

"HONI SOIT"

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Why We Publish "Honi Soit"

WE do not seek to wrest from our contemporary "Hermes" the place which it has won for itself in the corporate life of the University. Nor do we wish to cover the same field. We have a sterner purpose.

We force ourselves upon your notice, flushed with the fervour of the true reformer. To strip the veneer, to open

sociate ourselves. We are not unprincipled, but we subscribe to no principles. We will not make statements for the joy there is in making them. Our criticism—and criticism will frequently form the theme of our journal—will be constructive, and for the good of all. The Mirror which we seek to hold up to Nature will perhaps be clouded at times, for even

Have You Noticed

THAT the University spirit is dying.

THAT the "Sun" car broke both axles applying the headlights test to the 'Varsity Roads.

THAT the employers have declared the timber workers' heads black.

THAT it is more admirable to write a book than several letters to the press.

FESTIVAL and GALA

*"Haste thee nymph and bring with thee
Jest and youthful jollity."*



DOES YOUR M.L.A. KNOW YOU NEED YOUR BUTTON

The Magic Festival Button, marked down to 2/-, guarantees you personal immunity, free admission, free insurance, and all the fun of the Fair.

MONDAY, May 20, to FRIDAY, May 24

the cupboard on our skeletons, and those of other people, to tell the truth without fear or favour, and to assist our readers in their search for the Touchstone of philosophy—happiness—these are our aims.

We are iconoclasts. We do not believe—O Heresy!—that the undergraduate is the most important member of the community. We refuse to pander exclusively to him. Indeed, we will not pander to anyone. We make our appeal also to the great General Public.

From policies we entirely disas-

University students are sometimes fallible. If however, we are occasionally able to point the way to higher things, we shall be satisfied.

You will be asked to believe our advertisers. You will be unable to obtain a free life insurance policy because you carry a copy of "Honi Soit." You will not be arrested for sedition if seen in our company. We should, therefore, commend ourselves to all tastes.

THAT practically all 'Varsity women claim that they will never marry, and give reasons?

THAT Australia's national debt is eleven hundred million and still rising.

THAT Dr. Bradfield designed the Harbour Bridge.

THAT despite our best efforts the University does not seem to be paying.

THAT Professor Wilkinson laid out the University as an architectural museum, and is proud of it.

?



Come, O Ye Songsters.

We offer you an opportunity of avenging an insult to your nation. George Bernard Shaw asserted that Australit has no literature! Will you allow that to pass! No! you are going to write a Commem. song of such outstanding merit that this rash Englishman will humbly crave your pardon; and in the years to come as the multitudes, rendered well-nigh speechless with hero-worship, listen to the deathless record of your art, they will turn to each other and say, "that is the man who made Shaw recant."

By writing a song you will be following in the footsteps of the giants of the past. Horace, who will be remembered (and cursed) as long as there is a Leaving Certificate, once said, "Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori," which any Latin student will translate for you as "Tis a sweet and glorious thing to write for one's song-book." While Catullus in the midst of his dallying with Lesbia exclaimed—"Vivamus, mea Lesbia, quæ amemus," which (I translate for the benefit of med. studes) means "Let us hurry up and write for the song-book, my Lesbia." Now if Catullus, who was absolutely thrilled to shreds out Lesbia, could find time to attend to his duties as an undergrad, then surely you can allow your rival to take the girl friend for one night while you stay at home and emulate Catullus.

Sydney at present is overflowing with topics that are clamouring insistently to be written about. Heed our entreaties and silence the outcry. For a whole week Dr. Arthur poured ink down our throats. Well, you poets, are you going to swallow this ink without a murmur? Vacate the syllabus for one day and hiccough forth a Bacchanalian chorus of protest against the tyranny of Strawberry! The Sydney press is trying to decide who designed the North Shore Bridge; the greasers have your own ideas on that point. Then put them into song and let us bellow them at the world.

Your song-book committee believes in keeping abreast of modern political life, and therefore its members are open to bribery. Any song accompanied by a small donation will receive very favourable consideration; while for a fiver we guarantee to insert any one song at least three times together with the genealogical tree of its author (the tree part will be omitted if the author thinks it necessary). Moreover we will return all rejected M.S.S. provided the author encloses sufficient stamps and free seats for any of the current shows.

"Originality is the mother of invention," and humbly upon our knees we implore you to let your songs deal with original subjects. And, for once, to leave unnoticed the beards, paunches, Oxford accents and personal idiosyncrasies of the 'Varsity celebrities.

Songs may be submitted to any member of the Undergraduates' Committee up till Wednesday 8th May.

If this exhortation does not inspire you to write at least one song then your Committee will confidently recommend you for membership in the Morons' Union.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE ALLEGED TALKIES

In the dim but rose-tinted past the Union was in the habit of showing films in the lunch hour on certain days of the working week, and the Tariff was fourpence an hour. As one remembers it the programme was a miniature of the average commercial specimen, spiced with allusive remarks from a somewhat rowdy but appreciative clientele. Sometimes the projector broke down, but the results were always so lively that no real animosity was felt. The Union made or did not make money on the show, and general satisfaction was felt all round.

Now we have a Film Society who charges us sixpence for the same old fare. The extra two-pence is justified to us by the addition of a gramophone with a long-distance attachment, and by the subtraction of portion of the old varied programme. Up in the Gallery

and it is an established fact that the hurdy-gurdy has no connection—except theoretic—with the very ordinary celluloid in the operating box. Indeed, the old piano was far more pleasant to listen to than the wailing of a disembodied and extended talking-machine.

In the second place "Honi Soit" would like to ask the proprietors or beneficiaries of the Society whether they are British and whether they suppose themselves to be cultured gentlemen of a cultural institution. Is such an unpleasant American cacophony as "talkies" to jar our ears along with its equally obnoxious sister "movies"? Need we, of all people, bow down to the prevalent American invasion? If the commercial companies choose for some reason to adopt a vulgarity, do

THEATRE NIGHT

Thursday, May 23rd

Festival enthusiasts and participants are advised to make early bookings for the Theatre Performance which will be held at the Tivoli.

This is going to be a special night featuring Muriel Starr, Alan Priora, the famous English comedian Jack Barty, together with other notable artists.

Booking plans will be thrown open on Wednesday, May 8th at 3.30 p.m., at the University Union, Manning House and The Law School.



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many young people group themselves round the musical box, who usually and more properly would have entered in the old days by the turnstile.

This gramophone and its vagrant attachments are considered sufficient to justify the whole concern being called the "Talkies," which is, of course, a horrid United States word for sound synchronised films. In the first place there is little or no synchronisation,

you feel obliged to imitate their crudities of expression? "Honi Soit" would also be pleased to learn what percentage of British-made films you have so far exhibited.

Finally, we suggest that your darkening arrangements be improved, your projector improved, and your notice boards made reasonably pleasing to the eye. Would it, we ask, be impossible to project on to some decent substitute

for a silver sheet, instead of the back-wall of a cavernous stage? Fifty per cent. increased tariff should mean a proportionate increase in service, and few of your patrons are interested in your doubtless inclusive library of records.

THAT the Song Book is very seldom salacious?



A Label to Remember!

Here's your guide to the Bitter Ale with distinctive flavour, mellowness and a satisfactory tang. Look at the label, and ask for Tooth's Sydney Bitter by its full name.

TOOTH'S SYDNEY BITTER ALE



Should Men Pay Women Students' Tram Fares?

(The Editor.)

Dear Sir,—I hope you won't be annoyed with me for writing to you to ask your opinion but I am really very worried. Perhaps you wonder how I knew that you were going to publish a paper? Well you see I kick around with a chap who is a great friend of the man that Mr. Gossamer picked to represent my year and he told me that you were going to and so I know all about it.

Now I am only a Fresher, Mr. Editor, and consequently am not very well up in 'Varsity ways and this is what's worrying me. Every morning I meet one of the women of my year at the tram—she's always there first and so I can't dodge her—and we ride in together and I pay her fare. Now that's it—should I pay her fare seeing that I only met her a few weeks ago? You see it makes quite a big difference in this way: When I ride with her I don't like to use my tram pass and as it is a three section journey that means 3d. extra plus 5d. for her—making 8d. extra altogether. This means 3/4 a week in the morning and there's also one afternoon which brings it up to 4/- a week. This is £2 a term and means £6 a year. As we are both doing MED. we will travel together for six years and that means £36. Further since everyone fails in Third Year we will have to stay seven years at the 'Varsity and that makes it £42.

It doesn't seem a bit fair to me that this girl should cost me so much money, but as I am only a Fresher and don't know much I would like to have your opinion as I am certain it will be a good one. Hoping that I haven't caused you too much bother, I am,

Yours Very Truly,

M.T.G.

[This is such a contentious matter that we have taken the liberty of printing your letter in full. We have asked several Women Undergrads about it and one has promised to give us her views on the subject. We should also like to hear some Senior Men's views on the same point.]

EDITOR.

Ethics of Advertisement

This paper is published free, but with the best will in the world we could not bring ourselves to the point of admitting advertising matter free. We could however limit our advertisers to reputable firms whom we can strongly recommend to your custom. We honestly believe that the quality of their goods is as stated, and we certainly know that the prices are reasonable, which is all that one expects and more than one commonly gets.

Festival Week.

On Monday the 20th May most things will be as usual: lectures, resurrected Friday luncheons in the bevery, billiards, work and boredom. But in the evening will take place the Reunion Dinner, or Gourmets' Marathon, and the week will be declared an open season for hilarity. The Dinner will be lively, with excellent cuisine and easily assimilated waters, and it is expected that a great number of diners will attend. After dinner speeches will be pruned, of course, to the barest stumps, but no embargo will be placed on all who can get takers for promiscuous toasts of the type: "Gentlemen, the President"; "The Good Old Days"; "The Song Book." Furthermore, suitable communal singing may be indulged in.

Tuesday will also be marred by lectures, but as far as we can tell they need leave no trace; at least if the Evening Students' Smoko is as successful as usual. "Honi Soit" has the greatest respect for the sister body, and has vivid recollections of at least the earlier portion of some dozen or so evenings spent under its auspices, and at or under its hospital board. It is even possible that in time we shall learn the tune of that very lengthy song "Sons of Mother Eve Are We." We should willingly suffer a great deal more than bad singing in order not to miss the amenities of an evening spent with such delightful hosts.

Wednesday is rather unfortunate in the matter of lectures, but most people have in the past not been very scrupulous about attending them. Of course, we make no suggestions. It merely seems to us that no student who respects his health could possibly rise early enough to be present at a lecture when it is certain that he will not be in bed till about four o'clock on Thursday morning. The Festival Ball will be in full eruption on Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. in the Union Refectory, and there will doubtless be store of fair ladies who must be escorted home. The orchestra will be the best procurable.

Thursday will be arduous, but at least lectures will have succumbed at last to the prevalent antipathy. Various items listed for the day are the Garden Party at 3 p.m., the usual Address to the Gentlemen and Players, Faculty Exhibitions, Announcement of Blues, and unorganised tours of the premises. What the exhibitions will be "Honi Soit" has not the least idea, as the various jabberwocks, approached for details, seem to have distrusted our motives. We return good for evil by supposing that they will surpass themselves. Unfortunately this year we have not been able to arrange for a really representative crowd to meet the Senate, and we must apologise for our sin of omission. The evening will be devoted to the now traditional Theatre Party, and it is really essential that everyone attend. The Association lost heavily on this item in past years, with

the result that it was for some time thought unwise to repeat it; will you please try to justify our pathetic confidence in your 'Varsity spirit?

Friday, of course, presents the culminating orgy of enjoyment. Procession? Well, we cannot disclose all that we know or anything that we surmise; we can, however, promise that it will be by far the liveliest and longest procession that has occurred since the days when the Town Hall organ oozed self-raising flour from every vent. It will not be indecent, because the fashion nowadays is against these things, and the Association is very solicitous about our demeanour. After the peripatetics are washed and cleaned the carnival will take place in the University Grounds. Side-shows (various and as yet secret), mixed and inexpensive dancing, flirtations, conducted and unchaperoned tours, will flourish till very late. The day is your own and the evening is anybody's.

And so, presumably, to bed.

Come, O Ye Faithful

An intelligent and courageous perusal of the University Calendar will provide a long list of benefactors, all of them munificent and some of them positively princely. To these people we owe the greatest gratitude, for their gifts have enabled us to be more completely and less expensively educated, that is, whenever we so desired. But their benefactions had necessarily to be limited in their application to the mens sana: few respectable citizens would wish their names to appear in a subscription list for a new and less extortionate billiard room, a modern fiction library, silver grill or tap-room. Such things are simply not done ostentatiously or lavishly.

Contrary to the common opinion, undergraduates are a poor but hard-living race, with a great number of calls to be met with highly inadequate means. Benefactions have helped us to champagne tastes which mock our Bervery incomes. If the University is worthy of its position, then its members should be educated in a cultural atmosphere and pleasant surroundings. The Union does its best, and we are willing to believe that it is barely self-supporting. Other societies also cater for the various yearnings of Undergraduates, at least so far as they safely or conscientiously may. Chief of these is the Undergraduates' Association. Each financial member of this body has had an annual five shillings distilled from him for necessary purposes: The Association gives him "Hermes," the University organ of dilettantism; it organises an annual binge lasting for a week and providing an invaluable excuse for bibulous transgressions; it runs excellent dances, provides counsel for delinquents, publishes a pathetic financial report showing a great acquaintance with the loaves and fishes principle, and it supports unreservedly student co-operation with any function or activity of the official University bodies.

The general public are invited to visit us in Festival week, and Gala Day for the purpose of seeing how well we can amuse and instruct, and just quietly, of assisting our purse. Of course, we do not suggest that a hat will confront our visitors, we are not asking alms; rather we offer you a diverting entertainment and a pleasant day in return for your widow's mite. After all we must in sheer decency some day pay our creditors, and we hate to think that the intellectual refinery of the country should shirk its little bills.

The Big Boat Race: Tips for To-morrow

(By Spash.)

The Trial Eight will certainly start, and I think, stands a good chance of finishing.

At present they are rating in the vicinity of 48 but this should be brought down to about 22 within the next few days. Their most noticeable feature is their powerful feather and if this is developed further we can expect them to fly through the water.

The 'Varsity Eight when last seen were splashing down the river, lustily rendering the "Vulgar Boatman."

Each man has a new swivel and some a new oat to match. Last Saturday they took part in the Ladies' Regatta and only just failed to qualify. Yet in spite of this setback they are confident of at least extending the Trial Eight especially if given a good start.

COLLEGES.

The College Crews are as funny

Evidently keen on making their boat jump, they put it to the pontoon the other day but although going at full speed it refused to leap out of the water onto its rack and so its nose was bent.

The crew consists of a pack of dark horses and the cox who, by the way, steers with one hand, needs watching.

They will run second to-morrow, dead heating with Pauls.

The Dark Reds are a keen lot of critters and row nearly every afternoon. Ringing in is practised occasionally. They rate at 22 and clear 1 foot 7 inches. Although young they should last the distance to-morrow.

With the Blues and Greens we have a contrast of Brute Strength and ig—I mean science.

Both appear over confident. Each afternoon they race each other but as yet neither has succeeded in beating

COME, O YE SLOTHFUL

Elsewhere in this issue your parents, sponsors, benefactors and friends will read a mild little article telling them what your Association is, but to you we have no excuse for pleasantries and we do not intend to indulge in them.

"Hermes" comes out three days late—at a loss, and you forthwith revile the editorial staff; you fail to get reasonably ill at your Smoke Concerts, and you immediately blame the Committee and not your hardened capacities. But your first and greatest grumble is at the extraction of a very necessary five shillings, which is to a philosopher merely five games of billiards, one box of chocolates, two assorted hymn books or one stadium seat. Most of you deplore the death of the old "Commem." spirit and yet carefully refrain from any attempt to support the body which alone makes your

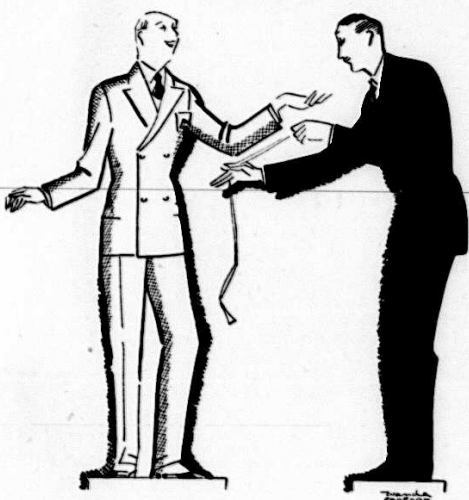
or borrow the "Song Book"? It may interest the more tender-hearted among you that the Association is forced to print "Hermes" as a losing concern; the "Song Book" makes a profit, perhaps because it appeals to your lower natures.

Some of you are poor, we are pen-niless ourselves; will the modest subscription of five shillings be too much for the services rendered? If you cannot spent five shillings at least you can refrain from your jejune criticisms. Being overworked we are very irascible.

Did you ever contribute to "Hermes," to the "Song Book," or to any other of our publications? Did you ever give us any help at all, except easy-chair criticisms? Ninety-nine per cent. of you did not and at

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as ever. Wesley for instance is a crew of practical jokers and only a week or so ago, they pitted the weight of their car against that of a five ton truck—and lost.

They have had a lot of changing and they put their stroke down to the 'Varsity Eight because of his partiality for crabs.

the other. They hate each other and they row side by side good natured banter is flung from boat to boat.

If you don't believe this, pick the winners yourself and come up the river to-morrow and have a first hand view of your favourite crew being beaten.

Festival possible. By long experience we have realised the futility of appealing to your nobler natures, but some taunts there are which may pierce your shields of indolence. What other University body gives you the opportunity for an annual carnival? Do you scorn "Hermes" or read it? Buy

least fifty per cent. of you refrain even from attendance at the Festival. It is all very puzzling so we will continue the process of spoonfeeding with another pleasant little paper which will cost you merely the trouble of reading

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