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Vol. II No. 4



The

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FOR SOUND —
SATISFACTION



THEATRE

PROGRAMME
ON PAGE 2.

"UNITED ARTISTS RELEASES"

EDITORIAL.

The Easter vac. is a good thing. Good because it provides an opportunity to loaf without the necessity of inventing excuses; because it is long enough for a lengthy train journey home and short enough to endure the privations of camping at the Kowie or Bushmans; and above all because, whether one stays in residence or spends ten days roughing it in the bundu one comes in contact with people whom one would never get to know otherwise. It is infact one of the few occasions upon which Rhodes sets aside its social taboos and emerges as a grown-up community. The pity of it all is that on returning to Rhodes, these people fade out of the picture again: this fading due, no doubt, to the segregation imposed by different halls, the ridiculous attitude towards pushing which imposes the stigma usually attached to lepers, and the shildish alliances into K.Ps among the women and cliques among the men.

But all the same, there are signs that Rhodes is growing up. Except for certain bigoted individuals, the aura hitherto attached to pushing and the K.P. is somewhat tarnished: the assass is a gory relic of the past; the fever of emancipation in the women's halls is fast doing away with narrow-minded rules and red-tape regulations: at last there is appearing an attitude of give and take towards the freshers -- surely the most promising sign of approaching maturity. Gradually, we are seeing infused into Rhodes the spirit of a university and not of an uproarious highschool.

Perhaps this is a result of new responsibilities imposed by war conditions. Men who send petitions to the Prime Minister one minute cannot very well behave like prep school boys in recess the next. It is here that the toleration which will be so vitally necessary in the period of reconstruction is engendered. It is only by getting to know, to understand, and even to like comparative strangers that any true estimate of the value of other opinions and other beliefs can be formed.

Yes, the Easter vac. is definitely a good thing.

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(Jean Graham)

Boxing Tournament.

The forthcoming tournament with the R.A.F., according to reliable information, promises an evening's interesting entertainment, and we hope that it will be well attended by Rhodians. The sports officer at the R.A.F station reports that they have a number of experienced boxers.

The Rhodes Boxing Club this year seems to have at its disposal a wealth of talent. In contrast to the few enthusiasts who struggled last year to keep the ring together, the club now has all the old stalwarts together with some new bloods. Borman, Jorgensen and Harris, the three who kept the Rhodes banner flying at Inter-varsity last year, are back and ready for more. Jorgensen and Borman who have in the past always provided thrilling bouts, can be depended upon to keep up this reputation. Harris, has decided against retirement, and expresses keenness to continue fighting for Rhodes, in spite of his many lab. worries.

Nothing need be said about Warren, whose reputation was established at Rhodes in '39. Bennett has decided to put the gloves on again, and is a wily boxer. Myburg, a promising young Ink is shaping well, and will give a keen exchange of blows, as will Heunis, the light-heavyweight from Stellenbosch University.

The new-comers, Bursey, Van Wyk, Clayton, Hockey, and Ahrens are all capable of giving a good account of themselves.

Ballade
of Life's Little Ironies

The simple-minded Russian's in his trench;
In Lybia, I'm told, it's rather hot;
I gather there are people called "Free French;"
I hear the Budget comes to quite a lot.
The Quislings emulate Iscariot;
The vultures every day wax fat and fatter:
Thank God that in the midst of all this rot
The Rowing Club is off the the Regatta!

What though our rosy cheeks may sometimes blench,
As mud's directed at us, clot on clot,

(X) By luminaries of the local bench?
What though we're urged to "serve and save and swot?"
Still innocent of powder or of shot,
The Rhodian Battery essays to batter:
By way of brightening its gloomy lot
The Rowing-club is off the the regatta.

All other sports have started to retrench,
All other tours are cancelled - are they not? -
So that our name may not become a stench
Within the nostrils of the "patriot".
But no sane man has ever cared a jot
For Grahamstown and all its idle chatter:
Produce that flask, and pour me out a tot,
the rowing-club is off to the regatta!

envoi

Prince, though to-day no oarsman hunts a pot
On Thames or Schuylkill, Rhine or Paramatta,
The Kowie's going to show them what is what:
The rowing-club is off to the regatta.

M.R.

-----oOo-----

GRAD BALL.

By 7a.m. on April 1st a portion of the College seemed already to be imbued with the Grad. spirit - in fact my slumbers were rudely disturbed by some "Social" friend who was perambulating round the residence in search of a distinctive dressing gown. Having relieved my feelings rather expressively I resumed my slumbers. On venturing abroad I learned that "we hadn't much of a meal, but there was some ping-pong and some pretty hotcha dancing". This at 9.30 a.m.

The day wore on. The athletic sports passed off uneventfully, and even though Mr. Gledhill volunteered to perform in the 90yards hurdles (women's) we were denied this little excitement. In due course the scramble for baths - the qualifying round for every dance - began. In my peregrinations round the house I encountered a soldier who seemed to have captured (and held) a bath, which I promptly shared.

Later having joined forces with my partner I proceeded dance-wards. "Oh, we must go in the right way or the whole effect of the decorations will be ruined". As all other entrances were closed, we had no alternative, and after stumbling blindly through countless curtains and bumping into a skeleton (which failed to give me the creeps) we.../ cont. page 3.

GRAND THEATRE PROGRAMME.

"WOMEN IN WAR" with English actors Wendy Barrie, Patrick Knowles & Elsie
Showing on THURS. Fri. & Sat. 23rd. 24th. 25th. Janis.

"STOP LOOK AND LOVE"

Showing on Monday And Tuesday 27th. & 28th.

"STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE"

Showing on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Satur.
April 30th. to May 2nd.

This 20th. Century Film returns to Grahamstown by special request and stars
Spencer Tracy, Cedric Hardwicke, Richard Greene and Nancy Kelly.

(X) (X)

"Luminaries of the local bench" refers to Mr Justice Pittman's "welcoming" speech to the University Senate that met here during the Easter Vacation. He said that in such a time they ought not to be meeting, and that now they were here he hoped that they would make their business short. I believe it was all extremely offensive and raised everyone's hair.

Smeath covered himself with glory on this occasion by replying to the Justice and saying that the Senate met not ~~of its own accord~~ to enjoy itself, but to carry on the work which the government has said the University should do. Finally, that the Senate met not of its own accord anyway, but by Statutory Act Of parliament, which he (Pittman), as an exponent of the law ought very well to know!!

WE ARE SPECIALISTS IN
COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Cont. from page 2.

we emerged onto the hall itself. "Won't you come into my parlour"? Anyhow we were in, and the spider seemed quite harmless so "on with the dance; let joy be unconfined" and it was too. George Alers, having obtained permission to stay up late, seemed to be making the most of the evening. His train did not in any way conform to S.A.R. specifications and I was forced to jump clear to avoid being entangled. By the time I had recovered my composure I found him playing what seems to be his conception of oranges and lemons.

The familiar moustache, with Army in tow, was cavorting gaily around, and Jimmy Watson (i.e. Smule) who had also managed to elude temporarily the oppressive intellectual sphere in which he now finds himself, was no less jovial. Did someone say "Supper"? Drat this crowd. Quick, there's a chair - ah - made it! What! No brandy snaps? Well, I do declare".

There were so many old faces back that one hardly noticed the present celebrities - but I could hardly miss the little Godfrey who seemed much more interested in finding spicy tit-bits than a partner in the Paul Jones. He even mumbled darkly to me "I'll put this in the Rhodéo"

Tempus fugit - why gracious me, its one o'clock. "Last dance!" "What a pity - must we really go? Oh well ----- Good night".

"Oh, my poor feet! Gosh, I'm tired! must I really get up tomorrow-----" And so to bed.

(((((

(Dickinson !!)

He was a funny little man with a black droopy moustache and excitable hands. When I got there he was chattering in a highpitched voice, and making voluble gesticulations. "Talk!" he chattered, "make animals talk! since birth I have done it. That cat, for instance,--"

The Great Hall cat, who happened to be passing, stopped and looked him up and down. Then it said: "Why should I? there's been enough hot air talked around here without my starting too." and disappeared. (Cont. page 4)

The RAMONA CAFE

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Cigarettes for Seniors.

Sweets for "Inks."

Catering for Everyone

CHURCH SQUARE

PHONE 97

Cont. from page 3.

The little man was visibly peeved. "Cats!" he grumbled. "Cats! they never co-operate. Now, that brown spaniel over there-----"

"It must have been about 10.15", said Jasper, "when the water-pipes burst. I was spending the night in Phelps (by special invitation of the House Committee) and had just dug myself in on the commonroom sofa. They had just been in to see that I was comfortable, and had apologised that the springs in the sofas were not as new as they might have been. "Not at all!" I said affably. "After all, they're your sofas. All newly covered too..."

"The trouble with those women," he ruminated, "is that they don't know how to enjoy an emergency. Of course, if they show enjoyment by uttering a crescendo of piggy squeals and scuttling like rabbits all over the place, then I can say no more. I often wonder what wondrous sights a fire would reveal in the way of costume and accoutrements. Then certainly there would be no time to rip out the curlers and slap on the powder before taking the air. Then too there would be no question of omitting to wear one's dressing-gown because one had one's snappiest pyjamas on.

"In spare moments," he went on, idly tearing ribbons out of the carpet, "I noticed peoples' reactions to the calamity. There were some who just paddled happily: some who bore the emergency with a martyred air of conscious efficiency: and some who said They Had Always Suspected That Something Like This Would Happen. One lady emerged after ten minutes of deluge to ask "I say, has anyone told the warden yet?" at a time when the water was shooting down the front steps and the warden might reasonably have been expected to be salvaging her chattels like the rest of them. One innocent popped out of her room to find a sheet of water falling six inches in front of her nose, slammed her door and emerged ten minutes later clad in gumboots and mackintosh.

"I had words," he reflected, "with a small black cat who was sitting in the passage watching the approaching tidalwave with an expression of horror. "It all comes," I said to him, "it all comes of not liking getting wet. Now look at me", I said, and bounced. He picked himself up and fled like a bat out of hell, screaming that there were rules against bullying, there were "Rules??" I said, "what, rules? Tell me about them."

Jasper tittered to himself quietly for some time, then got up and loured off. "The funny thing", he said over his shoulder as he sauntered out of the room, "was that after it was all over nobody could find any water to clean their teeth in....."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Editor,
The Rhodæ.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing an article which appeared in a recent number of the Guardian, and which I feel should be of general interest, dealing as it does with an important development at N.U.C.

I should at the same time like to bring to the attention of all interested in Language, in any of its varied aspects, a journal which has recently appeared at U.C.T., an ambitious work which is deserving of our attention. Its title is "Lingua", it is published by the Linguistic Group of U.C.T. and its contents is very varied, ranging from Greek to Afrikaans, from the philosophical aspects of language to a rendering of "Reynard the Fox" (12th century French) into modern slang.

I hope to have copies available soon for circulation, and in the meantime, anyone interested is welcome to borrow my own copy.

Yours truly,

J. F. Ballantine.

(Recently of U.C.T.)

NON-EUROPEAN VARSITY STUDENTS AND N.U.S.A.S.

The non-European university students of Natal University College will in future be represented on N.U.S.A.S. and the S.R.C. of the College, students at the annual general meeting of the N.U.C. students' Union, Sastri Section were informed by Mr. Shandel, Durban N.U.S.A.S. representative. As a result of a resolution passed at the S.R.C., the non-European students would have one representative on the S.R.C., he said.

The president of the S.R.C. Mr. Loudon was also present, and explained the activities of the S.R.C. to the students.

In his secretarial report, Mr. J. N. Singh welcomed the new students and said that he was pleased to find more.... /Cont. on page 5.

Cont. from page 4.

more African and Coloured students joining the university.

Officials for the ensuing year were elected : Patron, Sir Sha'afat Ahmad Khan; president, Mr. I.C. Meer; vice-president, Mr. G. Naqarum; treasurer, Mr. G.N. Gopal; joint secretaries, Mr. J.N. Singh and Mr. G. Maghraj; S.R.C. representative, Mr. Ashwin Chuodrec; and a committee of eleven members.

The new president Mr. I.C. Meer, said that he would do his best to make the union a progressive organisation. He referred to the remark of Mr. Shandel, who had said that the N.U.S.A.S. was an anti-Fascist organisation, and declared that the non-European university students have to realise their part in the struggle that is being waged, and as progressive people have no alternative but to support the forces of progress. While the union would carry on with its domestic work, it would always bear this important fact in mind and see that its actions, were in consistence with such a policy."

Sir,

Permit me, as an average sample of gignanity, to protest at the way in which you seek to inspissate your watery ejaculations by the importation of little-used and un-English words. It has, no doubt, been gratifying to your readers to observe that you have now acquired and added to your vocabulary such exotics as "esoteric" or "cretinous"; you had, indeed, enough practice, for one or other of them appeared in every number, if not on every page, of your issues last year. This year, it seems, we are to have trauma shoved at us on every improbable occasion, though there is a goodish word injury that means the same thing. Next year, no doubt, we may look forward to "banausic" or "delitescant". These are the literary manners of the intellectual nouveau-riche, and they are rapidly contributing to the floccinaucinihilipilification of your once-entertaining paper by all men of wit and commonsense. I entreat you then to curb the exuberance of the azygous gobemouche who is responsible for such nonsenses, and above all to restrain him from the perusal of elementary text-books of psychology and the cheaper and more sensational sort of medical dictionary.

I am, Sir, (as you will have guessed)

ANOTHER SIMPLE SOUL.

The Editor,
The Rhodeo.

Dear Sir,

I note with some disgust a letter from Pontifex appearing in your latest issue and feel that it should receive some answer from a person not connected with the Oriel Hall House Committee.

I grieve with Pontifex that certain Inkettes were unfortunate enough to miss scope night and Grad. Ball but nevertheless feel that the House Committee was perfectly justified in imposing a gating. A rule had been broken, the breach of which was likely to result in a far more severe punishment than gating. A punishment had to be imposed despite the lack of "evil intent" on the part of the offenders; an exception could not be made because they would miss Grad. Ball. comes only once a year. How right she/he is but does she/he not forget Annual, Founders, 1st Term, N.U.S.A.S. and Leavers Ball. An exception made in the case of Grad. Ball might necessitate exceptions in other cases. Besides what good is a gating as a punishment if it does not in any way inconvenience the person gated. I feel with Pontifex that there are some very silly rules in the women's residences but until someone has the sense or courage to change them people must be punished for their breach.

As to the political power of the K.P. I am ignorant but feel that Pontifex is behaving like a bear with a sore head and casting a slur upon all women if she thinks that they are incapable of thinking and acting for themselves. In conclusion I would suggest that Pontifex use more thought and less venom in future letters to the Rhodeo.

MAN STUDENT.

From "Oriel Hall"

We note with astonishment the changing attitude of seniors towards first years. We were gratified at their unanimous acceptance of the proposal that Saturday night be a "free night" for all, thus recognising that once at Rhodes girls are entitled to some measure of independence, and are responsible enough to be able to regulate their own activities without the aid of superfluous rules and regulations. That pending the.../cont.page 6.

Senate's decision, First Years will be able to attend one more 'scope a week instead of spending the evening gossiping with the K.P. is incidental to the fact that it is being realised that after all they are no younger and no more irresponsible than those girls who start work as soon as they leave school, and whom no one regards as unable to decide on the number of nights a week they are to go out.

We notice too, that those who do consider them young and silly children had not the courage of their convictions and conspicuously refrained from voicing their opinions. Perhaps they too realise that a series of reforms seems inevitable; that at last the tide has turned. We hope this is something more than wishful thinking, and look to the House Committee to do their best to secure more freedom, not only for the Inks, but for second Years and Seniors as well.

GLORY HALLELUIA or COLLEGE COMINGS AND GOINGS.

College House is reforming (!?) Total immersion is now favoured----- none of this sprinkling business.

WE HEAR:

that Chirpy has taken up cross-country running on Sunday afternoons.
(non stop rugby training)

that Jeff Butler is suffering from the melancholia of indecision.

that Dicky Moore has declined to make a statement concerning his intentions during the vac.

that several of our noted Dalians are reticent and refer all queries to Mr. Dickerson.

that the flat dwellers hold the most amazing post-mortems at their bridge parties.

that M.Com is interfering with Doctor Lipschitz' bridge and poker.

that Yank and Champ have stopped picking apples.

that Kangaroo Knoe is now clearing seven feet.

AND WHO IS MR VON HOESSLIN'S MYSTERY GIRL?

"We Three".

P.S. Well fan my brow ----- Port Beaufort's in the news.

THE MAN ABOUT KAIF.

So Miss McBean has relapsed into monogamy again?

Congratulations to Miss Mary Silberbauer on her engagement to Dr P. Suckling, R.A.F.

Which reminds us that the popular pastime in South Africa is getting engaged to men in the R.A.F. Misses Neale and Hartley please note.

Scene: Kaif.

Time : will tell.

Dramatis Personae: Miss skillicorn, Mr Harris.

Mr. Harris. (suddenly, with feeling) You know, I've read about girls like you. Ourselves as others see us.

Mr. Jeff Butler:}

"The wild ass lounges, legs struck out

In vagrom unconcern."

Playing nicely, Miss Gearing?

U.E.D's at Drawing "On must we go: we search dead leaves,
We chase the sunsets saddest flames,
The nameless hues that oe'r and oe'r
In countless wedding lost their names."

"Science requires a different sort of brain from Arts"

"Yes - B.Sc's are peculiar, aren't they".

The Editor is suffering from severe shock -- Army offered him a fag.
Pelser - "You're rather strict on loose forwards, aren't you, Mr Ref?"

Miss Wallace (expounding a theory for maintaining discipline in schools to replace corporal punishment) "I think it should be left to the members of the class. They could eject anyone who was making himself objectionable"
Mr Andrew (over practical) - "may we throw Miss Wallace out?"

Mr Moore (to the Rhodoe) "I go down unshaken by your mean philosophy".
Overheard in the Arts Block:} "I simply can't bear to watch Rugby now that Sparrow's left".

Berning:- "A child sits in a sunny place

Too happy for a smile

And plays through one long holiday

With balls to roll and pile"

(Cont. Page 7)

(Continued from page 6.)

This sceme would not amount to organised sport, and moreover it is in keeping with the recent policy of the S.R.C. in their highly commendable efforts to bring about a better understanding between the male and female sections of our community.

The idiotically formal atmosphere about the College must be broken down, so how about every one of us doing his or her share to make the communal life at Rhodes less artificial ?

(Continued from page 3.)

Perhaps the best scene of the evening was that which came at the end of "The Man of Destiny" - Napoleon, after delivering his speech : "What beats a man first will beat him last", gazing at his star, his hand gleaming white in the moonlight as he pointed upwards.

G.L.

(Continued from page 4.)

in an esteemed Rhodian tradition.

The discussion from the floor never flagged, and we must particularly commend the industry of the statistician at the back, though we deprecate the purpose on which it was expended. The philosophical tinge to the debate was no doubt engendered by the educational facilities which these debaters had enjoyed. The newcomers (male) in our midst seem to be affected by vapid loquacity, backed by an amazing self-confidence - which we deplore, knowing only too well that empty barrells make the most noise.