

UNITY NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SYDNEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE UNION
INCORPORATING TECHNICHEM TRANSMISSION AND PINION

THE SHOW THAT
PUT THE "DENTS"
IN STUDENTS
JUNE 23rd, 1950.

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SPECIAL JUNE 5th ISSUE

Conference Ends in Stirring Appeal

The final decision of the tremendously successful second Student Needs and Welfare Conference was an uproarious and remarkable enthusiastic motion carried unanimously with cheers and prolonged clapping.

It called on all Union members to attend the Annual General meeting of the Union on Thursday, June 15th, and to make this a starting point for real student activity at Sydney 'Tech.

The final three motions submitted to the Conference were an inspiration.

The spirit of co-operation and understanding which lead to a unanimous decision on the question of peace demonstrates in no uncertain fashion the value of these conferences.

There was never a dull moment in the discussions and by being together for the week-end and realising that in fact, what had appeared in the past to be major differences between students, became but a stimulus for production of better ideas for student needs and welfare, enabled an amazing amount of work to be done.

As we realised that, on the basic question of student interest, everyone of us had the same objective more and more of our motions were carried unanimously after a thorough thrashing out and amendment of the various proposals.

For this reason the second last motion was received with such applause that the roof of the building seemed to rise.

This motion was a suggestion that as so much had been gained from the week-end in this friendly

spirit that a students discussion group should be set up at 'tech to carry on the good work and to enable other students to make such firm friendships as those made by everybody present at Mona Vale.



THE NON-CAMERA SHY PARTICIPANTS AT MONA VALE.

TURNER HALL

8 p.m., June 15th, 1950

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

N.S.W. University of Technology

Discussion was mainly around conversation courses again and the final recommendations carried were:

1. "That this Conference fully supports any move to have the Diploma and the Bachelors Degree considered equivalent which would allow such graduates to proceed to a common Masters Degree.
2. We consider that past Associates of the College and future graduates should be able to convert to a Masters Degree by a part-time course.
3. Further we feel that eventually the above mentioned courses

should constitute one degree.

4. Unity News print an explanatory article on the University of Technology and its bearing on Diplomas (conversion courses, etc.).

5. That Union Council investigate whether the Degree granted on a part-time basis would be universally recognised and if so, that the S.T.C.U. campaign strenuously for such courses for present Diplomates and students who commenced their diploma prior to the commencement of the University of Technology Degree Courses.

6. That Union Council investigate assisting those students wishing to gate the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Scheme with the view of do the full time Bachelors Degree.

OH THOSE COMMERCIALS!

REVUE REVIEW.

Feverish activity is going on around the production of the first revue to be held in the College for many years. Such stars as Warren Cullen, George Tangie, Max Court play leading roles and are there beautiful girls, tons of 'em! The theme revolves around a broadcasting room and gives you a chance to get your own back on those commercials. Date June 23rd, Time 8 p.m., Place Turner Hall.

Admission, Donation.

Are there any beautiful girls at 'Tech?' NO! in this case the beautiful ones have the brains not to come!

UP AND COMING JOURNALISTS

With view to raising the standard of journalism in Unity News the Editor plans to hold a class covering all aspects of this work.

The class will be free of charge, the only stipulation being that once your name is down your attendance must be regular. It will be held on Monday night at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. approx. in the Union rooms for a duration of 7 or 8 weeks. The class will be taken by a leading journalist from a daily newspaper. If you are interested please leave your name etc. with Esme Mapperson at Union rooms as early as possible.

READING ROOM RE-OPENS

Union executive is pleased to announce that the reading room will be re-opened in the near future. Union members who want to spend a few quiet minutes polishing up on their studies before lectures will be pleased to hear this. Provision for playing chess will also be made in the new plan.

UNITY NEWS

Editor: Ross Nivison-Smith

Assistant Editor: Barbara Hewitt

Editorial Phone number: MA 6900

EDITORIAL

There have been statements made by so-called responsible people that youth in this age are nothing but bobby-soxers and gum chewers. Don't you believe it!!

I will admit I have been brought up very badly on the question of debates. I have been listening to parliament! But I do not hesitate to say that I have never had the pleasure to listen to more enlightened debates than those conducted at Mona Vale.

If the diplomats of the world could discuss the question of peace and reach unanimous decisions, from people with the most widely differing views, then the world would be a much better place to live in.

Why not invite some of our politicians to the next conference.

One of the unanimous decisions was to set up from the students

of the S.T.C. a discussion group.

From the enthusiasm of the Conference this will undoubtedly be under way in no uncertain fashion in the very near future.

If you have any fond illusions that tech college students are just mere technicians brother you just come and see!

A C.R.T.S BEDTIME STORY

By J.R.C

Once upon a time there was a big war between Goodies and Baddies.

In a land where a lot of kangaroos—animals that hop—lived were a lot of people who were told they were Goodies, this incidentally turned out to be true. Being thus told they were Goodies, they thought it their duty to go away and fight the Baddies. Those who didn't think it their duty went just the same.

The war dragged on until some Goodies from another country where a lot of corn is grown, dropped two little bombs called Atom, on the Baddies. The Baddies then decided to surrender. Being Baddies they couldn't have won anyway.

The Emperor of the land of kangaroos, named Ben Something or Other, was so grateful to his subjects who went away and fought, that he gave them an opportunity to educate themselves in to the sphere of life they wanted to live.

This went alright for a number of years, until people began to forget the war between the Goodies and Baddies and didn't feel like spending more money on those who fought. The people who came back from the war were called ex-servicemen and women. Already the universities were full, and the Emperor, named Ben Something or Other, got his courtiers to discourage any more ex-servicemen and women who wanted an education, by not raising their weekly pittance in conformity with the rising cost of living.

Then a catastrophe happened. The not so bad Emperor, Ben Something or Other, was dethroned, and in his place, a not so good Emperor, named, Ming Something or Other, ruled.

At this time, an ex-serviceman; keen to be educated and find a niche for himself in the cruel world, after much talking and haggling found himself with a

"future". His name was Nuther Digger.

He was led in to a place that looked like a factory to do a two year matriculation course in one year. This "factory" was called the Sydney Technical Something or Other.

The "classroom" he was in was fitted out with all Mod-Incons. The fumes that came up through the floor from a foundry below, put him to sleep. But the steamhammer in the Blacksmiths Shop on the right, soon woke him up. This system of education quite puzzled Nuther Digger because when he was put to sleep by the foundry fumes he naturally could not hear—the lecturer, and when he was awakened by the steamhammer he still couldn't hear above the noise.

It soon came about that Nuther Digger felt sad. He wasn't learning anything, his ambitions had all but left him and nobody seemed to love him anymore; except of course a very shady individual who had a shop with three brass balls over the door, and the way things were going he would soon lose his love too.

One day, feeling very miserable after his meagre lunch which consisted of two slices of dry bread and a pint of cold water, Nuther Digger cut his finger—one of his good ones. He went up to a very important looking person and asked to be shown to the nurse at the First-Aid room. But the very important looking person laughed and laughed and laughed. Because he knew that in the Sydney Technical Something or Other, there were no such thing. For Nuther Digger that was the last straw, and it broke ambition's back.

Now while Someone or Other, gleefully crosses a name prematurely from C.R.T.S. rolls, Nuther Digger works for the Main Roads Board, and, so I'm told, lives unhappily ever after.

Moral: There's Bad in Goodies.

DAYLIGHT TRAINING

The Conference agreed unanimously with the decisions of the February Student Needs Conference and endorsed "that full daylight technical education to be available without economic loss, to all students possessing the necessary qualifications for continuing their training.

Everyone agreed that the best way to obtain this was through industrial awards covering Diploma students. Hence that we:—

1. Publicise, through Unity News and general, the relevant Technical Educational clauses in the logs of claims of F.S.T.W. and A.A.E.S. D.A. and other unions.

2. Students are urged to join their respective unions and press for the implementation of daylight training.

3. That we as a democratic conference of students from the S.T.C. send letters to the State and Federal governments advocating a substantial increase in subsidies to students undertaking tertiary education and the extension of the scheme to cover students in diploma and equivalent courses, at the

S.T.C. in order to facilitate the introduction of more daylight training.

4. A publicity campaign be conducted on employers with a view to interesting them in subsidising daylight training.

5. That Union Council issue a questionnaire to students to obtain statistics on daylight training.

6. That the R.A.C.I. be approached to obtain their support for daylight training.

FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The following are particulars sent by two students from Czechoslovakia who would like to correspond in English with students in Australia.

Taroelav Hoffman, of Teninova 6, Chomutov, Czechoslovakia, boy of nineteen, student, belongs to youth organisation CuSM, would like to correspond with a girl of 16 or 17.

Tetiva Yaroslav, of Edisonova 4, Chomutov, Czechoslovakia, boy of eighteen, student, belongs to youth organisation CuSM and would like to correspond with a girl or boy 15 or 16.



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GRADUATES MAKE THEIR POINT

Recently the Hon. Sec., Harold Spies, wrote to all Graduates of the S.T.C. seeking their opinion of the new University of Technology Conversion Courses. This matter will be discussed on June 15th.

Here are some of the points from the innumerable replies received:

"It is my personal opinion that with the proper standard of technical education reached by attending supplementary courses, a diploma holder should submit his professional training and experience in lieu of full-time attendance at University."

"I find it impossible to leave my present position (with or without Government subsidy) for a period as long as one year and would only entertain the idea if the course could be completed at night".

"I agree with the idea of having an evening conversion class since it seems to me to be the only way in which many people would be able to obtain a Degree".

ORIGINAL SCHEME MISFIRES

"It seems to me that the whole scheme as originally conceived, has misfired somewhere although the negotiations have been too long drawn out and obscured by political verbage for me to follow the devious means by which the present University has been evolved.

When I was studying for my diploma the educational system in this state was fairly easy to understand. If a student was fortunate in his choice of parents he attended the University and sat for Degree examination. If he was exceptionally bright he obtained a scholarship which made his choice of parents less important. Those who were less fortunate and had to start work at a comparatively early age, but who still wanted to achieve professional status, attended classes at the S.T.C. and sat for Diploma examinations. Each type of education, so far as engineering is concerned, had its advantages, and as time passed employers came to realize more and more that Associates of S.T.C. were as good for their requirements as Uni. graduates. However a Uni. education has world wide recognition which a diploma would never have and one school of thought held that Associates were so good that something should be done to obtain recognition for them, more comparable to their opposite numbers at the University. This could only be done, apparently, by changing the diploma into a degree. Some suggested a degree in Engineering Technology (B.E. Tech.), others plumped for the B.E. straight out, to which of course, there could be no agreement from the University.

As I saw all this, three things were clear, 1. If possible, to attain eminence in the engineering field it was first desirable to obtain a degree. 2. If one had not the time or means for a university education, then, in Sydney at all events, it was possible by hard work at night and week-ends, to obtain something almost as good. 3. It might be re-

grettable for those who had to follow course number 2, but there was no alternative, since the degree depended for its prestige upon its exclusive nature.

I think possibly at this stage the last war intervened and I do not know through what obscure and complicated processes the present University of Technology was presented to an admiring public, but as I see it, we now have two Universities, both inaccessible to those who have to work during the day, and still have the good old nightly grind and a diploma for these unfortunates. And they are expected to jump for joy at the prospect of doing still more years of night work to be "converted".

Of course I know that some employers are allowing young Associates to spend 6 months during the day at the new University of Technology either on full pay or at some reduced scale, but for those who have attained positions of authority and responsibility both in public and private life the cost would be too great."

POLICY LINE SUGGESTED

"I am glad of this opportunity to co-operate with the student section of our Union and trust that the final policy decided on for action by the Union, will be along lines that will link the new University of Technology to our previously existing Tech. Diplomas, rather than letting it become a destructive influence to an institution which has allowed young men without means enough to attend a University of the old type, to obtain in their own time mainly, a high grade of professional education which required, as we also recognise the point made in your circular:—that Diplomates obtain responsible positions in industry and cannot leave them to obtain degrees. Even a Govt. subsidy for the period would not make it worth while for a Diplomate to leave a position with prospects to obtain a degree."

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A MATE LIKE THIS?

George Tangie, most overworked bloke in the weekend found time to organise a birthday cake and soft drinks for Dorothy Stuart and Norm Woods. The party ended in a beautiful dance and we are sorry to say that the kiss in the ring by Norm suddenly changed all male complexions a vivid green. The cake was good too, George!

SHOULD THE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY ISSUE YOUR DIPLOMA

It is vital for you to express your opinion

TURNER HALL,
THURSDAY, 15th JUNE, at 8 p.m.

POINTS FROM MANY YEARS EXPERIENCE

"For many years I served on the Advisory Committee of the Broken Hill Technical College and for the past four years I have been a member of the Faculty of Engineering at Melbourne University, representing the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. In my position as Director of Exploration for this and associated companies, it has been my privilege to have recently had graduates from more than 26 different Universities under my direction, in addition to diplomates from most Australian Schools of Mines and Technical Colleges. The University Graduates, including several holding Doctorate Degrees, were from Great Britain, South Africa, U.S.A., Canada, besides practically every Australian University. I have even tried to assess the relative value of different Degrees and Diplomas, but in our professions—mining engineering, metallurgy, mining geology—so much depends on the initiative of the person and his ability to apply the fundamentals gained during his scholastic career.

I see no reason for any diplomate already "holding administrative and similar responsible positions in industry", worrying very much about gaining the added Degree. Already his position is sufficient recognition of the value of his services and of the Diploma course.

By all means give the present students and recent diplomates every opportunity to obtain the Degree which will always be regarded as the hall mark and is of more importance should the holder proceed overseas.

As indicated in your letter the possibility of Diplomates attending day classes is rather remote for those in responsible positions in industry. In justice to these men there should be a way in which they can qualify for a degree of Technology. The following suggestion is offered for consideration to cover this obvious difficulty:—

Where circumstances are such that a Diplomate cannot obtain the necessary time to attend classes, he should be permitted to submit a thesis or papers covering work on some aspect of applied technology or pure research, which, after approval by the professorial staff, and if necessary, with further work under their direction, could be published with acknowledgment to the University and a degree awarded. The quality of matter published could be rigorously checked to ensure a high standard. Compulsion on Diplomates to go through a prescribed course and compete with younger men will not necessarily benefit the University, whereas a series of well considered papers covering post graduate work will stimulate interest abroad in the Universities activities.

MONA VALE MISDEMEANOURS

By our Guess Columnist.

As usual, the first car to arrive at the Conference carried the "Gas Happy" scientists, loaded with eight passengers, their luggage, a pick-up (? Ed.), an amplifier, a drum of petrol, and about a ton of records. On the way they were given a bridge toll ticket, and another not so pleasant ticket (it was blue).

You should have seen the goings on at 2 a.m. on Saturday morning at Palm Beach. I didn't know the staff (especially research officers) were allowed to fraternise with female students in that way. No names please, or the Secret Service might be on someone's trail.

Why was John Johnson so calm when I kidnapped his lass Robin for five minutes? Gee he must have been tired.

Gee, you hear some funny things when you're the fifth of a party and are told to go for a walk. Try sitting on the running board and keeping your ears open. (This

happened to me twice, seems I needed the tips I overheard).

Why did Don (the hat) Pemberton keep his tongue in his cheek when we sang our compliments to Stephan, the romantic chef. Maybe he also heard rumours about Saturday night. Anyway, I did and wish him luck, with any girl but the one he had in a strangle hold. Nice bloke? eh?

Ten dollar questions? What happened to Esme's appetite? Did she get a raise in pay or is she slimming?

You should have seen Paul, Don and Dot practising Yogi on an empty bottle. Did it fill up for you, and if so, could you drink it? Anyway boys, how did you corrupt the unconquerable young lady? She doesn't drink, smoke or . . .

If you ask me if I wrote this, I'll say no, so don't ask questions. Cheerio.

"I SPY".

CLOSER TIES WITH I.U.S.

International Union of Student executive member, Ken Tolhurst, of Melbourne University, impressed students at Mona Vale with his intimate knowledge of the international situation and his first hand information on the part which can be played by students in this field.

The discussion of S.T.C. Union affiliations lasted six hours without the interest lagging for one moment. The final motion which was carried by 23 to 10 called on the Union Council to strengthen its affiliations with the International Union of Students, World Federation of Democratic Youth, Fedn. of Aust. Tech. College Students and Australian Youth Committee, to ensure that all students were acquainted with the aims of these affiliations and to take better advantage of the assistance that they can give to us.

The main controversy in the discussion centred around two points:

1. That our international affiliations were alleged to have red or pink tinges.

2. That we should clean up our own back yard before we have any thing to do with other organisations.

Ken convinced the majority of the students that the first accusation was unsubstantiated, not only on his own personal experiences but with concrete facts regarding the membership and voting mechanism of I.U.S. He pointed out however that the very militant stand taken for example by the colonial students because of their economic conditions was often identified with communism when it was in fact merely a fervent exposition of their strong national feelings.

Further he pointed out that the very strong statements of European students on the question of Fascism were often erroneously allied with communism when these sentiments were in fact further very fervent expositions of their personal experiences of this monstrous system.

He pointed out that one of our biggest jobs in the field of international understanding was to appreciate the feelings of these people and whilst many of their sentiments may appear strange to Australian students, isolated as they are geographically from the devastation caused by World War II, we should try to understand the basis for their feelings.

Ken gave many examples of the way in which the I.U.S. has been able, by discussion amongst students of different points of view, to reach common agreement on all vital issues effecting students.

Other speakers drew attention to the sentiment of John Redrup the Aust. Universities delegate to I.U.S. in 1947. John who has decidedly rightest political views had this to say:

"I do not deny that communists within the I.U.S. will strive to shape its policies in the direction of their own ideology. This is surely not unnatural, for which of us does not strive to press our own point of view when the opportunity arises. Nevertheless, I feel obliged to brand the suggestion that the I.U.S. is, or seeks to be, an overt instrument for Kremlin control of world student opinion, as quite laughable.

Even were communist forces within the I.U.S. to cherish this ambition (and I credit them with more cunning) the material and mental resources at their command are monstrously inadequate for the task."

On the second point of cleaning up our own back yard it was pointed



One of the six Saturday groups in a serious mood at Mona Vale.

ted out that our International affiliations could do nothing but help in this most important work not only because we could learn from the organisational experience of students from other countries but also because the campaigns of I.U.S. ultimately effect every student of tech e.g. the endeavours of the I.U.S. to do all in its power to assist with the preservation of world peace.

The plan of the I.U.S. worked out with the world health organisation (of U.N.O.) to vaccinate all students against T.B. with B.C.G.

The I.U.S. Plan for exchange of student material throughout the world e.g. the Architects plans, the East Sydney paintings, and the

Engineering designs being taken from Sydney Tech to the Prague conference by Betty Bridges.

The plan of the I.U.S. to have an international agreement for travel concessions for all students and so on.

We as students can gain much from our affiliations if we ensure that Union Council makes known all material and suggestions received and acts on those things which are of interest to the Sydney Tech.

TEACHERS' HIGHER PAY

Substantial increases in pay for part-time teachers of technical subjects were announced by the Minister for Education, Mr. Heffron, today.

About 2,000 teachers in this category will receive increases ranging from 20 per cent to 26 per cent on present rates. The average increase will be more than 22½ per cent.

News of these increases would give satisfaction to part-time teachers engaged on trade, certificate and diploma courses in technical education, the Minister said.

The Minister said that the bigger pay envelopes would be received on the first pay period on next month.

From Mirror, 5/50.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15th
8 p.m., Turner Hall

EMERGENCY LIGHTING

According to newspaper reports and employers of the Sydney County Council the demand for electricity in peak hours this winter will again far exceed the capability of the inadequate equipment used for supply. At the present rate of expansion of industry, a number of years may pass

before the situation is satisfactorily rectified.

Normally we are not affected at the 'Tech but in the event of another industrial holdup we at the 'tech should not be made to take another five weeks holiday. For the gaining of knowledge is of prime importance and as the expanding Australian industry needs many more technical personnel any hold-ups in training of same must be avoided.

I suggest that the Union should approach the administration and see if this problem is being covered, that is, equipment should be standing by in readiness to supply the college with power at a few days notice. Another suggestion that has been put forward in the past is the building of a small scale power station which could be used to advantage by the Electrical Department and also the Engineering Department for demonstrations and tests by students in a very practical way.

Admittedly this costs money so lets pinch a few hundred thousands from the war budget, no one would miss it, and Technical Education in this State would profit immeasurably.

PRESENTATION TO S.T.C.U.

A highlight of the recent F.A.T.C.S. Council meeting in Melbourne was the presentation of a plaque from the I.U.S. to the S.T.C.U.

In presenting the plaque, Ken Tolhurst, I.U.S. Aust. Executive member stated that this was a gesture of goodwill and of recognition of our being an I.U.S. foundation member, thus explaining the happy smiles of F.A.T.C.S. delegates Bill Bailey and Gerald Rhoades shown holding the plaque (later presented by them to our Council).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,—

Having just been a very active participant in the recent Student Needs and Welfare Conference I would like to make a few observations.

Firstly, I was very pleased with the excellent discussion and decisions around the subject of internal Association affairs. This should be of great advantage to students in their associations, as the subjects under discussion were purely suggestions for assisting each student in his studies and recreation at tech.

Secondly, we were permitted to hear a very fine talk by Ken Tolhurst on a very controversial subject, namely our affiliation to the International Union of Students. It was obvious that many people were not in agreement with his ideas, and in discussion, a couple of speakers became rather personal, I feel that their public apologies were sincere. This discussion naturally centered around political ideas but I feel the majority of those present benefited by the views expressed.

Thirdly, we had a long discussion on Peace and Conscription as related to our tech studies. This also of necessity brought in politics to some degree, but we were finally able to come to unanimous conclusion that:

1. Peace was essential from all points of view.
 2. Conscription in peace time at least, must not interfere with our studies and professional positions.
 3. We accuse, as a war criminal the first nation which uses the atomic bomb in aggression.
- Finally, the social life at the camp left almost nothing to be desired. The doings included, a musical, classical and modern, a dance and a surprise party. On this pleasant note I would like to thank the Union for its organisation, and to say when the next conference is coming on, put me down for lively participation.

G. TANGIE, Science.

SOCCER PLAYERS WANTED

Engineering Challenges Science

A GEORGE KEEN SUGGESTION.

The Engineering Association has challenged the Science Association to a game of soccer.

The field at Queens Park is being organised by George Keen and we contemplate that the game will take place on a Sunday afternoon. Those who wish to play, and everyone, should put their name on the paper which is on the respective notice boards.

The Engineering Association Committee feels that these matches, or inter-departmental competition should be the rule rather than an isolated case every so often. This will popularise the Associations and Union, foster more personal interest of students in one another and tend to make tech life a less formal affair.

The Editor,
"Unity News".

Dear Sir,—

A paper set up to present student news should contain just that and not 50 per cent of matters which can be read in the everyday press.

Politics is a subject which can be argued at great length if it is so wished, but should not be touched upon by a newspaper which is alleged to represent student views as a whole and from which the general public judges the level of thought in the College.

"Unity News", now, as in the past, publishes many articles of particular interest and relevant to student activity. The writer feels that it could revert wholly to a paper representing the true student view.

Certain readers may feel that this is criticism of a completely destructive nature. However, the writer is one of many who contend that out of such apparent destruction there can rise a journal of which the student body can justly be proud—and proud it must be, not only of it's paper, but of it's Union Executive and it's Association. Executive, if it, as an organised body, is to advance.

In conclusion it is suggested that "Unity News"

- (1) Deletes articles of a political nature.
- (2) Continues the publication of such articles as "Darwin Journey" of the last issue, as well as general student news.
- (3) Campaigns for better student amenities which are amazingly few for a College this size.

These are but a few suggestions, but important ones for all that. There must be many others of which the writer, due mainly to his lack of journalistic inclination, is not aware. However, he feels that he the College likes to read in a paper knows what the average student at for the students.

I am,
ALAN McDONALD, Science.

CHESS TOO ROUGH.

The proposition of having chess tournaments was also mooted and discussed a little. However, as Harry Winter rightly pointed out each game takes at least 30 minutes, it is terrifically scientific, and as we have not yet got a First Aid Station we had better stick to Soccer.

TABLE TENNIS.

Tournaments in table tennis should be taken up again and can be played at times between 5.00 and 6.00 p.m. This idea can be easily put into practice, it could be widely publicised even to the extent of inviting some of the professionals from down town to give demonstrations.

Dear Sir,—

Might I wax so bold as to say that I think the reporters on Unity News have, in view of a recent event, fallen down on their job. For a paper which prides itself as being progressive and on upholding academic freedom, etc., it surely missed commenting, at least, on an event of spectacular circumstances.

I refer to a recent crisis amongst our "big brothers" at the University who give us Honi Soit. I waited with pop eyes for Unity News to give us the lowdown on the fracas which arose when a chem engineering student who had been very prominent in student activities, and in particular in left wing circles, gave a signed statement that he was being employed by Commonwealth Security Police to supply names and information of these activities. Honi Soit considered this news and proceeded to do what should be done with news—print it. When the paper was practically ready to go to press the printers, Consolidated Press, refused to print the story on the grounds that it contravened the Crimes Act (of all things) and promptly refused to do business with a paying customer. It is my opinion that Consolidated Press did not want this story made public. This is a deliberate suppression of material which is of vital interest to students generally.

Doesn't Unity News consider it news when a student newspaper is prevented from giving the facts about the despicable action of a student informing on his fellow students. Tut, Tut, dear editor, please give me my news in spicy slabs! I suggest that you make some attempt to publish the details of this story, as the person concerned has, in the past, attended classes in this college.

"Four Freedoms".
J. T. W.

The Editor,
Unity News,
Dear Sir,—

I should like to make a complaint about the free coffee that was to have been supplied to students. This question is becoming of much more interest as the days grow shorter and colder. I know that coffee is served between 5.00 and 6.00 p.m. on Mondays, but apart from Committee members, how many Union members are aware that they can obtain this service if they go and find where it is being served. The sign saying, "Committee Room", makes most students think that it is a private room and out of bounds to them unless they have strict business.

If we are to serve coffee, without it remaining a farce as it now is, it should be made five nights a week from 5.00 to 7.30 p.m. and should be available in a readily visible place. I would suggest the old place used the year before last, under the clock in the table tennis room, and make it a serve yourself, wash your own cup scheme.

G. T., Science.

The Editor,
Unity News,
Dear Sir,

I must congratulate the Union on the excellent Conference organised at Mona Vale.

I knew very little about our Union before this week-end but I know now just how much it is doing for the students and what fine people we have working for the students.

It is up to us the students who have not before given them much support to lend a hand. I never realised before just how much work they were doing and just what fun it is to be in it.

W. LANDMANN.

ENGINEERING GENERAL MEETING

The G.M. and election of officers was held on Wed. 5th April in the Union Rooms. It was pleasing to note that new blood, and consequently new ideas, were elected to the leading positions and we should see even greater activity on behalf of the Engineering students.

Those elected to positions:—
Patrons: Mr. J. Wood, Acting Lecturer in Charge, Eng. Dept.; Mr. A. S. Hall, Civil Eng. Dept.
President: Mr. Harry Winter.
Vice Pres.: Mr. K. Ryan, R. Nivison-Smith.

Secretary: Mr. George Keen.
Asst. Sec.: Mr. Simon Van der Kolff.
Councillors: Harry Winter, John Bookluck, Harvey Davidson, Peter Marsden.

A NEW WAY TO MAKE YOUR CAR WORK

John (sleeping - bag) Anderson made the pertinent remark that the Spies' car contained a new mechanical principle, he insists that it's means of locomotion is as follows: The boards are removed from the bottom of the chassis and through the hole so created Harold places his legs and bingo! there they go.

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WE ACCUSE

Probably the most impressive and enthusiastic discussion which took place at Mona Vale was the Sunday afternoon session on PEACE.

Unite to End Destruction

The general feeling of the great importance of this issue and the necessity for its discussion, particularly from the point of view of students needs and welfare was shown by the number of people wishing to speak. Every speaker was insistent and emphatic in his desire for peace, many different opinions on methods of maintaining peace were expressed and I think it is greatly to the credit of everyone present, that out of these differences was crystallised the following unanimous motion.

"We accuse as a war criminal the first nation which uses the atomic bomb in aggression."

Following are some of the most forcibly expressed points to be heard during the discussion.

UNITE TO END DESTRUCTION

In emphasising the destruction of wars Harold Spies pointed out that 17,000,000 people were killed in the 1st World War, 70,000,000 in the second; in Poland, in the last war, 357 out of 603 Universities were destroyed, and many other occupied lands experienced the same devastation. We, as students should unite so that we can help to prevent the dropping of another atomic bomb.

Paul Kellett (Architecture) said he did not spend 5½ years studying to design military huts or to replan broken cities. "I do believe," said Paul, "that the talk of war preparations is a misnomer and it is a preparation for defence." Max Court and John Donnellan considered that although everyone wanted peace, we must prepare to defend ourselves. Gerald Rhoades pointed out that students of every nation wanted peace and that the spirit of unity which had existed during the war between the allies had been gradually reduced by those who profit by war to a state of hysteria between former allies.

The differences that were sunk during the war for the sake of the common effort to defeat fascism, these very same differences were now being dragged out as a reason for destroying the world in an atomic war.

In 1945 a call to win the peace was on the lips of every great statesman. Today it is ever so much more urgent to call for peace. If you do this those very powerful few who make death pay dividends dash to their cupboards and drag out that disgustingly exploited and overworked "red bogey".

It would be impossible to give full details or even a lucid summary of the discussion and facts presented on the question of peace but all students should read the report presented to the Conference which stimulated so much discussion.

**Ring MA 6900
with that idea**



CONFERENCE COMMENTS

PAUL KELLETT (Vice-President S.T.C. Union).

A most satisfactory experience and very heartening. If all enjoyed the show as well as I did we may confidently expect not 50 but 500 next time.

Norm Czisz: From an outsiders point of view the conference was very enlightening, it was very good to hear all points of view and I am glad that major decisions were made unanimously. I do think that if students here can agree on these questions why cannot the world as a whole live agreeably.

Bill Arnold, Elec.: A very good week end, however the dance was "erook", but then I can't dance anyway. I have my doubts about I.U.S. but they do appear to be a very efficient body.

Joyce Henderson: It will be very good to see all these resolutions printed in Unity News, so that people will realise how students feel about the present situation in the world as it affects the students and it will be good to see more conferences like this in the future.

PETER MARSDEN

I did not intend going to the Conference but am very glad now that I allowed my mind to be changed for me. I enjoy discussion on controversial subjects very much.

HEATHER TODD.

This was my first Conference and I shall never stop going to them. From the moment I got there I never stopped learning and laughing.

DON PEMBERTON.

B——y good! A jolly good show, I enjoyed myself immensely and I found it very stimulating both physically (swimming) and mentally.

SUNSET SERENADE.

At 8.50 p.m. on Sunday night when all sensible people should be heading for home a number of students were found on the main road singing "We are Students of the S.T.C." and absolutely refusing to leave Mona Vale.

John Anderson, Science: The best show the Union put on.

A. (call me Al) Hill, Elec.: The best show the Union put on. "The discussion could be better but I cannot suggest how."

D. Panting, Prep. Dip.: "I have had a very pleasant week-end. I had known nothing about the Union before I came here, but the discussion has been very enlightening and I have not one criticism to make. I.U.S. appears to be a body well worth remaining in friendly contact with."

A. McDonald, Science: This type of week end is a good idea and should be held again at the end of term. The only fault I find is that too many subjects were listed and we did not have the time to discuss them fully.

Chris Lewis, Matric.: The week end has been a splendid one and next week I will join the Union, for I am now convinced that the Union has done a lot for the students, it has a lot to offer them and there is yet much to achieve.

Be Early!

8 p.m., TURNER HALL

Thursday, 15th June, 1950

GOOD SUPPORT FROM MATRICULATION STUDENTS

Frank Stevens from Matriculation reporting on their meeting said he found most Matric students were very much behind the Union and its aims and objectives. "It is unfortunate that we are not near the tech and can not take advantage of facilities available to students, for we have no common meeting place at Pymont."

LITTLE APATHY TOWARDS UNION.

He had found little apathy among students towards the Union and in fact had found much interest. The group felt that more publicity should be given, in Unity News, to these smaller groups for it awakens wider interest, and support and will help to build a stronger and more united student body.

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SCIENCE'S RASH CHALLENGE

Meat pies at ten paces or wash bottles at 20 feet! The meeting of Science Discussion group on Sunday morning at Mona Vale rashly decided to challenge the Mech. Eng. Association to any sport they like. This may create some new Australian sport. Isn't it possible that we'll see the opposing teams lined up outside Mec. & Science buildings, armed respectively with T-pieces and test tubes about to engage in mortal conflict? Seriously, though, this really is a splendid idea for getting together, and not only getting to know people in the other faculties by playing soccer or hockey with them, but also for getting a better understanding of the other fellow's point of view. The Conference went on to recommend that we hold these sporting events at the Broken Bay National Fitness Hostel one week-end. This is a really lovely place, and ideal for recovering from a term of tech work!

Out of the discussion came also the idea of showing films in the Union room one night a week from 5-6 p.m. The shows are to go on alternate nights of the week so that everybody should get a chance to see them. So don't be surprised if you stumble in to a darkened table tennis room to find Charlie Chaplin performing instead of George Tangie or Norm Woods!

Other social activities which the conference recommended included the idea of an end of term dance in Turner Hall. Some keen Engineers even hoped for monthly dances, and it really does seem as though things are brightening up. You'll be able to get rid of all your repressions when you samba over those well loved ink stains!

The deep, dark secret of the Science students deliberations, it is suspected (I have my spies) centred around the republication of a science journal, but enquiries about this topic were greeted with blank stares or furtive side glances, so you'll have to draw your own conclusions, and prepare to be surprised at some later date.

The need for a First Aid Station in the College again came up in the discussion, mainly from the experiences of students with regard to small laboratory accidents. The basic need is of course, as we've been pressing for years, for a well equipped station with a permanent attendant in some central position in the college. However, it was also emphasised that every lab. should have its first aid box well equipped, that all lecturers and demonstrators undergo a course in First Aid, and that a sheet of instructions for treatment of the most likely lab. accidents be stuck up near the First Aid Box in a conspicuous position.

The last point discussed had everyone, especially the women delegates, feeling rather embarrassed and ended up being phrased as a very polite recommendation for the administration to be informed of the inadequate toilet facilities (male and female). The men also, for some odd reason, didn't seem satisfied with their one cold shower, while the women stated in no uncertain terms their need for a hot shower. (Of course nobody washed at Mona Vale).

I almost forgot to mention the enthusiastic discussion of the Science Ball plans, but the members of the Ball Committee who



ONE OF THE LIGHTER MOMENTS AT MONA VALE.

CLASS ORGANISATION

Conference endorsed the present form of class organisation by class representation and stage committees, the exact form to be left to the individual associations depending on their circumstances.

Also that a programme of proposed Union activity be drawn up by Council, every month for distribution to class representation and students for discussion, action and recommendations. Also that a badge be issued to class reps. and that where a class considers that a representative is not carrying responsibilities that a new representative be elected.

FINANCE

Considerable discussion amongst all present at Conference was unable to reach any definite proposals on Union and Association finance. So the whole problem was thrown back for Council to issue a definite policy for further discussion.

Other proposals to increase Union Council finance were:—

- (a) Monthly dance in Turner Hall.
- (b) Benefits to Union members on lecture notes be increased to 25 per cent.
- (c) Emphasise need to discriminate between Union and non-members. (Table tennis, billiards, etc.),
- (d) That a cultural group (artist etc.) be initiated to the College.

were present were able to tell us that everything is well under way, so keep July, 7th well in mind, and watch for the opening of reservations.

STUDENTS CONDEMN ANTI — RED BILL

By 900 to 50, Melbourne University students on May 18th, determinedly expressed their opinion of the bill at present before the Federal House.

How about this as an early subject for our discussion group.

The following is an extract from Farrago:—

The General Meeting of students, while in no way expressing an opinion on the aims of the Communist Party, calls on all students and staff to express their opposition to the Communist Party Dis-

operation, run counter to established democratic procedure.

(2) The definition of a Communist makes it possible to extend the operation of the Bill to any person of liberal views.

(3) The procedure for declaring persons and thereby excluding them from various types of employment means, in effect, conviction before a trial.

(4) The Bill attacks the democratic right of trade unionists to decide who shall be their office-bearers, and places an invidious political test on Government employees.

(6) The banning of the Australian such discrimination against the teaching staffs of Australian Universities as is promised by Mr. Oldham.

(5) The banning of the Australian Communist Party in the present circumstances is both unnecessary and dangerous to democracy.

In view of these considerations, we call on the Federal Government to withdraw this Bill.

MORE FREEDOM PLEASE!

From questions asked of the Commercial Department students the Conference felt that they could be given a little more freedom; surely when one has reached the age of 15 one does not have to be shut in a very uninteresting quadrangle from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., not allowed to ring up or go to the College theatre without seeking permission.

solution." Bill on the following grounds:

- (1) The clauses (a) enabling Peace Officers to search any house or premises on mere suspicion, (b) placing the onus of proof on the accused, and (c) the retrospective

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MONA VALE DISCUSSION . . .

PEACE OR WAR?

MANIACS ALL

The Conference was in general agreement that the highly appointed people making the following statements were to be unfavourably compared with madmen.

There was keen resentment of the fact that the American people still have these individuals in positions where they are able to cause incalculable harm to international relations.

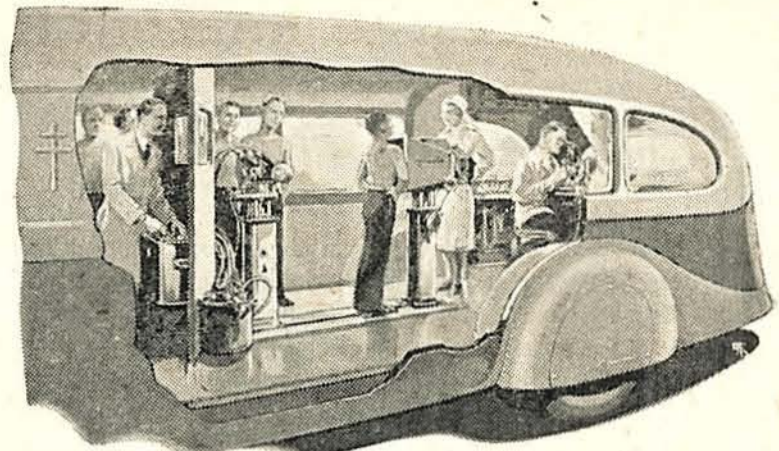
Senator Cannon says:—"Through the signature of the Atlantic Pact we are in possession of bases. All that we now need are planes to carry the bombs, the means to equip the soldiers of other nations and have them send their own young men into the holocaust, not our boys. That is what the atom bomb means to the United States". Or Admiral Kind (former C.C., U.S. Navy) . . . "it is our intention to prevent war ever reaching this nation . . . we propose to do what Scipio did—carry the war into Africa or Asia or Europe". Or Paul Scaffer, Vice-President of Armed Forces Commission of U.S. Congress. "A trial of strength with the Russians is sooner or later unavoidable. The sooner the better. Time is on the side of the Russians. We are ready now. The industries of West Germany can be rebuilt in time to play their part".

ON PEACE

Frank Stevens, Matric., quoting the official year books of the State and Commonwealth, stated that Australia, in the last war had 237,000 casualties, which would include many students. Under the Chifley government we were spending £50,000,000 on defence expenditure and £33,000,000 on research for defence, and £20,000,000 on education. The Government was planning for a standing army of 330,000 at £1,000 per head per year. When we have such a large war expenditure the first thing cut is education, and after all education is a great counter to war.

What we should discuss is what we can do to stop war, and to make friends with your neighbor instead of arming against him, and forever being insecure.

Gerald Rhoades felt that the best and most secure means to defence was to accept the Soviet Unions proposal to the United Nations for a start of 1/3 reduction in armaments of the five great powers as a beginning to an all round disarmament plan and for the United Nations to organise the signing of a declaration by all powers that the first user of the atom bomb should be declared a war criminal.



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ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE REPORT CURRICULUM REFORM

That the Association, if informed of any necessary curriculum reforms by students, should first discuss the matter with graduates and/or lecturers, and if reform should be found desirable, should arrange for its presentation to the Advisory Committee.

However, owing to inadequacy of the majority of students to knowledgeably discuss this matter, we feel that we should concentrate on reform of presentation methods and facilities.

Teaching and Examination Methods
We recommend the report on exams methods by Heinz Harrant, A.S.T.C. from which many of the following ideas and recommendations have been taken.

Examinations, whilst apparently unavoidable, should be designed to find out a student's understanding and appreciation of the subject rather than any temporary memorisation of facts and detail.

In fact, our education system tends to favour students of an undesirable type, those who do little or no work during the year and by last minute effort to swot stereotyped exam questions are able to scrape through.

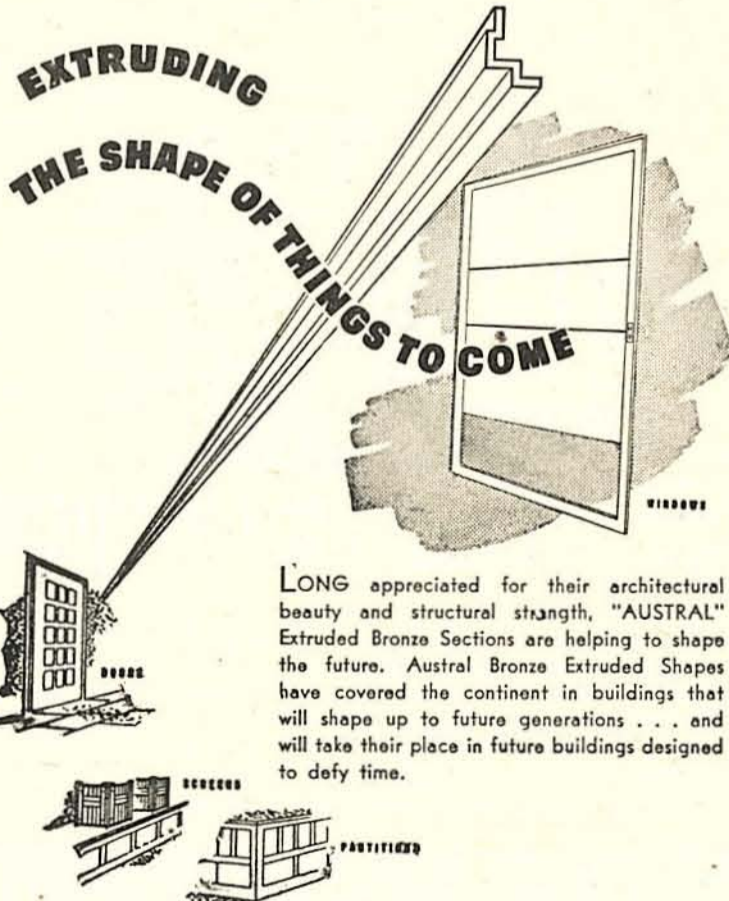
We deplore the present indifferent attitude of some lecturers which is an apparently unavoidable result of the exam system as enforced at present, in contrast to exam methods practised and proved by experience.

We make the following suggestions.

1. That we endeavour to abolish stereotyped questions which require memory rather than knowledge.
2. That each student be provided with a syllabus of the years work.
3. That we attempt to limit the number of final and term exams per day.
4. That we advocate daylight final examinations.
5. That reform is needed in the sphere of presentation by combination of lecture and assignment method.
6. That visual education be more generally adopted in the form of films, working models of electrical engineering gear, and manufacturers samples.
7. That limitation of classes to a maximum of 20 pupils and a proportional increase of staff be sought.

INSPECTION TOURS.

Realising that even those of us who work in big industrial plants can learn much by seeing others in operation we appreciate the value of inspection tours and suggest that they be frequently organised by the Association.



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