

# UNITY NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SYDNEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE UNION

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SYDNEY, MAY, 1950.

Issued Gratis

## Take Up Thy Musket, Sam!

The Council at its March meeting credentialled the two delegates going to the F.A.C.T.S. Council meeting in Melbourne to represent the Sydney Tech. at the Australian Peace Conference. No doubt there will be some tech students who in between downing a meat-pie, and running late for class will say: "What's a peace conference got to do with us."

Hold your horses a bit old man, for it has everything in the world to do with us. All of us at this 'tech are making sacrifices of time and energy for the future. Such things as the Peace conference will determine what sort of a future it's going to be. Just for argument's sake say you're a chemist well at the end of your time, what are you going to do? Spend your time helping humanity or working on poison gases and Bacterial germ warfare to help rub some of it out.

We make sacrifices so that when we finish, we can settle down, get married if we haven't been already caught in the net, and live happy secure lives.

There is no security for ourselves, or our family if the shadow of war is hanging over our heads all the while.

Then if you want to know how it effects us now, just look around at some of the prices of goods we have to buy, some of it due to the huge indirect taxes due to heavy war expenditure.

When you let off steam about the cramming of class rooms, out of date laboratories, and many other things, remember that we are spending over a million pounds every week on war preparations.

Remember too that levelled with war is conscription and that means interference with our careers. The people of the world want peace and we should demand from our Government and press, the cessation of propaganda urging Australia to fight in Malaya and Vietnam, and for their energies to the needs of students and youth, at home. Because the Council believes that Students want to build and not destroy, we are sending delegates to the peace congress.

It was always unanimously agreed that we should support the aims of the Australian Peace Council.

The objects of Australian Peace Council:

1. By all appropriate means to work for world peace and in particular—

(a) To mobilise public opinion in support of the United Nations Charter and against the idea that war is inevitable.

(b) To support the principle of the peaceful co-existence of different social systems and to oppose all military alliance and acts of aggression which violates the United Nations Charter and render ineffective the United Nations Organisation.

(c) To demand immediate universal limitation of armaments and the outlawing of atomic energy for war purposes.

2. By all appropriate means.

(a) To make known the facts concerning international relations, the

causes of war and the problems and aims of peoples of other countries.

(b) To expose and counter all forms of war propaganda and all appeals to race hatred and prejudice.

(c) To advocate self-determination and national independence of all peoples.

3. Recognising that the present concerted attacks on civil liberties are directly associated with the danger of a new world war, to collaborate with other bodies in defence of our democratic liberties and institutions.

### A GREAT WEEK-END IN STORE

On May 19th and 20th tech. students will again converge on Mona Vale to discuss their association problems and draft a Student Needs and Welfare programme applicable to their individual departments.

In 1948 the International Union of Students issued a call for all national student bodies to convene national conferences on Student Needs in order to prepare for International Conference in August this year. Such conferences have been convened in numerous countries and have been of considerable assistance in student problems.

Last year a very successful conference was held in Melbourne and another one will be held on 13th May.

The students attending February S.T.C. Union Conference at Mona Vale formulated their needs in the programme "A Better Tech for You" which has aroused much discussion.

Unity News reports elsewhere some of the opinions of students on the programme.

The Conference in May is open to Association students and friends. There are excellent facilities for swimming, dancing, open air games. Cost is £1 including Stephen the hostel cook's excellent meals.

All students are urged to attend, application forms can be obtained through class representatives or apply direct to Assistant Secretary, Esme Mapperson in the Council Rooms.

We publish their full aims and invite comment and wide discussion amongst the Students.

Of course there will be a few who will place name tags on any movement that works for peace. If they were planning to fight the next war with flying crockery, Saucers and Atom sized cream puffs, we could take time off to talk about tags, but we're thinking about our lives, our future, our career, so we're standing solidly for peace.



—By Courtesy S.M.H.

# UNITY NEWS

Editor: Ross Nivison-Smith

Assistant Editor: Barbara Hewitt

Editorial Phone number: MA 6900

## EDITORIAL

With the visit of the Dean of Canterbury to Australia the question of peace is on the lips of every person. Can we as students afford to neglect this vital issue? Do we believe that war is inevitable? The Mona Vale Student Needs & Welfare Conference did not think so:

"Because of the wide ramifications of war on students, involving, among other things, loss of life and interruption of education, we feel that peace is absolutely essential. War is not inevitable."

Preparation for war means the direction of scientific discoveries, not to the improvement of the life of humanity, but to the destruction of millions of human lives. Preparations for war mean the worsening of the economic and social conditions for the peoples, for youth and students. Increased expenditure for war means less for social security and education, less for scholarships, hostels and student health services; it implies the militarisation of schools and universities. In many countries rising unemployment is beginning to have its effect upon students seeking appointments after graduating. This in its turn creates the danger that universities will be-

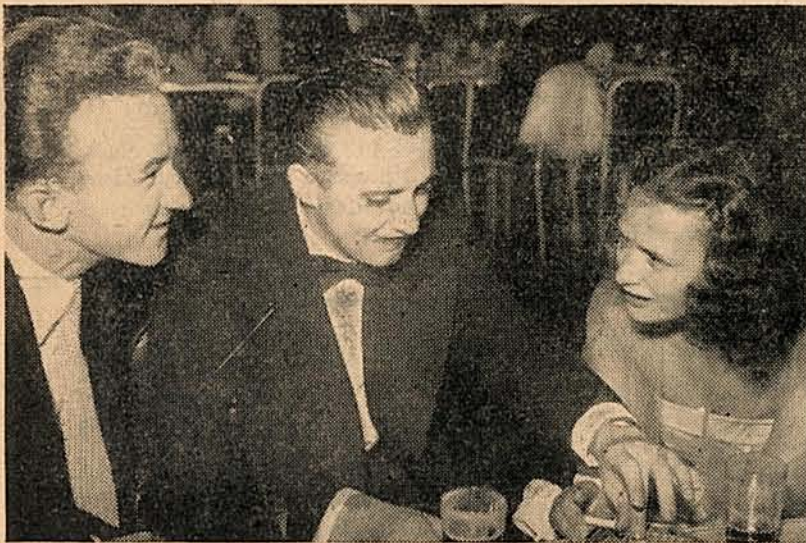
come centres of privilege for those who do not have to fear for security and jobs.

\* \* \*

The appointment of Major Wilthew to the position of Supervisor of Amenities to the University of Technology and Department of Technical Education must be applauded.

Great possibilities are indicated for Major Wilthew's comprehensive recreational and sporting programme.

There are still many hurdles to clear. The nullifying effect of night classes on young men and women in preventing them from taking an active and continuous part in the cultural and sporting life of tech. must be removed. It is also hoped that sufficient funds are made available by the Government to provide optimum playing fields and other essential buildings so necessary in any tertiary educational institutions today.



These People Enjoyed Themselves at the end of the Year Ball

DON'T MISS THE SCIENCE BALL

### The Annual Science Association Ball

THURSDAY, JULY 6th

Dancing 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

at

GRACE AUDITORIUM

All College Students invited with their friends.  
Watch for opening of bookings.

## 'TECH AT THE GAMES

On 21st January, 1950, I was a member of the Australian 4-oared crew which left for New Zealand by a Solent 40-passenger flying boat to compete in the British Empire Games. We were quartered with rowers from England, South Africa and New Zealand at Lake Karapiro, about 105 miles south of Auckland. The Lake, which is man made, is about 15 miles long by a half mile wide and supplies water for the Karapiro Hydro Electric Works..

While at Karapiro the local farmers took us for several interesting car trips, in between training rows. At Rotorua, about 50 miles south of Karapiro, in the thermal district, we saw the boiling mud pools, and geysers throwing boiling water high into the air. Here we met the famous Maori guide, Princess Rangī.

We competed against New Zealand 4, over 2,000 metres at Karapiro, on the 6th February, for the Empire title and am sorry to say were beaten by 2 lengths. After the rowing events, the rowers from all countries took part in a "Hangi". This is a Maori feast where the food, fish, pork, lamb, potatoes and onions are placed on hot stones and covered with earth until cooked. This was an all male affair and continued until the early hours of the morning. The next day we went to Ardmore camp, which was our headquarters until we left New Zealand. We saw most of the athletic, swimming, cycling, and other events, and were thrilled to witness the many Australian victories.

When the Games had finished, all competitors were taken to Ngaruawahia where Maoris sang and danced and 50 or more men gave an exhibition paddle in a war canoe, at least 100 feet long. The Prime Minister of New Zealand and the "King" of the Maoris attended this function.

In the last week, I went, with three other Australian competitors, on a three day hitch-hiking trip. On the first day, the manager of a building firm who was on a tour of inspection invited us to do the whole trip in his new sedan. We motored around Lake Taupo, famous for its trout. It is about 50 miles long and 30 miles wide. We saw the magnificent, snow-capped mountains of Ruapehu and we swam in the hot spring baths at Taupo and Rotorua.

We left Auckland by Solent Flying Boat on 18th February, pleased that we had been able to visit such a great country and to meet and compete against people from so many different parts of the earth.

KEN T. GEE.



ASK FOR

# Stamina

SELF-SUPPORTING TROUSERS

## Tech. Students at Congress

Three hundred students from all parts of Australia and New Zealand attended the recent N.U.A.U.S. (University Students) Congress at Gan Gan. Although the number of Tech people was small, the results for F.A.T.C.S. (Fed. Aust. 'Tech. College Students) were very valuable, particularly as this was our first contact with Hobart tech.

Several meetings of these tech. students were held to discuss F.A.T.C.S. policy. The Art Exhibition on Show at Congress received first attention. It was decided to make the exhibition, in future, a combination of trained and hobby work, provided the Art Students agree. The 2nd (1950) Art Exhibition is to be an all F.A.T.C.S. Show, so get cracking, local talent!

On the question of Student Health, it was noted with satisfaction that Melbourne Colleges were receiving free annual x-rays, and had the support of their Health Department for anti-T.B. skin tests. Of interest here two was the I.U.S. policy—in operation in several countries—of mass vaccination with B.G.L. vaccine. First aid facilities in colleges represented were, unfortunately, as bad as Sydney's.

### Address by Professor Brown

A highlight of Congress was the address given by our Tech. Uni's. Professor Brown on Education and Culture—with many shafts fired at the cultural level of the "normal" University course and environment.

Of even greater interest, however, was a small F.A.T.C.S. session with the Professor later that evening. In a hut which housed the Art Exhibition and suitable refreshments (the local brand of "steam" was quite good) we discussed our own Tech. Uni. and the proposed Victorian one until well after midnight. The full time year in the conversion course received early attention. The official attitude seems to be that tradition demands that anyone qualifying for a degree devote at least one year exclusively to the course. As to tech. night Diploma Courses, Administration policy is still that they should continue parallel to the Degree Course, as there is a much larger demand by industry for technicians of Diploma standard than for Tech. Uni. Graduates.

Information on the academic, cultural, and recreational aspects of our Tech. Uni. were very promising and all will be discussed in more detail at our next general meeting.

### Introducing Ken Tolhurst

Congress was very fortunate to have present Ken Tolhurst, an International Union of Students Executive member just back from Prague. Ken, by the way, represented the S.T.C. Union at the 1949 I.U.S. Council meeting at Sofia in place of Moira Cole, our delegate, was sick.

Part of a F.A.T.C.S. Session, and one very full congress session were devoted to reports from Ken and discussion on I.U.S. Several "Unity News" could be filled with facts given by these reports, but as Ken or Moira will represent I.U.S. at our next Union General Meeting, it is much better for all members to attend this meeting and hear for themselves.

... And I.U.S.

Ken stressed the awareness of British and European students, in particular, for peace, and the extent of I.U.S. activity in this vital matter. Further, that while I.U.S. membership had had a period of decline, the last year had seen a considerable increase to 4,200,000, representing practically every major organisation. Tech. students organisations in other countries as in Australia (in comparison with Uni. students) and I.U.S. has begun to pay much greater attention to this section of students, with good results.

At the conclusion of Ken's report to F.A.C.T.S. Students, F.A.T.C.S. Secretary, George Myrants (Melbourne) moved that we support fully the immediate affiliation of F.A.T.C.S. to I.U.S., with full participation in all its activities. The motion was tabled for further discussion, for several days, and was then carried unanimously by all 29 present. On this matter Congress, as a whole, called for the immediate re-affiliation of N.U.A.U.S. to I.U.S.

### A Federation of Aust. Students

Discussion between the Executive of N.U.A.U.S., N.U.P.S.A. (Pharmacy students) and F.A.T.C.S. were also held at Congress and the idea of a top-level "Council" of Federation was supplanted by an agreement to co-operate on all points of mutual interest.

### SCOTTISH STUDENTS REAFFIRM I.U.S. AFFILIATION

LONDON.—It is reported that the Scottish Union of Students has decided to continue affiliation with I.U.S.

### STUDENT NEEDS AGAIN

#### MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, MARCH 15

The S.R.C. has decided to officially support the second Student Needs Conference, which will be held at the University on Friday night and Saturday, the 12th and 13th of May, if the necessary arrangements can be made.

One of the main aims of the Conference will be to formulate a Student Charter to incorporate in one document the needs of students and education generally, according to the principles of a "free and democratic education."

The S.R.C. urges all clubs and societies in the University to indicate their full support for the Conference and to encourage all students to take part in the necessary preliminary discussions and research work, and to gain the co-operation of the staff where it is considered advisable.

Read the Reports on the Last Union Student Needs Conference and Recreation Camp . . .

**DON'T WASTE TIME!**

**APPLY NOW FOR THE NEXT CAMP, HELD MAY 19 & 20.**

A Little Work and Plenty of Play.

If you miss this you will be sorry.

Dancing, Volley Ball, Sing-Songs, Barbecue.

Any other Games or Fun you suggest we can organise.



**THIS COULD BE YOU!**

**COME ALONG!**

Accommodation for 150 only. So Book Early.

### THIS MAY INTEREST YOU

A new organisation is being launched this year for the young people of New South Wales. This will be a senior branch of the Junior Red Cross movement and it will take the form of a network of Red Cross Youth Clubs open to teen-age boys and girls.

But before this scheme can be put into action, leaders must first be found and trained, and Red Cross is calling for volunteers from men and women who are interested in working with young people. Red Cross Youth Clubs will be democratic and self-governing, deciding for themselves the programme which they wish to adopt. The scope of their activities will be almost unlimited, offering new and varied interests to learners and teen-age members alike.

A special Leaders' Club is now being formed which offers a short training course combined with an enjoyable social programme. Here members will receive instruction in such subjects as public speaking and debating, dramatics, handcrafts, nature lore and music appreciation; they will learn

### WARSAW STUDENTS ORGANISE

#### STUDY CIRCLES

Students in general and trade training schools have organised school study circles.

The aim of these circles is to give help to pupils preparing for university.

Information Bulletin, Union of Polish Youth.

something of the work of Red Cross and make tours of inspection of Red Cross Homes and Hospitals; while outdoor and social activities will include hikes, sailing, weekend camps and hostel parties.

Inquiries from men and women, who are interested in volunteering as leaders of Red Cross Youth Clubs, will be welcomed at Junior Red Cross Headquarters (Mr. L. Johnson). The address is Red Cross House, 27 Jamieson Street, and the telephone number, B0542, ext. 74.

### Are You?

I wish I were a moron  
They never give a damn,  
I wish I were a moron,  
My God, perhaps I am!

I wish I were a little egg,  
Away up in a tree,  
A sittin' in my little nest,  
As rotten as could be,  
And then some day you'd come  
along  
And stand beneath that tree,  
And I would up and drop myself,  
And smother thee with me.

### TECHNICAL EDUCATION CUT

Maulana Azad, India's Education Minister had recently announced that expenditure on education will be only 25 per cent. of the Budget.

Expenditure on Technical Education has been cut 30 per cent. from Rs. 175 lakhs originally earmarked to Rs. 123 lakhs.

From Student, A.I.S.F., Jan '50.

# DARWIN JOURNEY

## by Clare and Harold Spies

Our first impression of Darwin was a jeep parked by the side of the road with a Territorian asleep in the front seat, legs dangling over the side. Unconventional, but typical!

Darwin is mainly a town of Government servants. There are no large industries but a sizeable floating population exists.

The effect of the bombings during the war are still evident; bare walls and bombed buildings still stand and wrecks of innumerable ships are scattered throughout the harbour. We were informed by several eye-witnesses present during the raids that the casualty rate was many times higher than reported.

Most of the buildings are of galvanised iron with steel framework because of the highly destructive action of the white ants. The conventional dress is shorts, shirts and sandals so the cost of clothing is very small. As all supplies come by boat there are sporadic shortages.

During our stay the rainy season was just commencing, bringing humid weather in which the moulds thrive, growing on clothes, leather and food supplies. The remedy is air-tight containers for food and clothes must be kept as dry as possible.

### 10/- per week

The population of about 7,000 is a mixture of Australian native, Chinese, white and half-caste. The aboriginals, having no equality rights, are the worst treated. They are administered by the Department of Native Affairs which controls their wages, place of living, etc. Around Darwin they are segregated into compounds and conditions in these places can be illustrated by the shocking fact that in one week 28 native children died of measles in one compound during our stay. During the day natives are allowed to be hired out as labourers, maids, etc., for not more than 10/- per week. Natives on the cattle stations throughout the Territory who are doing the same work as whites are not allowed to receive the same award rates.

### Treatment of Lepers

Probably the most inhumane treatment of people that we saw was that of lepers. These unfortunates, consisting of natives, half caste and a few whites are secluded on an island about 5 miles from Darwin. The

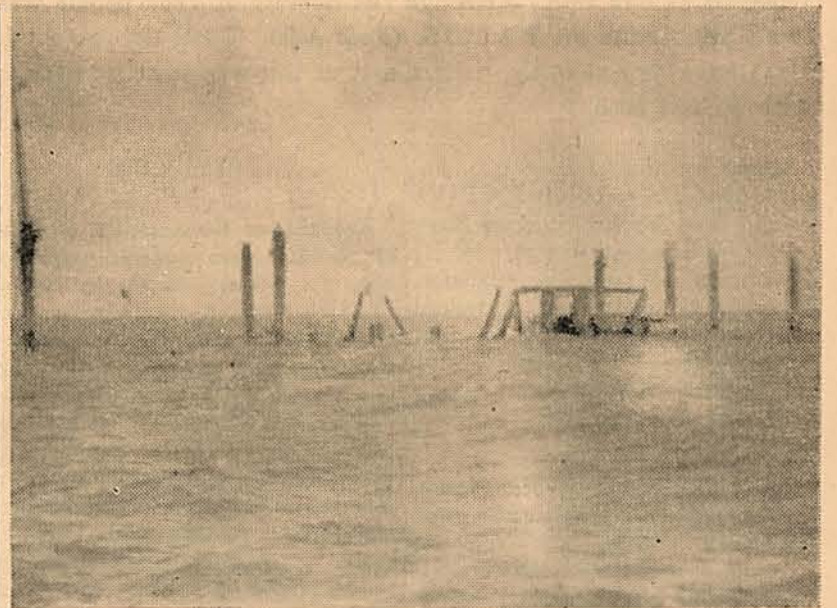
leprasarium is run by missionaries and is visited by a doctor once a week. The living quarters are shacks. No hospital exists on the island. The North Australian Workers Union has a large leper-relief fund from which clothing, sweets, tobacco, fruit, etc., are taken regularly to the island. We had the privilege of going with the regular concert party to distribute the relief and give an impromptu concert. We were welcomed with cries of joy and laughter. The small hall was packed with the most appreciative audience we have ever seen.

On the island we saw lepers, children from two years of age to old people, with extremities missing and in all stages of nodular and neural leprosy. The shocking clinical conditions made us realise more deeply the social significance of medicine.

*The cure of these people should be undertaken in a modern, infectious disease hospital on the mainland with the introduction of educational and rehabilitation facilities. The prevention is a bigger problem and appears to lie with the social conditions of the native population. As we have taken their country from them the very least we must do is to provide them with equal opportunity to assist in its development and benefit from its wealth.*

### Journey Back

After spending ten days in Darwin we left by coach for Alice Springs along an asphalt road reconditioned by the army during the war. The surrounding country was flat but beautifully green due to recent rains. The vegetation appeared similar to that on the N.S.W. Coast. Gradually the eucalyptus faded out and



WHAT HAS BEEN DONE

One of the dozens of wrecks scattered over Darwin Harbour.

was replaced by scattered, dumpy and rickety trees. Particularly after leaving Elliot the vegetation becomes sparse, and the typical reddish brown soil appeared with giant termite nests covering the landscape.

Right through the trip down to Port Augusta we were struck by the abundance of rock from "Gibber" plains to large granite "Devils Marbles". We had little time to note the type of rock but it appeared to be mainly quartz and in Alice Springs and Darwin we saw a large amount of mica bearing quartz.

### Lack of Water

The main drawback in the Territory appears to be the lack of water. Given water the country has tremendous possibilities. This was borne out in Alice Springs. A beautiful little town with trees everywhere and where we saw succulent grapes, figs, oranges and other fruit growing.

Probably the most beautiful part of the scenery was between Port Augusta and Port Pirie. The long undulating wheat country with freshly reaped fields and bags of wheat piled high outside the stations was a striking picture.

The rest of our journey through to Adelaide, Melbourne and on to Sydney was terrible—2nd class carriages, soot and dirt—so we were thankful to get back to Tech.

### PRESENTATION TO MR. TUCKER

Mr. Tucker, well known to all Chem. students, retired last year after many years as Chief Lab. Assistant in the Chem. Department. He will be remembered as a friend to all present and past students, ever ready to assist students with their problems.

The Science Association is organising a presentation and are circulating donation lists. Students and graduates can give donations to class reps. or to Mr. Rawson.

### DOCUMENTARY FILMS

The Union has registered with the Documentary Film Council as a borrower. Tech College Associations may borrow films through the Union Council. For further details contact Esme Mapperson in the Council Room.

## SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

### Annual General Meeting

The A.G. Meeting held in the Union Rooms on 28th March was attended by 55 appreciative members. Three films were shown, Charlie Chaplin arousing great enthusiasm.

The temporary secretary, Mr. G. Rhoades, outlined the past year's activity, pointing out the lack of leadership resulting in absence of minutes of committee meeting but recent Student Needs Conference will facilitate greater attention to providing members with necessary amenities.

Officers for 1950 elected were: Pres., J. Gannon; Vice-Pres., W. Thomas; Secretary, J. Anderson; Treasurer, E. C. Martin; Stage Convenor, N. Woods; Student Councillors, G. Tangie, J. Donellan, A. McDonald, R. Daly, D. Cantrill.

Graduate Councillors, J. Anderson, H. Spies, K. Bowling; Editor of Technichem, Miss B. Hewitt; Graduates Reps. on Committee, J. R. Anderson, M. C. Spies.

A vote of thanks to Mr. V. Rawson for his valuable assistance over the past year was carried by acclamation. Coffee was served.

The meeting closed with keen discussion among the new committee continuing until 11 p.m.

### N.S.W. ADVISORY TECH. EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL

The above body was reconstituted by the Tech. Education Bill last year. Engineering Graduates are represented by Mr. Stone. The Union Council will keep in close contact with the Advisory Council with regard to problems of Tech. Education affecting students and graduates.

### SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING GIVE LEAD

Class representatives have been elected from the majority of classes in Science and Engineering. Norm Woods, Stage Convenor of Science, is well on the way in organisation of stage committees.

## Join the Union

- FOR A BETTER TECH.
- DAYLIGHT TRAINING
- CONCESSION FARES
- STUDENT AMENITIES
- CURRICULUM REFORM
- IMPROVED CAFETERIA
- BIGGER C.R.T.S. ALLOWANCES

**Subscription:**  
**10/- per Annum**

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Editor,  
Unity News,  
Dear Sir,

I feel I must congratulate those people who were responsible for the organising of a Student Needs and Welfare Conference as was held at Mona Vale.

The need for a student's "Bill of Rights" has been long overdue, particularly at S.T.C. It is pleasing to see that another conference is being arranged for 20th-21st May. This shows that the Union realises that "Students Needs and Welfare" is a progressive idea and, by continuous discussion among students new ideas will come forth and those proposals all ready made will not be allowed to stagnate and lose their punch. Before the next conference let us see that the points of the charter are well on the way to being realised.

The cafeteria is absolutely inadequate for the needs of the students. Last night I joined the queue at 5 p.m. and by the time I had finished I had to hurry to start a 6 o'clock lecture. Admittedly this is not the usual length of time it takes to have a meal (sometimes its only 1/4 of an hr.) nevertheless the waste of time is deplorable. I have spoken to a number of people and they all agree that it's time the cafeteria was enlarged. Some students say they have "given the cafeteria away" and are eating elsewhere. Surely this could be avoided. Night classes are a great physical strain with shortage of sleep, etc., without the extra burden of malnutrition caused by meals of pies and peanuts.

*What is this about military training? Does the Government of this country want to make tech. a still harder hurdle than it already is? Apart from the fact that 3 months military training would put a student a whole year behind in his studies and maybe lose for him his job—yes, I know there are plenty of jobs advertised but could they be called "good jobs—think of the precedent this military training establishes. It recognises war as an expectation of the near future. Is this the "Golden Age" we were promised as the "fruits" of the last war, "As ye sew—so shall ye reap," so don't let us sew the seeds of war. I congratulate the students*

*who unanimously agreed that military training was impossible if we are to have better Student Needs and Welfare.*

R. ARMSTRONG,  
Chemistry.

The Editor,  
Unity News,  
Dear Sir,

I wish to complain about the fact that, as yet, no coffee has been supplied to Union members this year. Last year we did not receive this service, which was promised, the reason apparently due to lack of initiative on the part of the Union Council in engaging some paid help to make and distribute the beverage or, if this was impractical, in arranging for volunteer labour to do so.

I have noticed also that this year free coffee was used as a drawcard to persuade students to join the Union (a notice being exhibited at the enrolling booth). Furthermore, in the last edition of Unity News the findings of the Students Needs and Welfare Conference stated that coffee was to be distributed by the billiards room attendant.

However, I admit coffee cannot be served by a hypothetical person, so why not arrange for voluntary labour to perform this service and even make a small charge per cup.

The Union complains of the lack of interest in the body which has as its aim "A Better Tech. for Students", but is this surprising when it only does not supply its advertised amenities, but does not apologise for not supplying them.

Yours expectantly,  
H. THORBURN,  
Chem. Eng., Stage III.

*(Ed. Note.—Every effort is being made to have coffee served by voluntary labour. George Tangie and Norm Woods have been doing a grand job but need assistance).*

**"FOR A BETTER 'TECH'"**

**Student Opinions on Programme**

As I was not present I was interested to see the health and recreation schemes which I consider are very necessary in building a better citizen for the community. Daylight train-

ing, more sporting activities (what about some swimming, athletic, football, etc., carnivals during the year?), better, cheaper meals at the cafeteria, routine physical check-up, are all conducive to better study and mental health.

To my mind the report has covered the needs of the students very fully, and, with complete co-operation from the students themselves should bring good results.

DOROTHY STUART.

This programme could not be bettered, each of the sections listed being of great importance to tech. students. I am looking forward to a year of great activity by Union members, which will help us to attain our goal, and improve the lot of all students.

BARRY WILLIAMS,  
Elec. Eng.

The Editor,  
Dear Sir,

Two of the most important subjects discussed at the February Conference were the N.S.W. University of Technology and Peace. Of these two probably the latter is of greater importance since our very lives depend on it. Students should direct their thoughts and efforts, in the direction of peace. It is quite safe to assume that no one wants war so don't let us even think of it, most nations in the world have not even recovered from the last one and yet one hears and reads talk of the possibility of another war.

With reference to the University of technology it is quite obvious that unless the Government makes some allowance for students at the Tech. College to obtain a degree in their respective branch of Eng., etc., without endangering their position of employment then all the effort that has been put into creating the Uni will go for nothing because instead of thousands of students attending it will be limited to a few hundred Government and employer sponsored students, the latter being very rare.

The only solution seems to be either of those suggested at the Conference, two afternoon per week or a full year with Government assistance and protection.

—H.D., Eng.

**CAN YOU ANSWER A QUESTION?**

The basis upon which the supporters of the Peace movement seem to constitute their arguments is, the sincerity of the U.S.S.R. in their attitude towards the question of Peace and their seemingly ready co-operation to see that world Peace exists not merely in name but as a reality, the remainder of the other major nations of the world are only too ready to answer the question. Do you earnestly and sincerely want Peace? with a most emphatic YES but, up to the present have done very little towards making it a reality. Taking most facts into consideration it appears to an unbiased observer that they are placing obstacles in the way of securing Peace rather than trying to eliminate them, for instance the U.S.A. persists in the "Cold War" not as a means of preventing the U.S.S.R. advocating a policy of communism to the world but, to maintain their economic stability and to prevent widespread unemployment in industries which produce war materials.

The burning question is the Soviet system of Communism a success? has been answered by a great many people who unfortunately are not in the position to answer and are only too ready to condemn any new Social Order. However, those who have seen it in operation, in the majority, say that it is working splendidly, but, of course the only really satisfactory way to prove this is to see for yourself. In finishing I would like to say this. Too many people are only too ready to accept one side of the question without considering any of the facts put forward by the other side, you should consider both sides of the question, analyse them and draw your own conclusions, ignoring any types of bias from other people.

This way, and this way only, can you adopt a clear view of the facts and now how would you answer the question, DO YOU AS AN INDIVIDUAL SINCERELY AND EARNESTLY WANT PEACE? If you do then why not DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

—N. E. WOODS.

**STUDENTS IN ITALY**

ITALY. CUDI, I.U.S. member organisation in Italy, has increased its activity for student demands. In Rome, the students established a programme of demands including: Building of new laboratories, opening of a student canteen, granting of 2000 scholarships for needy students, 50 per cent. reduction on trams and railways, creation of printing co-operatives for text books (subsidised by the Government), creation of a student health centre for all students in Rome, transformation of army barracks to student hostels. The appeal of the students of Rome points out that all this can be satisfied only by increasing the budget for education which was cut because of the rising military expenditure. (From the paper "Universita, Nuova".)

**N.S.W. NATIONAL OPERA**

Late in 1949 the N.S.W. National Opera (Inc.) was formed with Mr. E. Langker, P.R.A.S. as President and with the object of producing an annual season of opera in N.S.W.

The President has invited, through the Union, students to become associate members, which entitles them to membership of the National Opera Club.

Further details may be obtained through the Union Council or by applying directly to the N.S.W. National Opera, 243 Elizabeth Street, Sydney.

**MORE TECH STUDENTS IN BRITAIN**

There are more than twice as many technical college students in Britain as there were before the war.

"Student Forum".

**3,450,000 MEMBERS IN 60 COUNTRIES**

The International Union of Students stands today as the sole representative international organisation of the democratic students, having 3,450,000 members in 60 countries. The I.U.S. fought for the principal interests of the students and expressed their common will to defend the peace. Its unity is based upon the active participation of the membership in determining its needs and elaborating a policy to satisfy them. The I.U.S. guarantees the right of every democratic student to participate in this activity.

I.U.S. Membership badges are available at Union Rooms, price 6d. Current pamphlets and documents from I.U.S. and W.F.D.Y. are also available for perusal.

**MUSICIANS WANTED**

Do you play a musical instrument? An orchestra, band or combination is needed for the 1950 REVUE. Any instrument will be acceptable, whether it's brasswind, woodwind, percussion, string, or whether you play jazz, swing, dixie, classical—in fact anything at all.

We already have several instrumentalists lined up so come along to the Union rooms and let us know!!

THIS MEANS FUN!!

**"SHOESHINE"**

A very successful theatre party was held at the Savoy on 12th April, to see Shoeshine. Nearly fifty students and friends attended. Let the Union know if you have a favourite show you think would be popular for a theatre party and we will organise it.

### STUDENTS' WORK GOES OVERSEAS

2nd World Student Congress to be held in Prague in August, 1950.

LONDON . . . The Executive Committee of the I.U.S. commenced its meeting on February 2 at the headquarters of the National Union of Students of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Following the report on preparations for the Second World Student Congress, delivered by the President of I.U.S., Mr. Josef Grohman, it was decided that the Congress would be held in Prague, in August, 1950.

Other items on the agenda include the work of the I.U.S. and the national student organisations in the fight for a democratic education, and the work of the I.U.S. magazine, "Student News".

### TECH. STUDENT OVERSEAS

Many students will be interested to know that Betty Bridge will be leaving here shortly to continue her studies in Europe. Before starting serious work she will be travelling around from place to place for two or three months, and hopes to be in Prague at the time when the 2nd World Congress of the International Union of Students takes place (next August).

Students at the Conservatorium of Music and some art and design students suggested that Betty take some of their work with her so that it could be included in the Australian section of the international exhibition of student's work which will form a major feature of the Congress.

Tech. College students who show a keen interest in the I.U.S. Congress desire to add their work to that which Betty is taking with her. She will have an excellent opportunity to discuss and exchange the ideas and interests and technical developments being carried out by students here and in many other countries as wide apart as Argentine, Norway, Canada, England, America, France, and so on.

### S.T.C. ON THE MAP

All students should be particularly interested to know that here is their opportunity to have their work represented at this congress and to have their pet ideas and favourite topics compared and exchanged with those of other students engaged in similar activities.

You are invited to include your ideas and/or tangible work (in the form of say, architectural designs, engineering and science topics, etc.) Betty can be contacted at any time at the Union rooms and will be pleased to receive any further topics to be conveyed to the congress.

Incidentally, anyone who wishes to make contact with friends or acquaintances in England or Europe, or anyone desiring to correspond with students in any country in the world (through that country's delegate at the Congress) should make arrangements through Betty, who will be able to do this for them.

While in other countries Betty will be sending regular articles to Unity News, so that we shall be well informed regarding activities of students overseas.

Ring MA 6900 with that idea

### British Students Reaffirm Affiliation to I.U.S.

The Council of the N.U.S. of England, Wales and Northern Ireland met in London, November 18th to 20th. An I.U.S. delegation consisting of President, Josef Groman, Vice-President, Hal Holman, A.I.M.S., U.S.A., Ken Tolhurst, Noel Ebbels and Lance Samson, attended the meeting. Mr. Bereanu, Rumania, was unfortunately unable to attend as a member of the delegation as his visa did not arrive in time. Fraternal delegates were also present from Scotland, Ireland, Norway, Yugoslavia, Australia, and some other countries.

The meeting decided by a large majority that the N.U.S. membership of the I.U.S. should continue in accordance with the recently adopted N.U.S. "Statement of Policy concerning International Student Relations."

### CANADIAN STUDENTS VOTE TO JOIN I.U.S.

MONTREAL.—An informal regional conference organised by the National Federation of Canadian University students voted in favour of affiliation with I.U.S. The conference was held at McGill University on January 21.

It included delegates from the University of Montreal, Laval Uni. and the University of Bishop's College.

Though the decisions taken at the conference are not binding on N.F.C.U.S. as a whole, they serve as guiding policy for the local N.F.C.U.S. Committee at McGill.

It is reported that many speakers emphasised that support for the I.U.S. would assist the cause of peace.

The conference also gave unanimous support to the N.F.C.U.S. campaign for increased government aid to education. The campaign seeks 10,000 annual scholarships of 500 dollars.

### ANTI T.B. CAMPAIGN

The 1950 Anti T.B. drive was officially opened by Lt. General Northcott at the Wentworth Hotel on Tuesday, 17th April.

In conjunction with the Anti T.B. Association the Union and Society of Students will conduct a mass chest x-ray among tech. students early in second term. Watch notice boards for details.

### ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?

When a Plumber makes a mistake, he charges twice for it.

When a Lawyer makes a mistake, he has a chance to try the case again.

When a Doctor makes a mistake, he buries it.

When a Judge makes a mistake, it becomes law of the land.

When a Preacher makes a mistake, nobody knows the difference.

But when a Printer makes an error . . . Good Night!

—"Graphic Arts Monthly."

### DESCENT OF MAN

Three monkeys sat in a cocoon tree, Discussing things like you and me. Said one to the others, Now listen you two;

I hear a rumour that can't be true, That man descended from our noble race,

The very idea is a disgrace. Why, no monkey ever deserted his wife,

Starved the children and ruined her life.

And who ever heard of a mother monk

Leaving her children with others to bunk?

Rushing them off from one to another,

'Till they scarcely know who is their mother.

Another thing you'll never see Is a monkey-built fence 'round a cocoon tree.

Letting all the cocoanuts go to waste, Forbidding other monkeys to have a taste,

Why, if I built a fence round a cocoon tree,

Starvation would force you to steal from me,

And another thing a monkey won't do—

Go out at night and get in a stew, Make a fool of himself, stir up strife, Or with gun or club take another monk's life.

Of course man descended, the ornery cuss,

But, brother, he didn't descend from us!

### SPORT AT TECH.

Adequate recreation has always been a problem for tech. college students. The Health survey carried out by Union Council in 1947 emphasised the lack of organised sport amongst tech. students. This is still true today and while being mainly due to lack of time is also caused by lack of recreational facilities playing fields, etc., also the habit induced by years of inactivity play a part.

Student organisation has been alive to the problem for many years and sporting activity constitutes an important part of the life of University students while the International Union of Students had organised International summer and winter games.

The tech. colleges have been sadly neglected but with the establishment of the N.S.W. University of Technology Major Wilthew has been appointed as Sports Director to the Dept. of Tech. Education and he has organised a Sports and Recreational

### COMMONWEALTH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Students doing full time Diploma Courses and Degree Courses at the University of Technology of N.S.W. are entitled to benefits under the C.F.A.S.

Providing they fulfil the eligibility conditions, applicants are considered in the light of a Merit and Means Tests. The Means Test and Assistance given.

The Means Test is based on the adjusted family income for the preceding financial year.

The family income is the total of the taxable incomes of the applicant and his father and his mother.

The adjusted family income is the family income less £50 for each dependent child under sixteen at the close of the financial year preceding the date of application.

An applicant whose adjusted family income is £250 or less may be granted the maximum amount of assistance. If the adjusted family income exceeds £250, the amount of assistance is decreased by £4 for every £10 by which the adjusted family income exceeds £250.

The maximum amount of assistance is a living allowance of £130 per year in the case of a student living with his parents while attending the University, or a living allowance of £169 per year in the case of a student not living with his parents while attending the University; together with (a) payment of compulsory fees, and (b) payment of an instrument allowance of £10 in all in the case of students in technical faculties such as medicine and science.

### INDIA STEPS UP DEFENCE SPENDING

New Delhi, Wednesday.

Indian Finance Minister, Mr. Matt-hai, told Parliament yesterday that defence would take about half the Government's expenditure in 1950-51. —From Sun, March 1st, 1950.

weekend at the National Fitness Camp at Broken Bay on 29th and 30th April for all tech. and N.S.W. University students.

The Sports Association at tech. this year is initiating games that require little time for practice and are easy to learn. The first game will be volley ball, nets and balls have been purchased and will probably be erected in the college grounds.

All interested students please contact Esme Mapperson in Union Council rooms.

## Co-Operation in Milk Distribution

6,000 dairy farmers own and control Sydney's largest milk distributing organisation.

### THE DAIRY FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE MILK COMPANY LTD.

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Also at Newcastle and Wollongong.

## Experiences of an Apprentice at the British Empire Games

In September, 1949, after a series of tests, I had the pleasure of hearing my name announced as a member of the Australian Team to participate in the British Empire Games to be held in Auckland, New Zealand.

As the team would not be leaving for four months I had ample time to get over the initial excitement and settle down to some hard training, also to gather the special gear required for such an important event. It might be interesting to those who do not closely follow bicycle racing to know that the training schedule for three months entailed riding more than 3,000 miles to prepare for the one race of 100 kls. or approx. 62½ miles.

When the time for departure approached the fact that I was to embark on a thrilling adventure began to show its effect. At last we were loaded into a Skymaster to hop over 1300 miles of water. Here was I with 40 of the cream of Australia's athletes starting on my first flight. My feelings at the time are hard to describe but it was not long before the sense of complete security permitted me to relax into a much needed sleep. In less than six hours we were over Auckland. My pen can not adequately describe the magnificence of the view from above as we came in to land in the early morning.

Fortunately for me the road race was held on the second day of the Games and I was thus able to relax from further training and thoroughly enjoy the whole spectacle. I had the misfortune to puncture shortly after completing half the journey in the race in which I completed losing almost four minutes for repairs but after riding 27 miles alone caught the field less than half a mile from home and had the satisfaction of finishing fourth.

All teams were quartered at the Ardmore Teachers' Training College 23 miles from Auckland. In my enthusiasm to assist I made my bed the first morning but soon learnt that my effort was not appreciated—I was expected to act like a king. Well, they certainly treated us like kings, the organisation being first class in all respects, particularly the quality and quantity of the meals. The trips to Rotorua and the Maori function at Tutangawaewae Pae were experiences one is not likely to forget. The opportunity of mixing with people from all parts of the Empire was an education. The coloured athletes from Fiji and Nigeria were most popular. One Nigerian informed us that his father had about a dozen wives but declared that he was not likely to follow the paternal footsteps—half a dozen would be enough for him. Few of us were fortunate enough to obtain much sleep after the closing ceremony on the final night, as the whole camp went wild with celebrations.

I left New Zealand with many happy memories and many new friends, but regretting that the whole visit was far too short. However, I believe that among the greatest thrills I had was the sight of good old Sydney from the air.

Viewed from the angle of an apprentice the Games and all the vast

experiences associated with them were something to make one proud of being a member of the Australian team and our great Empire.

By Peter J. Pryor,  
20-years-old Fitting and  
Machining Apprentice,  
Belmore Technical College.

### PEACE

"The New South Wales Teachers' Federation reaffirms its support of the United Nations Charter, and, believing that all peoples wish to be free from the scourge of war for all time, expresses its faith in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation as a means towards the uniting of the peoples of the world, through the establishment of goodwill, mutual understanding and dissemination of knowledge throughout the world."

Extract from N.S.W. Teachers' Federation 31st Annual Conference Decisions as announced in Education.

### HIGH FEES IN STH. AFRICAN UNIVERSITY

"The tuition fees in all faculties at Witwatersrand University have risen by an average of 90 per cent. since the 1939, and by 155 per cent. since the inception of the university in 1923, according to a survey by a research group of the National Union of Sth. African Students.

The fees at this university are the highest in South Africa and probably come close to being the highest in the world."

(From "S. A. STUDENT", journal of the National Union of South African Students).

Dear Son,

Since you have been in the Army, we have been able to afford to live in the city.

It is a lovely house with two rooms, so we will be able to take in boarders. It has another little room at the back, so if we have a lot of people at one time we will be able to put a few in there.

In this room there are three things. One of them is called "ABATH". You fill it up with water and get right in. This is to get the dirt off you.

There is a little thing called "A-SINK" in which you wash light things like your face and hands. The other thing is a funny looking thing to wash your feet in. You put one foot in and wash it, you then pull the chain and the water changes ready for the next foot. There were two lids on it but we did not need them so we used one for a bread board, and the other we used for a frame for your grandfather's photo.

The good man also gave us two rolls of paper to write letters on.

Love from your ma and pa.

### F.A.T.C.S. COUNCIL MEETING Melbourne

Melbourne.

The 2nd F.A.T.C.S. Council meeting was held at Melbourne Tech. College on 15th and 16th April. Delegates from Sydney, Ballarat, Melbourne, Swinbourne, Emily McPherson and Bendigo were present. Ken Tolhurst, I.U.S. executive member gave a report to Council on the International Union of Students, which was discussed along with Peace, Art Exhibition, Student Needs and —Welfare. A fuller report will appear in the next issue.

### TEACHERS BACK EQUAL PAY

The N.S.W. Teachers' Federation 31st Annual Conference held in December carried the following resolution:—

(1) This Conference affirms the policy of equal pay—the rate for the job. The Conference,

(a) Calls upon the State Government to introduce legislation to provide women teachers with the same rates of pay as paid to men in comparable positions;

(b) Expresses its support for the A.C.T.U. claim for equal pay, and requests Federal Council to mobilise the fullest support of the trade union movement for the claim;

(c) Calls upon the Federal Government to take whatever steps are necessary by legislation to implement the U.N.O. Charter in respect of Equality of the sexes;

(d) Requests the Australian Teachers' Federation to initiate and coordinate vigorous State campaigns on this policy early in 1950.

(2) In 1950 the Federation organises a vigorous campaign round the implementation of this policy.

### THE MAJOR TAKES OVER

In this short time at the College the newly appointed Amenities Officer, Major Wilthew, has done a magnificent job.

Not only has he thoroughly organised sporting activities for the University of Technology students but he has found time to be of invaluable assistance to the Union in formulating plans for night students.

The combined week-end camp at Broken Bay was just a start to a brighter future for tech. students sporting and cultural lives.

### FOR MEN ONLY

One day a small rabbit playing on the railway track had his tail cut off by a train. On going home to his mother he said, "I've lost my tail."

Mother rabbit replied "Go back and find it and I'll sew it on."

Going back bunny this time lost his head.

### WHAT IS THE MORAL

Never lose your head over a small piece of fluff.

### YOUTH SINGS

The songs as sung by young people of many lands have been included in a new song book "Youth Sings" published by the International Union of Students and based on the recent World Festival of Youth and Students.

The words and music are given and songs of all nations from the Irish "Kevin Barry," China's "Chee Lae" and Australia's "Waltzing Matilda" are included.

As the supply is limited and the demand great, prospective buyers should leave their name with the Assistant Secretary in the Union Rooms.

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BRISBANE: Intercolonial HOBART: Wm. L. Buckland PERTH: Carlyle & Com-  
Boring Co. Ltd., 450 Ann Pty. Ltd., 57 Liverpool pany, 915 Hay Street.  
Street.

## STAGE COMMITTEES--HOW & WHY

There is one thing very much lacking in the Students' Organisation at the College, that is a closer link between the ordinary student member and the Executive Committees of the Association and the Union.

Very often we hear students complain, something along these lines—"Yes, we join the Union and pay our 10 bob, but after that we never hear from them again. Admittedly we get much cheaper notes in the Union Store and have the use of the Union Rooms, but apart from that the Union and Association does not do very much for us."

On the other hand you can hear members of the committee saying—"What's the good of organising anything for the students, they never turn up to anything. We don't really know what they want us to do." And as sometimes they are forced to guess what the students need, naturally they occasionally guess wrong and put a lot of work into something that's not really needed and therefore never appreciated.

How then can we overcome this state of the Union?—that's right "Stage Committees." (How did you guess?). Yes, these Stage Committees are the answer to any student's prayer.

To prove the point let us first explain how Stage Committees should and actually do come into being.

One way of obtaining Stage Committees would be to call a General Meeting of each stage and elect the committee there, but this method is not very satisfactory because of the likelihood of getting too many representatives from one class and none from another.

A better way is for one or more enthusiastic members of the Association in a class to note that no Stage Committee has so far been formed in this particular stage and realising the disadvantage to themselves and the Stage of, they inform the Association Secretary of their intention to form a Committee in this Stage. Finding no opposition from him they then proceed in their class, about 5 minutes before lecture starts or at a break between lectures, to elect some class representatives onto the Committee. After explaining to the class in "few words, what they are about to do, they ask for nominations for the committee members, after receiving approx. 10 nominees, they elect 2 or 3 representatives by show of hands, being careful to give everybody in the class 3 votes.

After these elections have been carried out in every class (say for example 4 classes) then we have 12 members on the Stage Committee.

This Committee then must meet at least once or twice a month. In the first meeting at least a chairman and secretary must be elected. Then the Committee should settle down to find out the immediate needs of the students in that stage—and brother there are plenty!

Items like lecture notes, Inspection tours, Past Exam Papers, Union Bulletin Distribution, should always be on the agenda. Each member should have a particular section to look after—e.g., one should look after Inspection tours, another to collect past Exam papers, another to inquire at the Union Rooms whether any Bulletins or Unity News awaits distribution. Make use of the organisation in the store, which is solely run by the students for the students. They will run off letters for you, print Exam papers, look after your finance and assist you as much as possible.

If these jobs are shared by so many, and done like that they become quite easy and can be carried out even by the overburdened Tech student. Only when the whole lot is left to a few it becomes impossible to carry out all the work.

P. VANRY,  
S.T.C. Union Pres.

### Classified Advertisements

WANTED.—Reasonable copy of YORSTON & BROWN'S "Company Secretary's Guide". Apply Assist. Secretary, Union Rooms.

### FOR SALE

All British Gent's wristlet watch (new), s.s. case, strong construction, £5. Apply Norm Piper, Stage IV, Chemistry Department.

### FREE SPEECH

Students at Polytechnic, London are discussing whether the Students Council should be connected to a students Union. The present S.R.C. has no control over finance or power to act in many matters affecting student welfare and status. "Student Forum" the organ of the S.R.C. states: "A Union should have the right to call a meeting of students at any time it pleases, and to speak about any subject it chooses. That we are forbidden this right in the Poly, the first and largest of all Polytechnics, is causing great concern.

### POLICE CHECK ON STUDENT CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA

A police check was carried out in Adelaide (Australia), where the University's Socialist Club and Student Christian Movement jointly organised a week-end conference on "Christianity and Marxism". The police made many inquiries and took a copy of the list of people attending. The Adelaide University S.R.C. has protested against this police probe.

("On Dit", Adelaide Uni. paper)

### EDITOR'S NOTE

I must apologise for the somewhat late publication of this issue of "Unity News".

Most of my time last month was taken up with pleadings to the Assistant Editor to marry me.

Having finally extracted that beautiful little word I trust that I shall now be able to relax in my arm chair with my pipe and slippers and order the spouse to do all editing.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Council endorsed the Executive recommendation that the Annual General meeting of the Union be held on June 7th at 8 p.m.

Reports on Student Needs, Conversion Courses, International Union of Students will be discussed. Graduates and students are urged to be present and express their views on Union policy.

### NOTICE

#### Changes to Constitution

All changes to Constitution to be presented to Annual General Meeting on June 7th must be in Union Secretary's hands at least 14 days before the meeting.

H. C. SPIES,  
Hon. Secretary.

### EXAM PAPERS—

#### ENGINEERS

The Engineering Association has many 1947 Final Exam Papers which must be distributed among students. There is no doubt that every body will want a copy so get your class rep to call into the Union Rooms any time and pick up a bundle. There are papers from Stage I upward and including Engineering, Civil, Naval Architecture, Aeronautical.

### THE STORY OF A LITTLE BULL

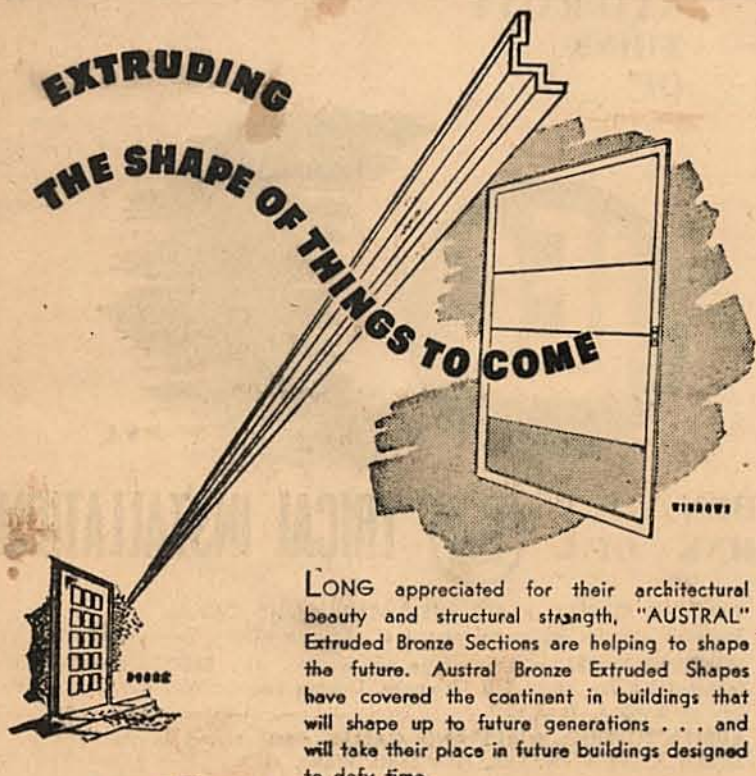
Once upon a time a little Bull on a very hot day tried to find some shade and he by chance came under the shade of a tree. He had been lying there for a long time when a large bull came and pushed him out. Now the little Bull walked for miles and miles till he came under the shade of a hedge. Here he lay till he was forced to move on by the ants which dwelt there abouts. Again the little Bull walked for miles and miles until he came to the shade of a shed where he lay till he was forced to move on by a savage dog.

So our little Bull walked for miles and miles until he found a forest, but here he was again forced to move on and he walked for miles and miles, when suddenly he found an old caravan under which he slept and where, to his disgust, he was forced to move on by the annoyance of two spiders, so again he walked for miles and miles and miles, until he found rest in an old barn. This, my friends, is to show you that a little Bull goes a long way.

N. WOODS. (Chem.)

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