



TALKABOUT

A PUBLICATION
OF THE STUDENTS OF
WAGGA TEACHERS' COLLEGE.

"TALKABOUT"

FRIDAY, 26th JUNE, 1959

PAGE 1

A NEW MEN'S WARDEN

This year the Administration returns to a former practice by having the duties of Men's Warden separated from those of Vice-Principal. Recently Mr. Birrell was appointed to the position of Men's Warden. In a year of many appointments Mr. Birrell's is another from which the College will benefit.

Born at Tenterfield, Mr. Birrell was educated in the Primary Schools of this town and Huskinson, from where he went to Nowra High and finally to Cessnock High.

He then did a Primary course. His first appointment was to at Armidale Teachers' College, the small school at Burrajaa (90 miles due south of Wagga Wagga). During the war years Mr. Birrell served with the A.I.F.

Through the C.R.T.S. he obtained his B.A. Degree with First Class Honours in Geography Research for two years. Rejoining the Department in the Secondary field, he was appointed to Taree High School in 1951. In 1957 he joined the staff of Kempsey High as Commercial Master.

At the beginning of March last year he came here as Lecturer in Geography. He was Warden of Ipal Minor first term this year and is now Men's Warden. He has a Wagga District Hockey Umpire's Badge and is President of the Wagga Hockey Association.

For seven years he was with Taree Arts Council and we are all witnesses to his fine work in set construction.

As with other facets of College, Mr. Birrell will be keen and thorough and . . . (here the writer rushed off to make his bed and sweep his floor).

personalities to utilise this chance, the lot of the student teacher could be made a far happier one.

Take the case of the T.T.A. Here we have a suppressed, down-trodden organisation; an affiliated branch of the Teachers' Federation, and nominally, at least, a worthy movement. But why nominally only? First, it is completely governed by the headquarters at Sydney Teachers' College, under the jurisdiction of the committee there, which in turn is governed by the Principal of the College. This committee is at present non-functional, and therefore a complete loss to the students throughout N.S.W. Being under complete control by the administration of the College, it is obvious that the T.T.A. cannot achieve very much unless, as in some Colleges, the chance is given to the students to express their views, hold campaigns, without any interference, or raise petitions.

Why then, should we suffer at the hands of a defective organising body, which excludes other worthwhile committees from taking this leadership and moulding the constitution to inculcate the real aims of the T.T.A.?

If the case were changed we could put student problems into their correct perspective. Otherwise we may as well abolish the whole organisation and surrender to complete autocracy and restrict our activities to discussions by the fireside.

Quite obviously, we cannot hope to match our fellows in Victorian colleges, unless we have something to fight for, and some instrument to carry out our wants, unimpeded by large obstacles and capable of putting forth views, acceptable with due sympathy by the higher authorities.

Thus, we must strive to form a students' union which



Mr. W. K. Birrell, the new Warden of Men Students

NEED FOR A CHANGE IN CONSTITUTION

When the time for a revolution draws near, it is left to those with powers of leadership and initiative to achieve the aims which could bring success and prosperity to the needy population of the time. This was shown in past years during the Industrial and Agrarian Revolutions, when those people who could rise to the occasion took the "ball at their feet" and sped towards a goal, which spelt victory over the old regime.

Could we apply this illustration to the teaching service of N.S.W., and especially to that part of the service which aims at encouraging new teachers with new ideas? We certainly can, and given the right opportunity and the right

(contd. on page 2)

(contd. from page 1)

has some degree of standing in this Education System of ours. The teacher of tomorrow is affected by his experiences of today, so why not aim at modelling today's life on tomorrow's expected fortunes and face the world, knowing that another step towards democracy has been achieved.

—Students of this College

SOCIAL UNION

The Social Union welcomes all students back to a happy second term. As this will be a cold term on the weather side we are aiming at warming it up on the Social side.

As mentioned by the President in the last issue there will be more activities sponsored by the Social Union this term than previously and we hope, with your co-operation, that they will be of a better standard than before. Entertainment and enjoyment is our aim on every occasion yet without your support this is not possible.

There will be dances nearly every Saturday night with one or two theme dances, plus a trip to the snow.

This is my first opportunity to thank publicly my fellow female members for their constant and willing support, especially at the dances. The last dance revealed, with the innovation of a different supper service, the need for other students' aid. This was given generously by many women students. We thank you sincerely and warn that we might call on you again soon. I would also like to thank those men both of the Social Union and the other male students, who lend their assistance at supper and with the clearing up before and after dances.

—Secretary Social Union.

ARREST

Jack Dragweb: "We're taking you in on a 901."

Student: "O.K. Cop, what's a 901? You're not pinning that rap on me!"

Jack Dragweb: "Put the handcuffs on him, Joe, and book him on a 901—not writing for Baringa."

The student was duly tried, and sentenced to six months' hard labour (producing Baringa).

EDITORIAL

Following the production of the first two editions of "Talkabout," a certain degree of criticism has been levelled at the paper for its lack of constructive criticism.

To do not wish to defend the paper in this regard, but merely to point out that a couple of articles which were hinted at during the criticism were written in a rather more light-hearted vein than has been assumed.

As I have said, it is not my wish to defend the paper. However, it would be remiss of me not to point out that many articles were constructive in that they sought to mould patterns of student action in such a manner as to promote an alteration in the opinions of other sections of the College.

The policy of this paper has been, and continues to be, that opinions expressed in the paper are placed there for the appreciation of students—in the hope that an alteration in student attitude may prove worthwhile. Any grievances not levelled at the students must be constructive in some manner before they are printed, and several articles have been rejected on this account.

If this paper were to be used merely as a means for venting personal spleen, we would be failing in our task. It is my firm belief that we have not failed, and will not fail, as long as students will co-operate both with our wishes and the wishes of the Administration.

—T.R.

OMELETTE

by
WILLY WAVA KNIFE

To die, or not to die: because of indigestion: Whether 'tis nobler in the end to suffer the things in dishes of a cook's misfortune, or to raise arms against his pea in bubbles, and by refusing confuse him. He'll cry and welp, for evermore: and if he weeps he may end the guts-ache and the thousand unnatural shocks that flesh is heir to; 'tis a constipation. Doubtless we are dished. Lambs fry, things creep; what a heap: perchance I'll scream: ay, what lousy grub. For in that heap of death what worms may may hum when we have shuffled off the lethal oil, needs make us pause. It's such defects that make calamity of an eager knife.

—CHIPS

MY COLLEGE

The love of tall grey buildings,
Of comfort and of ease;
Of night-life and of fashion
Your love will never cease.
Strong love of homely pleasures,
Of T.V. and of fun;
I know this love, but shun it,
I have another one.

I love a rugged College,
A place of heavy fines,
Of barbed-wire mesh entangled
Around the women's lines.
I love her subtle wardens,
I love their pleasant ways;
Their beauty and their terror,
And sweet attentive gaze.

Core of my heart my College,
Land of the rainbow gold;
For being late, or dorm raids,
We pay her back threefold.
The lecturers and admin.
Are friends in every way;
They seek not to chastise us,
But to keep us broke at pay.

An opal-hearted College,
A grand and virtuous land;
All you who have not leved her,
You will not understand.
In country or in city,
Wherever I may die;
I'll turn my lips to Myrtle,
And spit into her eye.

—O Me Miserum

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MEN

Anderson, R. J., Connells Point; Applegate, P. J., Austimmer; Atkinson, W. J., Gunning; Bailey, A. J., Rileys Hill; Bond, K. W., Ramsgate B.; Brewer, W. R., Toronto West; Britten, T. G., Captain's Flat; Caden, R. A. N., Lake Heights; Cochrane, R., Broken Hill; Cope, R. C., No longer teaching; Crowdy, M. G., Clandulla; Crawley, L. J. M., Glenburn; Davison, P. J., Glebe B.; Duffy, R. J., Cabramatta B.; Dunkley, B. J., Fairfield B.; Ford, R. K., Miranda North; Goff, R. J., Warrawee; Gorman, R. J., Wentworthville; Hamilton, K. S., Daceyville B.; Harrison, B. F., Balldale; Hawkins, B. J., Boree Creek; Howes, R. G., Telopea; Howitt, J. A., Kellyville; Jamieson, J. A., Mundarlo; Kelly, J. M., Wingello; King, N. J., Baulkham Hills; Kolsky, A., Wallundry; McCubbin, K. J., Cootamundra; McGowan, B. H., Tocumwal; McNicoll, B. S., Panania; Makin, G. D., Tondeburrine; Marshall, C., Gregadoo; Mollenhorst, G. R. E., Taren Point; O'Sullivan, R. F., Bankstown; Parker, J. W., Stannum; Petersen, A. F., Green Swamp Rd.; Prendergast, T. J., Moree Relief; Priest, B. S., Fairfield Heights; Shea, G. R., Riverwood; Somerville, W. T., Hannan's Road; Stanley, G. G., Bunnaloo East; Toms, D. W.; Wyndham; Wakeling, R. W., Double Bay; Walkom, W. W., Narrandera; Winter, L. W., The Meadows; Young, J. L., Como West.

JUNIOR SECONDARY MEN

Booker, D. I., Bankstown C. J. T.; Cooksey, R. L., Moree I.H.; Drummond, R. D., Northmead H.; Harris, J. W., Wentworth Central; Irwin, H. T., Temora High; Lee, J. H., Mendooran Central; Quick, G. S., Holbrook Central; Shepherd, T. C. A., Croydon Park C.J.T.; Smith, N. I., Enmore B.H.; Woodward, D. J., Croydon Park C.J.T.

PRIMARY — WOMEN

Abberton, P. E., Broken Hill North Inf.; Alexander, M. F., Padstow Park Inf.; Anderson, J. L., Goulburn South; Beasley, M. F., Fairymeadow Inf.; Beattie, F. E., Nangus; Brown, J. A., Emu Plains; Brown, P. J., Connell's Point Inf.; Burns, L. M., Marrar; Bush, Nola H., Berkeley Inf.; Cane, J. P., Merrylands Inf.; Charlton, R. M., Gladstone; Cochrane, J.,

Candelo; Cox, J. M., Broken Hill North Inf.; Cox, P. M. V., Goldburn Inf.; Crowe, J. E., Westmead Girls; Cunningham, E. J., Balmain Dem. Inf.; De La Garde, M. A., Georges Hall; Dinnerville, J. L., Windellema; Donnison, J. E., Chullora Inf.; Dowley, H. M., Canley Vale; Dunstone, B. J., Blancell St. Inf.; Dzieglewska, B. M. A., Cowan; Feilen, S. A., Cabramatta West Inf.; Fenwick, V. L. R., Marayong; Flew, J. E., Kangaroo Valley; Floyd, B. J., Hurstville Grove; Foster, A. M., Tarago; Freestone, E. A., Junee North Inf.; Gould, L. J., Waterfall; Grosse, N. M., Leeton G.; Halliburton, G. E., Lalor Park Inf.; Hannam, G. L., Holbrook; Hartnett, F. E., Cringila; Hawkins, H. M., Corowa; Hayes, J. R., Sylvia Inf.; Heckenberg, M., Marayong; Hill, I. H., Ganmain; Hiscock, M. L., Eurongilly; Hudson, C. M., Towradgi Inf.; Hughes, G., Penrose; Hull, R. M., Broken Hill North Inf.; Humphrey, B. J., Condell Park B.; Hutchison, D. E., Russell Vale; Jackson, M. C. (now Mrs. McGowan), Tocumwal; Jamieson, B. A., Dee Why G.; Jenkins, P. F., Fort Street; Johnston, S. M., Mortlake; Kelly, F. L., Berala Inf.; Kenchington, B. W., Fairfield Inf.; Larcombe, R. J., Smithfield Inf.; Laurie, M. J.; Griffith North Inf.; Lette, D. C., Riverwood Inf.; McDougall, J., Carlton G.; McPhee, G., Cabramatta West Inf.; Maher, M. P., Coniston; Mannigel, C. L., Fairfield Inf.; Martin, P. J., Oatlands; Matthews, J. E., Cabramatta Inf.; Merritt, J., Austimmer; Moncrieff, P. M., Coniston Inf.; Morgan, N. J., Corrimal East Inf.; Mould, J. M., Bredbo; Myers, L. M., Padstow Heights; Nobes, E., Lucknow; Oakey, M. L., Braidedwood; O'Brien, M. A., Punchbowl G.; O'Donnell, T. M., Chipping Norton; Oliver, B. L., Berala Inf.; Parker, B. A., Griffith, A.C.T.; Parslow, J. L., Ingleburn Inf.; Pasman, N., Doniora; Perryman, J., Guildford Inf.; Phillips, A. F., Bankstown Inf.; Phillips, B. A., Batlow; Platt, P. A., Ainslie North Inf.; Read, W. M., Cabramatta Inf.; Reiman, K., Blancell St. Inf.; Revell, J. L., Singleton Inf.; Rudy, I. E., Wagga South Primary; Ryan, Mary Marcelle, Bomaderry; Scott, D. C., Farmborough Rd.; Scott, M. F., Yowie Bay; Sear, B. A., Yarralumla Inf.; Sheather, I. P., Queanbeyan Inf.; Sherlock, F. I., Lalor Park Inf.; Sherwood, K. J., Riverstone Inf.; Slatery, R. A., Wagga G.; Small, J. M., Panania Inf.; Smith, J. H., Binalong; Smith, M. E., Arcadia; Stanyer, H. B., Marayong; Stead, V. L., Hilltop Road Inf.; Steen, J. R., Bundeena; Stew-

RULES

In the College the hierarchy deems that rules and regulations should be made to cover both the male and the female students.

The making of rules for this purpose was quite successful but the degree of application as a means of discipline is so variable between the men's and women's lines that an onlooker would wonder whether the same rule was being applied on occasions, to both sexes.

Not for one moment am I questioning the enforcement of discipline by the Administration in its present form, but I think there are definite grounds for the formation of two new sets of rules.

There is an obvious need to review the constitution thoroughly. In its present state it is of little use to the wardens as a source of written disciplinary standard and students are able to gauge standards required by the wardening staff because this vague and most unpracticable of constitutions.

If two sets of rules were to be made, I believe that a majority of students could be satisfied instead of the present minority.

This policy of general rules has been outgrown by the changing times and here is now a need for a sweeping change.

—L'GUARDA

art, R. N., Regents Park Inf.; Sutton, C. M., Wallacia; Symes, N. J., Melrose Park Inf.; Taurins, M., Revesby Inf.; Taylor, H. J., Wallendbeen; Trotman, W. L., Primbee; Walton, C. T., Bargo; Watson, N. J., Old Guildford Inf.; Willoughby, M. L., Albion Park; Wilson, B. K., Narrabundah Inf.; Wyatt, M. H., Fairfield Heights.

JUNIOR SECONDARY WOMEN

Bamberger, J. M., Seconded to R.A.A.F. for teaching position in Malaya; Bentley, M. A., Milton Central; Butterworth, W. M., Smiths Hill G.H.; Crossley, V. C., Bega H.; Harrison, J. R., Albury H.; James, M. M., Hurstville G. Sec. Classes; Laurie, Judith Eleanor, Wauchope H.; Lewry, D. J., Merrylands H.; Munro, N. W., Bombala Central; Russell, J. M., Blacktown G.H.; Soroszczuk, S., Junee I.H.; Tweeddale, K. L., Bulli H.

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"FLASHBACKS TO THE PAST"

THE OPENING OF THE COLLEGE

On January 9, 1957, the Minister for Education, Mr. J. Heffron, decided on the advice of the Director General of Education, Mr. J. Mackenzie, B.A., B.Ec., to establish a wholly residential co-educational Teachers' College at Wagga Wagga, using the R.A.A.F. wartime hospital until finance was available for properly planned, permanent buildings.

Because of certain difficulties in acquiring the site, and because of the acute shortage of both materials and skilled labour in this immediate post-war period, the work of converting the hospital wards into lecture rooms, dormitories, etc., could not be completed in time to enrol the first session at the beginning of the academic year.

G. L. Blakemore, an inspector at the time, was appointed Principal by the Public Service Board on 14th January, 1957. By 28th January of the same year, Mr. G. Duncan, M.A., was appointed Vice-Principal, and nine other Lecturers were appointed in Biological Science, Geography, English, Education, Music, Manual Arts and Physical Education.

Progress had been made to such an extent by the beginning of June that it was possible for the first session to move in. Thus on 9th June, 1947, the College was opened. In the first session 150 students were enrolled — 75 men and 75 women. Quite a number of the first students were ex-service men and women.

It was not until late in 1948 that the work of converting the R.A.A.F. hospital into a Teachers' College was completed. On 25th September of that year the Official Opening Ceremony was performed by the Minister for Education, Mr. R. J. Heffron, M.L.A. At this time the second session had been enrolled and the total student strength was 300.

In the same year (1948), the Minister for Agriculture made available the services of Mr. H. B. Stenbohm, the Head Landscape Gardener of the Department of Agriculture, to plan our gardens for us.

At the time of the opening it was realised that the College would need a large amount of area if it was to expand to a worthwhile extent, both culturally and intellectually. Thus through a series of purchases and resump-



The planting of "Salmon's Tree": Mr. Salmon, Secretary of the Department, who had only one year of service to complete, was invited to plant a tree as a mark of respect, both to his service and his friendship to Mr. Blakemore. Mr. Salmon is seen planting the tree on the opening day in the presence of Mr. J. McKenzie, the Director General and Mr. Heffron.

tions the area of the College was expanded from approximately 52 acres to 74 acres.

For the development of the College in these first years, we of the present session, must realise the great amount of work done by the students of the first two sessions. Mr. Blakemore emphasised this when he said: "No doubt the enthusiastic pioneering students, with an enthusiastic pioneering staff, gave the College a very successful start, one that the students and staff of later years could enjoy."

—"Irish Type"

COLLEGE AS AN EXPERIMENT

When the College was established in 1947, it was looked upon as an experimental innovation.

The experimental nature of the College may be attributed mainly to the fact that this was the first College of the Residential Co-educational type in the State.

Has the experiment of a co-educational residential College been successful? The progress of an experiment such as this is difficult to gauge but evidence tends to prove that this College has a very good record.

A valuable proof of its functional efficiency may be obtained from the establishment of Bahturst College following the pattern in augurated at Wagga. Only if the College had proved a success would this have occurred. Secondly, a tribute to the success of the College is the achievement of its ex-students.

Wagga students have come under close scrutiny because the College is only comparatively new, but a number of teachers have been considered good enough for demonstration and lecturing work.

The fact that Wagga College has been a success is a tribute, both to the Department and to the College Administration. The tribute to the Department lies in the fact that it conceived the College and gave birth to it. The Administration, since then, has nourished it through its infancy. The result and healthy growing body is a tribute, particularly to the late Mr. G. L. Blakemore, and his various staffs.

In all ways the College is showing signs of that adulthood born of success and tradition, which can only be achieved by time. History, therefore, has proved continually that Wagga Teachers'

College stands as a successful experiment in teacher training.

OUR MYRTLE

I am sure every student is familiar with the bronze figure of "Our Myrtle." In fact, the dignity of this strange woman will probably be a lasting memory in the minds of most students after they leave these hallowed walls.

Myrtle, considered to be a work of art of some standing, was executed by the 19th Century French sculptor, Carrier. The figure was erected in the middle of the lawn in front of the Administration block early in 1954 after it had very generously been donated by the Wagga District Chamber of Commerce.

Despite her quite demure appearance Myrtle has been the subject and butt of many jokes. In fact it seems that a tradition has grown up that at least once a year she is re-clothed in various articles more suitable to this era.

I am sure Myrtle wishes to thank those kind ladies, who are never backward in donating such apparel, but she graciously prefers to wear what she already has (or hasn't).

—"Irish Type"

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

"It is interesting to recall the appearance of the College in January, 1947. In the middle of a hot, dry summer, with only one small patch of green in front of the Administrative Building and all the remaining spaces covered with stunted growth of lucerne, the site of the future College presented a deserted and desolate picture."

(G. L. Blakemore, Graduation, 1953.)

These words from the late Principal describe concisely the College in 1947. To see for myself, to some extent at least, I examined the photographic records of the history of the College, which comprise several large albums of photography.

I found these words to be the literal truth. At the beginning, the College consisted of unpainted, unsightly weatherboard huts in a lucerne patch.

Considering the College as it is today, we can see quite readily the tremendous amount of development that has gone on over these past 12 years, both in the grounds and in the buildings.

The calendar sums up in a paragraph the work that went on to convert the original R.A.A.F. hospital building into a Teachers' College, but it gives little idea as to the amount of work that went on.

Many of the buildings had to be shifted and re-erected, some had to be joined, all had to be improved and the lecture blocks had to be built.

In 1948 the Assembly Hall was brought in sections from the Temora R.A.A.F. Station and re-erected on its present site. The Auditorium then, however, lacked the polish and finish of the present one. It had no foyer and was very bare inside. It was used as a basketball court, as well as an assembly hall and one photograph shows the music lecturer of the time conducting G. and S. from a platform behind one of the basketball nets.

The auditorium was not improved to its present state until 1952 when the foyer was added and the inside re-decorated with the inclusion of the murals at the back.

Other improvements have been added over the years which we now take for granted. The Rotunda was brought from the Memorial Gardens in 1956 to preserve it as a piece of the city's history and to act as a bus shelter for the students.

Myrtle was donated to the College in 1954. Many other College "landmarks" have been added over the years, such as the Rose Pergola, a session gift of 1952, to make the grounds more attractive, but the history of the more recent ones are fairly well known.

The grounds of the College have undergone perhaps the most remarkable of all. As our eyes will readily testify, the unsightly lucerne has given way to beautiful gardens and lawns and spacious playing fields. The implementation of the Stenbohm plan in 1951 has greatly facilitated the improvement of the grounds and we must congratulate the administration of the day for their foresight in taking such a major step.

This work of improvement is being carried on by the present administration. Recently, the new women's dormitories have been built, lecture blocks converted, more playing fields sown and work on the new men's dorms is about to start.

Let us hope, therefore, that the vigorous improvement policy of the College can be matched by growth in maturity of the College spirit and the development of sound ideals and standards of teacher training so that Wagga Teachers' College will become synonymous with the forefront of teacher training.

COLLEGE DEMONSTRATIONS

The College has had a glorious history in the way of demonstrations, probably as a result of the different quality of students in former days.

During the early history of the College, especially in the years 1950 and 1955, the College's communal spirit was aglow with enthusiastic exuberance of youth.

In 1950 the students (all of them) marched upon the main part of Wagga carrying banners advocating rises in pay. Every student carried a banner with such labels as "Could McGirr live on £3 a week," "Wot no dough," "Why are we the lowest paid in Australia."

On the lagoon bridge a mock trial of the State Premier, Mr. McGirr, was held amid the throng of boozing students.

"Guilty," and "Hang Him" roared the students as they sat in a solid mass across the bridge. A straw effigy of Mr. McGirr was then strung up from the limb of a tree. The students then moved off, down Fitzmaurice Street singing and chanting.

After a short march down Sturt Street the students returned to their former position on the bridge, where a skirmish with the police ensued and

(cont. on page 6)

COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

One of the main features of the development of this College has been the work of our administrations throughout the years.

The work of the late Mr. George Blakemore was, of course, instrumental in the development of the College. His was the guiding hand which led to the physical, cultural and sporting development.

The influence of the College has also been extended to other Colleges, through the appointment of our Vice-Principals to the Principalship of other Colleges. Our first Vice-Principal, Mr. Duncan, having seen the inception of the College, took ideas gained to Newcastle, where he became Principal.

Succeeding Mr. Duncan as Vice-Principal, was Mr. Allen, now Principal of Bathurst College. Mr. Allen completed much constructive work here during his brief stay, and it was his lot to commence Bathurst College, a College modelled along similar lines to that of Wagga.

With the consequent loss of Mr. Allen, there appeared, Mr. Brock Rowe, one of the most popular men to assume the office. His kind regard for students was instrumental in his success at the position.

With Mr. Rowe's transfer to Sydney, came the appointment of Mr. G. W. Muir to the Vice-Principal's position. On Mr. Blakemore's unfortunate death, Mr. Muir was appointed to the position of Principal and Mr. R. Bass became Vice-Principal.

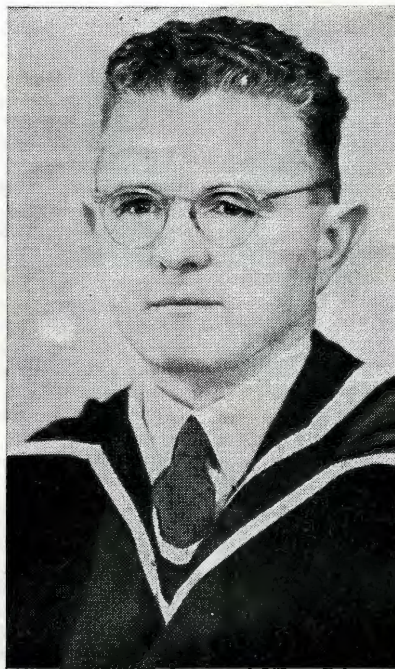
We are now in the College's second era. Mr. Blakemore, with the aid of capable assistance, has moulded the College—Mr. Muir now has the task of developing it.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The College Anniversary slipped magnificently past on 9th June. This date passed, for the first time in 12 years, without official recognition, and, as we feel that this should be an anniversary to remember, we have set aside this brief section of the paper to commemorate the activities and growth of the College over the past 12 years.

"Flashbacks to the Past" is not, by any means, an attempt to record a comprehensive history of the College—nor is it an attempt to assess, completely, the development of the College, but it is an attempt to bring to the attention of the students, some of the fact-

(contd. on page 7)



The late Mr. G. L. BLAKEMORE, whose guiding hand helped mould the College.

COLLEGE DEMONSTRATIONS

(contd. from page 5)

one student sustained a blow on the head from a police baton.

This demonstration proved very successful and because of the thoughtful action taken by these students now allows us, the students of the two present sessions, receive £17/2/- a month, rather than the former £12 a month.

The second dramatic demonstration took place at the end of October, 1955. This demonstration was in protest against the Principal's action of sending two male students to Sydney to interview the Director General following an incident at the College in which the two were involved. Once again nearly the whole College turned out at the Railway Station. College songs and war cries were performed on the platform and the two students were cheered when they appeared on the scene. "The Maoris' Farewell" was sung and the train was labelled the "Wyndham Special." a number of students were involved in a skirmish with "The Daily Advertiser" photographers, but besides that the demonstration was orderly and well organised.

As a result of this demonstration the two students were returned after the interview and allowed to complete their courses.

One can see that these two demonstrations, as well as a number of minor reactionary movements against various members of the Lecturing Staff, showed the true spirit of an adult institution.

No one wishes or ever desires this College to be a handful of students ready to break out and demonstrate at any time. But one wonders whether the former enthusiastic attitude of our forbears regarding democracy, the rights of man, and individual freedom, has retrogressed rather than progressed. After viewing some of the self satisfied students of the present session, one wonders if some controversial incident should arise would the Teacher Trainee Association be able to count on these for support as they could in former times. Or would they be content to go back to their books, satisfied to lounge in the soft cushions of plush reform achieved by former sessions and leave the spirit of former years to die in the stagnant flaccid attitudes of our contented parasites.

—"Irish Type"



G. and S. has always been an institution in the College. This scene is from the first production in the College, "The Gondoliers," and depicts The Duke (Dave Rummery) and The Duchess of Plaza Torro (Miriam Bowers) —1947.

EMPHASIS ON ACTIVITY

The development of clubs in this College began before the first student arrived.

Since other Colleges had them, it was decided by the founding Principal that Clubs would also feature in his College. When the "Pioneers" arrived they agreed to form various social and recreational clubs, in which the emphasis would be on activity which would be useful to them later as teachers in the classroom, in their leisure time, and as citizens taking part in the work of the community.

"Club Hour" was held on Friday afternoons at 4 o'clock and thus had to compete with sporting activities. However, in 1955, this was changed to 2 o'clock on Tuesday afternoons. When College commenced in 1947, 12 academic clubs were registered with the S.R.C., each with its own constitution and elected committee, and all desiring to make some contribution to the College.

The Debating Club only functions in the second term of each year. Its functions have now been limited to the pre-

paration of a team to contest the annual Inter-Collegiate. In the past they have held Oxford and Formal debates and arranged Inter-House Debating competitions.

The aims of the Current Affairs Club are to discuss and formulate opinions on matters of political, social, economic and controversial interest. At the times the Club has invited prominent people with overseas experience to address it.

The Visual Education Club seems to have been one of the most enterprising of the original College clubs. Within it, there were four groups — projector, camera, duplicator and puppet group. The aim of the club was to make a contribution to visual education in Australia. They made strip-film projectors and many helpful strip films, as well as many relevant articles. The club was so vigorous, that the Education Department granted them a specially equipped dark room at the end of their first year. Part of this club still survives in the form of the Photography Club, which shows people how photography can help them when out teaching.

The Little Theatre has firmly established itself in the

ODE TO PLAYFUL PUPPIES

Looking from my window
One drear and dismal morn,
I saw two little puppies
Playing on the lawn.

The first, a dark brown female,

Walked on new-lain cement—
If she is not careful,
She'll be living in a tent.

The other one, a male,
Was walking down the path;
If it were after seven
The gods would roar with wrath.

The puppies are now playing
With ne'er a distant care,
But the father of the litter
Has ulcers with despair.

For he must show his children
How to be mature,
To build a reputation
And to make town critics fewer.
Young and innocent canines,
I wonder how they'd feel;
If they knew they were compared

With students a good deal.

Poor little puppies,
Respect for them is lost;
For self-appointed judges
Have our freedom cost.

—L'GUARDA

College, and we look forward to plays of the sustained standard of previous years. Little Theatre has always been an inspiration to the cultural development and dramatic tendencies of this establishment.

The Writers' Group aimed to produce literary articles and to support the College paper, "Talkabout," which appeared weekly and the College Literary Magazine, which appeared fortnightly. The first issue of "Talkabout" was made on 6th October, 1947. In its first editorial it stated—"It is hoped that not only will 'Talkabout' provide a medium for expression of opinion and criticism within the College, but also that it will, through its articles and contributors, be instrumental in fostering co-operation between the several Teachers' Colleges in matters of a cultural or sporting nature."

Sometimes the interest in clubs has been sadly lacking and has not reflected very creditably on some students. The clubs were formed with a very high ideal in mind, and although we are not compelled to attend the above clubs or the others which have not been mentioned, because of the lack of space; I feel it is the duty of every student to attend at least one club regularly during their sojourn at College.

—"D. G. S. hyphen W."

EDITORIAL NOTE

(contd. from page 5)

ors of development that we have found interesting during our research into the past.

I would like to thank members of the lecturing staff for their co-operation. Mr. Cosier, Dr. Mackiewicz, Miss Cuskey, Mr. Young (the oldest lecturer) and Mr. Swan, all offered assistance in our research.

Lastly, I would like to thank Ross Graham and members of "Talkabout" staff for the keenness exhibited in preparing these brief commentaries.

-T.R.

SQUASH CLUB

The first meeting of the squash club was quite a successful one.

All those who played enjoyed themselves immensely and, I'm sure, benefitted from the physical exercise received in so doing.

All efforts should be made to be punctual and response to the first meeting was better than expected.

I ask those who are keen to play to be patients as the numbers are rather larger than anticipated.

I hope the early success will be carried on throughout the season.

-G. TASKER.

SOCCER

RESULTS

- Henwood I v. College 6-2.
- Army v. College, 5-2.
- United v. College, 4-1.
- Goblins v. College, 0-7.
- Henwood II v. College, 1-2.
- Arsenal v. College, 0-8.

The College team has had a number of setbacks and troubles. The shortage of a left half is perhaps the most critical problem we have had to face. However, the work of fullbacks and present halves leaves nothing to be desired.

This is inter-collegiate term so an even greater effort will be required to improve conditioning and ball control.

showed that they will worry the local pitchers in the forthcoming matches (if they are given the chance). Warwick Williams, Jim Baker, Tom Richmond and Bill Wenban all revealed that their batting is becoming much more solid and the team is confident that by the end of the season we will have a very strong batting side.

"Rock" Conway and Mr. Thomson proved a successful combination once again in the pitcher and catcher positions.

The standard of the College fielding revealed that all the boys had an early night on the night previous to the big match.

We are looking forward to the return of "Major" Thomas Lake to the team and all that we can do is hope that the Army gentlemen haven't taught him that marching is the only method of moving from one "base" to another.

The College "Giants" also have to report the major feat of winning two matches during the holidays. One with the help of the bye and the other on a forfeit from the Air Force Meteors. With two convincing wins the team is looking forward to more successes in the near future.

"STRIKE ONE"

At last the College "Giants" have lived up to their name and we are able to report a win. We defeated the Air Force "Pirates" by 16 to 3.

The College team started off very brightly and for once we functioned as a team with a purpose and this brought a little prestige back to the team.

Mr. Thomson upset the concentration of the Air Force representative pitcher by using "chatter," and this resulted in the pitcher being replaced.

The batting of the College "Giants" appeared to be much more solid and "Perry" Rae, Mr. Thomson, "Rock" Conway and "Burley" Brasier

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The new Squash Club is now in progress. Here, one of the members of the Club, Linda Woodrow, is seen playing a shot.

PENALTY BULLY

Members of the Men's Hockey Club will be pleased to hear, that after weeks of hard training, credit has been bestowed upon the club, by the selection of some of our players for the Jessup Cup trip to Albury, and the State Championships at Goulburn.

Those chosen for Goulburn were "Dinky" Titheridge and yours truly in the Wagga Seniors, and "Junky" Aird, Ken Granger, Earl Ryan and Douglas Carlos in the Colts team. Ken Granger and yours truly were also chosen for the Jessup Cup trip to Albury. Hearty congratulations to these players for their achievements.

The competition games played on 16th May resulted in two draws for the College teams. The College seconds drew with M.Y.F. 3-all, after leading 2-1 at half time.

Don't ease up, Seconds, until after the last whistle blows.

The first grade match resulted in the worst Hockey seen in the competition this season, much of this, however, was due to bad umpiring and the lack of the "Advantage Rule." The game ended in a 2-all draw with City. Less talk and more action had better be the motto of these players in the future.

On the last weekend of the last vacation, the Hockey players responded well and came back early for competition games on the Saturday. College were again opposed to M.Y.F. in the second grade. However, lack of practice and shortage of players prevented our boys playing their usual game.

Thanks to the chaps who stood in for us and helped us out. The game ended in a 4-2 win for M.Y.F. The first grade played their old rivals, City, in a very good game, which produced some good hockey in parts. College, after being held to 2-all, finished on strongly to win 4-2. Congratulations to Bob Kingdon for the excellent game he played in both grades.

Nine of our players sat for the Umpires' Examination early in the year and eight of them passed, with Earl Ryan topping the list for the Association. Congratulations, Earl.

With two deferred games to be played the first grade are now third on the ladder, so keep training, fellows, and see if we can't improve on this.

—Winky Wenham
Secretary.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

We are pleased to announce in this edition of Talkabout, that women's hockey is really starting to take shape. Players have been much more enthusiastic.

We have discovered some good players including Jillian Hagge, Rae Rooke, Deanne Churchill, and Pam Rowe. Others playing well with keen supporters are Mary Moffat, Anne Flyntham and Diedre Cadett. We hope their good form will continue.

The first team is sharing first place with three other teams in the competition and the seconds are also doing well.

Good luck to all teams.

—G. Edmunds,
President.

RUGBY UNION

Both the first and second grade Rugby Union teams are playing entertaining football. The speed of the whole of the two teams, coupled with condition and intelligent play, in winning the matches for Teachers. Backing up is resulting in tries. Both teams tackle well.

The club functions as a club, the team as a team, and this contributes to success.

Latest news is the defeat of Agricultural College first 17-8 and Agricultural College seconds 18-9.

Pryor (firsts) and Wheatley (seconds) were instrumental in the successes, but not without full team efforts.

A thanks is given to those who attended the above victories at W.W.C.G. and an invitation is extended to all students for future games.

The seconds receive little printed praise but from Slater to Bevan and Pickburn the backline functions with match-winning cohesion, while the Andersons with Plummer and Bushell provide strong forward play.

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AS MUCH AS I CAN TAKE

A quote worth re-quoting—"In case you find mistakes in this paper, please consider that they were put there for a purpose. We try to publish something for everyone, and some folks are always looking for mistakes."

Heard about the young man who intended to get married and wrote home for parental advice. He received back the following letter—

Dear Son,

Your mother says to tell you how pleased we are to hear that you intend to settle down, and we would like to point out all the advantages of marriage, such as chats by the fireside, the patter of little feet, etc. I am very pleased to hear that you are taking this big step in life.

Best of luck from Father.

P.S.: Your mother has just left the room, stay single you fool.

One of the blokes asked a girl to the pictures the other night but she was immaterial.

Heard in the lecture room: "Isn't he lovely, but he shouldn't have that dark jumper on, with that light suit. Such taste, Mr. Thomson."

A thought for today: "When the right girl comes along, the wolf is brought out in mother's little lamb."

—ALF. A. FOOT

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT

"While you linga,
Lift a finga,
Write for Baringa."

Question: Study the above quotation, digest it and analyse it. Follow the directions given by the poet.

Points to remember: 1. Baringa is YOUR magazine—if YOU do not write there will be NO Baringa; 2. Baringa, this year, will contain records of the College for 1959—if there is no Baringa, there will be no records, therefore no souvenir of 1959. The records will definitely not appear in the Final Talkabout; 3. Everyone in this College has the ability to write contributions; 4. It is in YOUR hands—so WRITE!!

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BOUQUETS AND BOOS

A BOO for the birthday which passed unnoticed. This is taking "No birthday calls in the dining room," too far.

A BOUQUET to the Talk-about staff who have so far produced on time the best Talkabouts yet!

A BOO to the ignorant goose who flouts military regulations and wears his full K.D.'s, I think to show us he is a man despite rumours.

A BOUQUET to the students who have helpful suggestions, to the Administration in the curtailing of the inebriation of students.

Prac teaching marks in short had died. Their resurrection was attempted on the 12th day of this month of June, in the year 1959, 26 days after prac. had ended.

—D.A.B.S.Y.

T.T.A. REPORT

The T.T.A. in Wagga College began with a promising start this year, and while arousing an interest among part of the student body, was also able to attract attention from the Federation in Sydney.

Following a committee decision, students were asked to compile lists of relevant grievances and suggestions, which were considered before being presented to a Federation representative from Sydney. In doing so, students gained a large amount of knowledge concerning the machinery of the Federation, the probable results of the students' requests, and the way in which the Federation would deal with them.

Although immediate results were not assured, it was obvious that the flint had been struck, as news slowly filtered back through the various channels concerning the points raised.

1. Buses for practice teaching schools in Wagga City, and for demonstration schools (especially Turvey Park School) could not be supplied due to financial complications.

2. An instantaneous increase in allowances for students was impossible, on the grounds of certain Government and Public Service rulings concerning the fluctuation of students' allowances.

3. Although the need for a gymnasium in this College is immense, the required grant for the erection of such a building cannot be made, although the whole issue is now being considered by the Minister for Education.

4. A decision in Sydney has yet to be made on whether allowances should be given each fortnight, instead of monthly.

It is obvious that the problems posed by the College were not ignored, but it is also quite apparent that the needs of students throughout N.S.W. are treated by others as being unjustified, due to the fact that we are considered as being sufficiently well cared for.

Unless this can be changed, the T.T.A. will never become an effective and influential organisation, and uphold the rights which it should have today.

HAVE YOU NOTICED

Look at this throng! What can be wrong?

Is someone floored? or someone gored?

No sound of song or dinner gong.

Methinks it's just the notice board.

College life flows around the notice board, physically, because we pass it on the way to lunches, lectures, etc., and figuratively because it houses the record of College activity.

Of course the physical aspect impedes the other. Sometimes when I have wanted to peruse the board in quiet comfort I have had to wade through a tide of humanity, having no respect for my thirst for knowledge.

Some drips in the tide always feel compelled to stop and look. They have read all the notices earlier in the day but they are afraid they might have missed something. Perhaps they just want to see their name in print again.

The board serves as an outlet for frustrated artists. Budding Rembrandts depict coming events to entice patrons. Some of their feverish concoctions strike such terror in my heart,

however, that I am tempted not to go.

Like Topsy the Notice Board grows and grows; everybody sows but nobody reaps. Some of the papers have been there so long that they now have a sentimental value. I wish that a certain section would pick up its blazers lest moths devour them.

I am impelled to write this because somebody has put a notice over mine. I went to great pains to shuffle the board so as to get space for my little item and now it can't be seen. What galls me most is that he should use my drawing pins.

A new notice draws the mob like flies. Often I have milled with the crowd, edged the girls out of the road, only to find that "so and so" is wanted by the Principal. I think we must like to see who is into hot water.

This criticism is purely constructive and I really have a fondness for sentimental notices and frustrated artists.

—CHIPS

Publications Club

President: P. Pryor.

Vice-Presidents: T. Richmond and R. Bourke.

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S.R.C.

1. This term, the Squash Club, with a grant of £36 from the Sports Union, was formed, with Geoffrey Tasker and Faye Collingridge as the President and Secretary for 1959.

2. The Inter-collegiate levee, too, was a significant event of the term, not only for the depleting effect on students' pockets, when it was collected at the first pay, but also because it marks the commencement of organisation for the 1959 Inter-collegiate. This is, as you know, a big event in our College year. The Students' Union, that is the S.R.C., Sports Union, Social Union and Publications Committee, has a major share of the organisation of this, not far distant event.

Organisation of the re-union for ex-students of the College is another end of term event undertaken by the Student Union.

Besides this the S.R.C. is endeavouring faithfully to present students' opinions and ideas to the administration in an effort to make this term the apex of accomplishment for this year.

3. Thanks must go to the Vice-Principal and those members of the office staff responsible for compiling the alphabetical list of students' names as an "aid" for our S.R.C. phone (outside the music room).

4. Use your S.R.C. representative. If you have any problems that can be dealt with by the S.R.C. give them to him, and make sure he goes to all of our meetings.

—TOM LAKE
President.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THE GATES QUESTION

Dear Sir,
Due to excess of assignment load I have found it necessary to delay my letter of complaint to you. Of course, this being a student paper, this letter is one of complaint. However, let me hasten to say one that is legitimate.

The subject dates back to the time of the year when we were receiving the influx of first year students. It was to me (and I'm sure to many others) a matter of annoyance and disgust which was felt upon receiving the new arrivals lugging cases, letter bags, racquets etc., from the Mary Gilmore gates up the entrance road to the Administration block, as though running the gauntlet.

What sort of a reception is it when new students have to go through this? My contention

and firm belief, is that the illustrious gates in question, for several days, could have been opened to allow the taxis and private cars to drive up to the Administration block, drop their passengers and baggage and move immediately away out of the College via the rear gates. This would at least have revealed an atmosphere nearer to a welcome than the method that was employed.

The first impression of any place is an important, and sometimes lasting, one. Surely this is as important for a Teachers' College as for anywhere else!

I would hope that this oversight on the part of the Administration could be rectified for 1960.

This College demands the best from us so we, too, have a right to reciprocate and expect the best from this College. If what happened at the opening of the year is this College's best effort, I feel that its efforts reflect its status.

The students are often wrong and admit it, but in this I feel we are right.

Might I, in closing, say to the first years something on the choice of session gifts. If you are given an opportunity to decide on what you would like to give, make sure its not a gate. We already have two sets of gates which remain locked. Let's not have a third.

—"Under lock and key"

SATURDAY DANCES

NOTICE INVITATIONS TO SATURDAY DANCES

Would those students requiring invitations for dances please hand the names of the people concerned to me no later than the Wednesday night preceding the dance. Remember that henceforth no invitations will be accepted after Wednesday night.

—Jan Van Boss,
Secretary Social Union.

THE FIRST YEAR TREATMENT

Examinations:

The time is 6.30 a.m., Monday, 15th May, 1959. All minor dormitories are a blaze of light. A few stooped figures, heads bent low over books roam consolately round the grounds. Yes, the trial examinations are on again.

Since arriving at this College we first years have heard

quite a deal about examinations. At orientation, someone tried to explain the complicated examination marking system to us with, I fear, little success. This same person warned us of the proximity of our first fling, and in the weeks that followed the threat of impending doom was continually brought before us. Still, human nature being what it is, I suppose, here we are on the morning of exams with everyone furiously studying. I must admit there were exceptions to this rule and quite a few students were observed to be hard at work several weeks before the exam. No doubt they will profit by this but I am afraid that "Chips" and "Fido" cannot be numbered among them.

What of the exams themselves. In most cases I do not think the exams could be classed as difficult, as long as adequate preparations was indulged in. Indeed, in many cases, everyone knew the topics that would appear on the paper, since they were relatively few in number and a question on each one was necessary to make an examination of sufficient length.

However, no system is perfect and these trial examinations certainly give the students some indication of the standard of work that is expected of them and whether or not they are studying with sufficient zest.

Finally there is one aspect of the examination system which I find very hard to understand and that is the policy of not letting students see their papers after correction. This position is especially deplorable in the case of this trial examination, one of the main aims of which is to let the students know where they are making mistakes. Surely the best method if doing this would be to return the examination papers to the students, fully marked, with comments showing where and why errors had been made. It seems to me a pity that so many students whose marks in a particular subject were not what they expected, have no way of finding out satisfactorily why this should be so.

The Back Path:

What has happened to that noble College institution the back path? When I arrived at College I was told of the many extra curricular activities which were carried out on the back path, but now one could walk from one end to the other of it on a Saturday night without seeing anything more interesting than a few dead

trees. Apparently, somewhat more private places are being sought out for activities previously indulged in on the back path, and, by next year, it appears it will have lost most of its significance.

—FIDO

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