sink. The apathetic showings of the last two games are more than a rabid supporter can stand. How can a team that has a good three-quarters of the play in a match lose?

For the answer to this and other questions—like, why won't the forwards shoot? And why won't the backs check their opponents?—tune in on Saturday for another episode of this real life drama. Seriously though, the games of Saturday the 22nd of April were both poor and disappointing. The B's, despite a few manful efforts by individuals such as Van Riet and Welch, showed a distinct lack of spirit and will to win. Too many times were we to see chances thrown away by timid forwards who wouldn't go all out to get the ball into the net and too many times were we to see aimless passing by all members of the team. The A's seem to suffer from the same disease because they had all the chances against South Adelaide yet they couldn't convert. As usual the half-backs led by Des Geary, who is skipper this season, produced all the drive but their support, other than that of Silins in goal, was again woefully inadequate. Too often we see at practice the teams just kicking the ball at the goal or playing a "scratch match" amongst themselves and too often we hear complaints that nobody bothers to train the "B" team.

Sermons over, I can now report on the bi-annual Tailern Bend match which in spite of being played in appalling conditions was played in the usual friendly spirit of other years. The Blacks lost both matches but on pitches that resembled a quagmire there were some outstanding individual performances. Some players played in both games but it was good to see no slackening in their performances in the second game. Ivars Silins played magnificently in both games and Des Geary, despite an injury, played with determination and with great courage. I thought the A's played well in the second game and were unlucky to be beaten 2-1 but several marked deficiencies like the lack of class full-backs stood out; so one can see there is an opening for any would-be defenders in the University XI. All in all, a good time was had by everyone and later in the season we expect to return and show Tailern Bend some really good soccer.

Table Tennis

This season University is competing in seven different grades in metropolitan competition; there are four men's teams and two women's teams.

The top team is competing in District competition for the first time and is showing outstanding success, being as yet undefeated. K. Narcisse played brilliantly against North Adelaide in winning all his singles. Once again we hope that this year there will be another victory for Adelaide in the inter-varsity competition. The likely team will consist of K. Narcisse, M. Cho and S. M. Moh.

Our top girls, consisting of E. Friedenfelds, D. Skabe and F. Mitchell, will be unavailable for inter-varsity and thus hopes of success are greatly diminished.

University Table Tennis Club invites everyone to come to our practices on Saturday morning at the boathouse. During the holidays practices will be held both on Saturdays and on Wednesdays (Wednesday practice, 2 p.m.).

LONG-OVERDUE REVISION

by Brian Seppelt

Several weeks ago, a committee consisting of Sports Association executive members and senior men and women Blues numbering about twelve in all met on several occasions to suggest and agree upon recommendations to submit to the General Committee of a complete revision of the Standard for and awarding of Colours.

The Committee had in mind two particular points: (i) the Standard of Blues must be maintained and the regulations should provide for this; (ii) without relaxing this requirement, there must be provision for awards to all who deserve recognition.

On the second point, it was seen that the jump from Club Letters to Blues was a very big one and so it is suggested that Blues, Half-Blues and Club Letters be awarded in all Clubs. A member of a "Half-Blue Club" (i.e., one whose first team does not play in the highest grade in local competition), could then be awarded a Blue if he was outstandingly brilliant (e.g., selected in the State team). This would however occur only in exceptional cases. Members of Full-Blue Clubs who had not reached the standard required for a Blue could be awarded a Half-Blue. Conditions for such an award would be outstanding play in Inter-Varsity competition or consistently excellent play in local competition. More emphasis would be placed on Inter-Varsity performances and, other than in exceptional circumstances, the recipient of an award must have attended Inter-Varsity in that year.

There is obvious need to maintain a standard for the award of Blues which must also be recognised by all Australian Universities. The present regulations require that each Club appoints a Club Blues Committee which nominates members for award. In the past few years many Clubs have ignored this regulation. The new regulation would insist that each club appoint a Club Blues Committee of three members who would all have to be Blues themselves (or at least Half-Blues in the case of Half-Blue Clubs). In the event of there not being three Blues playing or actively interested in the Club, written application to waive this regulation would have to be made to the Secretary. These Club Committees, knowing the standard of the past, would not recommend anyone who had not reached the required standard and a consistent high standard would be maintained.

The proposed schedule sets out clearly conditions regarded as a minimum standard for the various awards.

It is vital that all Clubs read and discuss the proposed regulations and criticise them before they are put before the Sports Association General Committee. Copies have been circulated to all Club Secretaries.

Mr. Warren Rogers, LL.B., who is a cricket Blue, drafted the original schedule to be analysed by the Committee and special thanks are due to him for the great amount of time he spent in starting a long-overdue revision.

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OPINION

By far the greatest part of all public discussion of university politics and politics in universities takes place in those fortnightly journals of opinion, "Nation" and "The Bulletin and the Observer". And there should be little doubt that the politics of those journals considerably affects the nature of their respective discussions of these matters. Readers of "The Bulletin" will be following that journal's attempts to expose Communists alleged to be "at work" in Melbourne University. Behind these attempts there seems, indeed, to lie an overriding desire to discredit the Federal Council of Staff Associations and the attitude of that Council on, for example, *l'affaire Ward*. But that aside, what can be said about the attempts themselves?

Firstly, it must be said (for this is of importance to every university, even the university in quiet little Adelaide) that public discussion of the goings-on inside a university department is quite dangerous and deplorable when it is conducted in a spirit of partisan political debate by persons more keen to establish an ideological point than to uphold academic standards, or by persons not keenly aware of the difficult and subtle issues which arise whenever troubles occur within a university department. "The Bulletin" appears to be guilty of a clumsy didactic in its "discussion" of the Social Studies Department in Melbourne and in its treatment of Professor Crawford's comments on "fractional politics" in universities. (Are fractional politics the exclusive preserve of Communists?)

Secondly, the actual "exposé" published by "The Bulletin" can only be described as a slick and specious piece of writing, marred by unsubstantiated assumptions and unexplained gaps in the narrative, and quite without any proper claim to objectivity. Yet the whole thing is on sale, to a public untutored in the necessary complexities of university government, for an easy shilling. This is most regrettable. "The Bulletin" will have to venture a patient and cautious exposition of detail if it is to justify its initiation of this particular controversy.

Moral politics

It is now generally accepted that the invasion of Cuba by anti-Castro forces was carried out by troops recruited, trained and equipped at least in part on United States soil. The "New York Times" made this clear before the invasion by beginning an article on its front page: "For nine months Cuban exiles have been training in the United States and Central America for an attempt to overthrow Premier Fidel Castro." It is known for certain that these Cuban exiles received considerable material assistance from the United States government. The embarrassing evidence produced by Dr. Raul Rao and other speakers on the wailing wall in the United Nations forced President Kennedy to admit his complicity. But whether the U.S. was implicated was never really an issue. What really matters is whether she should have been.

If we are moral politicians, the answer would seem to be no. The inter-American treaties of the Organization of American States expressly bar "indirect" as well as direct intervention in another's internal affairs. Unlike the Communists, the United States is supposed to uphold treaties. But this one seems to have been cast aside when it became expedient to do so. If "indirect" intervention does not refer to the kind of assistance the Cuban rebels have been getting, it rather limits the meaning of the word. And it will do little good to say that the Russians do as much for the Pathet Lao. If the Western world intends to model its conduct on that of the Soviet bloc, it might as well give up the ideological struggle now.

For those who feel inclined to argue that American action in training and equipping Cuban rebels was justified and not just a case of expedient treaty-breaking, the following little publicised story is of interest. President Kennedy has frequently indicated the hostility of his administration to supporters of the former Cuban dictator, Fulgencio Batista. Several weeks ago the Justice Department obtained the indictment of the leader of one such group for attempting to raid Cuba from Florida last year. The charge? Violation of the Neutrality Act by conspiracy against a foreign government. But when the conspirators are friends of President Kennedy, it's a very different matter.

All in all, it seems that the fresh, young United States government will have a tough time trying to clear itself in the eyes of the world. But it will also have difficulty in clearing itself in the eyes of the American people. Americans are not worried that their government has broken a minor treaty—many seem to think it should have done. But they are worried that the whole affair has been bungled from start to finish. Kennedy himself took the decision to support the rebels, against the advice of his Secretary and Under-Secretary of State, on the principle that nothing succeeds like success. The Central Intelligence Agency had assured him that Cuba was ripe for revolution, and that any invasion would meet with massive support from the inhabitants. This estimate was widely challenged, but Kennedy went along with it. As a result he had the odium of illegally supporting an unsuccessful invasion. Khrushchev was better

informed, or he would not have taken the risk of so openly supporting Castro.

The C.I.A. made another miscalculation in its estimate of Latin-American reaction. In 1954 it became clear that right-wing troops which invaded Guatemala from neighbouring Honduras and overthrew the left-wing government had material support from the United States. This stirred up a great deal of resentment in Latin-America at the time, which has not since died. Kennedy, since he cannot afford to consciously antagonise South America, must have been led to believe that it was sufficiently dead to repeat the dose. But a Mexican resolution is now tabled in U.N. condemning American action outright. Far more disturbing was a long speech by Dr. Jose Correa, of Ecuador, which according to the Manchester Guardian Weekly, "... hinted to some sceptics that there is a third force alive in Latin-America which, from the United States point of view, offers the cold comfort of neutralism".

Kennedy's decision to arm the Cuban invasion was a political mistake. So was his treatment of the result. As soon as the U.S. complicity was suspected, the government was subjected to a barrage of accusations. Kennedy's standard reply, couched in the usual "flowing and melodious prose", somehow reminiscent of church bells ringing on Monday morning, was that Castro had become a Communist tool and that under his rule Cuba became a beachhead of an ideology "alien to the Western Hemisphere". There are at least two dangers in this sort of reply. Firstly, the assertion that Castro is a Communist stooge rests mainly on the evidence of Cuban exiles, whose best way to win support is to declare that they are fighting Communism. Secondly, rhetoric about an ideology alien to the Western Hemisphere will cut no ice in Asia or Africa. No one outside the U.S. sees anything sacrosanct in the Monroe Doctrine, any more than most Americans saw anything sacrosanct in Britain's claim to a special status in the Middle East. The United States must learn that matters which closely concern them are subject to the same rules as disputes on the other side of the globe. They must learn to look at world problems more from the Afro-Asian point of view, and less from the point of view of what would be nice for the U.S. If they do not, they will make more and more enemies, among the smaller, uncommitted countries, which dislike intensely seeing the big powers forcing the hand of smaller nations. And America cannot afford to antagonise this group, which could swing the United Nations.

Idealism triumphant?

The Indonesian claim to Dutch New Guinea is based mainly upon the fact that it is part of the Netherlands East Indies for whose liberation the Indonesians fought. The popular desire to include it in Indonesia is therefore *understandable*. Their Government often plays upon this feeling in order to divert attention from more domestic matters that trouble them—there is nothing that unites a group of men better than a shared dislike of others—and Indonesia's claim can be seen as politically expedient as well as a manifestation of the fervour of nationalism.

But ought Indonesia be allowed to annex Dutch New Guinea? If we consider merely the interests of the inhabitants, it is obvious that the Dutch ought to remain for the time being, because they will do more than any other country to develop

the land and educate the inhabitants, and yet may still be removed as the time of political maturity approaches.

The known resources of the country make it likely that it must become part of a larger State in order to be economically viable. The Dutch will not support it indefinitely, and so absorption into Indonesia could be a happy solution in the indefinite future. But if this were to occur today, it would mean a slackening of the pace of development and would deprive the inhabitants of the right of self-determination.

Since it is the wish of the Australian people and most probably in their best interests that the Dutch remain, this would be one of the happy occasions when the way of idealism and the way of expediency are the same, were it not for the fact that invasion of Dutch New Guinea by Indonesia is very likely to succeed. Expediency triumphs over idealism in politics, and so Australia's attitude must needs be based upon the answers to many questions.

Does our support of the Dutch make a significant difference to our relations with Indonesia? Does it make less likely a breach of the peace by Indonesia? Would the presence of Indonesians in Dutch New Guinea be so unacceptable to us that we would feel obliged to expel them? How likely is Indonesia to fall under Communist rule?

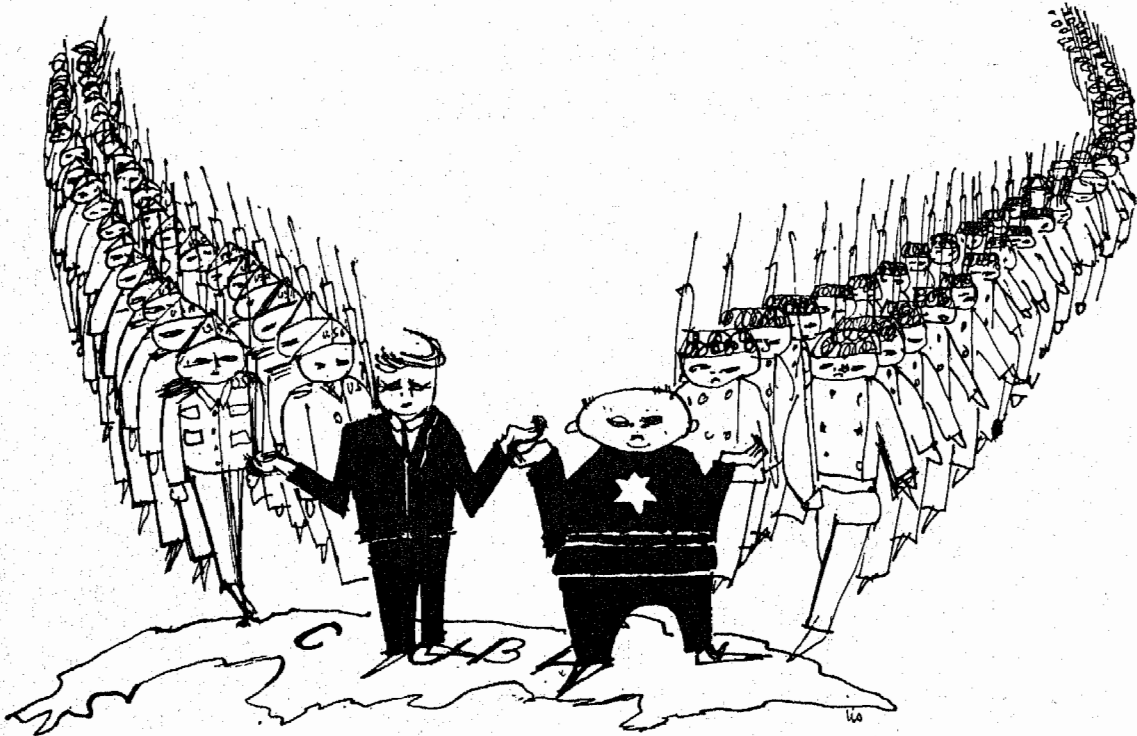
These questions are all subsidiary to the question of the likelihood of an invasion. Since the success of such an invasion would deprive the Indonesian Government of a safety valve it can ill afford to lose, the question is really one of the relative strength of nationalist fervour as against the claims of political expediency. As the former will decline while the latter will increase as the nation grows older, our policy of maintaining the *status quo* may yet prove both expedient and acceptable to the idealist.

A defect of analysis

The mist of generality which issues from the mouths of those who speak on education seldom serves to hide the contradictions, the question-begging and the ossified liberal prejudices amongst, all too often, what is being said.

It is this same failure of analysis which led the Professor of Education to assert to the public of South Australia, on the night of Monday, May 1st, that there is a "fundamental difference" between the teaching profession and the professions of "law, medicine, surgery, dentistry and theology." These latter professions, according to the Professor, "shroud themselves in mystery and hide themselves from the public." There is in these professions a "lowest common denominator of approved conventions and conventional practices... approved practices to be handed on to the initiated and preserved from the rest." Teaching, on the other hand, is, we are told, to be regarded as the preserve of every man who wishes to engage in it; not only do we want lots of people to teach besides teachers, but lots of people do in fact teach—from pulpits, for example. Teachers, then, must band together to disseminate their knowledge of methods of teaching and to "make their voices heard where power resides"—for "teachers and teachers alone can win proper status for teachers." But they must never hope to become a "profession."

What a remarkable sophistry it is to say that everyone can be a teacher. Doubtless most people have the intelligence to give legal opinions and medical advice. But the whole question is just whether they *should* be allowed to dispense such advice and opinion to a public which must have faith in that advice. The organization of the professions is primarily a mechanism to protect the public. Yet that purpose, which might well be applied to teaching in schools, was not mentioned by the Professor!



But they all volunteered!