

# "HONI SOIT"

Vol. I., No. 2.

Unregistered.

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Issued Gratis.

## Hail Carnivalia !!

Five years is a good stiff sentence.

A Judge at Quarter Sessions would have to be suffering from a bad attack of liver to impose it on the most hardened criminal. Without entering into the merits of the conviction in our case, we are bound to say that our welcome to the released prisoner is at least as warm as that which greeted Horatio Bottomley.

We do not intend, however, to re-enter the arena with a bombastic protestation of innocence, or grandiose expression of future intentions. The citizens of Sydney have been pleased to be amused by our frolics in the past. They are, we hope, now prepared, as we are, to let bygones be bygones, and will greet us with the same joy as that with which we thrust ourselves upon their notice.

"Honi Soit" hopes that it is not making an extravagant claim when it says that this year's procession will be one of the best yet. Sydney, no doubt, expects something good. It will get it in large measure. It has been whispered in our alert ears that an element exists which is prepared for a vulgar display. It will, it slyly hopes, be able to laugh inanely at a public expression of unbridled licence. That done, "Mother of Ten," "Pro Bono Publico," "Constant Reader," and "Man of the World" see the prospect of bursting into print with violent protests against uncontrollable youth.

Both will be sadly disappointed.

Students of the University of Sydney represent the future brains of the community. They are keen students of the world they live in. They are equally keen critics. They can satirise effectively, and they intend to do so. Whilst no one is safe from their shafts, we can assure the public that their observations, symbolic and otherwise, will be without malice.

### THE PROJECT.

Through no ill-will on the part of the Senate, but merely as the result of a constitutional technicality, this year's activities will not be called "Commemoration." In the words of the old song, "Commem." is our possession," but we appreciate the difficulties confronting the authorities. We will be content with the hope advanced that next year will see a complete restoration of liberty, and continue to accept the makeshift of "Students' Festival."

The proposed route of the procession, which awaits police approval, is as follows: The students taking part will assemble in the Domain, and, issuing from the Bent Street gates, under the shadow of Shakespeare's immortals, will proceed along Macquarie Street into St. James' Square. From that point the procession will reach the University via College Street, Wentworth Avenue, Hay Street, Pitt Street, Central Square, and George Street West, entering the University grounds by the Derwent Street gates. Judging will take place in front of the main buildings. The prize list is understood to be extensive.

For the first time in the history of

(Continued on Col. 4.)

## Above All—Dignity.

"REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE, AND WHOM ADDRESS-ING," in the words of the immortal Gilbert, might well be chosen as our message to those undergraduates who intend to take part in the Festival procession. "Honi Soit," whose purpose it is, above all, to maintain the dignity of this great Corporation, would like to remind students that it is possible to have a good time without descending to hooliganism.

For many years the citizens of Sydney, accustomed for three hundred and sixty-four days of the year to look up to members of its great University as examples of all that is best in the Australian nation, gave us considerable freedom on that day of all days—"Commem." On that day they were wont to smile good-naturedly at our jibes and satires on public life, and thoroughly to enjoy our frolics through the "village." It is with considerable regret that "Honi Soit" recalls the fact that the privilege was abused. Citizens of Sydney suddenly awoke to the fact that its University students could be vulgar and coarse, disrespectful and uncontrollable. Such is the feeling of an indulgent parent who has given a child a high explosive with which to play, and is inexpressibly shocked to find that the child has blown itself and everything around it kite-high.

Is it, we ask, any wonder that Sydney's populace went very cold on the idea? Is it a matter for any great surprise that that august body, the Senate, issued a ukase against our rambles?

Now at last, after five years, the spirit of Carnivalia has been allowed to return from exile. Its advocates have been many and more or less eloquent ever since its banishment. Who has swayed the powers that be? "Honi Soit" would like to let its readers into the secret. This Daniel come to judgment is no less a person than the Vice-Chancellor himself. We are to be given another chance because Professor Wallace himself is one of us—in spirit. He personally has undertaken that we will not again abuse the privilege. Can we be trusted? "Honi Soit" confidently answers in the affirmative.

Be as happy and as carefree as you like. Exercise your wit as much as you please. But remember that it is easy to be coarse and vulgar, easier to laugh at people, and very, very easy to make people laugh at you. You can, if you will, make them laugh WITH you.

Let us repeat—Have a good time—but no hooliganism!!!

## Our Charter of Freedom.

### SENATE'S HISTORIC MESSAGE.

President,  
Undergraduates' Association.

Dear Sir,—

I desire to inform you that the requests submitted by the Joint Committee were considered by the Senate yesterday.

The Senate has decided to allow the Undergraduates to hold a procession through the City streets, confining the route to Macquarie Street, College Street, Wentworth Avenue, Pitt Street, and George Street West. The date selected, viz., Friday, May 24, did not meet with the approval of the Senate as that day will be celebrated as Empire Day throughout the City and suburbs.

The Senate understands from the Vice-Chancellor that the procession is to be in accordance with the suggestions made by Dr. Wallace.

Permission is also given to hold a festival on the University grounds after the procession. Doubtless the function will be arranged for Thursday, May 23.

The requests of your Joint Committee regarding Commemoration of Benefactors, Garden Party, etc., have been referred to the Professorial Board for report. This means that these functions cannot take place this year during the month of May.

The Senate is not willing to allow the Students' Festival to be styled "Commemoration Festival."

Yours faithfully,

W. A. SELLE,

Registrar.

## Have You Noticed

THAT we are to have a procession this year, which will not force "Commonsense" from a sense of public duty, to write again to an evening newspaper?

THAT "Honi Soit" has already started two first-class rows?

THAT the motto on the Canberra Coat-of-Arms has enabled a number of pedantic know-alls to air their superior knowledge?

THAT Newcastle's most popular song is "John Brown's Body"?

THAT budding Melbas and aspiring Carusos will be able to demonstrate their ability on Wednesday, May 15, when song practice commences?

THAT "Honi Soit" takes only the best?

THAT, mirabile dictu, no undergraduates were concerned, as far as the police can ascertain, in Tuesday night's gunplay at Darlinghurst?

THAT the timber strike is likely to put white ants out of work?

THAT, since Dr. Arthur got busy, "Scotch" is at a discount among Studies?

THAT Surgical Alec has had his bagpipes punctured?

THAT "Honi Soit" already has a large circulation, in spite of a contemporary morning daily?

?

## Hail Carnivalia !!

(Continued from Col. 1.)

the event, an attempt will be made by those organising the procession (and they include an expert in Professor Hook) to represent the various phases of University life, in addition to the burlesque. Students will march in their Faculties (and, we hope, in full possession of their faculties), and we have been asked to appeal to members of the different Faculties to turn up in force. There will be much inter-faculty competition in the arrangement of symbolic tableaux on lorries.

### Publisher's Notice

For the guidance of contributors and correspondents, it is pointed out that The Editor's Box closes at 6 o'clock on the Monday evening of each week.

The earlier contributions are received the more consideration, naturally, will they be given.



## Smoke Clouds.

"Sic transit gloria mundi."

Even from the early ages when man went forth to woo with club and caterpult, right through the times of Caesar and Catullus with their "bonum vinum" and "boldened vimen," until present day with toothpick and K.B. bottle, man has congregated in feasting and banqueting to celebrate great events. Some of the glories of the ancient world still remain, and one is to be aroused in the shades of the evening on Wednesday, May 22, in the Union Hall. On that momentous occasion to the tune of the merry popping of corks, the sweet munching of cheese, the gentle puffing of Wood-bines, and the chitter-chatter of clamoring tongues, many will be initiated into the mysteries of a Smoke Concert such as is staged under the auspices of the Evening Students' Association.

Mr. Hammond cannot, we regret, be represented—nor can Dr. Arthur. However, the leading lights and the lesser luminaries of the 'Varsity will be present. The fatted cheese has been bared for the sacrifice, the shuddering ham and the nimble bean will be haled forth to the slaughter, whilst the main catering will be in the able hands of 'Tooths'.

Except for the harder heads, we guarantee that the breakfast egg, if fried, will leer ghoulishly at you the morning after. But we are afraid that we can make no recommendation for a suitable death for the demon who will persist in driving red-hot stakes into your head and hammering incessantly at your temple.

For those who visit the Railway Station, we must point out that the penny inserted in the pillar-box will not result in the registration of their weight in the clock tower.

Two Texan giants will guard the portals of the mighty door, and woe betide the man who cannot hold his hops.

## The Wesley Nit-Wits

Have you ever had your fortune told? If you have not, we are sure that you would be delighted if you came along to the Wesley College Chamber of Horrors at the Students' Festival Carnival. We will reveal for you all the secrets of your past life. We also extend an open invitation to all your undergraduate friends—boys from Bondi, morons from Mosman, allants from the Glebe, and poons from Potts' Point.

There will be models present of all the notorious beauties from Helen of Troy to Nell of Old Drury. Ladies are cordially invited to compare their measurements. For the men and others not interested in beauty contests, there will be divers other amusements. Come and let us delve into your past and gaze into your future.

There will be tests of valour for the brave; grisly, ghastly, gruesome horror for the poor in spirit; and much curious sport for everyone.

## An Open Letter to Graduates

One started to write this epistle under the title of "Why we publish 'Hermes,'" and thinking for some time one was forced to the conclusion that one did not know of a single valid reason for doing so. That is, of course, from a purely utilitarian point of view. An idealist may put forward such arguments as the linking of graduates and undergraduates and the spreading of the cultural influences of the Alma Mater. Since one's position precluded such a viewpoint, it was necessary to seek some more potent, more mercenary reason.

Inquiries elicited one reason, that they did it last year. This does not satisfy any but the reactionaries. Not knowing how many of these read "Honi Soit" one did not dare to present it as a basis for an argument.

Everybody knows that for many years there have been no dividends from "Hermes." Some know that if there were, they would be spent in such interesting actions as Jobson at the S.U.U.A. That is beside the point. The question is: Does anybody want "Hermes"? Let the subscribers' card index answer this. There are 140 subscribers to the paper, 30 of whom are within the University. One hundred of them pay their subscriptions more or less regularly, the rest are from two to six years in arrears. "Hermes" is not, seemingly, as interesting as The Song Book. Some may say that this is the fault of the editorial staff, but is the staff expected to produce a book of 150 pages at the end of each term, to write twenty poems, a short story, or two, and a play, three times a year?

If not, why does not somebody send in a contribution, which he or she considers to be more interesting than the usual reading matter in the paper? Mr. Editor cannot be expected to do more in the way of writing books than the whole University Staff (vide "Honi Soit").

The undergraduates growled when the last issue of "Hermes" appeared on super calender paper. Why? Was it that they did not like the feel of that paper. The reading matter was of their own conception.

Let those who feel desirous of answering this letter do so in such a manner that they at the one time confuse the writer, and help "Hermes." As a humble suggestion, send either a subscription, or a contribution.

THE BUSINESS EDITOR.

## Ball

This name does not signify a potential game of Vigoro or Billiards, but is the brand given to all the higher types of light-footed perambulations! It will go with a swing and vim hitherto unprecedented.

We have our procession with us again; show your appreciation and let go your pent-up emotion by attending this great night!

Supper will be given away, and amongst those present will be such eaters as Carl Etto, etc., so do not be late for the provisions—our caterers are purveyors to King Googoo of Vladivostok.

## Theatre Night

This great show, always the most popular of Festival celebrations, is now definitely on Tuesday night, May the 21st.

Come early and get your tickets, which are selling better than hot cakes, even better than hot dogs.

These tickets and the plans can be seen at the Union, Manning House, and the Law School.

The programme includes items by undergraduates, and the Tivoli management are meeting us to an extent never before known.

Tickets cost 6/6, 5/-, and 2/6.

Booking closes at 6 p.m. on May 17th.

DO YOUR TICKET BUYING EARLY.

## Song Practice

On Wednesday, 15th, the Grand Opera season will officially open in the Union Hall. All tenors, sopranos (male and female) and others are ordered to attend and swell the bellowing chorus of ribald mirth. We have been privileged to read a few of this year's sings and never in all our long experience have we seen such wit, sarcasm, genius, and correct metrical quantities. This year marks an innovation in so far as song-practice will be devoted entirely to practising festival songs, and a special day and place will be set apart for the faculty-fight. So bring along your voices and leave at home your flour and soot.




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## The Talkies.

To the Editor.—The S.U. Film Society wholeheartedly welcomes "Honi Soit" as a publication supplying an important need in University life, and would even more wholeheartedly welcome the privilege of shooting you on sight for your unfair attack on the Society.

The article was composed principally of statements inconsistent with the facts of the case, to put it mildly. A pack of lies is nearer the truth. To prove this we ask permission to dismember your letter and show exactly what it is worth.

You say "The Union was in the habit of showing films in the lunch hour . . . and the tariff was fourpence an hour. . . . Now we have a Film Society which charges us sixpence for the same old fare. . . . Fifty per cent. increase in tariff should mean a fifty per cent. increase in service."

The reply to this is that the tariff is still at the rate of fourpence an hour, since the Society charges sixpence for an hour and a half's entertainment, and this, apart from the improved service which has been effected, as will be shown hereafter. You must surely realise that it is not a sportsmanlike thing to rush into print with accusations founded on nothing but the first thought that enters the head. The Society also does not serve up the "same old fare." The average commercial programme consists of two feature films, comedies, news-reels, and so on. Previously the Union showed merely the support feature, leaving out the heart of the programme. The so-called "variety" supplied by snappy remarks from the audience is a myth, and anyone will tell you that the volume of the audience's comment is the same now as it was when the Union controlled cinematograph entertainment.

Again, you say "This gramophone and its vagrant attachments are considered sufficient to justify the whole concern being called the 'Talkies.'" This statement is another fabrication. The apparatus in its present form is not a "Talkie," and the Society has never claimed that it is. It is true that we have applied to the Union for permission to instal "Talkies," but the present apparatus is merely the pick-up and amplifier unit, with a loud speaker. You have noticed that it is not working at all satisfactorily. The Society has tried out over £150 worth of apparatus in an attempt to find an amplifier and loud speaker suitable to the acoustic properties of the Union Hall. No attempt has as yet been made to synchronise sound and picture.

You ask "Do we suppose ourselves to be cultured gentlemen of a cultured institution?" and take exception to our use of the terms "talkie" and "movie." This is yet another fabrication, as we have never used the term "movie" in connection with our entertainments. You should know, in any case, that the term "talkie" is in universal use in Great Britain.

This year we have shown fifty per cent. of British films, despite the fact that the attendance on the days we show these films is smaller than when we present American-made pictures. Last year, when we were assisting the Appeal, we showed 20 per cent. of British films.

The darkening of the Hall is not in our hands, but last year we induced the Union to instal dark blue blinds over the brown ones, and this effected considerable improvement.

The projector is almost exactly the same machine as those used in the Prince Edward and Lyceum Theatres.

To improve on the apparatus used by the Union, we have installed a motor generator and a mirror arc, and the projection at present is as nearly perfect as possible.

It is well known, too, amongst those acquainted with cinema projection, that a plaster wall is one of the best surfaces obtainable for a screen. The canvas screen supplied by the Union in front of the stage is quite unsuitable.

The men "grouped round the music box" who you say should pay to go in, have given up a lot of their time in order to provide Union members with popular entertainment.

In conclusion we would like to remind the Undergraduates Association that last year the Film Society extended to them a courtesy which involved a financial loss to the Society, in donating £40, which ultimately went to the Appeal through the S.U.U.A. If the Association sanction this unjust attack, it is even quicker to forget a gesture of friendship than it was to make use of the Film Society.

Finally, please do not indulge in armchair criticism.

C. R. P. JOHNSON,  
Hon. Sec.

For the Committee, S.U.F.S.

(Your quarrel is with "Honi Soit," please, Mr. Johnson, not the S.U.U.A.—Ed.)

(To the Editor of "Honi Soit.")

Reading a copy of the first issue of your promising journal, we were amazed to find certain disparaging statements in an article entitled "An Open Letter to the Alleged 'Talkies.'" But who, indeed, alleges that the fea-

## Festival Week.

We regret to have to inform our readers that Empire Day has made it necessary to make substantial alterations in the arrangements for Festival Week. Falling as it does on May 24, it has pushed the procession forward to Thursday, May 23, as the authorities will not allow the Undergraduates' Association to indulge in frolics in the University grounds on such a day.

In lieu of Thursday, the theatre entertainment at the Tivoli Theatre will take place on Tuesday evening at 7.15, when festival songs will be sung under the baton of "Warbling Walter."

That event of events, the Evening

Students' Smoko will now take place in the Union Hall at 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening, May 22.

The Reunion Dinner arranged for Monday in the Union Refectory retains its original position in the programme.

Thursday, May 23, is now the big day. In addition to the procession, which commences from the Domain at 10 o'clock, the University grounds will be under the influence of the spirit of Carnivalia (intoxicating? You will have to find out for yourselves) throughout the afternoon and evening. You do not expect us to outline all the diversions which have been arranged for your amusement, do you? Come along, and see for yourselves.

Originally arranged for Wednesday, May 22, the Festival Ball will occupy the evening of Friday, May 24. We guarantee that it will be a gala event. In the Union Refectory, where all good things are.

tures shown have any title to the epithet "Talkie"? Surely only those tens of thousands of satisfied patrons, who, having invested their humble "sprat," delight to weave piscatorial conventionalities round their mackerel?

On the other hand, who can deny that these sessions are Sound Synchronised? Do our ears deceive, or have we really (as we have good reason to believe) heard the gentle bleating of the "King of Beasts," as well as the reverberating thunder of dainty footsteps on carpet-covered Hollywood (British is best) stairways, that invariable herald of the stampede lecture-wards? Have we? Echo (showing true Imperial preference) answers:

My Colonial Oath!

Yours, etc.,

P.N.R.S.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### Those Tram Fares

To the Editor.—The touching plea of a Med. Fresher in the shape of an extremely ingenious letter to your paper, must surely have touched all hearts. Even the Women Undergraduates must have been moved to pity ere they passed judgment. My first feeling was one of intense astonishment. That a Med. Fresher would actually consider the possibility of paying someone else's tram fare was a possibility not dreamt of in my philosophy.

The puzzled fresher would have us believe the following facts:

(a) He is very worried. (I would suggest nerve nuts at stated intervals—notably during lectures).

(b) It is impossible for him to dodge the "woman." (I've heard that one before).

(c) He has calculated expenses over a period of seven years with terrifying results. (At last we are on familiar ground).

Naturally enough the Age of Reason has little time for the Age of Chivalry. It would seem on the face of things that the question, "Should Men pay Women Students' tram fares?" is as fruitless as "Should women stand in trams?" But there are a few considerations which make the former question a matter for controversy. In the first place we find it difficult to believe that the puzzled fresher catches the same tram—literally speaking—as the troublesome "woman" on every occasion. Apart from the sheer miracle of a Med. student paying someone else's fare, the misfortune must be on the fresher's own head. Either he is organically lazy, or he is proving that even in the

tram a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. We are thus faced with an interesting psychological contretemps. As yet the innocent fresher cannot analyse the strange force which compels him to seat himself by the "woman" and bravely ignoring his shameful tram pass, to drag forth the sum of eight-pence. On the other hand the financial instinct struggles fiercely. No wonder then the poor fresher is worried.

I think that if the fresher continually meets the "woman" in the tram, she should hand forth the plebeian coppers as naturally as she might stroll in minutes late for a nine o'clock lecture. The whole question really hinges on the problem of to show or not to show the humble pass, and my opinion is that it should be treated as an academic privilege to be taken advantage of on every occasion. And so, let the "woman" take the initiative and keep her tram pass as she does her powder puff—within easy access. Surely then the fresher will be worried no longer when he sees "the treasured" privilege—her pass—"come sliding out of her sacred glove."

### A SYMPATHETIC WOMAN UNDERGRADUATE.

### Judge for Yourself

(To the Editor, "Honi Soit.")

Comrade and Fellow Shirker:—

I have a sad duty to perform, Comrade. I have to draw your attention to the fact that you have grossly, if unintentionally, misrepresented us to the masses. I refer, Comrade, to this passage from a contemporary daily:—

"Honi Soit," the weekly newspaper of the University undergrads., the first edition of which appeared yesterday, is

### Answers to Contributors.

P.T.K.—You have done better than this. Your "Important MS." recalls to us the story of a critic who, on being asked if Fred Terry's play "The War of the Roses" was like the real thing, replied "No—much longer and much bloodier."

Pro Bono Publico.—There's some good stuff in it if we could only spare the time. Will probably see next week. Jeanette.—I verily think I have written enough, since I cannot decipher a word of the stuff.

We are less fortunate—we could. Frederick.—You are a thoughtful youth, Freddie—you attached to the front of your effort the information that it contained 600 words. We liked the 600th.

"Cyril the Stude."—We hated it, and, in point of fact, it was removed from the premises, with the aid of a pair of tongs. Bilius is spelt with one "l" anyhow. The whole performance made us feel sick.

"Amos."—You trifle with us. Professor Brereton might teach you the rudiments of English. We, however, doubt it.

a sad disappointment. If it represents the spirit of the present-day student the Senate should have no qualms about letting the "bad boys" loose for their procession on Commem. Day.

"Honi Soit" is as dull as a suburban free sheet.

"Look what the bird hath done to its own nest."

What have we done to deserve this of you?

And "suburban free-sheet"! Comrade, what CAN you do with your threepences on Fridays?

I hope this week's issue will prove an improvement in this respect, and that it will be something that really can be read by the sensitive staff of our contemporary, who wish to retain their respectability, and whose wishes, as workers in a common cause, we ought to respect.

I am, yours laboriously,

"GREASER I."

### Dancing in the Union on Thursday, May 23

This year the Engineers have charge of the dancing in the Union on Thursday afternoon and evening of Festival Week. As all know, Engineers do everything efficiently, so that there is no room for doubt as to the quality of their entertainment. The great feature is the night club. It opens at 8 p.m. and stays open as long as the police permit. This den of iniquity is hidden in the Union Hall. Follies and ballets will be a feature. Drug addicts are asked to bring their own "snow," as the Union supply is depleted. Exotic drinks and foods will be on tap.

### Freshers' and Novices' Boxing Tournament

The Freshers' and Novices' Boxing Tournament will be held in the Gymnasium on No. 2 Oval on the 13th, 15th, and 17th May.

The preliminary bouts will be held on Monday and Wednesday, and the finals on Friday, between 1 and 2 p.m. All interested are urged to attend.

### Buttons!

Buy your Festival Button before they all go. Price 1/6 to members and 2/- to others. Only by buying a button can you save yourself and save others. This button guarantees you free admission to the grounds, and is itself guaranteed to neither rip, tear, burst, nor corrode.

### Memo to Correspondents

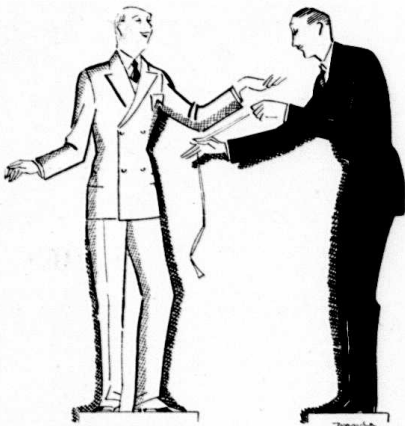
If you want us to print your letters, at least couch them in good English. Write legibly, and do not insult us by scribbling on a tram ticket in any old five minutes of leisure. The temper of our sub-editor is short, and compositors' time shorter.

Contributors are advised that we are unable to handle copy satisfactorily unless it is written on one side of the paper only.

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