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Salmon and Vietnam; The Students and the N.L.F.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



PARISH

VIETNAM

Dear Sirs,

Adrian Wilson's letter to the Editor on Vietnam (ON DIT August 31) is remarkable only for the number of false and naive statements it contains.

In the belief that emotional reactions and woolly logic are no substitute for a rational approach to the question of Vietnam, I submit the following comments:

1. The Viet Cong is not a popular movement in South Vietnam. It seems incredible that a lot of people, including some students, picture the VC as some kind of pyjama-clad Robin Hoods, darting around the countryside and helping the peasants. Nothing could be further from the truth — they represent only a tiny minority of the people of South Vietnam (1.66%) and owe their existence to the calculated use of terrorism against the civilian population.

Reports of VC atrocities against civilians occur every day in the papers and are far too numerous to cite. They have, however, been thoroughly documented (1). I might mention at this time however that between the years 1957-1963 the VC assassinated no less than 20,000 village chiefs (e.g. Nguyen Van Huon), religious leaders and school-teachers, people who because of their natural sagacity and intelligence were the most likely to stand up to the insurgents. If the Viet Cong are "popular", why do they find it necessary to resort to such tactics?

Perhaps even more significant is the total failure of the VC to attract any of the numerous political or religious sects to their cause. Even if they had a glimmer of popularity, they should have won over at least members of the Cao Dai, Hoa Hoa or Buddhist factions, or surely some of the enemies of the Diem regime. However, these, without exception, have remained bitterly opposed to the Communists.

2. The VC is not a nationalist movement. The genuine nationalists left the old Viet Minh movement when they saw to what extent it had been taken over by the Communists. Hoang Van Chi, who fought with the Viet Minh against the French for 10 years has said "... the present war in South Vietnam is between the Communists on the one hand and the nationalists, supported by the Americans, on the other" (2). Leader of the militant Buddhists, Tich Tri Quang, who is certainly no lover of the Saigon Government or of the Americans has admitted the same (3).

3. The VC is not even an indigenous movement. It is wholly the puppet of the Communist (Lao Dong) Party of Hanoi. A captured Lao Dong cadre document turned over to the International Control Commission in 1962 declared "The People's Revolutionary Party has only the appearance of an independent existence; actually our party is nothing but the Lao Dong Party of Vietnam, unified from North to South, under the direction of the central Executive Committee, the chief of which is President Ho... take care to keep this strictly secret, especially in South Vietnam" (4).

The Viet Cong is therefore: a) a Communist; b) terrorist; c) minority, and the Allies are morally justified in resisting their attempts to over-run South Vietnam by force of arms.

4. Mr. Wilson attacked the validity of any election held in South Vietnam. It seems to me laughable that any person opposed to military intervention in South Vietnam should cite the absence of democratically run elections in his case. If so much importance is put on free elections, one must consider the likelihood of any elections at all if the Communists were allowed to take over South Vietnam.

I might add that in both the national Constituency elections last year and the presidency elections last week, not one of the hawk-eyed armies of newspaper reporters or diplomatic representatives mentioned frauds or coercion. In fact, Denis Warner, a foremost authority on Vietnam wrote "One vital fact stands out clearly from the Presidential elections; though there were no doubt many minor irregularities, and the politically uninterested clearly voted in a way that would please the province and district chiefs, this was an honest election by any standards of regional comparison" (5).

5. Finally, Mr. Wilson mentioned the perennial objection that we have no right in interfering in a "civil war". I suppose it is a civil war in the sense that a number of the Viet Cong are South Vietnamese. But this argument is not particularly relevant unless we adopt a very traditionalist conservative stance which sees nation States as completely independent entities within which all manner of atrocities must be tolerated by outsiders, and every humanist principle transgressed in the name of national sovereignty and non-intervention. People who moralise about "intervention" in the internal affairs of South Vietnam must by the logic of their own assumptions protest at UN attempts to have South African "apartheid" abandoned, or the illegal regime in Rhodesia overthrown.

To my mind the greatest danger to the continued military intervention in South Vietnam is discouragement and lassitude on the home front. People like Prof. Mirsky in the Union Hall some weeks ago, while admitting the initial morality of intervention feel that the war is not getting anywhere and want to pull out of the whole mess.

Not only is this a compromise of principles but it also seems to give an unnecessarily pessimistic account of the war. Military experts such as Robert Duffield have said "There is no doubt about who is winning the war today. The free

world forces are" (6). Defections from the VC have reached an all time high, doubling to 35,000 in 1966. Prof. Mirsky's claim that the Viet Cong controlled most of the countryside looks rather silly when 80.1% of the voting population were allowed to go to the polls for the Presidential elections. The Viet Cong were only able to disrupt voting at two polling booths. (Incidentally killing another couple of hundred civilians in doing so, another example of their "liberation" program).

Lack of space forbids me to further enlarge upon these points.

There is still very much more that I would like to say, but I hope that in the meantime I have clarified a few things for Adrian Wilson and his ilk. If, however, they are still dissatisfied with either my logic or my facts, they are welcome to seek me out.

Your etc.,
W. K. PARISH.

- 1) See pamphlets "The Measure of Aggression" "The truth of Viet Cong Terror (Dr. R. G. Wyllie) "A Study of the Viet Cong Use of Terror (United States Mission)
- 2) Page 45 "Vietnam; from East and West"
- 3) in an interview with "Time" magazine, July 1965
- 4) Submitted to the ICC and reported in "A Study of the Communist Party of South Vietnam" (U.S. Mission)
- 5) As reported in "The Advertiser" September 5, 1967
- 6) "The Australian" March 9, 1967

EDITORIAL

For anybody desiring evidence of the creeping authoritarianism that is manifesting itself in this country one need only to look at the recent events in Brisbane. Friday's march of 4,000 students and lecturers was the outcome of fruitless negotiations with the Nicklin Government to liberalise the laws concerning public demonstrations. The laws demand that a permit be got two weeks before any march, that a penalty of a dollar be paid for each placard carried in a march (the placards are generally subject to police censorship). In other words laws in the main which are illiberal in substance and operation.

In the forefront for demands to change the laws has been the Society of Democratic Action — a non-party student action group which has been active since last year in pressing for a change. The SDA in combination with the Students' Union, planned Friday's march with the idea of deliberately infringing the regulations with the object of focusing nationwide attention on the question and forcing the Nicklin Government to enact the regulation on a mass scale.

Two representatives from the co-ordinating committee, having embarked on a speaking tour to most Australian Universities to raise money to help fight the legislation in the courts, will be speaking at this University on Friday at 1 p.m. in the Cloisters. The President of the SRC, Mark Pickhaver, will move a motion of solidarity with the Queensland students.

It is hoped that as many students as possible will attend the meeting and be prepared to make some financial donation to the fund.

STAFF LIST

EDITORS: PETER O'BRIEN, JULIAN DISNEY
PICTORIAL EDITOR: MICHAEL VENNING
ARTS EDITOR: GARRY SEARLE
SPORTS EDITOR: PHIL McMICHAEL
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LITERARY COMPETITION RESULTS

The prizewinners in the first ON DIT-SUN BOOKS Literary Competition were announced last week by the judges, Dr. Alan Brissenden and Mr. Colin Thiele. They selected the winning contributions from 79 entries in the Poetry Section and nine in the prose section.

The prizes, which are donated by SUN BOOKS and have a total value of more than \$140, were awarded as follows:

POETRY

1st Prize (\$50) — "The Wheel of Love" by R. E. R. Madelaine.

2nd Prize (\$20) — "Ten Slight Poems" by R. J. O. Tipping.

3rd Prize (12 Sun Books) — "Mid-Century Talking Blues" by J. N. Horne.

PROSE

1st Prize (\$50) — "A Life in the Day of" by P. Wesley Smith.

2nd Prize (\$20) — "Letter from a Sentimental Nasho" by J. Connaughton.

3rd Prize (12 Sun Books) — not awarded.

The prize-winning entries are printed on Pages 8 and 9 (the centre spread) of this issue.

VIETNAM

HORNE

Dear Sirs,

In a colonial society, such as Vietnam under French rule, significant class divisions do not occur within the native population. The struggle between capitalist and wage-earner does not take place between different members of one integrated, national society, but between a clearly defined group of European exploiters and the undifferentiated masses of the native people. The revolution for independence is therefore a national rather than a class struggle, or rather, the two are coincident, with national considerations to the fore. The native minions of the European rulers usually fall with the old regime, and the post-revolutionary society is classless by comparison with the highly stratified societies of the west. This gives rise to the emerging one-party states of Africa and South-East Asia.

These States can usually be regarded as non-liberal democracies. They do not find the liberal traditions and rights of the West commensurate with their problems, for these spring directly from pre-industrial societies in which the spirit of competition has been absent from both political and economic organisation. They have neither the diversity of a highly differentiated industrialised society nor the resulting traditions of individual freedom. The absence of these typically western conditions makes nonsense of the two-party system, for this is based on the competitive market state and individual rights of western liberal democracies. In an underdeveloped democracy there is a much simpler, more widely held "general will", seeking independence and higher standards of living, and the illiberal democracy of a widely supported single-party system is necessary, and will for some time remain so, to produce the capital and raise the living standards which give rise to the competitive market system, and which foster a national and political consciousness to replace old tribal and geographical divisions.

If we accept that most emerging nations are in this position, it will be seen how much they differ from the classic Marxist class-struggle. The Marxist concept indeed offers them hope in its description of the dehumanising nature of capitalism, but these countries, as we have seen, fight it on the grounds of nationalism rather than class. They have no need or desire to go through the Marxist "dictatorship of the proletariat" stage, whereby a separate vanguard — the Communist Party — controls the country until the State "withers away", leaving a classless society. They are already free from class divisions, whereas Communism gets a grip in situations of clear class distinction, as in China and Eastern Europe.

Vietnam, however, is an exception to this pattern, because an external power has interfered after the granting of independence by the colonial country, and has tried to win over one element of the popular movement, setting it against the rest (the Diem, and subsequent, regimes). This has failed to stem the forces of independence, and the resultant civil war has had class notions imposed on it. To all those who do not uphold the American engineered regimes, the South Vietnamese rulers seem to have come to terms with everything that was so detested under French rule — foreign domination, neo-colonialism, and capitalist exploitation. These all threaten nationalism which is the motivating force of the Vietnamese peasants, and so the latter determine to drive them out. In this situation, Communist theories become applicable, for the Americans have supplied just that class conflict which enables them to take hold, and Communism becomes the means (and who's to say unjustifiably so) of achieving national unity and independence. This explains both why many Vietnamese have no wish to become Communist, and why they are nevertheless willing to support supposed Communists in achieving the real end, unity and independence.

The tragedy is that the American ever intervened, instead of leaving the Viet Minh to reconstruct the country after their triumph at Dien Bien Phu, and that in so doing they have produced a struggle which is generating its own power to continue and grow larger. Had their obsession with Communism never driven them to interfere, that very Communism would not grip Vietnam as it does today, and the situation which is wasting a people would never have occurred.

Yours etc.,
JOHN HORNE

LIBERALS

MIRSKY

Dear Sirs,

Prof. Mirsky in the Union Hall on Friday, September 1, assured the audience that any candidate who campaigned on a "stop the bombing" or "peace" platform was not permitted to stand in the recent Vietnamese elections.

To say the least, considerable doubt must be thrown on the balance of Prof. Mirsky's speech in the light of the electoral success of Mr. Truong Dinh Dzu. Mr. Dzu campaigned on an "anti-war and negotiate with Hanoi" platform (his symbol was the White Dove of peace) and was not only allowed to stand but obtained 700,000-odd votes.

Yours etc,
Andrew Fletcher,
Publicity Officer, AULC.
Dale Cooper,
Secretary, AULC.

(Letters continued P.10)



"The Australian Government has done a tremendously serious thing"



"It's so damn black and white"

ON
DIT

interviews

MALCOLM
SALMON

● MALCOLM SALMON is a journalist and member of the Communist Party. He has been to North Vietnam several times — on one trip he stayed for three years — and has interviewed Ho Chi Minh. He is also one of the few Australians to have visited Cambodia in recent years.

ON DIT interviewed him primarily on his view of the Vietnam conflict, and on what he saw of the situation in North Vietnam.

How long were you in Vietnam?

A month in North Vietnam — May of this year. I was refused a visa by the South Vietnamese Government some years ago because of my convictions about the war which were rather well known.

Do you think the U.S. are winning the war militarily?

I'm sure that after February, 1965, when they escalated, they made advances for a year. But I'm equally sure that in the following 12 months they lost whatever ground they made in that early period, that the war is now in a state of stalemate, but with the North Vietnamese having a slight edge.

In your travels in North Vietnam could you gauge the feelings of the people, especially with regard to the bombing?

Yes, I think that again in the first year of bombing the North Vietnamese had really grave problems and the peasants were terrified — not wanting to work the ricefields or carry on much at all. But I believe that now the population as a whole is confident, optimistic and quite determined to carry on the battle until they achieve their national aims. I was able to compare North Vietnam with a period some six or seven years ago when I spent three years there, and I would say, that the society is more free of social tensions and dissidence now than it was before — in other words the bombing of North Vietnam has borne out fully what the strategic analysts concluded from their analysis of the bombing in Europe in World War II, that is that far from smashing public morale it tends rather to consolidate it. That's my distinct impression.

What material effects does it have in respect of casualties — did you see any widespread hospitalisation?

I'm sure that the casualties are considerable but they are much lighter than they were in the first period of the bombing when they were getting organised against the bombing. Now, due in particular to the policy of dispersal of population, of industry, hospitals and schools out of the city into the countryside I'm quite sure that casualties have been cut to a quite tolerable level.

INFILTRATION

Has it reduced infiltration to the South?

Not at all. One of the very interesting things that has happened since the bombing began is that mainly through the use of our Shock Brigades — young people from 15 to 30 who live in the bush alongside major communications lines (mending damaged ones and building new ones) — there are more roads and railways than there were before.

Have you met Ho Chi Minh?

Not this time — I have interviewed him on several occasions but this time I interview the Prime Minister, No. 2 man in the country.

Are Ho Chi Minh's aspirations primarily nationalist or communistic?

Well in North Vietnam the concept of socialism is quite inseparable from the concept of nationalism. This is because the national movement in North Vietnam has been led by Communists since 1930. The Southern regime that I believe will emerge from the war will not be a socialist regime.

CONCESSIONS

What do you think the eventual result will be?

I think that there must be a compromise — both sides will have to make concessions. But fundamentally the Americans will have to concede the South Vietnamese the right to determine their own political institutions. It's impossible in the Vietnamese situation to dream of a Korean-type settlement with the country divided into two mutually hostile entities, because the national movement in Vietnam is much more mature and evolved than the Korean one.

What future course do you think those in Australia who oppose the war should pursue?

I spoke to the North Vietnamese Prime Minister about the protest movement — one thing that came through loud and clear both from him and others to whom I spoke was that they value above all political support — that is, effective political campaigning against the war in those countries waging the war. They also value the aid movements of various kinds but I got the impression that these were of secondary interest to them compared with political support.

They appreciate the split in Australian public opinion?

Oh, yes. Their appreciation of the outside world is far and away better than when I was there last. The grim realities of the war have made them study and abandon the rather wild ideas that they had about America and other countries. Their knowledge of the outside world is really first-class these days, especially of countries directly involved in the war.

AID

Would the Australian Communist Party approve of the moves by Monash and other universities to get funds for the NLF?

It seems to me that the Australian Government has done a tremendously serious thing — it has made the worst foreign policy decision that I reckon an Australian Government has ever made. It has committed the lives of young Australians to a war which is unjust, hopeless and which is of course particularly bloody in its incidents. It seems to me that having done such a thing they must expect people to do serious things against them. As far as the exact form of what has been done at Monash is concerned I'm quite sure that my party would certainly wish to have seen it done in other ways — perhaps in a more mature and better-explained fashion; but the students in helping the side which they believe to be the just one, are doing something which is quite normal.

What do you think is China's position in the conflict, and, what do you think it will be in the future?

I think Chinese influence in Hanoi is at an all-time low at present, especially since the Cultural Revolution which I think the North Vietnamese, although they never said it, regard as anathema and not at all helpful to their own cause. The possibility of Chinese intervention in Vietnam is I think at present remote because I do not think a U.S. land invasion of North Vietnam is likely. But the longer the war, and particularly the

bombing of North Vietnam goes on, the greater the danger of accidentally or deliberately expanding the conflict.

Some Chinese spokesmen have suggested that they would intervene in certain eventualities whether North Vietnam asked them or not — this doesn't go down well with the North Vietnamese.

The first principle of good North Vietnamese politics is don't get the Chinese troops on your soil. This is an axiom which arises from their history.

Would they rather be orientated with Peking than Moscow?

This has been the case in the past — my impression is that it is definitely not the case now. They espouse neither side in the Communist ideological conflict. They follow a policy of private bilateral discussions with whomsoever they want to talk. I think they have achieved a kind of de facto unification of the Socialist countries in support of Vietnam.

Did you visit any neighboring countries?

I had a month in Cambodia — I was, I think the first Australian journalist to get a visa for an extended stay in Cambodia for about eight years. The Cambodian's over-riding concern is to keep their country out of the war and to get on with the really remarkable effort that they're putting into economic construction.

What do you think of the argument that we as opponents of Vietnamese commitment by Australia should go slowly in case we alienate the people that we hope to win?

I've no great respect for that argument — I think one must go and fight for one's opinion, within political reason, and not just cringe before the majority.

I think the Vietnamese issue is just so damn black and white that it's sad to see people wanting to retreat.

COALITION

What do you see as the future of the Communist Party in Australia?

I see it as gradually developing policies which are more appropriate to conditions in Australia, and growing more influential. Our party believes that the way to Socialism in Australia is best envisaged as being through a coalition of the Left — a grouping of independent forces which have a common belief in the need for radical basic social change in Australia. This is a long range perspective, which we think is appropriate to a small Communist Party.

Do you see any evidence in Australia of a New Left, like in America and Britain, which does not have its basis in the Communist Party but has contacts with the Communist Party, and extends over cultural, political and economical spheres?

Yes I really do. Like so many things in Australia it's a bit of a pale version compared to what happens overseas, but I'm quite sure it's here and going to stay.

Do you think recent changes in ALP leadership have set back your chances of getting this coalition of the left?

I think Mr. Whitlam's election will in some respects prove a temporary set-back for left-wing influence in the ALP, but he doesn't decide their policy — this is influenced by big social and political forces and if he doesn't take account of them then he will be a failure. I think he is a very clever man and I don't think he'll destroy himself in any way.

Which brand of Communism appeals to you most — Chinese or Russian?

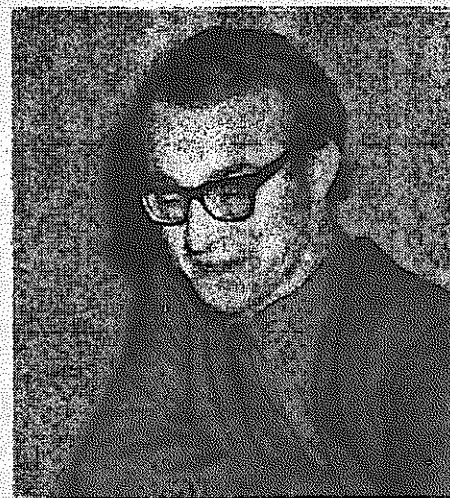
I think the Chinese have just gone haywire for a period — it is an aberration in their socialist development, but I think it will soon sort itself out.

HOW TO WIN FRIENDS

The STUDENTS and The WAR

at MONASH

A SPECIAL REPORT FROM PAUL MARRIOTT



PAUL MARRIOTT

On 21st July, after seven hours of discussion, the Monash Labor Club decided to set up an autonomous committee to administer aid to the National Liberation Front. This was to be in two funds: one, unspecified non-military aid, and the other medical aid to civilians in N.L.F.—controlled areas.

On 24th July, a young (very young, and, as he subsequently showed himself to be, very nervous) reporter, asked Peter Price and some other members of the committee some questions. The resulting utterly garbled and sensational report was printed in that evening's "Herald". Warren Osmond, the Assistant Editor of "Lot's Wife," was quoted as saying "the only way to win this war is to help the enemy". He is suing the "Herald". Peter Price was quoted as saying (he did not, and it is inconceivable that he should) "it would be unfortunate if an Australian conscript was hit by a bullet with 'Monash Labor Club' written on it, but we don't see that there's any way out of it". The Victorian president of the R.S.L. called it a "cheap publicity stunt", and then all the legions of hysteria broke loose. The trouble with hysteria is that it is unanswerable.

Several young and violently misquoted men and women were astonished by the combined force of the D.L.P., the A.L.P., the Liberal Party, the Federal Cabinet, the Crimes Act, the R.S.L. and special legislation. A Sergeant in Vietnam was quoted as saying "send them over to Vietnam and we'll arm them with weapons captured from the Viet Cong; we'll give them twenty-four hours' start and we'll go after them". Hysteria and bloodlust.

Senator McManus said (predictably) that it was a "communist-inspired plot", and demanded that the students be charged with treason. Hysteria and paranoia.

The "Herald", Melbourne's evening paper, opined (25-7-67) that the community "may be puzzled to realise how much toleration is shown here to the curious sideline activities in our universities". Hysteria and self-righteousness.

A gentleman who is a pub-acquaintance of mine, and who describes himself as a "worker", said to me then "if I had anything to do with it they'd be put up against a wall and shot". Hysteria and bigotry.

Peter Price was covered with flour by his fellow students while being interviewed on television. Hysteria and puerility.

PATRIOTISM

And the Great White Lotus Eater himself said that he didn't know whether the Monash Labor Club was affiliated or not with the A.L.P. (a specific and widely-publicised denial to this effect by both parties the previous day, notwithstanding). The Prime Minister also said that he couldn't see much difference between what the students were doing and the policy resolutions passed by the A.L.P. Annual Conference. Hysteria and political advantage.



The first thing I knew about the whole bewildering affair was when I went into the "Lot's Wife" office and saw something being reneoped by Peter—with whom I had edited the paper, until about two months previously. I asked what it was, and he said it was a draft plan for a scheme to aid the N.L.F. I pointed out something (in my political way, and in complete ignorance of its contents) about it being somewhat paradoxical to both oppose the war and to support one of the combating sides. Warren Osmond—later cast as one of the offending infants—grunted agreement. I swear I was more worried about what seemed to be a failure of logic (I have since been proved wrong) than with the more heady issues of "patriotism", "treason" and "treachery". Silly little me, dreaming away in my illusory world, in which Australians were really quite a nicely balanced people and even when they weren't quite balanced they remained democrats. The "Sunday Telegraph" (Sydney, August 20th) said that in the final judgement, people who give aid to North Vietnam are helping the North Vietnamese to kill Australian

soldiers. In the final analysis . . . —that, when they haven't even got to first principles, let alone final analyses! As I said, silly old me.

FOOTNOTE: After reading this, Peter Price says that he believes the N.L.F. are fighting a just cause. That is the reason for support. He says that the people behind this move want an end to the war, but believe withdrawal of troops is only the first step. Until then, the N.L.F.'s over-riding cause is a just one, and pressures for peace should be expressed in anti-commitment demands.

Academics Protest

The Adelaide United Nations Students' Association circulated the following motion amongst the academic staff at Adelaide University.

Believing that continued bombing in North Vietnam is creating a situation which may provoke military response from Russia and Mainland China, that the war in Vietnam is primarily a civil war, and accepting U Thant's contention that there will be no move towards peace so long as bombing of North Vietnam goes on:

Calls on the United States government to discontinue unconditionally its bombing raids on North Vietnam, and to recognise the National Liberation Front as an independent entity;

Urges the de-escalation of all military operations by all parties in South Vietnam, and the entry into preliminary talks between those actually fighting, with the ultimate aim of reconvening the Geneva Conference.

The following signified their approval of the motion:

- Politics:**
 - Professor Duncan, Head of the Dept.
 - Dr. P. Loveday, Reader.
 - Mr. C. L. Bird, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. N. Blewett, Lect.
 - Mrs. J. Pettman, Lect.
 - Miss I. P. Pearson, Tutor.
- History:**
 - Prof. G. Rude, Head of Dept.
 - Dr. K. L. Gillion, Reader.
 - Dr. J. Tregenza, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. P. C. Mukherjee, Lect.
 - Mr. D. R. Hainsworth, Lect.
 - Dr. P. L. Burns, Lect.
 - Dr. J. Young, Lect.
 - Dr. W. Prest, Lect.
 - Mr. A. Sykes, Lect.
 - Mr. J. Murray, Tutor.
- Economics:**
 - Prof. H. L. Lydall, Head of Dept.
 - Prof. G. C. Harcourt.
 - Mr. D. Healy, Senior Lect.
 - Mr. R. K. Hefford, Lect.
 - Dr. E. E. Moffatt, Lect.
 - Mr. P. Pratez, Lect.
 - Mrs. F. C. Bentick, Lect.
 - Mr. A. S. Watson, Research Fellow.
- Educ.:**
 - Mr. P. A. Newnham, Lect.
- English (Lang. and Lit.):**
 - Prof. C. J. Horne, Head of Dept.
 - Dr. Brian Elliot, Reader.
 - Mr. G. W. Turner, Reader.
 - Mr. K. B. Magarey, Senior Lect.
 - Mr. M. B. Davies, Reader.
- Zoology:**
 - Dr. D. A. Duckhouse, Senior Lect., Zool.
 - Mrs. A. Bailey, Lect.
- Physiology:**
 - E. R. Lumbus, post grad. medical research scholar.
- Microbiology:**
 - N. Atkinson, Reader.
 - D. Hardy, Senior Lect.
- Geology:**
 - Dr. J. B. Jones, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. R. L. Oliver, Senior Lect.
 - Miss E. M. McBriar, Senior Demonstrator.
- Waite Institute:**
 - Prof. T. O. Browning, Head of Dept.
 - D. A. Madge, Senior Lect.
 - Miss H. M. Brookes, Lect.
 - Dr. Roger Laughlin, Lect.
- Agromony:**
 - Mr. K. Barley, Reader.
 - Mr. J. K. Powrie, Senior Lect.
 - Mr. D. Symon, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. A. R. Egan, Lect.
 - Dr. A. J. Rathjen, Lect.
 - Dr. K. W. Shepherd, Lect.
- Music—Elder Conservatorium:**
 - Prof. D. Galliver, Elder Prof. of Music.
 - Mr. D. Swale, Lect.
- Adult Education:**
 - Mr. J. Warburton, Director.
 - Mr. C. R. Lawton, Sec. Organiser.
- Administration:**
 - Mr. Ralph Middenway, Sec. Union.
 - Mr. Little, Student Counsellor.
- Flinders:**
 - Prof. B. Medlin, Philosophy.
 - Prof. K. Garrad, Spanish.
 - Prof. R. Elliott, English (also Chairman of the University).
 - Mr. G. Anderson, Drama (Lect.).
 - J. D. Plant, Politics (Lect.).
 - Prof. D. C. Corbett, Prof. Politics.
 - R. H. Smith, Fine Arts (Lect.).
 - J. H. Shaw, Lect.
- M. J. Artis, Lect. (Economics).**
- Prof. Ian Laurie, French.**
- K. Hounslow, Lect, Spanish.**
- W. P. Rungie, Research Student (Econ.).**
- M. Thomas.**
- English:**
 - Mr. F. M. Mares, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. A. Brissenden, Lect.
 - Mr. M. Tolley, Lect.
 - Mr. A. M. Slade, Lect.
 - Miss R. H. Sweetapple, Lect.
 - Mr. A. Mitchell, Lect.
 - Mr. W. R. Converse, Tutor.
 - Mrs. M. L. Mares.
 - Mrs. J. A. Wightman.
- Languages:**
 - French:**
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 - Mr. K. O'Neill, Lect.
 - German:**
 - Prof. B. Coghlan, Head of Dept.
 - Mrs. M. L. Thiersch, Tutor.
- Geography:**
 - Prof. G. H. Lawton, Head of Dept.
 - Dr. C. R. Twidale, Reader.
 - Dr. M. Williams, Senior Lect.
 - Mrs. A. Marshall, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. Nigel Wace, Lect.
 - Mr. B. Mason, Lect.
 - Mr. T. Griffin, Lect.
 - Dr. G. F. Gale, Lect.
 - Mr. N. Foale, Cartographer.
 - Mr. J. W. Poynter.
 - Mrs. H. Perkins, Secretary.
- Psychology:**
 - Prof. M. A. Jeeves, Head of Dept.
 - Dr. K. Provins, Reader.
 - Dr. S. H. Lovibond, Reader.
 - Mr. E. E. Rump, Lect.
 - Mr. I. D. John, Lect.
 - Dr. A. H. Winefield, Lect.
 - Mr. P. S. Delin, Lect.
 - Mr. M. O. Oswald, Tutor.
 - Mr. L. C. Lack, Tutor.
 - Miss P. J. Tilby, Tutor.
- Philosophy:**
- Classics:**
- Engineering:**
- Mechanical:**
 - Dr. M. K. Bull, Senior Lect.
- Civil:**
 - Mr. G. Sved, Reader.
- Electrical:**
 - Prof. J. C. Woodward, Head of Dept.
- Architecture:**
 - Mr. A. F. Gillissen, Senior Lect.
- Science:**
- Mathematics:**
 - Prof. E. S. Barnes, Head of Dept.
 - Prof. A. J. James, Head of Dept. of Mathematical Statistics.
 - Mrs. M. Sved, Tutor (Maths.).
- Physics:**
 - Prof. C. A. Hurst, Head of Dept. of Mathematical Physics.
 - Dr. K. H. Lokan, Senior Lect (Physics).
 - Dr. E. H. Medlin, Senior Lect.
- Chemistry:**
- Organic:**
 - R. W. Guy, Demonstrator.
 - G. K. Teubner, Past Electoral.
- Biochemistry:**
 - B. Egan, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. E. H. Symons, Senior Lect.
 - Dr. J. R. Wells, Lect.
 - J. F. Weldreke, Post-doctoral Research Fellow.
- Botany:**
 - Dr. R. Garrick, Head Biol. Lect.
 - Dr. E. Wollaston, Lect.
 - Dr. F. A. Smith, Lect.

at ADELAIDE

At a Special General Meeting on Thursday of last week the A.L.P. Club discussed several motions concerning the war in Vietnam. The meeting was well attended for third term with about 60 people in attendance.

The first motion considered was to the effect that "this club believes that trading with China is a good thing and to be encouraged; however, condemns the Holt Government for its hypocrisy and double standard in introducing legislation to prohibit aid to the N.L.F." The movers of the motion referred to the Government's schizophrenic standard of morality which condemned students for aiding "the enemy" while themselves permitting multi-million dollar contracts selling wool and steel to China. This motion was passed cum mag acc.

The second motion, which read "That this club set up a committee to aid the victims of the war in Vietnam" created a good deal of discussion.

The movers of the motion pointed out that it had a humanitarian and political side. It was, however, primarily a political motion. The vagueness of the motion gave the committee a certain amount of manoeuvrability—the aid that would be sent would be in all instances medical aid and the committee would investigate ways of ensuring that this would be ensured.

The motion as it is framed doesn't ostensibly offend the legislation brought down this week. The motion also gives the committee scope to send aid to the victims of the war in the South—the great distress and hardship of the two million refugees now largely displaced by the Americans in their "pacification" programmes are in dire need of help—however meagre. The third motion proposed by Derek Verral and Jeff Thomas was discussed

at length and eventually passed on the casting vote of the Chairman, Dick Anderson.

The motion which read "That this club believes that the N.L.F. is most representative of the Vietnamese people and that by pursuing its present policy the Australian and American Governments are carrying on a war of aggression not liberation and further this club believes that on moral, practical and political grounds the Australian Government should withdraw their troops immediately from Vietnam" has now become club policy.

HYSTERIA

The aftermath of the meeting produced the expected hysteria. The "Advertiser's" report of the meeting was headed "Local NLF Aid Group Formed" despite the fact that committee is sending medical aid to both the North, the N.L.F. and very importantly the victims of the war in American-controlled areas. The medical aid to the N.L.F. and the North will not be sent until a thorough investigation of the implications of the Holt legislation.

The "News" rather folksy piece on the whole business unfortunately glossed over the main issues.

The "Advertiser" cartoonist Atchison, in the Saturday morning edition transcended the dizzy heights of puerility which he has been achieving lately with a cartoon that must surely be the nadir of political cartooning.

Dick Anderson, President of the A.L.P. Club intends to petition S.R.C. to set up a committee from the student body to raise funds and material assistance for the civilian victims of the Vietnam war—the committee is intended to operate out of humanitarian considerations, irrespective of political affiliation.

THE YEAR OF THE BULL

ON DIT examines ON DIT

This is the last issue of ON DIT for 1967; and elsewhere in this issue will be found an advertisement inviting applications for the position of 1968 editors. So this is not altogether an inappropriate time to review ON DIT activities over the past year.

SIZE:

● This year saw the production of the largest issue of ON DIT in history—the last issue of first term contained 20 pages.
● The average number of pages per issue has been increased 33%, from 12 to 16 pages.

FREQUENCY:

● During the year three single-sheet special editions were produced in order to provide a coverage of important events which took place at times which made it impossible to wait for the next issue in order to publicise them—for example, the S.R.C. Reform move, and the S.R.C. general elections. For seven consecutive weeks in second term there was an ON DIT out every week.

FINANCES:

● Although 182 pages were produced this year, as opposed to 132 in 1966, the grant received from the S.R.C. was the same as for last year. The increased costs due to the increased size were met by getting more advertising. Thus the student did not have to pay more for this more extensive coverage.

● Advertising revenue has increased by 150%, from \$2000 last year to \$5000 this year—in 1965 advertising revenue was \$1000. However, due to the advertising rates being higher and the issues larger, the percentage of advertising content has remained at a very low level which compares very favourably with interstate University newspapers.

CONTENT:

● Guest writers this year included:

Don Dunstan, S.A. Premier.
Bruce Petty, the Australian cartoonist.

Gary Killington, Adelaide social worker.
V. C. Funnell, Flinders lecturer in Politics.
R. L. Reid, Adelaide lecturer in Politics.
Ted Nettlebeck, jazzman.
Paul Marriott, Monash student journalist.

● Amongst those who have given feature interviews to ON DIT have been—

Kym Beazley, Labour M.H.R.
Steele Hall, L.C.L. leader.
Peter Yarrow, of Peter, Paul and Mary.
Iris Murdoch, English novelist.
Malcolm Salmon, Communist journalist.
Arnold Earnshaw, alias "Martin Collins".
Ian Sells and Bob Francis, Adelaide disc jockeys.

● This year saw the introduction of an all-pictorial front page.

● Another feature was the use of colour for the first time in ON DIT's history, with a front page colour reproduction of Picasso's "The Lovers".

● The ON DIT Literary Competition, sponsored by SUN BOOKS, was innovated. Prize money totalled \$140.

● ON DIT's regular cartoonist, Ross Bateup, won the Australian Universities' cartoon competition at A.A.U.A.F. in May.

CIRCULATION:

● 7,500 copies of each issue have been printed, and the last few issues have been sold out within 24 hours. 500 copies go to Flinders.

● For the first time, ON DIT has been distributed in bulk interstate with 250 copies going to Sydney and Melbourne and 100 to Canberra.

● ON DIT has been quoted in Federal Parliament, in "The Australian" and nearly all capital city papers, and to cap it all, was praised by the Communist paper "Tribune."

● Every issue of ON DIT this year, except one, has been quoted or mentioned in the Adelaide dailies.

However, perhaps the highlight of the year was our "scoop" in being the first paper to print the full lyric of Andrew T. Jones' notorious "Shadowed Valleys and Iron Triangles".

What success ON DIT has achieved this year can be largely attributed to three things.

Firstly, the printers, Smedley Press, for their understanding of the vagaries of student editors, and their willing co-operation, especially with respect to the special editions, and the innovations in layout on which we placed much emphasis this year.

Secondly, the S.R.C., which is comparatively generous in its financial support and has steadfastly refused to impose its censorship on the paper even though such censorship is common practice interstate.

Thirdly, "The News", which offers a \$400 scholarship to be divided amongst the editors, and assists the paper in various and most valuable ways.

In addition SUN BOOKS Ltd. have been most generous in sponsoring the ON DIT Literary Competition to the tune of some \$140.

POLITICAL AWARDS

WENT TO ...
1. CHAS. DE GAULLE for the shortest OVERSEAS TOUR on record.



2. ANDREW T. JONES for the funniest speech by a South Australian politician.



3. HAROLD (all the way) HOLT for being a true PRIME MINISTER of the people and getting out there where OUR BOYS are.



THE ANNUAL ACADEMIC AWARDS

being awards given as tokens for outstanding achievement in various fields during the first NINE MONTHS of 1967

1. ADELAIDE CITY COUNCIL for Architectural Originality in the design of OUR NEW FESTIVAL HALL



2. THE LOCAL PRESS, a DOUBLE-BARRELED AWARD. Firstly, for their unflinching dedication to the BEAUMONT Hide-and-Seek game, and secondly, for their intelligent reporting of the PRANG



ON CAMPUS AWARDS

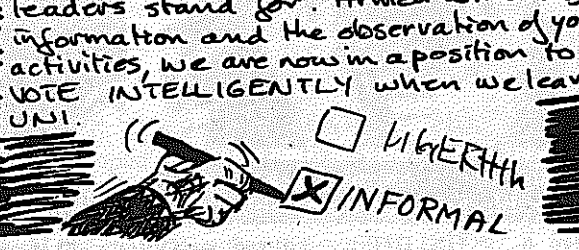
1. INVENTION OF THE YEAR Awarded to ON DIT's own MICHAEL VENNING for his ANTI-CONSCRIPTION SCOOTER



2. NORK FLASHER OF THE YEAR went of course to VALERIE for the consistent press and television COVERAGE of her boobs.



3. A SPECIAL AWARD TO THE SRG & ALL Student Politicians. By your example, you have given us all an insight into how our nation is run, and for what our elected leaders stand for. Armed with this information and the observation of your activities, we are now in a position to VOTE INTELLIGENTLY when we leave UNI.



VITAL REFERENDUM

CASE FOR YES

by Phillip Lynch

Following a petition signed by 43 students, nearly all, if not all, of whom were from Lincoln College, the SRC has been constitutionally obliged to hold a General Student Meeting to consider the following amendment to the SRC Constitution.

"That the SRC shall have no power whatever to vote on any political matter on such matter being given by resolution of a general student meeting."

This motion is similar to the one which created a sensation at ANU in Canberra and was finally passed by a general meeting of students. However, it is more extreme than the ANU motion, which made a couple of exceptions to the "gag" including political matters concerned with education.

The procedure with respect to this motion, which is clearly of the most

vital importance to the future functioning of the SRC, is that it will be discussed at a General Student Meeting on Tuesday, September 19, at 1.10 p.m. in the Union Hall. Then a referendum will be held, with polling booths open in the refectories from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Wednesday, September 20 to Friday, September 22. If the motion is passed at this referendum then it will become part of the Constitution of the SRC.

The implications of this motion are obviously very considerable and it is not an issue on which a superficial, snap decision should be made. ON DIT has made space available to representatives of both sides to put their case, and urges all students to read them thoroughly and exercise their vote in a well-considered and responsible manner.

REFERENDUM MEETING

GENERAL STUDENT MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.
1.10 p.m. — Union Hall.

REFERENDUM RUNS FROM:—

Wednesday, September 20, 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Thursday, September 21, 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.
Friday, September 22, 11 a.m. — 5 p.m.

ELEANOR RAMSAY BIRD OF THE YEAR



The sun's not yellow



— the achieve of, the mastery of the thing



Have you seen the fish that have been standing in front of the ??? in cut away for the last two days and nights . . . ?



There's a group now exciting, and the only thing that keeps them friends is that they all want the doors enlarged.



Rye bread may give the mind a beautiful shape



The grass grows high—then rope



Meanwhile, a harpist raced along in a blacked out automobile.



There is no more to say.

Too many times the general populace of South Australia have judged the students of the University of Adelaide on the political statements made by the Students' Representative Council. It is therefore right that before making such statements the S.R.C. should gain the sanction of the students it purports to represent.

At the outset it should be made clear that this resolution does not propose to take away the right of the students of the University of Adelaide to voice their opinions on political matters. We believe firmly that all students in all Universities not only have a right but a duty to express their opinions and exert their influence in political matters.

POLITICAL

What we vigorously object to is the present practice whereby the S.R.C. Executive of University of Adelaide from time to time issue public statements on political matters, giving the impression that they speak for the entire student body. Also that the word Representative should be used in the name of that body which makes these statements, when it itself is only elected by a minority of the student body. A recent example of this practice was the statement by the President of the Students' "Representative" Council in the "Sunday Mail", September 9th, 1967, page two, when he took it upon himself to tell the press what he thought the student body would decide in a current issue of debate in the press. He also said in a broad and general statement without any factual basis for his statement that, and we quote "There has been discrimination in the granting of these permits. In addition the Queensland police have a reputation for unnecessary brutality and harshness in dealing with students that is unmatched in Australia."

We do not object to the substance of the statement that Mr. Pickhaver made. What we do object to is the fact that the statements were issued in his capacity as President of the S.R.C. and that in this capacity as President he assumed the opinion of the general student body.

DOMESTIC

The policies of those candidates standing for election to the S.R.C. are purely of a domestic nature and do not purport to be political in the accepted sense of the word. Once elected these members should concern themselves with the matters on which they were elected, and not take it upon themselves to assume powers when they have no mandate from the general student body.

It could be argued that the word political is extremely ambiguous and could cover anything in which people participate. In fact courts of law can take it upon themselves to judge whether a matter be political. We assume that the president and/or the executive of the S.R.C. being of reasonable integrity will if this motion is passed by the student body judge whether a motion be political or not.

That a student meeting may itself express the opinion of a select few we also realise. But that this is a better state of affairs than that at present, is also obvious. It is far better and more democratic that the student body has an opportunity to determine all (and we mean all) S.R.C. political type motions, which profess to express general student feeling.

It is for these reasons that the motion was submitted in the belief that it would not destroy a vital function which we believe the S.R.C. carries out, such as ABSCHOL. It is sincerely hoped that the student body will recognise the value of the motion and vote accordingly.

THE NO CASE

by Mark Pickhaver

If students consider themselves adult members of the community, then they automatically assume the responsibility as members of a democratic system, of holding a point of view on important public issues. It is one of the facets of University life, that students are free from the pressures which may restrain discussion and action over these community issues. They don't have their job or future actually dependent on their participation, nor should they fear the comments of others, but rather welcome intelligent and informal argument.

It behoves the SRC to formally represent students on these matters, and to provide the leadership and direction necessary, subject to an overriding student veto.

DEMOCRACY

The Athenian ideal of democracy, that the elected body should always mirror exactly the expressed views of the electorate, must be modified in practice unless one is prepared to substantially limit the electorate as in fact the Athenians did (women, slaves etc. were not allowed to participate). Viable democratic systems can only work by delegating some of the power to an elected body, making sure that adequate controls are kept over that body to ensure the wishes of the majority are observed.

Wherever possible, a responsible representative body should try to determine electorate opinion, but there comes a point where it is essential that the representatives must exercise responsible judgment and initiative in formulating and representing "student opinion" on public issues. One should remember, of course, that not only are the members of the SRC subject to re-election but also to having their decisions overruled by the student body.

POLICY

The members of the SRC, particularly the general representatives, have to run for election in second term each year. Candidates are required to give a policy statement which indifferently it has not taken a decision on a political matter which was not subsequently upheld by the General Student Body.

Often a statement needs to be made urgently, and the SRC is the only satisfactory way of ascertaining representative student opinion. In fact that is what they are elected to do — represent the students.

Formal student opinion is almost impossible to obtain without compulsory voting. Student Meetings are usually quite unrepresentative; postal polls are very expensive, and still rely on students to answer.

Finally, the SRC generally speaks on issues upon which the student majority opinion is well-known — apart from their attitude to issues confronting the student, further they are now able to speak at a General Student

Meeting outlining their policy. But it is impractical for them to state their attitude on every conceivable issue that could arise, rather they must be elected on their broad policy statements and in so doing the student body is giving them an implied mandate to represent them on issues which may arise in the future.

Any issue which is discussed by the SRC is subject at all times to a General Student Meeting which can be called by 20 persons, or to a referendum (as in this case) by a petition of 40 signatures. It is often far better to have an issue discussed by the elected representatives of the students, and have such decisions subject to a veto by a General Student Meeting, than to bring the issue immediately before the students. By this method the representatives are conscious of student opinion, and take note of it in the final decision at SRC meetings.

General Student Meetings are however, not as satisfactory as many students believe. They often attract a very small number of students, unless the issue is new and sensational. The Republican Motion this year, was attended by some 60 to 70 students of whom only two-thirds voted in favor of the Motion. In other words, just over 40 students committed this University to Republicanism — they were not elected, they simply took the trouble to turn up. The SRC has 36 members who are elected by postal ballot where every student receives a ballot paper in his mail. There is no satisfactory recourse from the Republican Meeting; there is from the SRC.

NO ABUSE

But the discussion so far has been assuming that the SRC passes many political motions. This is in fact not so. Most of an SRC meeting is spent discussing administrative matters arising from student activities, Union or NUAUS matters. If political matters do arise, they are always discussed under the assumption that they will be presented to a General Student Meeting for ratification and some are in fact presented direct to the students. In no case, whilst I have been on the SRC, has this power been abused by the SRC, and as far as I can tell, censorship, White Australia Policy, capital punishment.

In summary, the Students' Representative Council is:

- (a) an elected body of the students of the University who have a duty to represent students on all issues;
- (b) if they don't discuss all matters of concern to students they cannot give the leadership which is expected of them in student and community affairs;
- (c) There are already in this University adequate safeguards to ensure that this duty is not abused. It requires only 20 signatures to call a General Student Meeting or 40 to ask for a referendum.

petty on satire

● In this article, specially written for ON DIT, Bruce Petty the well-known cartoonist for "The Australian" examines some aspects of contemporary satire.

Satire has finally succeeded.

It has slipped on its own banana skin.

It has contributed to the current mood of cynicism institution-wrecking to the point where it has become an institution, and is in the process of destroying itself. It has been teaching us to suspect people and institutions which pronounce loudly or morally or repetitiously, and satire today pronounces loudly and morally and repetitiously.

It is no longer merely tolerated, it is a required ingredient for the well-rounded politician and vicar, to confirm his status and to make certain, in fact, that he is heard of.

More people now learn more about what is happening in the churches and in Parliament from their satirical programmes than from the pews and the political correspondents.

Various modern developments have worked against old world irony being effective. Mass media revolution has tended to saturate audiences beyond any critical or selective response. This works particularly against satire which depends on a sort of surprise immediacy quality to a large extent. There is just too much finding its way into TV serials, interviews, advertising and ultimately into conversation. It is no longer a special art form but a mode of popular communication.

If this is in any way true it seems to suggest that satire can no longer be considered a useful corrective.

Popular modes haven't a great history of being for the common good.

Not that political and social lampooning has ever been the great destroyer and history manipulator that its savagery might once have suggested. It has always been spices, and oil, and the placement of cannon, and skin color, and hunger and patriotism, and accidents that have decided history. Satire has probably never been much more than therapy for the protagonists.

VALUE

But there can be no doubt that in any country, at that point in its history when the citizens have an unwitting faith in any person or institution with an impressive title, corrective satire has a vital value. It just happens to be most effective when it is most necessary. Various mass population countries are at this point at this time but the Western countries are far beyond it.

The citizen is no longer clear exactly when he is being persuaded or informed or advised or misled. It is difficult to distinguish the newsreel from the late night war film and it is becoming difficult to distinguish between the comedy spot from satire. Satirists were surely never more prosperous and less effective.

Satire has also enjoyed, in general, the role of a crusading force, as being roughly on the side of justice, champion of the oppressed. This was possibly the case when the villains were obvious and the arrogance of power easily exposed to a hungry serf. It is less the case in the western world where the villains are systems rather than personalities, public apathy as much as private greed, and computer judgements instead of corrupt administrators. And

where socialist government exists in some attempt to allocate authority more justly satire runs a risk of becoming simply anarchistic if not reactionary.

It does seem that a blind faith in authority and institutions has gone, but the same authority and institutions themselves remain intact.

Satirists have contributed to the mass chronic scepticism in the success countries and if their role is to correct anti-social excesses, this self-inflicted scepticism must be the next target. This also assumes a widespread confidence that things can be corrected. There is suspicion that the current role is to pro-



"We've still got 1-3rd of the pacified 3-5ths of the southern 1/2 of Vietnam on our side."

The effect on many serious satirists who still see their work as a corrective ingredient is to resort to degrees of obscenity and pornography in an attempt to find the sensitive frontier of the public mind.

But to find this elusive zone is not to convert it.

I think the stalemate persists. There is a tendency to confuse freedom of speech with effective satire.

vide therapeutic comedy spots for a society bent on self-destruction.

More optimistically it may be that negative satirism must be replaced by constructive reformers.

I would like this to happen but, like most people I think, not right now.

Petty

Union Moves Afoot

Union President Sumner on Refectory Progress

Following the submission made by the Union Council to the Australian University Commission (A.U.C.) in 1965 for extensions to the Union Buildings, the Union Council created a specialist committee (Planning and Development Committee) and charged it with the task of preparing submissions to the A.U.C. and with preparing plans for the future development of the Union.

The Committee first considered what facilities would be required in an ideal Union and invited submissions on this from all the constituent members of the Union including the S.R.C. The Committee used as a basis for its deliberations the idea that the Union is a combination of all groups within the University Staff, students, Council members and graduates and that it was the Union that could provide the necessary integration to produce a University community.

It was considered that in a Union with adequate facilities there should be provision for staff and students of different faculties to meet on a common basis. There should be facilities in the Union to give students as broad an education as possible. Draft plans have now been drawn up for \$2,000,000 extensions of the present Union Buildings to provide the following facilities.

Special Accommodation:

Photographic Dark Room, Modelling Room, Painting and Sculpture Studio and Music Room.

Games Room:

Chess, Billiards, Table Tennis, Cards, Weight-lifting and Squash.

Graduates' Centre and Staff Clubs:

It is possible that the new Union may include these although they could be provided elsewhere in the University.

retained the cloisters, Lady Symon and George Murray buildings and add a two-storey block — erected under the Mayo refectory with a basement under the Cloisters.

While these plans were being prepared the Union Finance Committee was considering ways and means of financing the proposals. The result of their 18 months of deliberations was to recommend to the University Council that an entrance fee of \$25.00 be paid by all undergraduates entering the University for the first time from 1968 onwards and that from 1969 the full statutory fee be increased to \$45.00. Also it was proposed that Post-graduate students who at present pay no statutory fee should pay the same fee as part-time students.

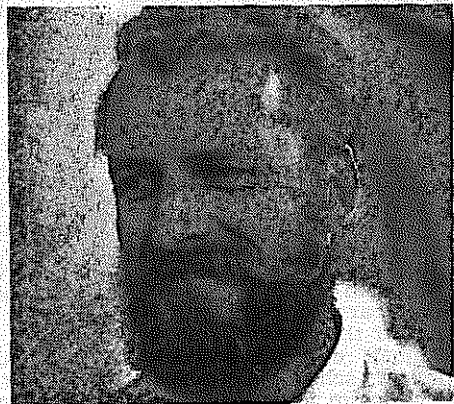
The basis for this recommendation was that students who paid the increases in fees should obtain the benefit of the new facilities.

The University Council, however, has now accepted the proposals in principle but recommend an increased statutory fee of \$45.00 to be applied from 1968 without any entrance fee.

It is hoped to obtain the necessary finance by raising a loan on the security of the statutory fee and to have the whole project completed by 1975. The first stage was to be completed in the 1970-1972 triennium.

This would provide substantially the same income as the Union Council's proposals but by a different method.

This whole plan has been placed before the University Council and will go to the A.U.C. In particular, it is hoped to obtain finance from the A.U.C. for part of the first stage.



The Staff Architect assisted in preparing feasibility plans so that approximate costs could be worked out. In July the Union appointed Messrs. Dickson & Platten to prepare a number of alternative schemes. These ranged from complete demolition of the existing buildings to various adaptations of the existing structure. Eventually, it was decided to adopt the plan which

CAMPAIGN FOR PEACE IN VIETNAM

OBJECTIVES:

1. To work towards the end of Australian military involvement in Vietnam
2. To work towards an end of general hostilities in Vietnam.

AIM:

To create a single large organisation to oppose the war in Vietnam.

YOU CAN HELP

1. First, by joining our mailing list — numbers will ultimately count
2. Secondly, by putting your talents at our disposal. We will need:
 - Typists
 - Doorknockers
 - Distributors of literature
 - Publicists

HOW TO JOIN:

Simply write to the secretary, **D. T. HEALY**, Box 32A, Crafers, SA 5152 indicating

1. Your willingness to join our mailing list
2. Any ways in which you can help

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

BRIAN MEDLIN D. T. HEALY
NEAL BLEWETT G. C. HARCOURT
SYLVIA DUCKHOUSE ALEXANDRA FRICKER
L. S. PIDDINGTON

BY TAKING NO ACTION YOU, IN EFFECT, SUPPORT THE WAR

Slowly, python-like, the column slithers through the dust. Human lungs coughing, motors grinding. An hour—and the seat is an iron knee. Hypnosis makes us zombies in this lizard-land. The freshness of southern youth caught, sterilised for the furnace. Young grist for the mill of war. Individuality crushed beneath the overwhelming burden on our senses. Everything crowds in.

Larry, the lean, hungry kid, with the tense, bitter mouth, stretching his long limbs in anticipation. He will show us what he is capable of doing. We are mostly only city slobs. This is his place. The thin lips barely part for the economic draw—the bare pittance of breath expends itself. Nothing extra is given. No extension of the personality. It would be weakness. The tanned face and the hard brows. The eyes narrow with psychopathic cunning. Expanded, they are pitying for lesser mortals, cruel when in doubt. A conceit born of the hard earth and even harder parents. A perfect grounding for a death-dealer. I do not feel he is my kind. Something is there in him which is not part of me, and never could be without a grievous insult to my mind. And yet the army has cast us together and many more like him. Less clearly drawn, but with kindred shadings. Others—the minority—are apart. The gulf of fear and cruelty to children has come to this point where even youths are split asunder. God (who is he) bless the United Nations!



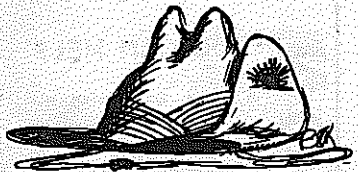
When I was a little boy, I went to Sunday school with the blessings of society. It was thought that I might learn to love my neighbour, 'Do good to them that hate you'. At twenty, this same society commands me to war on my neighbour and do evil to 'Them that hate you'. The churches are meeting together because they are empty of the young. We know the cunning and hypocrisy of the old. The parson dedicates the regimental colours and those same hands baptise the newly born. Life and death—they are all one to Christians!

The hermits sought clarity of thought in the desert. Certainly, the light seems stronger, even that which beats on the inner reaches of the brain. Memory coalesces under the pure fire.

Aaaaaa and we are down and running. Cover, cover, cover. Now down, rolling in the deep down of the sandy earth. All guns firing at us, spluttering in mock chatter. My thighs crush and mould the sand to my frame. I am one with the ground. Nothing of me is vertical except eyes slitted for sudden movements, unnatural shades of green, unusual limbs on stunted trees. Yet the rebels are deep in the pitiable clay. Reality would have slain us. Now we can mock death. Directed fire is now given. Heavy machine-guns rattle. Bazookas, mortars, carbines, grenades, rifles, parcel the earth with molten death, knotting the pregnant hinges of rebel knees. The game goes on.

Brian is the big boy in our truck, burly, independent, glib with his mocking eyes, confident in his bulk, used to dealing with kid-brothers. He knows it all: girls, indoor pastimes, fast cars, shaped clothes—(why cannot I say it bluntly?). What he wants he does not always need, but he gets it off us just the same. I mean things like cigarettes, sweets, blades. We are really scared of him. Even Larry grins with a knowledgeable acceptance. The Larrys understand the Brians. The wild dingo knows the city jackal. There is a certain common denominator. But this is beyond mathematical equations (pace, psychology). Pragmatism meets its downfall among these keen minds. They are the products of modern life, more sharply stamped than us with function. Things seem to gravitate their way more than ours, but then they are functional. Malcolm and Midas (I had ironical parents) are marginal. So the world goes on, and we are training for war. Big deal!

Brass decides on a meal, so we are halted for a while. So blast that word 'So'. I don't get that word. It is passive. It has nothing to do with youth. It shouldn't anyway. It signifies acceptance, when we want to set the planet on fire. It feels fat like middle-age. That reminds me of food.



Food does not mean too much. Only hunger pains. Get it down, The army wants you to. It will make men of 'You'. Kitchener go to hell! Who points the finger? I'll bite the bloody cook's off. Line up. Tins full of the steaming mess. Find Malcolm or anyone, but cliques coagulate quickly, and Malcolm is the only one and me. We smalltalk. Weather, family, friends, girls, future, sergeants... the full-circle of dribble. I feel caught up in something and I don't like it. The army is not for me but how out? The food is cheap but hot. How out? Maybe something will show. Later, perhaps. I don't know. Who knows? Cram the mush down. Call it a meal. We crouch in the insulted muck, seedless. What hope for the young at war? How do we get the kicks? Who is 'We'? Me and Malcolm... I don't dig the rest. Anyway why am I telling you. You're probably stuck with something like me and you don't give a damn. But then you don't have to do something about it like us. The army, the country, needs us. Big deal! Alright it's slang, but we don't need elegance here. We want something that hits hard when truth is at stake. The abstraction hurts, philosophers debate. If it works, it will do. No second thoughts! It slows things up. Nowadays, everything is disposable—even the earth. The planets are soon to be on the market. So why hang on. Let go! Nothing has the only meaning. We are in the drift.

No bleating if cut down. Let go with no complaints. What do you want to do? Gum up the works. You don't count. Get with it, else drop off. It's as easy as that.

Noon now and crows caw no more. Carrion can rot. It will be sweeter by evening. Meal finishes and tinplates wash in sand. Officer-boys linger over coffee. Privates dribble over what-might-have-been. Dinner at Kilda or the Cross, ogling broads, setting the night up. Have you got it? O.K. Alright...

I'm bitter at noon because I feel my morning has gone, wasted through poverty. Yes. I have no false shame, I blame it all on poverty. A three-syllabled word signifying nothing. Some don't know what this means. Is it cheap, repellent, to be bitter? And how bitter can you get before it translates into action? 'So bitter'—these words do not agree together, like age and youth, especially the bourgeois middle-age and the sycophant margin. No commie bull! I have been vetted. I'm clean—castrated. Get it! Or have the lies of priests blinded your god-given clarity of vision? Of course, you're bogged down with kids and a mortgage. I can hear you clink as you turn your back. Who's preaching. This is a Queensland noon—northern and inland. I'm dreaming with a filled stomach. The feed-bag is off and I am only going over the cud. Some cud!... some milk!

'Get fell in!', the Sarge: 'Answer your names'. War again. Tropical training. Into the truck. Rolling. Staring at empty blotched faces. Bewildered boys, eager boys, some a map of life, others a map of... the unmentionable humans fear. Rolling now clear of ambush towards glare, only glare. Perhaps the sea is in front. I don't want any of what's behind. The glamour is wearing thin after six months. Kids' figures bulge with men's muscles. Staring, always staring. Where do you put your eyes? Did nature intend strangers, even comrades, in so close a society. Men everywhere. Six months of men, apart from a glimpse of skirt on the road. What is it doing to us? Is this nature's way, or are we crippling ourselves as well as the world. I am young and I think like this. That is why I am writing it down as it happens. This is no memory. But the eyes staring, always staring. Hollow shell-like eyes, pregnant with unspoken thought. Lips uncommitted, limbs slack, now tense, and it is tiring because we have the tension of untried springs. Something must give sometime.

But discipline the repressor, army regulation number blank, 'Thou shalt not... kill... (Unless convenient)', commandments holding youth in check, officers, priests, chairmen of boards... 'Hrmmm... hrmmm... this way, see! Pontifex Maximus made a million. Myriads, of course, and in triplicate, backdate to 33 A.D., if necessary. Make the cap fit. It will do. As long as it works...!

LETTER FROM A SENTIMENTAL NASHO by J. CONNAUGHTON

(Unfortunately, the winning short story, "A Life in the Day of" by Peter Wesley Smith, was too long to be included in this issue. Being 7,000 words in length it would have taken up almost three pages).

Who woke us up? The pop-group? No, but the long hair helped. Try again. But you're not all wide awake. There are always the dissident few. Yes, but the trend. We can correct the trend. We have you now; just look at your clothes, you're army, boy. Alright, I am in the army, are you happy now? Yes, if you'll just dry up. See what I mean! I am telling you but the army... no! They've got me covered with army law. They do not like sea-lawyers. Sedition. Unrest. Malcontents. Mutiny. Recruitment falls. Get that man out! Get him out the back door... wait... yes, psychologically unfit will do. Definitely. But get him out!



Malcolm summons me with a sharp elbow, pushing the too-real present onto me with his sudden movement. We roll still, and I am rid for a time of reverie—that poisonous blossom of unhappiness. Forty revving engines hypnotised me into prolonged thought.

'Mid, I heard we're going towards the coast. It'll sure be a change.'

Brian: 'Why, kid, you got someone lined up?' He overheard, now he moves in. What is in it for him? 'No, I just want to get out of this dump.'

'You're kids are all the same.'

I come in: 'Yes'll it'll really be something to see the beach.'

'I got a couple of broads lined up in Townsville'. Larry reinforces with: 'Good on you Bri!'

Talk lags again. Thick scrub shows through the dust haze. Purpling hills loom promising hidden draughts of sleep away from the the crowding present. Trucks behind swing with the winding road. Centurions' great barrels give fatherly protection. Swift Saracens make ease of potholes and drifts. Elbows project from stained trucks and heads shouting occasional ribaldries flick in and out, hoarse with man-made dust. Irrepressible men thrive on hardship. Silence they hate.

Brian and Larry confide in each other. Other kids listen and laugh. They are carried along with the belly-laughter as it breaks over the truck in constant waves. Twenty and much experienced in brothels. Veterans of the primary-school-yard conquest and the first victories. Malcolm laughs and I am often struck too, with sudden strange incongruities, and shatter them with laughter. I remember two Chinese wise-men, one laughing, other crying constantly. Remember also what my Greek uncle told me about the age-old message of moderation in all things, the balance, the mean.

Twenty-year-old kids carry conversation lightly. I often wish I had not searched libraries but only streets the whole time. A little knowledge is a perilous thing, more is madness, and loneliness, even apartheid. And the drag goes on as we are trucked like sheep to pastures, abattoirs, unknown. Over-

head the capsules queue for re-entry. I want to re-enter the world of men. A little girlish softness would be very nice. Feel the soft pressure of the breasts, the surge of primal instinct that is woman, pitying me with her eyes, spreading her scented web that banishes care from men. The ecstatic moment—the highest allowed to flesh. Mine... and mine again. Concomitant bliss multiplied on a thousand pleasurable paths. What man was made an animal for. I long, here in dirt, for this, but am turned to grey care. The brutality of animal odours unknown to scent. No Paris Nights, Persian Garden, Orchid Caress. Nothing but stained shirts clinging to unshowered backs with boyish abandon. Momma is not here to make them wash. Momma is a six-foot-two cowboy-turned-sergeant now: 'Go easy on the water, soldier'.



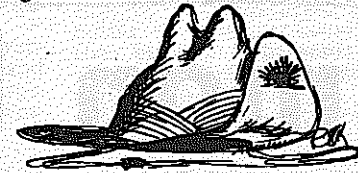
Dusk, and a small gust seems to promise a cool breeze. This is that strange hour between night and day when the bush is quiet almost like an evening vespers. No birds or animals call. A blue veil settles on the land. Man is the only discordant note. The world seems to be waiting for some unknown, mysterious, thrilling messiah. Yet it is oblivion that comes. Perhaps that is all there is at day's end... and yet there is this overpowering sense of expectation over the whole scene, even pervading brutal man. The gods would seem to play their game of wine drops on the hills—so many shading purples.

And we must camp out in the bush to-night again. The war-game is still being played though mock danger is past. The column halts. An open space shows, black, mysterious through the spinal trees. The convoy is off the road.

'Out, you men! Answer your names'—Captain James. Hear the garble of the unnaturally servile 'Sirs'. Reluctance at arrogance. The casual drift against the demarcation line so clearly drawn, the authority so readily assumed, the cadet cadre of middle-class elite. Anathema to the democracy of the streets—anything beyond the moderation of common man, the average of ordinary life.

Stiff legs stretch to a slight coolness off the hills. Boys called men have no bedtime now. Guard duty. Sentries against surprise. I am not on the first watch, nor Malc. So we squat, our drawn eyes stretched kitchenwards, hoping. Fortunate, we are on no full-scale alert. Can eat. Drop off.

The army likes cocoa. It deadens instincts when they might surface on resting youths. I suppose we will get benzadrines in Vietnam. No moon, no stars now, just a merciful pall. It is time for... chops, not bad! Gnaw, natter. Grizzle. Slurp cocoa. Everything seems to be closing in—a soldier's imagination. Relax those trained stomach-muscles. talk drivell. Shoptalk. Give it a rest! But listen... Malc, kid, Malc... I'm daddio. It's a pleasure, Malc... carry on, tell me all before the army tucks you in. Good little boy, Malcolm. Let me be big brother. I like it.



Groundsheets out. Rifles to hand. Guards posted. Few hours quiet before I face the dark. Always looking out there to the dark—Man. Inwards—another blackness. Khaki-smother-brother over all. Me on the ground. Backs pushing sandwards, seeking smooth horizons of blankness, blotting out homes... images of happy tables, faces eager for novelties everywhere, plentiful. Back to hidden stones. Shift. Get up. Stretch. See the limp, the tossing figures, the dense, the restless heads... night in the bush. The comradeship of men. The common purpose. Army life drawing and binding like a great wheel. The whole heaven ablaze now. The moon careless, on her back, legs tossed spacewards.

Try to rest. Drop off... television snapshots from remembered images... Mother in the room by the gas-stove... Friday night's pay-night... June's somewhere out there waiting... I've got to go.

'Hey! Midas. I turn. Sarge. I grab rifle. 'Get with it! Fifty paces front lamps straight-forwards! Password—Canberra'.

I reach perimeter:

'Stand, who...'

'Canberra.'

'Pass... you scared me, thought Sarge about. Want one?'

'No, giving it a rest'.

'Alright, seeya'. Exit Sonny. Pommy lad. Jabber-kid, that's all. See nothing. 'Physical impossibility, my boy'... Alright, Teach, come and look out there. Anything moving? Let the roos thud... it's their land... relax, kid, it's only a game... blast Sarge! My head's spinning. Quiet, relax, let time take care of itself. Soon enough light, then moving again, so hold this rotten tree up till morning... no, I get a spell after dawn.

U.F.O.? No, shooting star... must be. New train of thought... interesting... Head nods... steady, Midas. No scrub spuds, lad! Easy. So it goes on. Imagination straying into the unknown. Youth facing the great-out-there. Twenty-five jewels on the astral clock shed their cold zircon light to the false grey of another day, and me, stiff, insect-plagued to near oblivion, waiting for relief that never comes.

A shuffle of sand to rearwards. The blessed capital-password and it's Malc.

'Great, kid, I'm sunk. How's it going?'

'O.K., Mid, I got the dawn-shift. I left my pack by yours'.

'Good, kid! Seeya later, gotta get some shut-eye... seeya.'

The blessed black clasps me and I am going to its open cloak willingly. Take me, earth-mother! Take me. Take...

THE WHEEL OF LOVE

(1st prize) by Richard Madelaine

Alone at dusk with
a handful of poems I
live again the lines.

REFLECTION

Vegetable lamps
in the tiny-leafed garden,
oranges at dusk:

in robes of honour,
he recalls her eyes; so clear
he saw her sad soul:

it is not always
we can gown indignities,
agonies of love:

his pond-reflected
flesh wavers in the water,
and his coloured silk:

for under the silk
his hot bones melt: in water
only white stars burn.

IN PIAM MEMORIAM

The young woman gazed at the crown he wore,
saying, "Those thorns were torn up from my door
where I planted the bush to keep away
lovers by night and tradesmen in the day;
till Caesar's soldiers came with roughneck words,
hammering hard with the hilts of their swords;
the centurion held me in embrace
while his men hacked the thorns and cursed my
race.

And now I know who you are on the cross,
with your bitter mother weeping her loss
and my centurion crazed on his hill
because it's royal blood he has to spill.
And when I'm in the centurion's bed
I'll think of you with my thorns round your head
and joy to recall the love in your eyes
as you watch me spear you to paradise.

HAIKU

When the petals shake
slowly open, then the dew
runs down in the cup.

TEN SLIGHT POEMS (Extracts)

(2nd prize) by Richard Tipping

PLASTERED

voices tremble lap around me
swaying in a sea of sound
drinking in great gulps of lamplight
celling softly swirling down
people float towards me fishlike
bloated dreams of faces fall
weary wise I stumble laughing
caught serenely by the floor

THREE POETICS

I

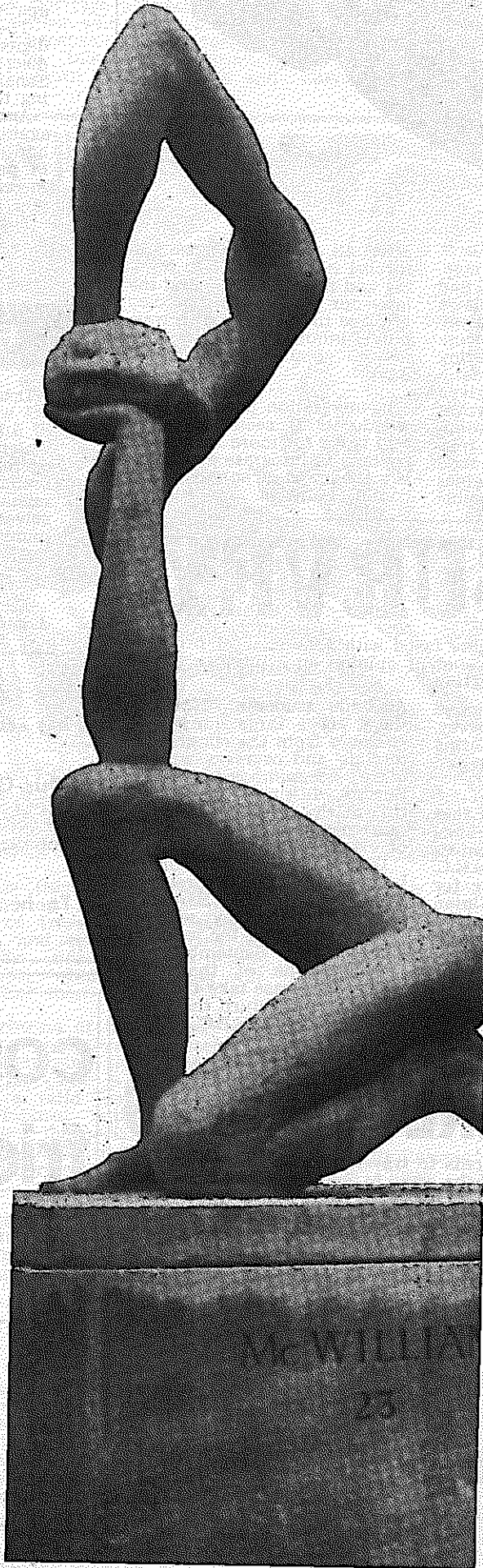
Live for yourself —
catch the gentle rhythm of evening
and distill it
privately.

II

you meant so much to me
— why did you go?
the moonlight broke in your eyes
— ah, you could not know

III

my sawblade mind
my broken eyes
my weary loving mouth —
please take them,
I'm tired.



'TODAY YOU SHALL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE'

The other thief under his breath:

Often I've whispered the same to blackhaired young
girls as they're lovely. Now I'm nailed and hung
see by their faces their finding of fun
knowing me naked hang here as the sun.
Drain me by pain! Bitches: I need every pang
made by their claptrap! Ache me — muscle hang —
that eagle is evil, pickflesh on wing
watching my colleague talking to the king
Jesus. It's finished. No more abusing
since he dies dry: not God of their choosing,
priest or soldierboy — no likelier man though
to put on purple in paradise. I'd go
to him and ask to be remembered too:
but I've been peaceproof since my beard came
through.

THE QUEST

Pause now. I though my day's search is not ended,
dominion nor development not done:

Pause now. I though my life's search is not ended,
delving it drily out from day to day:

Pause now. I though my death's search is not
started,
may dare accept dust never needs it, love.

AFTER THE FIRST DEATH

I took the rose
fine flowers in the valley;
but knew the thorn
the green leaves grow rarely.

When winds took the petals
fine flowers in the valley;
briefly I knew the cup
the green leaves grow rarely.

I love her and
have made her unhappy:
fine flowers in the valley;
the green leaves grow rarely.

HAIKU

The leaf is greener
since her word and smile: petals
withstand the wind's whip.

MID-CENTURY TALKING BLUES

(3rd prize) by John Horne

The sun span purple and bounced on a string
and everything changed, except that still
apes gave birth to politicians,
and llamas technicians;
and we sent more troops to war somewhere
and prayed for peace, while through the air
and bombs came down,
and I crouched in the ashes knitting some socks
with nothing better to do.
I thought as a A-bomb fell
(but it couldn't touch me as I sipped my tea
wearing gum boots and civil defence hat)
Hey boy, is this really you
presiding over the end of the world?
And it was, and I told them
and they wouldn't believe me,
and a man in a bowler hat said
"son, de-escalation's on the way
and we're all the way with LBJ."
Only he got liquefied yesterday.
Well I walked down the street and found a Russian
with a melted face from the bomb, and concussion,
who looked at me as if I'd lied,
and laughed and died.
The Queen saw the Duke who smoothed the crease
of his white duck trousers while she gave her
Christmas
broadcast speech six months early, to call for peace;
by the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness
Buckingham Palace was a holy mess
six miles down and twelve miles wide,
Tradesmen's Entrance the other side
Round about the Tower of London.
As time went on, sad to tell,
The earth was fried like the hot side of hell.
Grew flat as a pancake.
With no-one round there was nothing to do
So I kicked off too.

Integration, Yeah

Forty dollars and a bus brought thirty students inland 1,000 miles to the Musgrave Ranges, the country of the Pitjinjara.

The students came from seven different universities and met in Adelaide during the May vacation. Here they were briefed on what to expect in the next fortnight.

They were going to an Aboriginal Reserve, which bordered on the W.A. and N.T. borders of S.A. where they would work for the government in return for free board. The policy of S.A. is one of integration. All the other States have a policy of assimilation which means that the aborigines are expected to join the melting pot of other Australians. However, South Australians hope that through integration we shall live together learning appreciation of and pride in our cultural differences.

As unintegrated whites we were told of the harsh punishment for immorality, the group leadership by the elders with no one single leader, the enormous time devoted to spiritual matters and the preference given to them.

BUILDING

And so a mixed group of students—in fact we had representatives from Asia, America, Europe and Tasmania—arrived at Amata, drawn closer by three days on the road. Here we lived in tents, the aborigines in wilchas—nest like humpies of grass and stick—and the white staff in ordinary houses. Our job was to build four two-roomed houses. We worked hard and with great inexperience. We nearly finished two of them. These are for anyone who wants to live in a house and they cost \$500.



At night we heard lectures on the Pitjinjara language, and discussed what we had seen in relation to the laws being passed in the war away capital. The old age pensioners who grew rich not having to pay normal housing rent, water bills, etc., the food given as child endowment thrown in the dust; the store-room which either by ill luck or mismanagement ran out of food and so showing the aborigines that it was not so sensible

after all to earn wages and forcing him to revert to hunting and malnutrition. And the law—our policy says that they are free to live their own way, but is infanticide within their law to go unconvicted under ours?

Is integration possible? Can we do it? It seems the only way is for more white Australians to integrate and there is a chance to do so during the coming holidays.

STUDENT SURVEY

The S.R.C. Education and Welfare Committee, being faced with a number of problems involving action has reached a stage where a survey of student opinion on a number of subjects is necessary before they can take any specific action.

The first part of the Survey is devoted to student evaluation of Lecturing standards, examination methods, course organisation, etc., etc. Students seem to agree that, in these respects there is something rotten in the State of Denmark. But if we want to achieve reform in these matters, we must have evidence that students are behind us. Surveys in other Universities have failed because of a militant approach. The Adelaide Survey is more moderately worded and as a result it is hoped that the findings will be more widely received.

Student Welfare problems are investigated in the Second and larger part of the Survey, in particular problems relating to finance, accommodation and health.

LOAN FUND

It has become apparent that existing student loan Funds and Scholarship allowances are not adequate. The S.R.C. is at present campaigning for the establishment of a Union Loan Fund. It is hoped that the results of this Survey will indicate other types of action that could be taken to improve this situation.

There is very little information available at present on the accommodation needs of

Adelaide students. However, there are a large number of students from the country, interstate and overseas who require accommodation. The Survey will provide an indication of the extent of these requirements and the adequacy of existing provisions.

Distribution will be organised by Faculty Representatives, on a 10% Sampling Basis. The Survey will be completed during the week beginning 25th September. If you are one of those approached, please take the time to fill in and return the form. It will help your S.R.C. to help you.

THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING

AOSTS exists to provide the opportunity for students to travel to overseas countries for the purpose of meeting people in these countries, with the view to greater understanding of the family life, customs and culture of the country, and at the same time provides reciprocal opportunities for students from other countries.

In December of this year 43 Russian students will arrive in Australia, coming to Adelaide on December 31st and leaving on January 4th. Students from Adelaide and Flinders are invited to billet these students for their stay in Adelaide. There is a very full programme arranged for each day, including trips to the Barossa Valley and an Aboriginal Reserve which hosts may attend if they wish, but need not. A New Year's Eve Party will be held for Russians, hosts and friends.

The amount of actual hosting is minimal—none during the day, some at night. This is an opportunity not to be missed. Anyone interested please contact

ANNE DUNN,
c/o S.R.C. Office,
Adelaide University.

Please state how many students you would like to host.

The SRC has established a

Prosh Investigation Committee

to inquire into all aspects of Prosh

The Committee consists of Miss D. Howard, Mr. J. C. Bannon, Mr. W. Manos, Mr. C. J. Sumner.

Submissions to this Committee from any interested persons would be welcome.

To be handed to the Administrative Secretary, SRC Office by Dec. 1, 1967.

ACHTUNG!

If you think that 'National U' is a leftish rag,

then . . .

Do Something About It.

Contribute to 'U'

Local Correspondent,
SRC Office

And readers of ON DIT No. 10 will have noticed with excitement the announcement of the 1967 Prosh Film. The first screening has now been fixed for TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 in the Union Hall. Admission is 20c, and if the hall is filled a large part of the film costs will be defrayed. So come along at 1.15 for a gas half-hour and see Prosh Week as never before (Valerie Rogers included). Word has it that the film is a beauty.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from P.2)

DURBRIDGE PERVERSION

Dear Sirs,

Deliberate and ruthless perversion of the truth, distortion of facts and active suppression of defence, have been revealed as the weapons of the local press in their treatment of the establishment of a war-victims' fund in this University. The obvious emotive connotations of the headline, 'Local N.L.F. Aid Group', and the sickening implications of the 'Bluey' cartoon characterise the below-the-belt tactics which are being used against minority dissentient groups by the 'gentlemen' of the press. All in all, the authoritarian mind has been having a field day. And the 'Liberals' were granted space for their brilliant and profound revelations, thinly disguised as smeary half-truths. But of course the Adelaide Club is more important than democratic rights.

The implications of this hysterical reaction (to something which church groups have been doing for years), are disturbing. The slide into totalitarianism—evident for some time—seems to be quickening as the population debilitates into T.V. apathy.

The introduction of legally dubious and morally disgusting legislation, in order to silence dissent and discredit the Opposition, brings a kick from one Senator. Someone else would appear to be wearing the paper-tiger suit in this country.

And so the old formula is being proved right again. Take an enemy (invent him if you have to), add a slice of fear (by scare tactics) a strong dash of patriotism (to silence dissent), and wrap it up in reactionary and biased newspapers, and what do you have?

I do not consider neo-Fascism an overstatement.

Yours, etc.,

BOB DURBRIDGE,
Chairman Vietnam Aid Committee.

PAIOR

LIBERALS

Dear Sirs,

I was shocked and surprised to see a photograph of Adolf Hitler with the article on the Liberal Club which appeared in the last edition of your bi-weekly excreta 'On Dit'. I am sure that it was not included maliciously and can only assume that, as usual, a mistake was made by either your publishers or yourselves or that it was the work of an insidious communist and/or papist plot.

Yours, etc.

A. J. PAIOR,

President, A.U.L.C.

Alex, baby, someone told us he was back from Argentina.—Ed.

The SRC

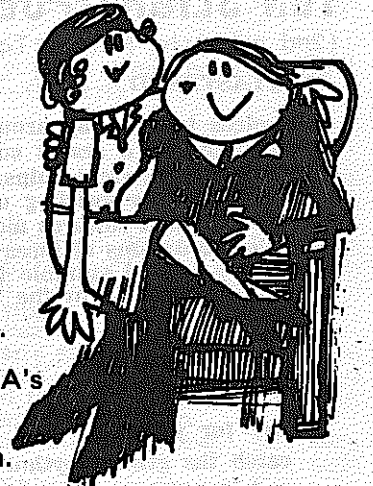
has established a Constitutional Committee to enquire into SRC Elections.

This Committee consists of Messrs. W. Latimer, A. Rooney and J. Waters.

Submissions to this Committee from any interested persons would be welcome

To be handed to the Administrative Secretary, SRC Office by December 1, 1967.

come fly with the friendly jetline



Let T.A.A. pamper you in a luxury whispering T-Jet. Such supreme and friendly service from T.A.A.'s hostess with the mostest that you'll never want to come down to earth again.

And when you take off with T.A.A. there's a take off for you (students' discount).

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THE FRIENDLY WAY

144 North Terrace
or 53 Rundle St.
Phone 51 0101

the golden legion of cleaning women

REVIEWS

reviewed by G. J. Searle

"The Golden Legion of Cleaning Women" by Australian playwright Alan Hopgood, is the S.A. Theatre Company's essay into comedy in its present season of three modern plays. So far Albee's "A Delicate Balance" has been presented and on September 27th, "The Homecoming," by Harold Pinter, will be seen.

"The Golden Legion" proved to be something of a flop, especially in the light of the glowing reviews it has received. Apparently there is some sort of childish loyalty which stops local reviewers saying that an Australian-written play is a failure even if this is dismally apparent, as it is with this uneasy piece of fantasy.

The play portrays a group of Adelaide charwomen who are on the verge of the sack because of the proverbially ruthless and inhuman corporation director, Leghorn Cobb of Cobb and

Co. Led and inspired by Lotte, a philosophical genius of the tea-urn, and helped by the proverbially thwarted and frustrated son Tod Cobb, the ladies create a huge business empire from scraps of paper found in the waste-paper baskets of the tycoons.

UNEASY

It is unlikely, of course, and the play makes no claims to realism—except for the major factor that it is satirical and attempts to point a moral. (A moral which to this reviewer was embarrassingly banal; the message being that as long as there are good old ordinary people, the world will be alright). The fantasy and satire make uneasy bedfellows. It is a play which would be better on paper, I think, than it actually is on the stage.

Hopgood's first play to be seen in Adelaide, "And the Big Men Fly," had basically the same sort of mixture and

yet was a great success. The difference between the two plays lies in the fact that the football world itself is ideally suited as a subject for humorous writing. It would take as much skill and ability in an author to make it the object of serious satire as it would to make the sick and inhuman world of the company director an object of light satire. Hopgood hasn't shown this talent in "The Golden Legion."

What was enjoyable about the performance was the acting of all the five charwomen, particularly Patricia Kennedy as Lotte. Diane O'Loughlin as the unbelievable Bertha, Leghorn's secretary, was also entertaining. The production by John Tasker was suitably professional apart from minor faults (e.g. overloud microphones). In general, the performance of cast and producer make one look forward hopefully to "The Homecoming", when there will be better material for them to work on.



the balcony

reviewed by Buerg

"The Balcony" is a puzzling film which comes across as very close to a failure. Unconventional, fantastic, it tells us that life has no point, and so appears most meaningless for those to whom it best communicates.

The titles appear against a background of riots, brutality, explosions and fires in a big American city. The film then takes us inside an extraordinary brothel where the girls provide their own customers each with his own elaborate fantasy — ritual before the almost irrelevant consummation. Thus one regular customer — a gas workman — wears a bishop's costume; in a sort of vestry complete with candles and organ music he has received a girl's confession and is seen endeavoring to enact a rite of forgiveness for her. We also find a milkman playing the General-killed-in-battle (his whore is his trusty steed!) and a shabby little clerk acting Chief Justice, and we learn that Irma, the likeable madame, is the girlfriend of George, the (real) local Chief of Police.

BROTHEL

George has to convince all the citizens that the riots, started by one Roger, are under control. As the real General, Bishop and Judge have been murdered, he convinces the three appropriate brothel customers to enact their roles "for real" by riding through the devastated city in an open car. Here there are some amusing scenes as the General and Bishop stop off to indulge in appropriate speeches to immense cheering crowds. George himself gives a Hitlerish address over the radio, allows the people three minutes to clear out of the riot area, and then dynamites it. Towards the end we see him farcically negotiating for a payoff with his three fools and then with the unshaven,



unconvincing Roger. The whole fantasy is enacted against the partly real lives of Irma and her actress-prostitutes, and ends with Irma instructing the audience to go home to their beds, "where everything will be even falsier than it is here."

So the "cinema of the absurd" presents human megalomania seen in constantly returning shades of ridiculousness. Its value is meant to be twofold — a valid look at life and people, combined with straight-out humor — but the social comment is narrow, the laughs are scattered, and the main impression is one of gutlessness.

The faults divorcing the film from its bold conception are many. Technically, the music is slight and redundant, George's words are often lost,

and flicker is bad. The acting is as second-rate as the characters: thus George is too dull for the main part, Irma apart from an interesting touch of lesbianism appears conventional, and only the "Bishop" and "General" carry conviction. The plot has its moments but is directionless and structureless — devoid of climax or denouement, it never grips us, so that the poignant balance of pathos and bathos is missing altogether.

LIMITATIONS

These limitations demand that the film be shorter. Compression would help the comedy, eliminate the expectation of characterisation, and allow a snappier sequence. Script and casting need a complete overhaul; production lacks the proverbial ha'porth of tar.

Since the early screenings, Bergman's "The Silence" has replaced the abysmal supporting feature that was used at first. This will probably make the show more worthwhile.

We are left with a crust for the intellect — the contention that life is a meaningless enactment. To get this point, one has to view George with detachment and Irma with attention, for he is the farcical embodiment, for he is the farcical embodiment. Perhaps the role of the characters could be called Brechtian — they are symbols viewed, rather than people communicating. Somehow this extreme doesn't come off: neither the tragic reality nor the comic fantasy have the force of "Billy Liar" or "Little Malcolm And His Struggle Against The Eunuchs". So "The Balcony" is an interesting but disappointing film.

owls do cry

A haunting book, strangely evocative of half-forgotten memories when the world was seen through the uncomprehending eyes of a child. The broken syntax and at times highly poetical language combine to produce a dream-like effect, in which nothing seems really to matter, where joy is not joy nor grief true grief. Thus sharp lines are blurred to give a highly impressionistic effect which contrasts sharply with the stark drama of the lives and ends of certain characters — two murders, one suicide, in addition to the epilepsy of Toby and the madness of Daphne.

The story is set in the South Island of New Zealand — in contrast with the bustling North — in a sleepy country town. The lives of four children in the family of a poor uneducated workingman are traced through their childhood fossickings in the town rubbish dump to what may be called the decisive point in their lives; that stage at which change

means ageing, not breaking new furrows. The first dies of an accident, her brother is epileptic, the next, a sister, spends years in a mental asylum, while the last, after a period of blooming prosperity, is shot by the husband whom she thought would make her so happy. Life is narrowed to a rather meaningless succession of happenings within the limited scope of the story. The deft characterisation of the authoress, combined with her simple attitude to problems of living, and especially the striving of human beings for happiness, leaves the reader with notable impressions of the characters involved: the inbuilt snobbishness of Chicks, the pathetic love and faith of the mother, the shallow pride of the father, yet harmless for all that, or the matron grieving for her dead lover, with the wire stretched beneath her face as though from the wreath she left on his grave. The book has a certain lyric quality about it, especially in the nature descriptions, so that even the rub-

bish dump "with the toi-toi like a fringe of shawl" is vaguely attractive despite Francie's unpleasant (but singularly unmoving) death there. There are many strains running through the book, such as the desire to be loved and wanted yet none is stronger or more persistent than the swelling sadness so apparent at the end with the father sitting, lonely and deserted, gazing vacantly out to sea. It seems that the authoress feels strongly the pathos of human beings, and their helplessness in the face of suffering quite beyond their control. Francie in the dump fire, Toby with his epilepsy which separates him out from the other boys, Daphne and her troubled sanity. Even Chicks, who tries to cut herself off from all her past, and this same helplessness of destiny, is suddenly and swiftly dealt a grim retribution. Yet some are lucky; like Daphne, they suffer and are retrieved back to life and achieve success and fulfillment.

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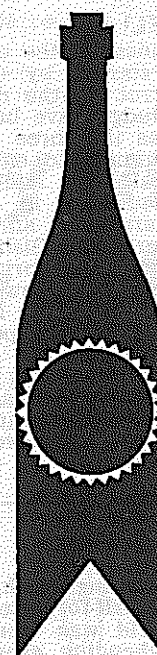
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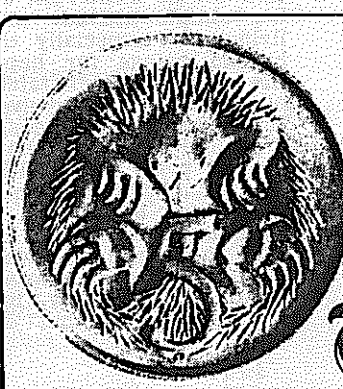
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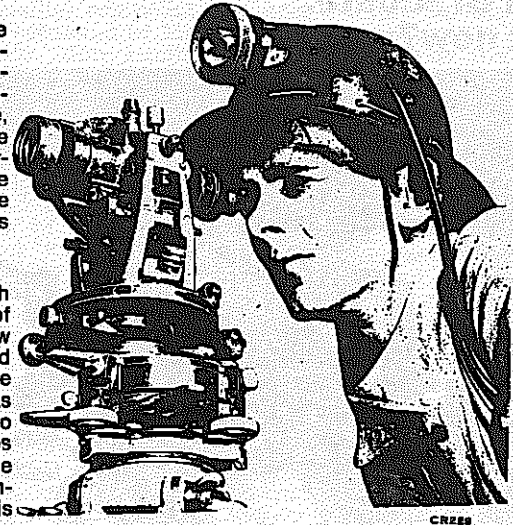
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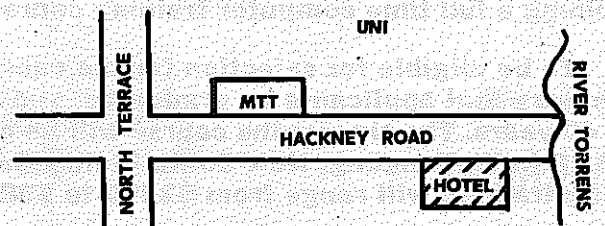
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Complaints have been made about the mess being left on the floor of the Union Hall after films and lunchtime meetings.

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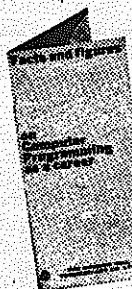
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FENCING

Foiled Again

by Laertes

It was with some trepidations that the Adelaide Uni. Women's Fencing team set out for this year's I.V. Competition in Melbourne.

DUE to the Nationals which were held in Adelaide in the following week there was a conspicuous absence of experienced fencers in the team.

Of the four competing members only the captains Judith Pink, had had any previous I.V. or competitive experience, the other three being relative newcomers to the sport and thus classed as "novices". However, seeded 5th out of five we had nothing to lose and everything to gain as far as experience goes; and this proved to be so.

UNSUCCESSFUL

As beginner's luck would have it, Adelaide's Helen Jordan won our first bout, against Queensland's top fencer. Although off to a good start we only managed to win one more bout against the Queenslanders thus going down to them 2:14.

Despite the first crushing defeat, the fighting spirit kept up and as the day went on the performances and re-

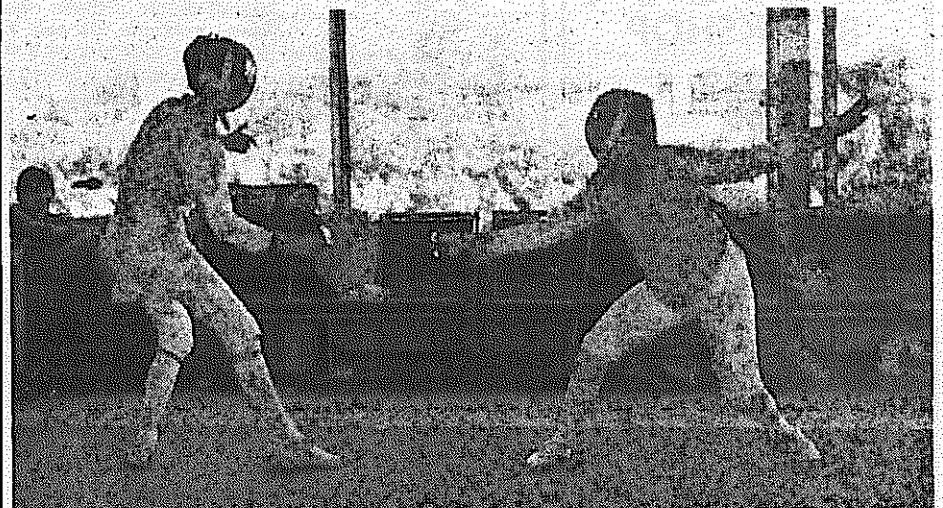
sults improved considerably. The final scores were:

Queensland d. Adelaide, 14:2.
Melbourne d. Adelaide, 13:3.
Monash d. Adelaide, 10:6.
Sydney d. Adelaide, 11:5.

Seen what they may these scores are little indication of the performances of the team, as many of the individual bouts were extremely close contests.

A special mention should go to our captain, who both off and on the strip exceeded herself, winning nine out of our total 16 bouts won and only missing out on the combined Uni. team by two hits.

All in all it was an extremely enjoyable if not somewhat hectic week's round of activities. With the valuable competitive experience gained by our beginners this year and a lot of hard work, Adelaide can confidently look forward as successful hosts to the 1968 I.V. competitions.



Touche

SPORTS SHORTS

Adelaide's four representatives, Biruta Vilmanis, Peter Griffin, Eugene Russo and Ian Bidmeade have just returned from the University Games held in Tokyo. For the first time ever, an Australian Universities team marched in the opening ceremony before a crowd of 100,000. Australia won two gold medals, one silver and three bronze to finish a creditable seventh out of 34 nations. Biruta finished third in the 400 metres, while Peter took part in a bronze-winning 4 x 100 metres relay. The tennis players did as well as could be expected in the humid conditions, in which the Japanese were supreme. Superb organisation, facilities and hospitality made this an unforgettable experience. Australia must continue to participate in these World Games, which are second only to the Olympics.

FOOTBALL

Sept. 2. After being held strongly by S.P.O.C for three-quarters, Uni. A's raced away in the last quarter with a quick succession of goals. The reverse happened with Uni. B's losing control in the final quarter to top side Seaton Ramblers.

A's 13-6 d. S.P.O.C. 3-7. Best: Stirling, Bondar, Disney, Waltham, Turnbull, Hockeridge.

B's 6-3 lost to Seaton Ramblers 12-18.

C's 5-1 lost to C.B.O.S. 21-20.

D's 7-66 d. S.P.O.C. 3-5.

E's 9-11 d. S. Ramblers 1-3.

F's 6-10 d. C.B.O.C. 6-1.

G's 0-3 lost to Teachers 8-8.

Sept. 9. In the semi-final against Teachers, the Blacks led all day, but then allowed two goals to be kicked against them, and a stiff breeze in the last quarter, to go down by four points. The A's will play Rosewater in the prelim. final.

A's 4-10 lost to Teachers 5-8. Best: Disney, Bondar, Underdown, Blake, Rofe, Waltham.

In a close match in which the A1 Reserves ran wild in the last quarter, Teachers were defeated convincingly. Stef Nikoloff was best for the Blacks, who will play in the final now.

Uni. 8-5 d. Teachers 5-8.

Not having beaten Walkerville before, the A2 Reserve's convincing win by six goals in the semi-final was a credit to Ben Casey and his team. Johnny Clegg, Fred Bott and Ben were amongst the best.

Scores: Uni. 13-9 d. Walkerville 8-3.

Trophy Winner

Blacks A1 ruckman, John Clapp, while on tour in Launceston with the State Amateur side, collected three trophies. He won the Victorian West End trophy for the best South Australian in the match against Victoria; the Western Australian award for the best S.A. player against Western Australia; and the South Australian award for the player to win the most votes from the State side for the Carnival medal.

LACROSSE

Sept. 2. In the last match of the minor round, Uni. A's were defeated by Sturt, and finished seventh on the

premiership table, after a mediocre season.

A's, 12, lost to Sturt, 18. Best: Mathwin, Hobbs, Gaskell, Ward, Edwards.

B's, 4 d. Brighton 0.

C's 17 d. Brighton, 6.

Sept. 9. In a close game in the B Grade semi-finals, Uni. B's were out-classed by four goals by East Torrens. The Blacks will play North Adelaide in the preliminary final on Sept. 16.

B's, 14, lost to East Torrens 18. Best: Hetzel, Fowler, Barwick, Kirkby, Simpson.

RUGBY

Sept. 2. Uni. A's, playing an injury-weakened Glenelg side, had a closely-fought game in which the Blacks emerged as surprise winners.

A's, 9, d. Glenelg 6. Best: Newns, Kemp, Horwood, Ashton, White, Hill.

B's, 0, lost to Southern Suburbs, 3.

C's, 3, lost to Glenelg, 48.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Sept. 2. After holding Port Adelaide scoreless in the first half, Uni A's succumbed to a fighting comeback and lost by two goals.

A's, 0, lost to Port Adelaide, 2. Best: G. Pitt, S. Tucker, J. Pickup, R. Mitchell. B's, 1, lost to Port Adelaide, 2.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Sept. 2. In the Grand Finals of the A Reserve grade, University convincingly defeated Western Teachers' College, 5-2, aided by an incredibly speedy right winger. In the Preliminary Final of C1 grade, University girls were beaten by Adelaide Teachers (females, presumably), 2-1.

Included in the State Women's Hockey team to play a country women's team, were two Uni. birds, Sue Fotheringham and Judy Goodwin.

BASKETBALL

Sept. 9. A's, 82 d. Flinders Uni., 48.

Scorers: Fraser 17, Paterson 11, Washyn 11. B's, 47 d. Flinders Uni., 46.

C's, 23 d. Flinders Uni., 19.

D's, 39 d. Flinders Uni., 36.

A 7-a-side match in which the men's committee defeated top I.V. 7-a-side champion women was a feature curtain-raiser. Scores were 25-18.

Black Power

by Jake etc.

The University A's under coach Alan Greer finished the season as minor premiers and at this stage must stand as firm favourites for the premiership. The main contender for the premiership being Teachers' College, who finished second on the premiership table, three wins behind University.

The strength of the University A side lies in their defence. They have had less points scored against them than any other team. The half-back line of Simmons, Disney and Muecke have provided tremendous rebound all season.

Bruce Simmons and Val Bondar have been the A's most consistent players, both of them rarely turning in a bad performance.

Follower Clapp, and rucks Waltham and Hockridge are again hitting top form, and this combination should prove a force in the finals. Ian Hockridge is probably the most improved player this season, with his intelligent ruck work, strong marking and accuracy around the goals.

The roving division has received able support for 52-goal Ian Edgely, from Graham Stirling. In the two games so far that he has played, he has added considerable sting to the packs with his fearless ball getting.

The key forward positions have been shared between numerous players, because of injury to the regulars. Panczak, Warhurst, Sandland, Rofe and Hunt have all had their moments when playing in these key positions,

year. A total of 95 played with the team.

The potential of a stable team was proved when in the middle of second term the A3's won 5 out of 6 games including a thrilling win by five points against Old Scotch and a one-point victory from Flinders University.

However, vacations took their toll on the A3's. Also, with the D's and E's in the finals, the last weeks of season the C's became a forgotten team.

Of the regulars, Harry Sabine and Peter Brown always turned in consistently good performances. Long-kicking full-backs Brian Daniels and ever-reliable ruckman Ian Lewis often featured in the best players.

A1 RESERVES

After laying in ninth position at the end of the May vacation the A1 Reserves doggedly moved up the table and finally with a convincing victory over their closest opponent, S.P.O.C., finished the minor round in top place.

Inspired by the determination and enthusiasm of captain Rex Hunter, the team combined well to win the last eight matches straight. Promin-



rating amongst the best on most occasions.

Overall the side has many brilliant players and when playing as a team should prove to be practically unbeatable in the finals.

A2 TEAM

After a poor start to the season, Dick Gask's A2 team finished in good form, winning six of the last 10 games—giving the top teams a few strong nudges.

Coach Bob Fosdike was the power behind the bounces, conspicuous by his incredible enthusiasm and interest in the team. His influence was such that he "created" several A1 players in Stirling, Freeman, Goodhart and Hunt.

A stunning blow came to the team when popular, debonair John Valtenburg announced his retirement at the end of the season. The Riverside spectators will certainly miss him.

Players to provide reliable stability to the team in moments of despair were Freeman, Beagley, Meissner and Dennis Harrison.

A3 TEAM

Fiery Bryan Jenkins and his A3 team this year had a fairly disappointing season, mainly due to the great turnover of players during the

ent in these games were the two rovers R. Prior and G. Booth who was listed among the top three goalscorers in the grade.

A noticeable feature of the team's game has been its activity to play at full pressure in the final term and this should prove a devastating asset in the finals.

Spirits are high for a premiership this year and the chances of success, by last week's performances, are great.

A2 RESERVES

The A2 Reserve side led by Ben Casey finished the season in fourth position, having won 15 and drawn one of the season's twenty matches.

This was a commendable performance considering the loss of regular players during the May and August vacations. This loss partially accounted for the fact that 83 players represented the side during the season.

Premiership prospects are very good as the Blacks have beaten all the sides in the final four except Walkerville. They were fortunate to meet University during the vacations and their previous successes should not be repeated. With Bob Fosdike to guide the way a good performance in the finals is assured.

I.V. HOTDOG

by "Hang one"



The first Intersurvey Surfing contest, hosted by the University of New South Wales Surfing Association, was held in Sydney from 23rd to 26th August.

Teams from Sydney, New South Wales, Newcastle, Monash and Adelaide Universities competed. The Adelaide team consisted of Marcel Loos, Ron McCook, Jim Lumbers, Colin Best, Bob Ey, Phil Linke, Terry Hussey and John Kruger.

Arriving at Green Island (160 miles south of Sydney) 7.30 a.m. on Sunday we found good glassy 5-6 ft. lefts. Ron McCook managed to find a right—right into the rocks, resulting in many dents in a brand new board. Although not "killing the surf" we put in a reasonable morning's riding.

Sunday afternoon we surfed a 4-5 ft. shore-break at Mollymook (4 miles south of Green Island).

DUBBO

Monday morning we moved south to the Ulladulla Golf Course reef and were stoked by glassy 6-8 ft. rights. Many good rides were taken particularly by Marcel Loos and Jim Lumbers, despite the presence of a large find 300 yards off-shore. John Kruger was voted "dubbo of the day" after dropping in on Marcel—ending in a double wipe-out under an 8 ft. section.

Monday night saw us back in Sydney—this time checking out Kings Cross. After looking over "the Cross" and strip shows etc., the general opinion was 'slack.'

The heats of the individual contest were held at Kurnel in Botany

Bay in 2-5 surf. It had originally been planned to hold the heats at Manly but the beach was closing out at about 10-12 ft. and conditions were too windy and choppy to hold a successful event.

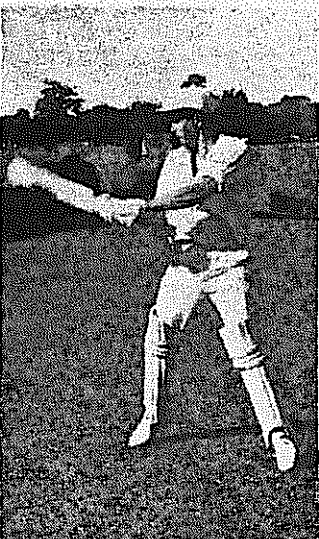
FIFTH

Thursday saw the teams events held at Collaroy in 6-7 ft. choppy surf. From the first event it was evident that the battle would be between Sydney and N.S.W. teams, both having many top class surfers. It also became apparent that Adelaide had a great chance of running fifth, and did so rather convincingly. Best performance for Adelaide was turned in by Phil Linke.

Friday—and the finals of the individual events were held at Manly in 6-7 ft. surf. We dipped out here—the final being won by Loter Fulde of Sydney.

The afternoon saw us at Fairy Bower—a legend in surfing circles. We managed to pick up a few good rides in powerful 8-10 ft. surf. Terry Hussey appeared to take it as a chance to put in some paddling practice, finally catching a wave.

Saturday night—the presentation of trophies at a Disco' at Manly. The Bower Boy Perpetual Trophy was presented to Sydney team by the Manager of the Bower Boy Wax. We received the Rowing Cup.



● S.A.C.A. matches begin Saturday, October 7.

● Practice at Uni. Oval starts on Sunday, September 10, at 10 a.m.

● Practice will be on hard wickets, and it is hoped turf wickets will be available near the end of September.

● Uni. football coach Alan Greer, will be coaching the Cricket Club this season.

● Keep your eye on the Cricket Club Notice Board.



**ON DIT
SPORTSMAN
OF THE
WEEK**

DAVID CHERRY

Tall, very rangy David Cherry is the last ON DIT Sportsman of the Week. Cherry, a third year medical student, has been a member of the top University team in three sports—cricket, golf and football.

Undoubtedly his major achievement have been on the golf course—he is 1967 Royal Adelaide and University champion, and also won the State foursomes with fellow medical student Robert Still. He was an early favorite in the State mixed foursomes, but on almost every hole he disappeared into the rough with his partner and ended, up one over.

The long-hitting Cherry has been a member of the State Senior team for two years and at present holds the course records at Royal Adelaide and Glenelg. He was chosen in the All-Australian Universities golf team in 1965 and 1967, and this year was awarded a Blue.

"Big Dave", as he is known to all those who know him as "Big Dave", stands 6' 4" and is of similar length when lying down. This height has stood him in good stead in both cricket and football, and he has played a few games for Uni A's in both these sports—including two Intersurvey cricket matches last year. His fiery pace bowling has terrified many a wicketkeeper, and his batting is always an entertaining mixture of sizes over the bowler's head and ingenious deflections between his legs.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS

Is it worth it?

by A. P. Varsanyi

Although relatively virgin to the profit-oriented bally-hoo of contemporary Western capitalism, the undergraduate seldom describes the modern business executive in glowing terms.

And while many of the faces around us on campus now will in due course be reflected in the polished surface of a company boardroom table, there is evidence both here and abroad that the undergrad no longer regards an enhanced business career as the only and inevitable result of his degree or diploma. At the same time there is evidence that the business moguls are beginning to realize that, with some exceptions, the varsity man is superior to the person who works his way up from the postage desk. They are, therefore, making an increasing number of sorties into our midst while painfully aware of the contempt, or at least disinterest that many students display towards them.

ACOLYTES

A growing percentage of the commercial market is falling into the hands of that modern citadel of profit and power, the corporation. And since, in the business world, corporations are chief among the commercial concerns courting us, if only because they are among the few such bodies that can afford to retain graduates, it is their high priests and acolytes who deserve a little preliminary investigation.

Corporations are willing to go higher and even higher in pursuit of promising talent not only because of expansion plans but because many jobs last year went begging — despite the fattest starting salaries business has ever offered the graduate.

This year more firms than ever plan to recruit on our campuses, and, from all accounts, the hiring competition will be keener among the

companies themselves than among students looking for a position. Few final-year undergrads have not come face to face with a campus recruiter who assessed them with a cold eye and genial smile. Let's turn the tables on the companies and corporations which these recruiters represent and see whether they measure up to our standards.

BIG KILL

The view is hardly exhilarating. The modern corporation executive is primarily a slave to his company which, in turn, is a slave to the profit margin. Our executive must be almost exclusively dedicated to the enrichment of his company, and he must do this at the expense of the finer things in life — whether he is aware of them or not. He finds his satisfaction not in a creation that he can look on with pride as representing some essence of himself, but in transiently exciting problems and the hope of a big kill. By giving 24 hours a day to a production or marketing puzzle a man can make a most successful career, but his progress within his job will be at the expense of another kind of development.

For many executives, the company calls up a dedication which religion once found in its acolytes, and draws upon some of the same positive impulses which have served religious movements nobly in their periods of growth. For instance, the executives at American Telephone & Telegraph — the U.S.'s biggest corporation — have been quoted as considering themselves a breed apart, and of viewing their job of "helping the people to speak" as an almost priestly calling. More

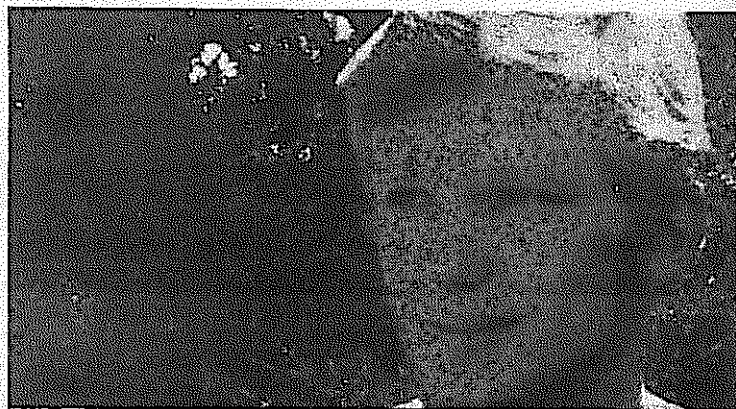
directly this means that our junior executive will find that he must be an unquestioning disciple of the bitch-goddess.

The analogy should not be pressed too far, but for all its insistence on its own down-to-earth practicality, the corporation cuts off its favored children from the outside world as effectively as a monastery. Its demands are so pressing that the classic concerns of mankind — politics, the arts, philosophy, community, and even family — must remain behind the institution's fashionably decorated walls.

IMPEDIMENT

The university man, having lived in an atmosphere where the importance of these classic concerns is taken for granted, should consider whether he is able to make the sacrifice. He should also realize that from the employee's point of view, being educated to tertiary level may prove an impediment to his career as well as a nuisance to his employer. An overly speculative mind of the sort stimulated by reading philosophy can be a severe hindrance to the junior executive, since the most thoughtful persons do not as a rule make the most dynamic operators.

In Western Europe, the United States, Japan and Australia, the corporation, symbol of healthy capitalism, has prospered, and its immense economic power has brought it power of other kinds. General Electric in the U.S. is emphatically proud of its powers. At the end of 1954, its Employee Relations Newsletter announced that the business it brought into its communities was "estimated to be the major support of 40,000 retail establishments;



A. P. Varsanyi

to maintain 1,200 schools with 21,600 teachers; to supply opportunities for 28,800 professional men outside G.E.; to supply livelihoods to over 1,000,000 people outside our employees and their families; to support the selling and servicing of 540,000 automobiles a year; to mean \$240 million revenue for the railroad traffic in and out of communities; to create a taxable valuation of \$3 billion; to give markets of \$420 million to farm products and create an annual expenditure in trade in our communities of \$1,800 million . . ."

That a few hundred men whose private fortunes are inextricably interwoven with the fortunes of their company should possess such influence over the rest of the nation might give us pause even if they had all been trained to assume this kind of responsibility. But their training has been necessarily narrow; the public service of which they are fond of boasting a mere by-product of motives somewhat less noble; and their heritage hardly compatible with University curricula.

POLL

It is hardly surprising that a great many students reject a possible business career. A recent Lou Harris poll of American college seniors published by "Newsweek" revealed that only 31% of the students were seriously considering a career in business, and only 12% made it their first choice. The basic dissatisfaction of the students was that they saw companies as being overly bent on gain at the exclusion of more public spirited considerations. They felt

that the businessman was basically untrustworthy, and 28% called them "manipulators."

Also evident from the survey was that many students were less attracted by big pay packets than by a calling which was socially useful, creative and conducive to self development.

The disturbing thing to those who would otherwise applaud this attitude is that obviously a lot of it is ill-conceived. A great part of it is the by-product of a natural rebelliousness and contempt for those of our institutions which have helped to mould our way of life. For many it is not so much the result of an enlightened view of things as it is of a little wetness behind the ears. Among these students the attitude is bound to be short lived.

Even apart from those students who are attracted by corporate and company life, and who will, upon graduation, fall willingly prey to its charms, many of our idealists will find that they are in for a rude awakening. They may find that abstract idealism will have to give way to the practical facts of life — usually in the form of home, wife and kids, all of which demand a 'secure' job with a fat salary. A compromise is inevitable for many of them.

But the swelling ranks of hard liners who will take professional and non-business jobs, go on to graduate schools, seek research scholarships, or join Australian Volunteers Abroad are showing the rest of us that there are attractive and stimulating alternatives to a career in business.

