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CONVOCATION COMMENTARY

NOVEMBER

1966

NUMBER THREE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
CONVOCATION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND





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CONVOCATION COMMENTARY NOVEMBER 1966 NUMBER THREE

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COVER: The glittering scene at a special graduation held in the Civic Theatre, Johannesburg, to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the City of Johannesburg and the 70th anniversary of the South African School of Mines.

(Pictures by Nic Badenhorst).

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A HOME-COMING TO THE ALMA MATER?

THE impressive progress of the University's building programme is reviewed in an article elsewhere in this issue. As fast as its financial resources will allow, the University is pressing ahead and amid the dust and rubble the master design of the campus is gradually taking shape.

Unsightly "emergency" hutments are making way for large modern buildings and the University is taking practical steps to beautify the grounds. The Main Drive is being reconstructed and early next year the University should at last have an approach that is dignified and attractive.

These improvements are all to the good. Although most of the staff and students live away from the campus, their working environment should be as pleasant as possible. Well laid-out grounds and

gardens help to create an atmosphere of peace and beauty in which research and scholarship can flourish.

Many Wits alumni would be quite excited to see the progress being made in building and in the general appearance of the campus. It is a pity that more graduates and members of the public do not visit the University, but the present improvements should encourage them to do so.

Perhaps the time is approaching when the University, or Convocation, should organise a weekend "home-coming" (as it is known in United States universities) so that alumni can savour the beauties of the campus.

Much still remains to be done, but we hope it will not be too long before Wits is ready to show off its new good looks.

VOICE OF THE CAMPUS

INDPENDENT thinking has always been a characteristic of students at the University of the Witwatersrand. It is reflected clearly in the campus newspaper, Wits Student. As the recorder of an unusually lively year, the newspaper has reached standards that have brought credit to those responsible for its content and production.

Involvement in student activities has been thorough-going. Events and the pressures surrounding them — the banning of the Nusas president and the visit of Senator Robert Kennedy with its emphasis on the youth of the country are two examples — naturally generated their own interest. They also, by virtue of their extremely controversial nature, demanded a mature and responsible — and courageous — approach.

Wits Student, without losing sight of its main task of keeping the campus informed about the University,

its personalities and its events, showed a high degree of courage and awareness of forces operating against academic freedom.

And, as the year's final issue of Wits Student points out, 1967 seems even more foreboding — "the Bills before Parliament threatening the last vestiges of inter-racial contact left to us; threatening the life-blood of our universities, the subsidies so important to their continued existence; threatening every principle for which our University has fought for so long, cannot be allowed to be effected without protest."

The independent, mature thinking of many students is seen in the forthright comments Wits Student recorded in interviews with prominent students who are leaving the University this year. The students were asked for their views on Wits as a university and whether they considered their academic

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education was as complete as it should be. These were some of their replies:

- Of course, the academic forces are not as complete as they could be. If they were it would mean that Wits had reached its full potential which I do not agree it has.
- Wits suffers along with other South African universities because of enrolment restrictions placed on it by the Government as well as further legislation pertaining to banned books, plays and films.
- Student populations are by and large reflective of one social and economic class. Diversity of opinion and background is an important factor in the formulation of exciting and penetrating thought.
- I think Wits is more of a technical college than a

university. Too many people come here for degrees instead of an education. This is possibly because for White students in this country it is considered a right to go to university and not a privilege.

- Wits students are fairly independent thinkers, but the general level of awareness is very low. I think our degree system (Law) is wrong. They are trying to succeed in two directions and doing neither. These two directions are the academic as well as the practical side. There should be a second exam for admission to professional ranks, and universities should stick to the academic side. You do not get a legal education.

As long as it has students of this calibre Wits need have no fear of its future.

An enterprising series of lectures

THE series of lectures to mark the 80th birthday of Johannesburg and the 70th anniversary of the founding of the South African School of Mines at Kimberley — the predecessor of the University of the Witwatersrand — was welcomed by both civic and University leaders, and was well attended.

The first lecture, given by Mr. T. P. Stratton at a special graduation ceremony, is covered more fully elsewhere in this issue of Convocation Commentary. The others were delivered over six weeks in August and September in the Dorothy Susskind Auditorium, John Moffat Building, at the University.

The theme was "The Witwatersrand: Between Past and Future." The links between the University and its immediate environment, Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand, and the mutual obligations of the University and the society it serves were emphasised throughout.

The concept was admirable and the University is to be complimented on its enterprise not only in arranging the series but on its choice of lecturers, including two well-known British scholars, Professor J. Wreford Watson, of the University of Edinburgh, and Professor Max Beloff, of All Souls, Oxford.

The other lecturers were Mr. L. J. Suzman, Senior Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, University of the Witwatersrand; Professor F. R. N. Nabarro, Head of the Department of Physics at Wits;

Professor G. A. Elliott, Head of the Department of Medicine; Mr. P. R. B. Lewis, Chairman of the Non-European Affairs Committee of the Johannesburg City Council, and Professor G. H. L. Le May, Head of the Department of Political Studies, including Local Government, at Wits.

Professor Le May, arguing the case for university autonomy, said that any legislation which limited freedom of expression in a university either by the threat of sanctions or by empowering a Minister of State to restrict the physical movement of university teachers or students, was inflicting a national injury on the country.

He also called for closer co-operation in research among South African universities.

Professor Watson, of the Department of Geography, University of Edinburgh, spoke on the metropolitan problem — the unequal distribution of population with more people drifting from rural areas to the cities. Increasingly each nation was being dominated by one or two massive cities or city groups in which the greater part of their talent and wealth, their creativity and productivity, was concentrated.

Scotland was trying to overcome the problem in four ways: by re-developing the worst areas, by creating new industrial areas, by sending the population overflow to other areas and by starting new towns. Three of the lecturers, Mr. Suzman, Professor

Nabarro and Professor Elliott, took part in a symposium on the concepts of modern science entitled "Unity and Diversity in the Sciences."

Mr. Suzman said science and labour were not the only activities at Wits, but it did seem particularly important and valuable that undergraduate scientists should do the philosophy of science.

Professor Nabarro urged that South Africa should play a leading role in all fields of research and not make the mistake of depending on the more technologically advanced nations to take the initiative. If South Africa were to keep creative scientists in the country it had to provide them with a congenial scientific atmosphere.

He called, too, for greater financial backing of universities. If the Witwatersrand wanted the kind of university it deserved it must provide the sort of massive financial support provided in the United States. He believed that the best estimate of Wits's current need was about a seventh of the 40 million dollars a year which Harvard and Stanford received.

Professor Elliott said the future of progress in medical biological research was bright provided facilities were given to hold the country's brightest intellects. "Our medical qualifications are among our most 'exportable' university degrees because they are

acceptable in many countries abroad. We have many problems to study which are peculiar to our population groups. They can only be studied here. It is therefore unfortunate that we lose so many because we have not been able to provide adequate opportunities for their study."

PROFESSOR BELOFF, Gladstone Professor of Government and Public Administration and Fellow of All Souls, Oxford, spoke on "Some reflections on the contemporary international scene." Before developing his theme that the fate of the world depended even more than in the pre-atomic age on inter-bloc rather than intra-bloc politics, Professor Beloff said that no impartial overseas observer could fail to be impressed by the way in which Wits had struggled to maintain the universal values of the academy in a not wholly friendly or even wholly understanding environment.

Professor Beloff said it was clear that in the long run it would be necessary, if humanity were to survive, for all Powers to accept the limitations on national policies and even ideological motives that were inherent in the existence of weapons of mass-destruction in a divided and crowded world.

A NEW APPROACH TO EDUCATION is found in

EDUCATION AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMY

The Second Report of The 1961 Education Panel

The 1961 Education Panel is an independent body of prominent men and women which has been established under the chairmanship of the Hon. O. D. Schreiner, former judge of appeal, to conduct a private enquiry into various aspects of education in South Africa.

The Second Report presents a detailed examination of South Africa's educational needs from an economic point of view and demonstrates the tremendous expansion of education which will have to take place in the next fifteen years. Further, this Report makes more than seventy detailed recommendations for the improvement of education in South Africa.

There are eighteen graphs, printed in colour, illustrating the educational and economic development of the country during the last forty years, and in most cases projecting the probable future course of this development.

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Splendour at the Civic

IT was a glittering occasion, the first graduation ceremony of the University to be held in the Civic Theatre, Johannesburg. It commemorated the 80th anniversary of the founding of Johannesburg and the 70th anniversary of the establishment in Kimberley of the South African School of Mines, forerunner of Wits.

Several hundred people, including members of the Judiciary and the Provincial Council, the Mayors of Reef towns, city councillors and other community leaders were present at the special ceremony on Wednesday, August 10.

The University conferred honorary Doctorates of Laws on two men who have played important roles in the development of the Rand, Mr. Brian Porter, former Town Clerk of Johannesburg, and Mr. T. P. Stratton, engineer and industrialist.

To the customary pomp and colour of graduation ceremonies was added the splendour of the setting, the playing of orchestral pieces by the University Orchestra and songs by the University Choir, an innovation that may well be included in future ceremonies.

Seldom has an academic procession been more impressive, accompanied as it was by the Orchestra's strident strains of Handel's March from "Scipio," followed by the Alma Mater, rendered by the Choir. The floodlit stage was ablaze with colour, when the Chancellor rose to constitute the congregation and there was prolonged applause when the Chairman of the University Council quietly emphasised in his address: "We are well aware of our responsibilities . . . We do not require the heavy hand of State legislation to remind us or to coerce us."

After the capping ceremony, Mr. Stratton addressed the congregation on "Industrial Transition in the Greater Witwatersrand," the first of a series of lectures arranged by the University on "The Witwatersrand: Between Past and Future."

It was, said the Mayor, Mr. Boyce Eagar, an historic night. There was a definite sense of occasion. The City had never been so honoured and the ties between Johannesburg and the University grew stronger every year. He recalled that in the early days, when there was no University Great Hall, the City Hall was hired for graduation ceremonies. "I am told that in those days they were rather hectic," he said.



After the ceremony: refreshments in the foyer

(Picture by NIC BADENHORST)

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The soul of Wits — and Jo'burg



By **B. L.**

BERNSTEIN

(Chairman of the University Council) in an address to the special graduation ceremony in the Civic Theatre.

THE origins of Johannesburg and the University stem from the town of Kimberley, for it was the pioneers of the diamond fields who first established the gold-mining industry upon which Johannesburg was to be founded, and it was in Kimberley that the South African School of Mines was first established, which later became the University of the Witwatersrand. And while the City is celebrating its 80th anniversary, the University is at the same time celebrating its 70th anniversary. Anniversaries are somewhat meaningless unless they mark achievement of some sort; happiness in the personal field, and progress and maturity in the public field.

There can be no doubt that Johannesburg has reason to be proud of its achievements. Seventy years ago two great South Africans had little confidence in its future. When consideration was being given to the extension of the railway line into the Transvaal, President Kruger felt that it should be built east of Johannesburg to Pretoria, and that Johannesburg should be served by a branch line. At the other end of the country John X. Merriman dismissed Johannesburg as a "sink of iniquity." Many today think of it only as a concrete jungle. However, it does lead the country in many fields relating to finance, industry, commerce, and technology, and it has contributed substantially with men and achievement to the advance of the South African economy.

Those are the material fields. The question does remain — has Johannesburg a soul? It certainly has the most generous community in the country; it is fast developing those cultural activities which mark a mature society, and it has always taken a lead in the social sciences. In a country which is bedevilled by chauvinism and parochialism, Johannesburg has a happy mixture of peoples of varied racial, cultural and religious backgrounds, and is a melting pot of conservative, liberal and neutral opinions.

It is, in fact, far less exclusively devoted to Mammon than some of its critics will allow. To be absolutely objective, it has all the virtues and vices, all the promise and shortcomings, of a large metropolis, and its influence on the South African scene is both substantial and constructive.

THE University has always been closely identified with the City, and the city fathers have been its most generous benefactor. Our growth has, to some extent, been parallel to that of Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand. In 1924 when I entered the University as an undergraduate, there were 1,150 students, today there are 7,900; in 1924 there were 108 staff members, today there are 493; our investment in buildings and equipment amounted to R926,000 in 1924, today the comparable figure is R11,850,000.

We are growing at a very rapid rate and the problem which concerns all of us who are involved in its affairs is, not only how to finance this rate of expansion so that we can keep our doors open to all men and women who are qualified to enter the University, but how also to achieve and maintain the highest standards of quality in our teaching and our research work. Those are the bread and butter aspects of our development.

There are other aspects which I don't think business and professional men of the city fully appreciate. They are sometimes rather impatient with the University for apparently diverting its activities from the task of producing graduates. If the University has a soul, it is centred in its conception of

what a University ought to be.

And what ought it to be? Not merely an automated device for assembling the current demand for potential engineers, lawyers, doctors, architects, accountants and teachers; not a mouthpiece for some current ideology, or doctrinaire teaching, or political thinking; not a monastic storehouse of knowledge to be jealously guarded and carefully rationed; and not, as some undergraduates might think, merely a playground for the light of heart, and a forum for the quick of tongue; but rather as the late Adlai Stevenson once described it: "the archive of the Western mind, the keeper of the Western culture, the guardian of our heritage of freedom, teacher of teachers, the dwelling place of the free mind."

I know that it has become fashionable in some quarters to deride and deprecate such concepts as outworn sentimental generalities. We at this University do not regard those concepts as mere empty pious phrases. We believe they embrace the essentials of education as opposed to indoctrination.

We believe that they represent the very essence of academic freedom which was gradually accepted by the Western world as it moved from the confines of medieval thought into the broader expanses of modern thinking. We maintain that we have the right to decide for ourselves "who may teach, what may be taught,

how it shall be taught, and to whom it may be taught. You are all aware that we have stood firm in our defence of those freedoms in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

But let us remember when we talk glibly about freedom, that the privilege of freedom itself demands discipline, responsible action, and a respect for the views of others. We must not become unduly emotional about these freedoms, nor arrogant, so that they become a tyranny of the mind.

These freedoms must never be abused; they must be nurtured to further our principal reason for existence: and that is to provide a place where young men and women may acquire knowledge and trained minds, and acquire that critical and enquiring quality of mind, which is so essential if they are to become responsible thinking men and women capable of making a contribution to the society in which they live.

We are well aware of our responsibilities in these matters. We do not require the heavy hand of State legislation to remind us or to coerce us.

I hope that the University and indeed Johannesburg will always remain a dwelling place for the free mind; and where in the last resort, when men differ, and differ even violently and irrevocably, finally they will agree to differ; for that is the only mature way of living with one another.



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TWO NEW HONORARY GRADUATES

Mr. B. O. PORTER **— for services** **to local** **government**

MR. BRIAN ORPIN PORTER, former Town Clerk of Johannesburg, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws for his services to Johannesburg and local government in South Africa.

The citation says his energy and leadership as Town Clerk from 1945 to 1965 were always equal to the part he was called upon to play in preserving local government as one of the free institutions of this country. For this he deserves the gratitude of all who value those institutions as a whole.

His father, Dr. Charles Porter, as Medical Officer of Health, established Johannesburg's health service. In 1925 the University recognised his services to the city by conferring on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

Brian Porter read arts and then law at Cambridge. On his return to South Africa he practised law and in 1934 joined the service of the Johannesburg City Council. He became Deputy Town Clerk in 1936 and in 1945, at 37, he was appointed Town Clerk.

Throughout his municipal career Mr. Porter has been confronted by the paradox of local government in South Africa. On the one hand, the system of local self-government by processes of consultations between the permanent official and the elected councillor appeared to have taken root; on the other, it was less apparent that the system was suffering from a process of frustration through the encroachment of higher levels of government.

It is only as the result of an incessant campaign that local authorities have been able to bring home to these higher levels of government, and to the ordinary public, their need for greater scope if the municipal organism is to remain healthy — and above all, if the large cities of South Africa are to have the autonomy of cities elsewhere in the Western world.

In the campaign the chief burden fell upon the town clerks and treasurers of the principal cities of the Republic, and the greatest burden of all upon the holder of the highest office in the largest city.

Mr. Porter played a leading part, as member and adviser, in the proceedings of the United Municipal Executive, the Transvaal Municipal Association, and the Institute of Town Clerks of Southern Africa. Again and again he showed his grasp of the problems of local government and in 1959 he was chosen as President of the Association of Town Clerks of the British Commonwealth.

As a practical administrator Mr. Porter saw the value of research into local government in greater depth than he, or any man carrying day-to-day responsibilities at a high level, could attempt. He was the prime mover in appointing a research officer in his own department and in stimulating the creation of a Department of Local Government in this University.



Mr. B. O. Porter is capped an Honorary Doctor of Laws by the Chancellor, the Hon. O. D. Schreiner.

Mr. T. P. STRATTON **— for his** **contribution to** **S.A.'s industrial** **development**

MR. THOMAS PRICE STRATTON, Chairman of the Union Corporation Ltd., received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University for his "outstanding contribution to South Africa's industrial development, particularly on the Witwatersrand."

Mr. Stratton was, according to the citation, the most distinguished matriculant of his year at Christian Brothers College, Kimberley, and an equally distinguished undergraduate at the University of Cape Town. On receiving the degree of B.Sc., he was elected a Rhodes Scholar in 1924 and went to Balliol College, Oxford.

After gaining an M.A. degree he joined the General Electric Company in Schenectady, U.S.A., where he spent a number of years gaining practical experience as an electrical engineer.

His first appointment in South Africa was as electrical engineer with De Beers Consolidated Diamond Mines in Kimberley. It was here that he became known to a number of men looking for talented young engineers to build up the new iron and steel industry in Pretoria. As a result, he left De Beers and joined Drs. Van Eck, Meyer and Hausen who, under the leadership of Dr. H. J. van der Bijl, were creating Iscor. Later, his interest turned towards the goldfields and he joined the Union Corporation first as an engineer, and

later as an administrator and financier.

During the Second World War Mr. Stratton became Assistant Director-General of War Supplies (Technical) under Dr. H. J. van der Bijl and helped to build up an active war industry. With characteristic energy and effectiveness he set up organisations for manufacturing shells, mortars, mortar bombs, armoured cars, cartridges and many other military needs. As Chairman of the Munitions Production Committee from 1940 to 1945 he was the force behind the armouring of our troops and the production of their fighting weapons.

Mr. Stratton returned to the Union Corporation after the war, leaving behind him a vast agglomeration of industries small and large, which had cut their teeth on engineering manufacture in wartime. Some failed to stand the test of peacetime competition, but a great many survived and have grown into South Africa's industrial complex.

Mr. Stratton has achieved great distinction in many fields. The South African Institute of Electrical Engineers elected him their President in 1940, and in 1959 he was given the rare distinction of Honorary Membership for his outstanding contributions to engineering, particularly on the Witwatersrand goldfields. In 1948 he was elected President of the Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of South Africa and he was a member of the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research from 1945 to 1959.

He is now Chairman of Union Corporation Ltd., a director of the South African Reserve Bank, a member of the Electricity Supply Commission, and Chairman of S.A. Pulp and Paper Industries, as well as a director of many companies in his group.

The citation concludes: "Perhaps his greatest attainment



Mr. T. P. Stratton is capped an Honorary Doctor of Laws by the Chancellor, the Hon. O. D. Schreiner.

has been his success as an engineer in reaching top management in a financial organisation, a position attained by very few engineers. It was under his chairmanship that the Head Office of Union Corporation Limited was transferred from London to Johannesburg.

"Thomas Price Stratton, through his brilliant leadership in the building up of wartime industry, has made an outstanding and major contribution to South Africa's industrial development, particularly on the Witwatersrand."

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The miracle of the Rand

— AND THE
TWO SHADOWS
OVER ITS
INDUSTRIAL
FUTURE

WHEN the late Dr. H. J. van der Bijl, after reaching a position of great eminence in the United States as a research physicist, came back to South Africa as a technical adviser to the Government in May 1922, he said:

"The dependence of the country on a wasting asset, i.e. the gold mining industry, is what struck me most forcibly on my return to South Africa after many years' absence. It is time every South African should take this condition of affairs to heart and assist in doing whatever can be done to get away from it as soon as possible."

There was a ring of urgency in this pronouncement and it was logical, on the evidence then available, to accept that the matter was indeed an urgent one. But the miracle of the intervening 44 years is that the gold mining industry, instead of wasting away, has on the contrary done quite the reverse.

In 1922, when Van der Bijl made his appeal, the gold mining industry produced just over 7-million ounces of gold, then worth say R64.7-million. By 1930 it had risen to 10.7-million ounces, valued at R91-million. But in the year 1965 it produced 30.5-million ounces of gold, today valued at about R763-million, to which must be added uranium sales taken at a pro forma figure of say R50-million, or a total of say R815-million.

The discovery of gold on the Witwatersrand in 1886 is correctly regarded as a major event in the industrial development of South Africa, but I believe that when the industrial history of South Africa for the entire 20th century comes to be compiled the

BY THOMAS

PRICE STRATTON

**(Chairman of the
Union Corporation)**

● *Extracts from an address given at the special graduation ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the founding of Johannesburg and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the South African School of Mines, forerunner of Wits. The address was the first in a series of public lectures entitled "Witwatersrand: Between Past and Future" delivered during the city's celebrations.*

Quote

● *Our efficient African labour force is really more valuable than the gold in our mines because without them all but a handful of our mines would be unpayable propositions. They certainly would be unworkable in Europe, North America or Australia.*

— Mr. T. P. Stratton.

totally unexpected growth of the gold mining industry over say the past 35 years will be regarded as an even greater factor. I refer in particular to the discovery by geophysical means, followed by drilling of the West Wits. goldfields, the Klerksdorp and the Orange Free State goldfields and later by the Evander goldfield, 70 miles east of Johannesburg.

These discoveries were in themselves a miraculous turn in our fortunes, but an even greater miracle is that the grade of ore in these newer fields has been substantially higher than the grade of ore on the older Witwatersrand. Without this quite fortuitous higher grade, these newer fields would not have been financially attractive enough to open up due to the greatly increased capital and working costs.

Another date had immense significance for our gold mining industry — August 6, 1945, when the first atomic bomb was exploded over Hiroshima. This was the first decisive public indication that the atomic age had arrived, that uranium was the element involved and that uranium was suddenly required in large amounts for military and later peaceful purposes.

Our mining industry, one of the lowest cost uranium producers in the world, was not slow to take advantage of this situation and since 1952, R900-million has come — almost as an unexpected windfall — to South Africa's foreign exchange earnings through the sale of uranium.

After describing the build-up of secondary industry in the past 30 years, including the development of the iron and steel industry and the impact of the war on production, Mr. Stratton expressed some thoughts about the Witwatersrand's industrial future:

I DO not believe that the transition from mining to secondary industry is going to be an easy one. The University, in calling this series of lectures "The Witwatersrand: Between Past and Future," picked a very intriguing title, but industrially speaking I would suggest that the Past is not yet over nor are we ready for the Future to begin. I say this because the value of the gold produced by our gold mining has so far continued to rise, thus producing in increasing quantity the foreign exchange needed by many of our industries and the value of the stores used by our gold mines has continued to increase. When these figures begin to show a permanent downward turn then industrially on the Witwatersrand the Past will be truly over and the Future will have begun.

Now there is no doubt that the Past, industrially speaking, has been a good past and it seems certain that the Future is not likely to be so easy. Therefore, I believe the Greater Witwatersrand should do everything in its power to prolong the life of the gold mining

industry. The upward trend of the gold mining industry has been with us for such a long, long period and prophecies of an early decline so frequently proved erroneous that psychologically there has grown up a feeling that this upward trend will go on for ever. But of course this cannot be. We are dealing here with a mineral deposit, albeit the largest one of its kind in the world, and like all mineral deposits this will have an end.

Some uninformed in mining matters believe that a change in the price of gold, which must surely come in due course, would result in older mines already shut down being re-opened and a whole new life given to the gold mining industry. This is, to some extent, fallacious thinking since in many older mines such as those of the East Rand basin all or virtually all of the gold-bearing ore has been or will have been extracted. The meat, so to speak, has been taken out of the sandwich and there is almost nothing left no matter what the price of gold might be.

But a rise in the price of gold, provided costs were not allowed to neutralise it, would do much for the mining industry. It would encourage the mining of ore not at present payable due to depth or grade, particularly in mines still operating or in mines recently shut down. Its effect, as far as can be judged, should be to drop the grade of ore mined and thus to extend the life of the industry rather than to result in a large increase in the ounces of gold produced. This lengthening out of the industry is what the Witwatersrand most particularly needs as the period of transition will thus be lengthened and more time given for the adjustments from the present pattern.

But apart from such things as the discovery of new goldfields and a change in the price of gold, which are matters which can be little, if at all, influenced by us here in Johannesburg, what can be done to stretch out the life of the gold mining industry? The major thing is to do everything possible to keep down costs in the mining industry and to do nothing industrially which will put up these costs. In the mining industry itself much has been done by increased mechanisation and by better use of labour to keep costs down.

MOST thinking people on the Witwatersrand and particularly in Johannesburg know well the vital necessity of keeping mining costs down. But in spite of this and all that has been done, the relentless rise in

costs goes on and the retiring President of the Chamber of Mines, Mr. H. C. Koch, at the annual meeting of the Chamber on June 27 said that the first quarter of this year working costs were on an average almost one rand higher than in 1961 and that on this account it is estimated that gold worth R1,000-million has been rendered uneconomic to mine in this five-year period.

We on the Witwatersrand just cannot afford to cut short the time of transition from mining to industry at such a reckless rate. But whatever takes place, whatever we can do to hold the rising trend of costs, whatever may happen in respect of the price of gold, we must face the fact that whereas in the past 35 years we have experienced this great growth in the mining industry, in the next 35 years, i.e. by the year 2000, all, or nearly all, of the gold mines operating today will have ceased operations. There may well be some new ones to take their place but the existing mines will have virtually ceased operations.

THUS the problem we face today on the Witwatersrand is the identical problem posed by Van der Bijl as far back as 1922. But there are two differences — the physical dimensions of the problem are many times greater than they were in 1922, but industrially South Africa has made great advances and is thus better fitted to the transition. Thinking of the Witwatersrand there are, in addition to the virtual certainty of the decline of the gold mining industry over say the next 35 years, two other shadows over the industrial scene ahead — the expressed determination of the authorities to decentralise industry, even to the extent suggested by some of moving industry away from this area, and the shortage of easily accessible water supplies.

These matters seem to give our whole activity here on the Witwatersrand a temporary or provisional quality. This we cannot accept. No society, so it has been said, can last on a provisional basis without losing both the heart and the will to be a society, for solution can be found only in commitment to a future towards which society can work.

We must therefore try to see what the nature of this industrial future on the Witwatersrand can be and work towards it. There are various special fields in which we can develop, various special industrial advantages here which we enjoy. First the fully developed Escom network, giving us really cheap electricity for many, many years ahead due to our immense and easily mined coal deposits; the exploit-

ation of those coal deposits into the wide field of petrochemicals where we already have the first example of Sasol; our chrome deposits, which it is seldom realised are the biggest in the world, which we must process to a far, far greater extent for world markets right here on the Greater Witwatersrand; the uranium industry, whose life may well go on after the end of gold mining by the treatment of some of the slimes dams with possible new techniques, and last, but by no means least, our iron and steel and engineering industry, already firmly established in this part of our country.

But if we on the Witwatersrand are to come to grips with the realities of our industrial future in the general directions I have mentioned we must first come to terms with the two shadows I have mentioned. Now, I do not feel we should oppose the general idea of decentralising much of new industry, particularly where other geographical locations are no less advantageous economically than here; nor do I feel we should press for the bringing in of an unlimited number of Africans on to the Witwatersrand for industrial employment. But surely there is a middle course which can be adopted — to encourage the capital intensive as against the labour intensive industries and to persuade the authorities to drop all thought of any decrease in the industrial activity on the Witwatersrand. I do not believe they will need much persuasion to such a policy — in fact they seem to be already thinking this way.

WATER is the second shadow on the industrial future. Here it is unreasonable to think in terms of new industries requiring large amounts of water coming to the Witwatersrand. Large requirements of water for an industry imply equally large effluent disposal facilities which in any case are not normally practical in this area. But it is equally unreasonable to believe that the water required on the Witwatersrand for its normal industrial growth (for industries which are not high water consumers) cannot be provided.

It is obviously far, far cheaper and indeed quite practical to bring the water to the Witwatersrand for this purpose, but it is unrealistic to think that the Witwatersrand industries can be moved to the water—so although water seems such a limiting factor for us here at present this is surely only a temporary—although a most uncomfortable — phase which, over a period of years, should be overcome.

We must plan that our overall activity on the Witwatersrand does not decrease. This is the way towns die and empires too, not by sporadic cataclysms, war, earthquake, fire and flood, from which man rebuilds surprisingly fast, but by the slow recession of industrial life. The Witwatersrand is too vital in its outlook for this to happen.

Quote

● Only by the more intelligent use of the African can the mining industry hope to combat inflation and be able to pay the higher wages required to attract European supervisory and technical personnel.

— Mr. T. P. Stratton.



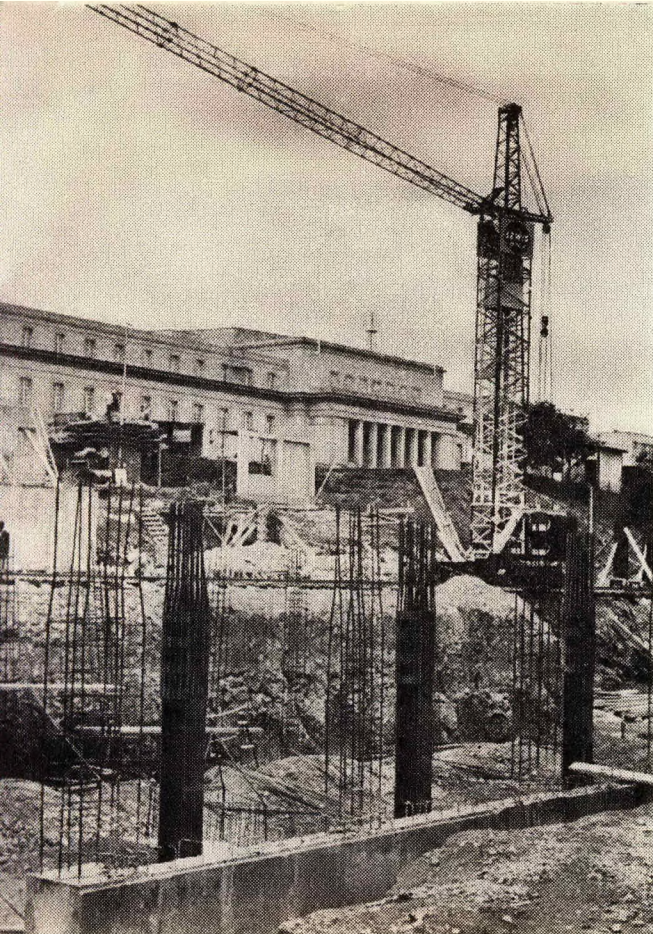
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AT LAST! A NEW MAIN DRIVE

*Work goes ahead on the new Engineering Building (left) and the Main Drive (right).
(Pictures by James Soullier).*



THEY'RE BEAUTIFYING THE CAMPUS

Building never stops at Wits

THE University will enter 1967 with a new men's residence, a remodelled Main Drive and with work going steadily ahead on two major buildings for Social Science and Engineering. Ceaselessly the work goes on to relieve the progressive congestion of increasing student numbers.

It is expected that the two large and the two smaller lecture theatres in the new Social Science Building will be ready for the beginning of the 1967 academic year and that the whole building will be completed by the end of the year. It is hoped that the first stage of the Engineering Building to accommodate Chemical Engineering will be completed by June 1967 and the second stage to accommodate Metallurgy by June 1968.

After nearly four years spent on extensive renovations and the addition of a third floor, work on the Biology Building will finally come to an end this December. Waiting in the queue are plans for an additional Library Building, a new women's residence and a combined sports centre and gymnasium. And on Hospital Hill the new Medical School thrusts skywards, while plans are being prepared

for an extensive renovation of the interior of the old Medical School building to provide for a 50 per cent increase in medical student enrolment which will begin to take effect in 1967.

Wits cannot afford to stop building, and as space runs out horizontally, the campus is expanding vertically. But side by side with the work on huge brick and concrete structures, the University is trying to beautify its campus. The Principal has long been a champion of attempts to enhance the attractiveness of the campus. In successive graduation addresses he has deplored the "antiquated, disused macadamised" Main Drive.

Now at last the demolishers have moved in and when the examinations are over and the need for campus quiet is less pressing, the reconstruction will be speeded up to be ready before the March Graduation Ceremony.

The Main Drive will, in fact, not be a drive at all, except for a narrow strip on the north side which will be used only for rare ceremonial occasions. From the east side a section will be paved with

brick and provided with a small fountain surrounded by *witte stinkhout* trees. Moving west immediately in front of the Physics Building there will be a large section covered by lawn and crossed by two wide brick pathways, then another paved section with a fountain and trees, followed by more lawn. Finally, the whole area in front of the entrance to the Central Block will be converted into a paved piazza.

The former semi-circular parking space will be demolished and replaced by a wide flight of steps leading to the terrace below.

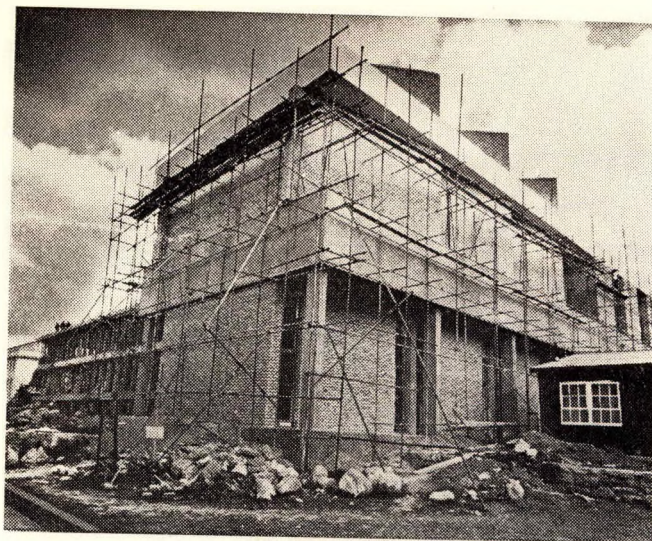
For the present, development of the Main Drive will stop at a point in line with the west end of the Central Block since there is not enough money to complete the whole scheme.

THE University War Memorial will find a home at last in conjunction with the construction of the new Main Drive. A relatively secluded site has been selected immediately in front of the north-facing left wing of the Central Block where a pool will be laid out to form part of the design. The War Memorial Committee has abandoned the idea of a work by the famous British sculptor, Henry Moore, who has not been able to provide a new sculpture. His offer of one of his existing works has been declined by the Committee which now intends approaching another sculptor in South Africa.

It is hoped that this move will finally settle the fate of the War Memorial which has been a nagging problem since the end of the Second World War. Wits needs a worthy memorial to its dead of two World Wars and, tastefully designed, this can be an aesthetic asset to the campus. Fortunately, there are enough funds in hand to ensure a worthy memorial.

A further step in beautifying the campus will be the laying out of a garden with shrubs and trees on the east side of the Biology Block, together with the widening and redesigning of the campus road running to the north between the women's residence and the Students' Refectory.

THE first section of the University's new men's residence — the Ernest Oppenheimer Hall — will be completed in time for the first term next year. The residence, which will take about 150 students immediately and 300 students when the second stage is completed, is being built on University property in Parktown, off Oxford Road. It has been modelled on the staircase system of the typical Oxford college. More than half the cost of R700,000 for the first section has been met from a donation made nearly ten years ago for a residence in memory of



The new Social Science Building which, it is hoped, will be completed before the end of 1967.

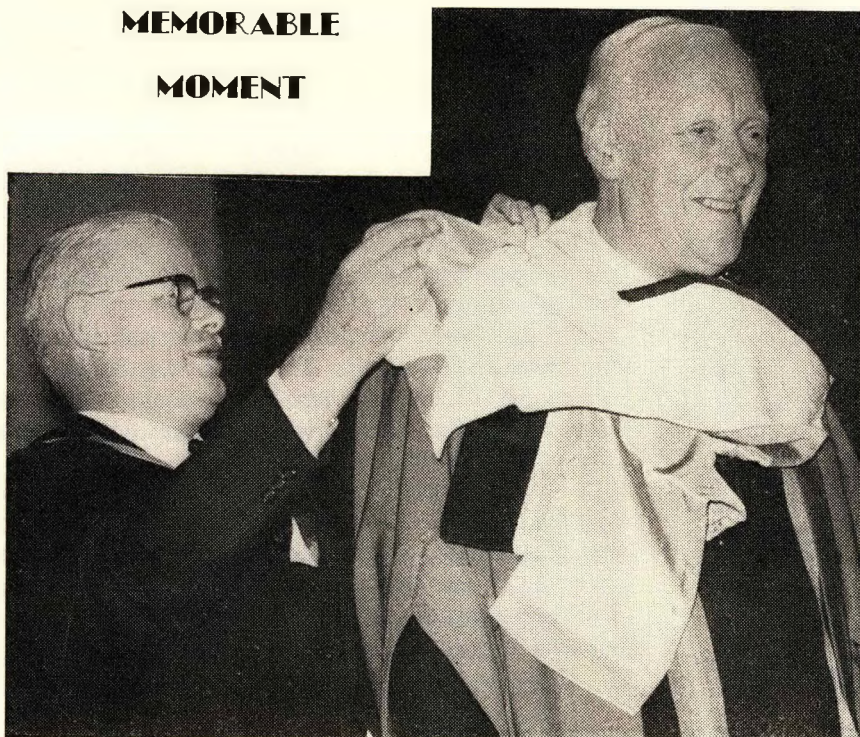
the late Sir Ernest Oppenheimer. The entire scheme when complete is likely to cost more than R1-million.

A new women's residence is now regarded as a priority in the University's building programme. It will be built on the Milner Park campus adjoining the existing women's residence which accommodates 200 students. The new residence, which will provide for an additional 100 students, will meet an urgent need. From 60-80 women students are turned away every year because there is not enough residential accommodation. Most of these students, whose parents insist on their living on the campus, go to other universities. We sincerely hope that the University will soon be granted a loan by the Government to finance this project so that the start will not be further delayed.

ON the administration side, congestion in the Central Block has been eased by the building of a compact 30-office annex, using part of an open space in the middle of the building. Housed in this section are, among others, the registry, the typing pool, the buying office and the office of the newly-appointed Director of Works, who is playing a major role in the University's building programme. The old registry and typing offices are being converted into a Council Chamber and committee room, another long-felt need.

These are all welcome developments, vital to the University's continued progress. It is only right, too, that in designing the buildings and grounds, aesthetic considerations have not been overlooked and that the Wits of the future, despite shrinking space, will not become a concrete jungle.

**MEMORABLE
MOMENT**



The impact of Robert Birley

Flashback to July 1965, when this picture was on the cover of Convocation Commentary. It shows Dr. Robert Birley being hooded by Mr. J. T. Allan, Vice-Chairman of Convocation, after receiving an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University at a special graduation ceremony.

PROFESSOR ROBERT BIRLEY, Visiting Professor in the Department of Education at the University for the past three years, leaves South Africa to return to England in December.

The tall, white-haired former Headmaster of Eton College, with his immense charm of manner and his open, questing mind, has made a tremendous impact not only on the University but on the South African education scene.

His three years here have not been free of controversy as he has not hesitated to speak up on vital issues in education. He shrugs off the controversy. He accepted the invitation by the University in the belief that it was a challenge.

And so it was — “an extremely interesting one,” he says.

He believes that no one could have been given a better chance to get to grips with the fundamental issues in education here. “I have been allowed absolute freedom,” he will tell you, “and I have taken full advantage of this.”

He has been concerned in three particular fields and in each he has left his imprint. Few people connected with education will forget the three years Robert

Birley has spent in South Africa. And all who have the cause of education at heart will be thankful that a man of Robert Birley’s calibre has been here to help put a number of worrying aspects of education in South Africa in perspective.

First, he has caused a searching look to be taken at the relationship between school and university — the whole preparation at school for university.

“It struck me that there was a sad lack of continuity between school and university. As the educational process in South Africa is a short one this continuity becomes tremendously important. It seems to me that the Matriculation system is almost devised to ensure that it is not a good preparation for university,” he says quite bluntly.

With typical thoroughness, Dr. Birley set about getting in touch with schools all over the country. He spent a lot of time in them, actually taking classes himself.

“What I wanted to know was how far are they prepared for university. In England this preparation takes at least two years. Boys there think the whole time about what they are going to do at university.”

He has been engaged, too, on behalf of the uni-

versity in a thorough consideration of first year work for, of course, this question of preparation must work both ways. His overall impression is that there is a keen appreciation in the schools of the problem.

SECOND, he has established a remarkable *rapport* with university students.

He has no doubts here. "I have a very high regard for the students. I have sought them out to get to know them and, of course, they have constantly been coming in to ask me about English universities. I have been impressed with a number of their qualities. They are generous minded, thoughtful and some of them have a lot of courage.

"I have found their directness particularly charming. Here is an example of what I mean. One young man was looking for a lecturer in the department. He couldn't find him so he burst into my room with the explanation that he wanted the other man but that I would do.

"I don't find this sort of directness in the least impolite. It wouldn't have happened at Oxford or Leeds or Edinburgh, but no one except an intolerably stuffy person could possibly take offence."

Third, Dr. Birley has been concerned in African education. He had been chairman of the V.S.O. (an organisation in Britain for voluntary service abroad by students) and that meant he was in touch with educational problems in the developing countries.

"I found this aspect of my stay here extremely interesting. I have gone to the African schools and I hope that by doing this I have given them the impression that Wits is interested in them. I found them very ready to talk and discuss things.

"I am very keen that the Government should implement the recommendation in the Straszacker Report about Africans and engineering training.

"The ablest boy I have met in South Africa is an African. He took his Matric last year at 16. He passed easily top and was the only African to get distinction in maths. He is at Fort Hare and in his half year exams he got A's in every subject. This youngster has tremendous potential. His ambition is to become an engineer and then do work for his people in the Transkei.

"If the Government accepts the Straszacker recommendations you will find Wits will come back where it ought to be in the arena of African education."

Dr. Birley talks of another young man who worked for seven years as a laboratory assistant in Johannesburg to accumulate funds for a university education. He passed his Matric at night school and is now at Turfloop University College.

"He is a man of considerable character. His interest is juvenile delinquency. So there you have

two young men who both think they really can help their people."

DR. BIRLEY, however, has encountered a lack of purpose among African students. "I have been struck by a sort of aimlessness, but then policy here does not make the country geared to having African colleges — except for teachers, perhaps. And there is an appalling gap between the African schools and the colleges."

Dr. Birley left for Delhi this month to attend the World Conference on Medical Education. He returns on December 2 and will visit Salisbury for a few days. Finally he leaves South Africa for England on December 15 where almost immediately he will take up another challenge.

As vice-president of the Governing Bodies' Association of the independent schools, in other words the great public schools like Eton, he will be in the forefront of the fight to preserve their integrity against Labour suggestions that they should gradually lose their present identity and become comprehensive schools.

Alumni Club officers

THESE are the names and addresses of the Honorary Secretaries or Chairmen of our Alumni Clubs. Telephone numbers are given in brackets. Alumni are asked to get in touch with them when visiting or taking up residence in these areas:

Bloemfontein: Mrs. S. M. Aronstam, 157 Waverley Road, Bloemfontein. (Res. 89179)

Bulawayo: Mrs. M. McGibbon, 1 York House, P.O. Box 721. Bulawayo.

Cape Town: Mrs. P. Cranko, "Nethercroft," Acton Road, Rondebosch. (Res. 65-1111)

Durban: Mr. I. Morris, P.O. Box 163, Durban. (Bus. 69861; Res. 333836)

East Rand: Mr. I. Humphriss, (Chairman), P.O. Box 34, Benoni. (Bus. 54-3168 or 54-1889)

Klerksdorp: Mrs. A. Berger, P.O. Box 838, Klerksdorp.

Port Elizabeth: Mrs. A. Friedman, 9 Joubert Street, Parsons Hill.

Salisbury: Mr. J. Russell, (Chairman), P.O. Box 2795, Salisbury.

Vaal: Mrs. B. Glubner, 2 Grandmuller Drive, Three Rivers, Vereniging.

OVERSEAS

London: Mr. S. N. Bernstein (Chairman), The Cloisters, The Temple, London E.C.4. (CEN. 9333)

New York: Mr. M. F. Lipworth (Chairman), 220 West Jersey Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

UNIVERSITY CHRISTMAS CARDS

ALIMITED number of Christmas cards will be available from the Public Relations Office, 1st floor, Jan Smuts House, University, this year. There are two kinds: One a drawing of the Diaz Cross which is in the University Library, and the other a prehistoric rock engraving from the University archaeological section, depicting a human figure. The cards cost 8c each with envelope.

DURING July, the English Academy of South Africa held a conference on English as communication at Jan Smuts House. Attendance was by invitation and every one of the 150 members of the conference was a person of considerable standing in some field related to the theme. They included university people drawn not only from Departments of English and of Speech, but from Engineering, Law and Commerce as well; representatives of the Education Departments; practising teachers, and representatives of commerce and industry. All the provincial education departments were represented, as well as the Department of Education, Arts and Science, and the Bantu Education Department. South Africa's neighbours were represented at both official and unofficial level.

The guest speakers at the conference were Mr. B. C. Brookes, who is in charge of a special programme for developing communication skills in engineering students at University College, London; Mr. A. J. Kirkman, who is in charge of communication studies at the Welsh College of Advanced Technology, Cardiff; Professor C. W. Kreidler, Associate Professor of Linguistics at Georgetown University, Washington D.C., and Mr. C. O'Hagan, who has had extensive experience of the teaching of English as a second language in India and Kenya at both school and university.

Among the South African speakers were Professor L. W. Lanham, Professor of Linguistics at Wits; Dr. S. Biesheuvel, formerly of the National Institute of Personnel Research, and now holding a high position in industry; Professor W. H. Gardner, Professor of English at the University of Natal; Professor E. Sneddon, Professor of Speech and Drama at the University of Natal; Professor W. G. Branford, Director of the English Institute at Rhodes; Dr. Brian Rose, of the Johannesburg College of Education; Mr. G. A. H. Dale and Mr. F. E. Auerbach of the teachers' associations of Natal and the Transvaal, respectively; Mr. K. B. Hartshorne, a senior official of the Bantu Education Department, and Professor J. A. Venter, Professor of English at the University of Potchefstroom. This list is not complete but it gives an idea of the

MR. O'DOWD, B.A. 1950, LL.B. (cum laude) 1953, of Johannesburg, is Secretary of the English Academy of Southern Africa and a member of the Council of the Academy. He was President of the Academy's conference on English as communication, which he reviews in this article.

Mr. O'Dowd is an Assistant Manager in the Gold Division of the Anglo American Corporation and a director of a number of gold mining companies.

At Wits he was Vice-President of the S.R.C. in 1949-50 and President of NUSAS in 1953-54. He won the Society of Advocates Prize in 1953.

ENGLISH

as Communication



**SUCCESSFUL
CONFERENCE
HELD
AT WITS**

**By
Michael
O'Dowd**

breadth of the scope of the conference.

The conference concerned itself with the teaching of English both at school and at university, as both first and second languages. There is not space here to report on its findings in all of these spheres. I was most closely concerned with the university aspect and as this will no doubt be of most interest to readers of this journal, I shall write chiefly about that.

THERE was a complete consensus of opinion among those concerned with this aspect of the conference that there is a need for all university students, whatever their course of studies, to receive some specific training in the use of their first language — that is, in the case of the English-medium universities, English — so that they may have a command of language equal to the needs of a professional worker in the modern world. If there was ever a belief abroad that language skills are irrelevant to technical and scientific work, this idea is dead, and the scientists and engineers present at the conference were as strongly in favour of this type of training as anybody.

It emerged very early in the discussions that the kind of command of language required by professional people is by no means an elementary one. We must not be misled by the term "communication" into thinking that we are concerned only with objective report writing, although that in itself is a skill of the

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first importance and by no means easy. I have to go beyond this to the techniques of persuasion and argument and the role of language in human relations which play such an important part in management.

The most difficult question is, of course, the contents of the course. Ideally one would like a course specially designed for engineers, another specially designed for commerce students and so on. At University College, London, not merely is there a special course for engineers, but Mr. Brookes, who directs this course, is himself an engineer who has made a special study of language matters.

It was felt that this approach, however much it may have to commend it in theory, (and opinion was divided on this point) is unlikely to be practicable in our universities. On the other hand, no one had any doubt that the ordinary English 1 course, which is designed as part of a full English course and overwhelmingly orientated towards literary criticism, was quite unsuitable for other types of students. What is required is a course specially designed for students who are not language majors with a definite bias towards the use of language for practical (as opposed to creative) purposes.

It was agreed almost unanimously that the study of literature has an important place in such a course, both as providing texts from which to study the more complex and subtle uses of language, and as a form of "sensitivity training," a study in human relationships and applied psychology, which has direct relevance to the future working lives of the students as well as to their personal lives.

Opinions differed as to how big a part literature should play in such a course. Some people would give it a dominant position but pay special attention to the selection of texts, bearing in mind that the one-year course must be complete in itself, not a preparation for more to come. Others again, would relegate literature to a fairly minor role and include a significant amount of applied linguistics, such as modern views of grammar and the processes of language change.

Clearly it is not necessary that there should be universal agreement on these points. All our universities will be making important experiments in this field in the next few years and it is neither necessary nor even desirable that they should all do the same. In fact, it is probable that within the next few years we will be able to study the practical operations of three or four fairly different types of communication course in our universities.

A VERY interesting point was made regarding the time when such a course should be given. It has usually been assumed that it belongs to the first year

but this was queried, especially by Mr. Kirkham. The point is that when students first come to university they are full of enthusiasm for their chosen field, and are inclined to a naive belief in the possibility of discarding everything that does not have a simple and obvious relevance to it. At this time the resistance to language studies, especially by commerce and engineering students, is likely to be greatest.

A few years later they are likely to have discovered that a lack of command of language is a handicap even in their studies and arguments related to the needs of their profession as distinct from their studies, will have much more reality. The suggestion was made, therefore, that the communication course should be given towards the end of a degree course, not in the first year.

It was generally agreed that the formation of separate departments of communication was not desirable, at least for the present, and these courses should remain a function of the Department of English.

Two points must be noted, however. In the first place, if an additional teaching load is to be placed on these departments, they must be given additional staff in proportion. Secondly, care must be taken to build up the status of communication studies so that it is possible to make a serious career on this side of the department.

THE conference as a whole was most successful and from it there emerged a very encouraging picture of a highly dynamic state of affairs in our education, both in the schools and in the universities. Not only is there a ferment of new thought and experimentation but the new thought is being applied with vigour and imagination. All this augurs well for the future of the country.

Perhaps the most impressive thing about the conference was its harmonious and constructive character. The traditional recriminations between schools and universities, between teachers and departmental officials, between Arts and Sciences, and between literary men and linguists, were almost completely absent, and never once reached a pitch where they threatened to interfere with the constructive character of the conference.

I am inclined to think that the secret of the success of the conference in this particular regard lay in the fact that all of these diverse interests were fully represented. This was not merely an interdisciplinary conference, although it was that, it also bridged the gap between institutions and between professions; and between theoretician and practitioner. I believe that this is an approach which has an important future in all sorts of fields.

MEDICAL GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION DINNER



Class of 1942 honoured

THE 14th annual dinner organised by the Medical Graduates' Association was held on October 15 at the Cranbrooke Hotel, Johannesburg. The dinner was in honour of the Class of 1942 and their teachers. Seventy doctors and their wives attended.

Of the 92 doctors who graduated that year, five had died and many have established themselves in South Africa and elsewhere in Africa, as well as overseas.

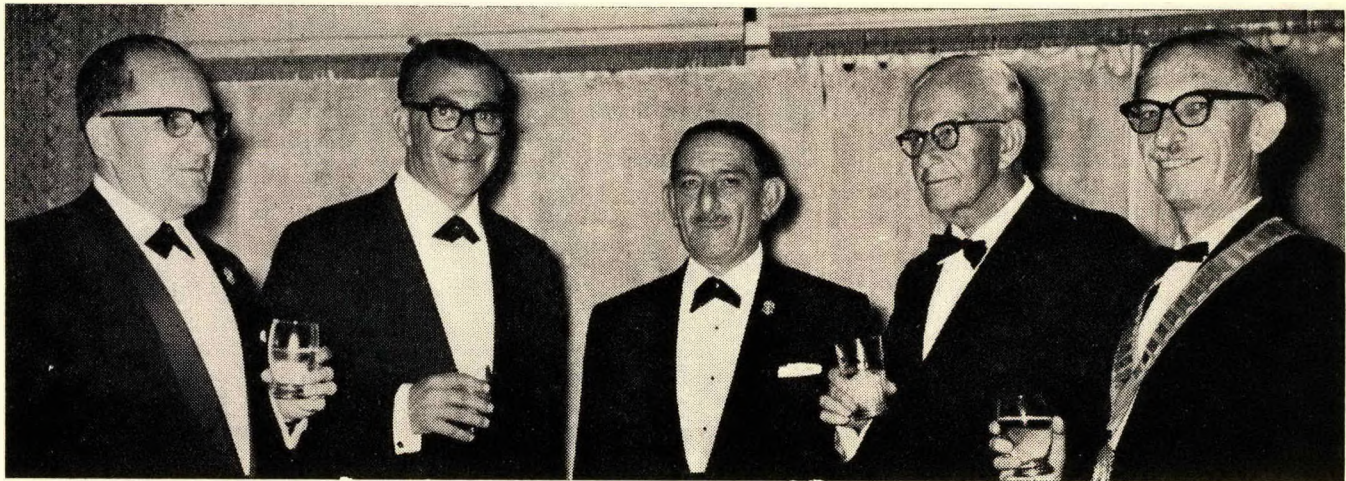
Twenty three members of the class assembled for cocktails before dinner, some having come from Cape Town, Durban, Welkom and Pretoria. The reunion of old classmates, some of whom had not met since graduating 24 years ago, is one of the main objects of the annual dinner and the get-together with their old teachers helps to build up a true alumni spirit.

Professor H. B. Stein, President of the Medical Graduates' Association for the third time and a founder member of the association in 1935, was in the chair. He welcomed the guests, who included the Chancellor, the Hon. O. D. Schreiner, Professor and Mrs. O. G. Backeberg, Professor and Mrs. F. Daubenton, Mr. and Mrs. A. de V. Herholdt, Mr. and Mrs. Max Tucker and Professor and Mrs. D. J. du Plessis. Professor and Mrs. G. R. Bozzoli attended the cocktail party.

The toast to the class was proposed by Dr. F. P. Reid, who was a clinical teacher in 1942 and is still on the staff of the Department of Medicine. He spoke of the danger of super-speciali-

Members of the Class of '42 who were the guests of honour at a dinner of the Medical Graduates' Association in Johannesburg. Left to right: (top row) Drs. P. N. Swanepoel (Pretoria), J. S. I. Pitcher and E. I. Blumberg (Johannesburg); (2nd row) Drs. J. Beder (Johannesburg), M. Stein (Durban) and J. G. W. Sutherland (Bloemfontein); (3rd row) Drs. J. N. P. Leonard (Benoni), L. J. G. Kruger (Springs), S. Block (Johannesburg); (4th row) Drs. I. Webster (Johannesburg), L. H. Walker (Durban), V. Gorvy, R. W. Morris and J. T. Jammy (Johannesburg); (5th row) Drs. B. W. Leinberger (Cape Town), N. G. de Moor, C. Freed, R. Drubin, S. Klemptman and A. J. Leonsins (Johannesburg).

Pictures on these pages by PAUL VINK



Left to right: Mr. I. Norwich (Past President), Dr. H. Solomon ('42), Dr. L. Slutzkin (Past President), the Chancellor, the Hon. O. D. Schreiner, and Prof. H. B. Stein, President.

WITS GRADUATE'S BOOK PUBLISHED IN JAPANESE

A MEDICAL book written by Dr. Leo Schamroth, M.B., B.Ch. 1948, M.D. 1965, physician to Baragwanath Hospital and the University, has become the first South African book of this nature to be translated into Japanese.

Dr. Schamroth completed the first edition of a book on electrocardiography in 1956. Since then three editions of the book have appeared and it has become a standard text-book in medical schools in a number of countries. Recently the Waseda University of Tokyo asked his permission to translate the work into Japanese. The book has now been printed in Japan.

The background research work was done at Baragwanath Hospital and during a year's research in electrocardiography in the United States.

He held a Fellowship in Cardiology at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, from 1959-1960, and read papers at the American congress of cardiology in

Philadelphia in 1959, the world congress in Mexico in 1962 and the European congress in Prague in 1964. He is to attend another world congress in New Delhi this month.

Dr. Schamroth is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and a Member of the Royal College of Physicians of Glasgow.

To mark the publication of the Japanese translation of his book, "An Introduction to Electrocardiography," Dr. J. Verster, Director of Hospital Services in the Transvaal, held a reception at Baragwanath Hospital on September 19.

Among those present were: Dr. R. S. Bauling, Deputy Director of Hospital Services, Professor G. A. Elliott, Professor of Medicine at the University, Professor J. H. Gear, Associate Professor of Medicine, and Mr. S. Ban, Vice Consul for Japan, who presented a copy of the translation to Dr. Schamroth.

sation which, he said, tended to destroy the human approach and the valuable patient- doctor relationship. He said he was happy that the class of '42 had maintained a high standard of judgment.

Dr. J. E. Irvine, who was President of the Student Medical Council in 1942, replied to the toast. He paid tribute to the teachers and the true insight into life which they had inculcated into their students.

The evening was rounded off with dancing. Convener of the dinner was Dr. Lippe Slutzkin, M.B., B.Ch., 1943, ex-President of the Medical Graduates' Association and at one time a member of the Executive Committee of Convocation.

MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE'S FIRST BOARD MEETING

The Board of the Museum of the History of Medicine held its first meeting at the Medical School on October 13. Left to right: Professor F. Daubenton, Professor Gear, Professor G. R. Bozzoli, Mrs. E. Adler, Dr. Cyril Adler (Hon. Director) and Dr. Harvey Cohen.



A POST-GRADUATE scholarship is to be established in memory of Dr. Edward Roux, M.Sc. 1926, former Head of the Department of Botany at the University, who died in March. The idea originated after he was banned from his post in December, 1964.

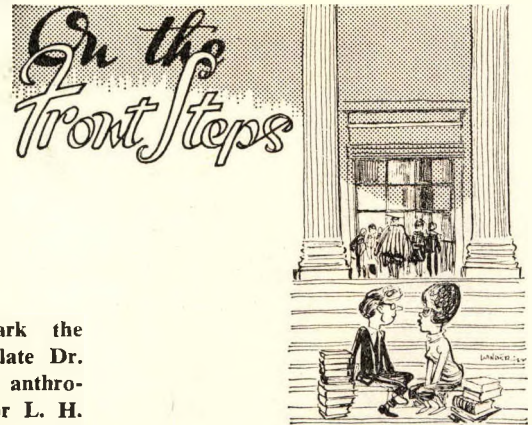
There is an urgent need for research in this field. Contributions should be sent to the Chairman, Fund-raising Committee for the Dr. Roux Scholarship, S.R.C. Office, University.

THE Hebrew Order of David, the largest Jewish fraternal organisation in South Africa, celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in October, 1964. To mark the occasion the Order made an endowment in 1965 for R4,600 to the University. The interest will be used to provide books of Jewish interest to augment the Dr. J. L. Landau collection and to provide books of Jewish interest for the Library.

Mr. G. Solarsh, B.Com. 1934, and **Dr. J. C. Lazarow**, B.D.S. 1933, were largely responsible for arranging for the bequest to be made to the University.

At the end of this year the first books bought from this endowment will be placed in the University Library and the Dr. J. L. Landau collection.

A miscellany of news at the University



A PUBLIC lecture to mark the centenary of the birth of the late Dr. Robert Broom, the celebrated anthropologist, was given by Professor L. H. Wells, Head of the Department of Anatomy, University of Cape Town, in the Wits Great Hall on October 19.

★

A FULL-TIME intensive postgraduate refresher course for general practitioners will be held at the Medical School from January 23 to 27.

The course, organised by the Medical Graduates' Association, will consist of practical demonstrations, ward rounds, symposiums and panel discussions on paediatrics, dermatology, psychiatry,

ophthalmology and orthopaedics, in addition to general medicine, surgery and obstetrics and gynaecology.

Applications to attend the course should be made to the Secretary, Medical Graduates' Association, Medical School, Hospital Street, Johannesburg, before December 15.

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"UMPA"

— as the Russian
from Tokyo knew it

A LETTER from Mr. Lewis Sowden, former Foreign Editor and dramatic and literary critic of the Rand Daily Mail, now living in Israel, has shed new light on the origin of "Umpa," the old Wits war cry.

Mr. Sowden, a graduate of Wits, wrote to a former colleague in Johannesburg:

"I was sitting recently at dinner in Tel Aviv with a party that included a Russian. After the second glass of wine, his native gloom had worn off and the Russian began to hum a tune. It was 'Umpa', to my astonishment. I stopped him and finished the tune myself.

"How come you know that?" he asked in some surprise.

"I said: 'That's just what I was going to ask you.'

"He explained that he had first heard it when he was a student in Tokyo, and he had learnt it from a Greek girl.

"He had always understood it was a students' song, and it was about a pretty undergrad. He sang it to me there and then, and it was at once obvious that this was the original of 'Umpa'.



Lewis Sowden in Tel Aviv.
(Cartoon by Winder,
Rand Daily Mail.)

"Our 'Umpa' is, in fact, a garbled or badly remembered version.

"Here is 'Umpa' as the Russian from Tokyo knew it:

*"Umba qui kelobi kelobassie
Umba qui, umba qua . . .
Umba qui kelobi kelobassie
Umba ke-lo-bassi-o . . .
O-chai-o oompa, O nicodemus,
O umba qui kelobi, kelobassie
Umba qua!"*

"He was not sure of the meaning of the words, but thinks they were proper enough."

At Wits Mr. Sowden took English and Roman Law as his major subjects for the B.A. degree (First Class), Honours in English (Second Class) and his M.A. degree with a thesis on "Modern English Drama" cum magna-laude.

He is now an English editor on a publishing house in Jerusalem called "The Israel Programme for Scientific Translations," which prepares books translated from many languages into English (and other tongues). These books and publications are "exported" for publication abroad. It is one of the largest publishing houses in the world — probably unique of its kind. Mr. Sowden "styles" and edits works translated into English.

His wife, Mrs. Dora Sowden, B.A. 1927, B.A. Hons. 1928, M.A. 1930, film and music critic of the Rand Daily Mail and also music critic of the Sunday Times, will join her husband in Israel next year.



★ CONVOCATION OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND

UMPA

UMPA QUONNI MONNI TENNI MONNI NASCI
UMPA QUA, UMPA QUA:

UMPA QUONNI MONNI TENNI MONNI NASCI
UMPA QUA LA NASERO.

O TECHNO TENO, O CHUMPA CHUMQUA

O CHUMPAE QUONNI MONNI TENNI MONNI NASCI
UMPA QUA.

TIME, GENTLEMEN, PLEASE . . .

THE tall young man serving in the bar at the Devonshire Hotel looked like a Wits student — and so it turned out to be. Bert Davids' part-time work as a barman was helping to pay his way through university. Another Wits student behind the bar counter was Murdoch Heidemann, son of the hotel owner.

In a corner of the bar there was a group of young men discussing a topic which unmistakably proclaimed their association with Wits and on another stool, talking about English literature, was a Wits lecturer.

There was a distinct, if not heavy, odour of Wits in the bar. This was not surprising because the Devonshire, on the corner of Jorissen and Melle Streets, Braamfontein, has been the "place of good cheer" for several generations of Wits students since the 1920s. There many a celebration was held, many an academic argument left unsettled.

Built in 1892, the Dev. is coming down this year to make way for a building which will continue the trend towards multi-storey structures in Braamfontein — an 18-storey block of offices and shops. A new Dev. will go up nearby.

With the demolition of the Devonshire another architectural link with the pioneering days of Johannesburg will be severed. Few reminders will remain of the hotel and

the people who patronised it when its wrought-iron balustrade was still a fashionable architectural feature.

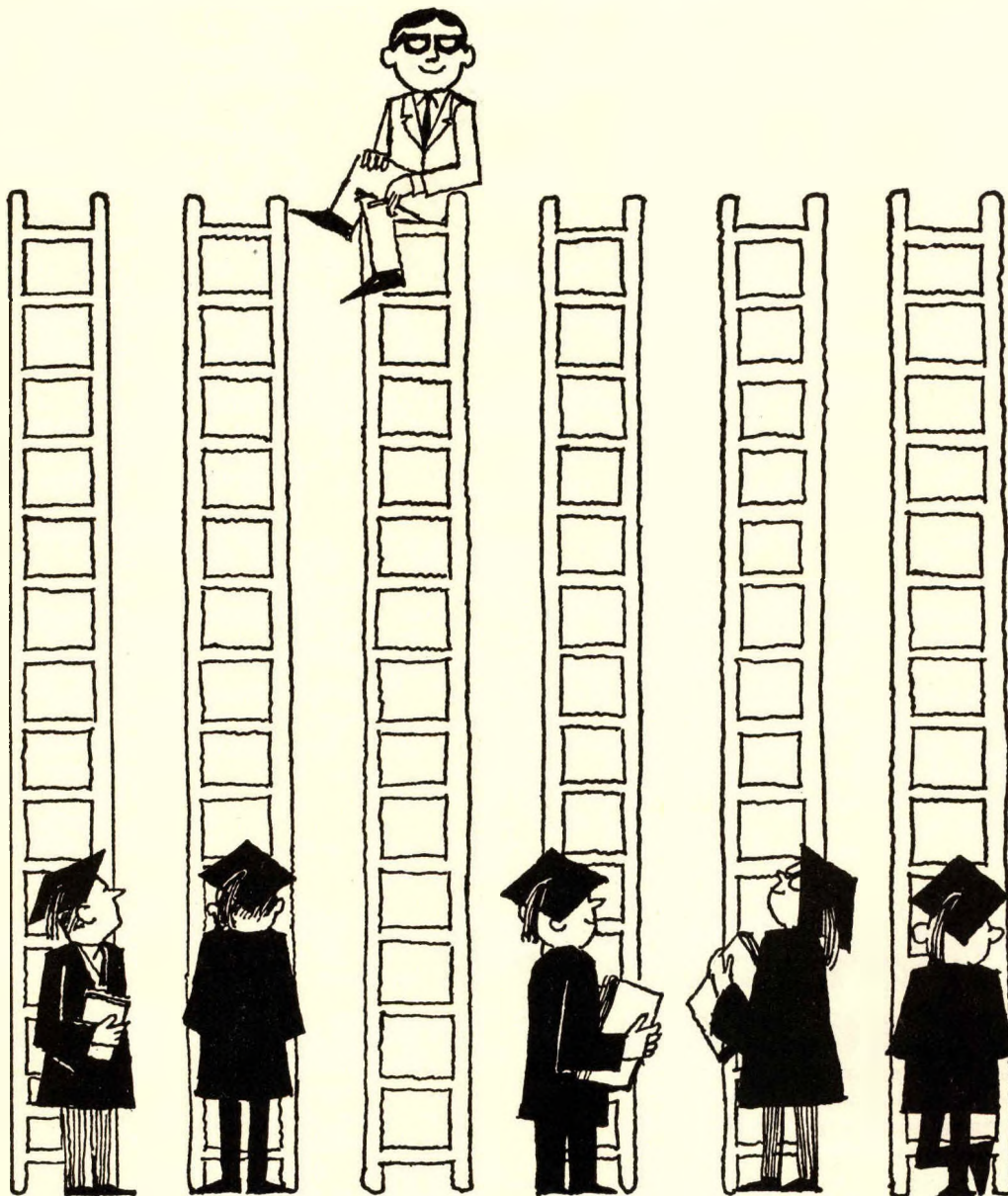
A 74-year-old wall clock will soon confirm for the last time that it is "Time, gentlemen" and tick away the rest of its mechanically useful "life" in the Africana Museum. Already there, is a photograph of men who met frequently at the hotel to discuss the affairs of their rifle club — men whose names have been perpetuated in street names in the neighbourhood — Melle, De Korte, Jorissen, Biccard . . .

Many Wits students stayed at the Dev. before residential accommodation was available at the university and one of the eminent men who had a room there was Judge Jeffreys, who was at that time a Wits lecturer.

Mr. Heidemann, owner of the hotel for about 26 years, told me that Dr. Carel de Wet, M.B., B.Ch. 1948, South Africa's Ambassador in London, used to drop in for a pint during his student days at Wits. Mr. Ben Schoeman, Minister of Transport, and his brother Corrie, at one time had offices opposite the hotel. They were estate agents and usually celebrated a good transaction at the Dev.

The association of past and present Wits students with the old Dev. is likely to continue in the new hotel to be built, which may have a bar exclusively for "academic conviviality."

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ONE hears a great deal about teaching methods in our universities. This is usually coupled, of course, with the high failure rate. This column is not the place to elaborate on the theme, but during my visit to the U.S.A. last year, I heard of a rather curious business organisation run by one man in Berkeley, California, who provides a service to the students of the famous university in that city.

He sells printed lecture notes to students at 5.50 dollars for a term, and notes taken in previous years at a reduced price.

As I was more interested in discussing alumni business with the university's alumni director and attending a most interesting seminar on the teaching of science to eight-year-olds, I did not manage to follow up this intriguing idea of a lecture-notes factory. Recently, however, I received the June issue of the California Monthly, the alumni magazine of the California Alumni Association at Berkeley. In it was a most informative article on this subject written by Dorothy Stomp, who holds a master's degree in journalism.

In 1934 Fybate Lecture Notes was founded by two enterprising students, twin brothers. They paid good students a dime for the use of their notes which they copied and sold at a small profit. When the twins graduated they sold their interest to a woman who employed the present owner, Mr. Thomas Winnett, as a note-taker and then editor. Today he employs about a dozen students as note-takers.

The article describes how Mr. Winnett selects his helpers. About 60 applicants "filed into the office of Thomas Winnett, editor and owner of Fybate Lecture Notes. They sat in rows of chairs lined up in classroom style and listened to Winnett give them a lecture on the usage of English. Then he read them an article while they took notes."

After this session they left "to organise their notes into coherent, efficient English

By **S. S. ISRAELSTAM**
(Hon. Director of
Alumni Affairs)

and turn them in by noon the next day." The applicants who pass this test (about half of them) attend the first day of lectures to take notes and after these are reviewed, Mr. Winnett selects his dozen or so note-takers for the term. Sales of notes amount to about 1,000 dollars a day during the first week of term.

Winnett usually covers only those courses where the number of students exceed 300.

Students seem to like the idea of buying "ready-made" notes, but the academic staff are either neutral or against the idea. However, nothing is done to stop Mr. Winnett, who maintains that his "knowledge factory" helps to keep down the failure rate!

AS readers of this column know, I am Chairman of the Wits Alumni Fund, which in five years has given about R70,000 to our Alma Mater. Our campaign chairman for this year, Mr. Douglas Roberts, hit on the idea of showing Wits alumni that what any of us paid in fees as students, was only about 30-40 per cent. of what it cost to educate us during our undergraduate days. Our appeal pamphlet has aroused a good deal of interest and donations, big and small, have been streaming in day after day.

Fairly often, letters commending Convocation's enterprise in regard to our alumni fund accompany donors' cheques. But now and then, someone finds an argument as to why he or she shouldn't give. The following records a conversation I had with an alumnus a little while ago. His name, well, let me call him Fred.

We met by chance in the bar of Kelvin House and our meeting was quite enthusiastic because we hadn't seen each other for many years. He was quite

well-to-do, having established and persevered with a very progressive engineering business. It did not take us long to get talking about Wits, what it did and what it should do. He then turned to me and said, "This alumni fund of yours. I don't like this new approach!"

"Why, what is wrong with it?" I asked.

"Well," he answered, "You show us a chart indicating that we paid much less in fees than it cost to train us, the implication being we owe the university money! I have had this appeal in a big way. I shall not give it a cent."

"Tell me," I said, "have you ever given to the fund?" "Me?" He looked at me as if I were crazy even to ask such a question. "Why should I?"

In as calm a manner as I could muster, I tried to tell him what plans Wits had to make progress and that this needed money. He interrupted: "Look here, Sam, when I went to Wits I was told what the fees were and I paid them. The University set the price, not me! When I graduated I owed them nothing. If your Council does not know how to run a business that's not my fault.

"Just imagine what you'd say if the salesman who sold you your car were to phone you and say, Professor, you know that car we sold you last year — you owe us another R800. We didn't charge you enough! Please send us your cheque by return!"

I just looked slightly startled.

MY friend took a gulp of beer and this gave me my opportunity. "Now Fred, just listen to me for a bit," I said. "You have been to a university. Your eldest son, you were telling me, wants to go to Wits next year to study medicine. Now, universities are not businesses and do not try to make a profit."

Fred put his glass on the counter with a bang and interrupted: "That's just the trouble with universities. They are run by a lot of professors who are stuck in

an ivory tower."

"Oh, no, Fred. You are wrong! First of all the financial side of the University is controlled by the Council which is constituted mainly of businessmen and industrialists who are imbued with the ideals of higher education, but while helping to run the University in a most business-like way, are not there to run it as a business to make money. The only profit motive is the intellectual one, that is to ensure that the relatively untrained mind that enters the University should leave it well trained and disciplined so that its owner can be a real asset to himself and to the community.

"The University cannot just rely on tuition fees to run the institution in the way you, or I or any reasonable alumnus or alumna would like to see it run. I bet that if the only source of revenue to the University were tuition fees, you and hundreds of others like you could never have afforded to get a degree. Even with the Government subsidy and tuition fees, Wits is not able to provide all the books for our Library which we need, or all the modern research apparatus and equipment for our staff and postgraduates or enough money for scholarships to enable many more of our most academically deserving students to continue with postgraduate work

either at Wits or elsewhere."

Fred, I saw, was beginning to look much less belligerent.

"You know, Sam," he said, "you're right. I never thought of a university in that way. I suppose I have been out of touch with the world of higher learning. I suppose running a business in a highly competitive field tends to

make one a bit narrow."

He drank the rest of his beer and looked at his watch. "Gosh, it's late. I must run! You'll be hearing from me!"

A few days later I did. He sent me a nice cheque and a short note which read, "I have seen the light. May Wits prosper!"

Conference of Convocations held at Durban

THE third conference of Convocations of several South African universities was held at the University of Natal, Durban, in August.

The conference was opened by Mr. R. N. Leon, Q.C., President of the Convocation of the University of Natal.

Professor S. S. Israelstam, Hon. Director of Alumni Affairs, who with Miss C. Smith, secretary, represented Wits, addressed the conference on his visit to American alumni associations last year.

Professor O. P. F. Horwood, Principal of the University of Natal, addressed delegates at a private luncheon in the University Union. A cocktail party was

given in the evening.

Delegates included: Mr. J. C. Potgieter (Univ. of South Africa, Director of Development); Mr. C. H. Cilliers (Pretoria, Liaison Officer); Mr. G. P. J. du Toit (O.F.S., Registrar); Prof. C. W. Mostert (Chairman of Bloemfontein Past Students' Reunion); Mr. H. van Huyssteen, Port Elizabeth, Registrar; Prof. C. H. van Rooy (Potchefstroom, President of Convocation); Mr. H. M. Robinson (Potchefstroom, Co-Director of Development); Mr. D. Fourie (U.C.T., Principal's Liaison Officer); Mrs. Lloyd (U.C.T.); Prof. H. L. Watts (Rhodes, Durban representative); Mr. J. M. de Wet and Mr. G. W. M. Rodel (Natal).

**LIFTS BY
OTIS**

...THE
WISE
CHOICE

WHEN he retires from the University of the Witwatersrand in December, Professor J. S. Marais, Head of the Department of History, will look back on a distinguished academic career of 41 years.

But he has no intention of going out to grass. First, in February, next year, he will take up a British Council invitation to spend a month at London University.

The grant on which he will make the trip is reserved for distinguished university scholars.

Professor Marais, who is regarded overseas as one of South Africa's foremost historians, will speak at seminars at London University and will also meet staff members and postgraduate students interested in South African history.

Second, he will write a sequel to his book, "Fall of Kruger's Republic," having been asked to do so by the Oxford University Press which published his first work, "The Colonisation of New Zealand," his thesis for his Oxford D.Phil. more than 40 years ago.

And after that? Professor Marais smiled when the question was put to him. "The Kruger Republic book took me ten years to complete. Of course, the sequel should not take as long as that. What I do after that will depend on what the new book leads me to."

Although Professor Marais spent two years at Wits. in the 1920s after his return from five years in England and Europe, it was not until 1945 that he renewed his association with the University.

He returned then as head of the History Department and will thus have completed 22 years in the Chair.

BORN and bred in Paarl, he went on to the old South African College from Paarl Boys' High School and took his B.A. degree at the new University of Cape Town, which grew out of Sacs, in 1918.

There was no Honours B.A. then so he went straight on to his M.A., which he took a year later in classics.

He had been influenced by his cousin, Professor T. J. Haarhoff, in favour of classics.

And it was Professor Haarhoff, too, who finally turned him towards history. His cousin had sensed that the study of classics in South Africa might have a limited future, partly because he recognised the difficulties of doing thorough research in this country.

Professor Marais entered New College,

Prof. J.S. Marais leaves Wits after 22 years



Oxford, in 1920 to read history. Two years later he took his B.A. Honours and then did his New Zealand thesis for his D.Phil.

The O.U.P. published the thesis on the recommendation of Professor Marais' supervisor, Sir Reginald Coupland.

The work is still used by historians in New Zealand.

Before returning to South Africa and to a junior history lectureship at Wits in June 1925, Professor Marais spent some time in France and Germany mainly to learn the languages.

His professor at Wits was Professor W. M. Macmillan. Miss Margaret Hodgson (later Mrs. Ballinger, M.P.) was the senior history lecturer.

In 1927 Professor Marais became Senior Lecturer in history at Cape Town.

He spent 17 happy and profitable years at Cape Town where he published two books, "The Cape Coloured People—1652 to 1937" and "Maynier and the First Boer Republic," which dealt with the beginnings of the clash between Boer and Bantu on the eastern frontier.

Four hundred copies of the first book had been sold when the rest of the edition was destroyed when German bombers hit the Longmans warehouse in London.

Since then it has been reprinted twice by the Witwatersrand Press.

The Maynier book has also been reprinted.

IN 1945 Professor Marais came to Wits as Head of the History Department, succeeding Professor Leo Fouché. The actual staff of the department has not increased — there are two senior lecturers and a junior assistant — but student numbers have doubled since 1946.

Among Professor Marais' staff have been Dr. Arthur Keppel-Jones, now a professor of Queen's College, Kingston, in Canada, and Mrs. Joan Raikes, who is Principal of Roedean.

One of his students who did his M.A. at Wits and also assisted in the department after graduation, Noel Garson, will take over the Chair in January.

A number of other former students in the department became history lecturers. They include Miss Ethel Druce, now at the University of Hull, Dr. Donovan Williams (University of Natal, Durban), Mr. C. de B. Webb (University of Natal, Maritzburg) and Mrs. May Katzen, now lecturing in England.

Professor Marais has made several

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Prof. Marais looks back

overseas trips — in 1951, in 1958 as a Commonwealth Fellow attached to the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, and in 1964.

He was also invited to Wisconsin University, but had to turn down the invitation because he had just returned from abroad and felt he could not ask Wits for further leave.

One development Professor Marais has noticed particularly over the years is the tendency for the best students to move away from the arts and into faculties like engineering and medicine.

"That is where the rewards lie," he says.

As for the state of history teaching in South Africa, Professor Marais says: "All we can do here as far as South African history is concerned is deal with it in a perfectly objective manner, looking at all sides of a question.

"We must leave the rest to fate. What the school history teachers who pass through our hands do with it is

their concern and the concern of the Education Department.

"If we can teach them the proper approach and how to ferret out the truth for themselves and distinguish between the good and the meretricious, biased work, we have discharged our responsibility to them."

RESearch facilities in South African history are very good for English-speaking students, says Professor Marais.

"What still has to be done are the Afrikaans-Dutch sources — particularly on the relations between Boer and Bantu and the history of the republics with considerable emphasis again on Boer-Bantu relations.

"No good book has appeared yet on the Native policy of the South African Republic, particularly in its later years—the period after 1870."

We asked Professor Marais what aspects of South African history were still awaiting definitive treatment by the historians.

He said a great deal of work still had to be done on the early periods — the 17th and 18th centuries. One of the difficulties for English-speaking scholars was that most of the original documents were in Dutch.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where are they now?

From **C. W. Hurd, B.Com. 1929**, of Northwold Drive, Saxonwold, Johannesburg:

IN your July Convocation Commentary, you published a photograph of the 1924 Students' Representative Council. Among those in the photograph is Mr. H. G. Durand and his address is given as unknown.

Mr. Durand was headmaster of a school for retarded children in Auckland Park, Johannesburg, and died some years ago.

★

From **H. A. Whitecross, B.A. 1932**, of Lynwood Gardens, The Ring, Lynwood, Pretoria.

MISS J. BERMANT, B.A. 1926, a member of the 1924 S.R.C., lives in Salisbury, Rhodesia. Her address: P.O. Box 154, Salisbury 5.

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Prof. Birley at Bloemfontein dinner

THE second Wits Alumni dinner of the Bloemfontein and O.F.S. Wits Alumni Club was held in Bloemfontein on Saturday, September 17. More than 70 graduates attended from all parts of the Free State, the oldest graduate being from the 1925 group and the youngest from the 1966 group.

Professor R. Birley, Visiting Professor of Education, was the guest speaker. He spoke on "The Problem of Examinations."

Professor S. S. Israelstam, Hon. Director of Alumni Affairs, who accompanied Professor Birley, gave a short account of the progress made by the Wits Alumni Fund, which started in 1961 at R10,555 and in 1965 reached a total of R15,768.

Mr. D. G. Conradie, a member of the committee, proposed a vote of thanks to the two guests of honour.



At the Wits Alumni Club dinner in Bloemfontein (left to right): Professor S. S. Israelstam, Mrs. W. Aronstam (Hon. Secretary), Dr. R. Birley (guest speaker), Mrs. J. G. Joshua, Mr. Joshua and Mr. Aronstam.

Prof. Kantorowich at Durban

PROFESSOR ROY KANTOROWICH, a Wits graduate (B. Arch. 1939) now Professor of Town Planning at Manchester University, addressed the annual general meeting of the Durban Wits Alumni Club on August 15.

Professor Kantorowich, who is one of the overseas experts engaged by the Durban City Council to replan the central city area, spoke on "Planning Ahead and a Head for Planning." Dr. R. J. Neutra, the Australian-born architectural authority, who was touring the country

at the invitation of the South Africa Foundation, was also at the meeting.

Mr. W. Lowenberg was re-elected Chairman of the Alumni Club, Dr. A. Broomberg, Vice-Chairman, Mr. I. Morris, Secretary and Mrs. B. Baise, Treasurer.

Wits Alumni Fund

By mid-November R13,300 had been contributed to the Wits Alumni Fund for 1966-67. The target is R25,000.

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Wits alumni in the news

The new
Minister
of Justice,
Mr. P. J.
Pelser



Mr. P. J. Pelser, LL.B. 1937, formerly Deputy Speaker of the House of Assembly and Chairman of Committees, was appointed Minister of Justice and of Prisons in September.

Mr. Pelser, M.P. for Klerksdorp, took his B.A. degree through the University of South Africa. He worked in the civil service and farmed before becoming an attorney. He is now a partner in a Klerksdorp firm.

In 1951 he was elected to the Transvaal Provincial Council and two years later he entered Parliament. He is the only Wits graduate in the Cabinet.

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Dr. Joel Mandelstam, B.Sc. 1941, B.Sc. Hons. 1942, has been appointed Professor of Microbiology at Oxford University.

Dr. Mandelstam, who lectured in the Department of Anatomy at Wits, went to Britain in 1947 and gained a Ph.D. in biochemistry at the University of London. He then joined the National Institute of Medical Research in London, concentrating on bacteria. With others, he helped to shed light on how penicillin checks bacterial growth.

At Oxford he will teach, and continue his main line of research.

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Dr. C. W. Wright, B.Sc. 1926, Chairman of the Technical Advisory and Planning Committee of the South African National Tuberculosis Association, has been appointed SANTA's Senior Director of Planning.

He is the only South African member of the World Commission for Occupational Rehabilitation and is also a member of the National Council for Social Research.

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Dr. John J. Brink, B.Sc. Hons. 1957, formerly of the University of Michigan, has become Assistant Professor of Biochemistry at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Born in India and brought up in South Africa, Dr. Brink received a B.Sc. degree in zoology and psychology from the University of Orange Free State in 1956 and an Honours degree in Zoology from Wits. In 1962, he was awarded a Ph.D. degree in biochemistry from the University of Vermont.

For the next two years he served as a research biochemist at Stanford Research Institute, Menlo Park, California, and until he joined the Clark Faculty was an assistant research biochemist at the Mental Health Research Institute of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Dr. Brink's fields of special research include biochemical mechanisms of anti-metabolite action in tumor cells and biochemical correlates of memory formation in the goldfish. His most recent study, "Memory Fixation in the Goldfish," appeared in the 1965 edition of Procedures of the National Academy of Sciences.

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Mr. J. I. Zucker, B.Sc. 1965, B.Sc. Hons. 1966, former lecturer in the Department of Mathematics at the University, has been awarded a Fellowship at Stanford University, California, for postgraduate study in mathematics.

This year he received the Unico Chemical Company Gold Medal for the best Honours graduate in the Faculty of Science.

Mr. H. C. Nicholas, B.A. 1936, LL.B. 1940, S.C., has been appointed an Acting Judge in the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court until the end of the year.

Mr. Nicholas was admitted to the Johannesburg Bar in 1940 but did not practise until July, 1945. During the Second World War he was an Intelligence officer in the South African Air Force in North Africa and Italy. He took silk in 1962.

Mr. Nicholas was leading counsel for the defence in the Coalbrook Colliery disaster trial and a member of the defence team in the Treason Trial. He was defence counsel in the recent trial of Harold Strachan.

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Dr. Stanley Levin, M.B., B.Ch. 1945, has been appointed Visiting Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Denver, for a year. He was a Fellow in Pediatrics at the University of Colorado Medical Centre from 1951 to 1953.

Dr. Levin, who is 45, served his internship at the Johannesburg General Hospital and was the hospital's chief surgical resident from 1947 to 1948.

Since 1948 Dr. Levin has been in Israel, where, after military service, he was appointed Chief of the Pediatric Services in the Government Hospital in Tiberias. On completing his training at the University of Colorado Medical Centre in pediatrics and in particular in the poliomyelitis training programme, he returned to Israel and established himself as a leading clinical pediatrician. From 1957 to 1959, Dr. Levin was a research fellow in pediatrics at the Sinai Hospital, Baltimore, and the Johns Hopkins University Medical School.

More recently he has been the Chief of Pediatrics and Pediatric Research at the Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot, which is affiliated with the Hebrew University Medical School, and is actively engaged in the pediatric training programme of medical students.

While in Denver, Dr. Levin will also take part in the research and clinical programmes of the Children's Asthma Research Institute and Hospital.

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Mr. Marcel Berlins, B.Com. 1962, LL.B. 1964, who is reading international law at the Sorbonne, recently gave a lecture on South African law at the Palace of Justice in Paris. The lecture was arranged by the Institute of Barristers of Paris.

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