

HILLS, MALCOLM, STUDENT, UNDERGRADUATE REP. ON COUNCIL

Student 1952-1956 - Arts Dip.Ed.

After war new people coming into the University. Wanted parity of standing and salary with other Aust. universities.

C.R.T.S. students. Peter McManus, 1st student rep. on Council was (probably) one of these.

Students then were a-political - amazing that the authorities saw them as subversives and anarchists, whereas in fact they were a mouselike lot.

075+ Description of conditions in student union etc; and staff studies and facilities.

090 Description of male urinals!

see 450 Geoff Miller got Rhodes that year.
Students discovered that in 1949, 300,000 pounds budgeted for transferring to Sandy Bay site. John Clark missed out on Rhodes scholarship because of his work as Editor of Togatus that year. (1954?) Furore when Togatus publicised this money situation ("misappropriated"?).

140 Sallying forth to Parliament House - breaching Parliamentary privilege - interesting anecdote about article re 300,000 pounds left on seats of parliamentarians!
Role of McPartland before giving his casting vote to Enquiry - and alleged response of Roy Fagan.

200 Ambiguous role of Prof. Townsley. Rift between Malcolm McRae and Prof. Townsley. Cause of Townsley's irritation with ORR" a demarcation dispute.

+ Staff Association Action Committee. McRae Sec. Townsley a member - passing information on to Vice-Chancellor. T. having failed to get Chair of History, the U.C. created a Chair of Political Science and filled it immediately - without advertising - by appointing Townsley. Attitude of V-C to "student activism" and Togatus.
But students genuinely wanted improvement in very bad physical condition of buildings.

Lunchtime series of meetings at time of referendum on banning communist party - speakers included Sir Eric Harrison and Dr Evatt - speakers and

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meetings suggested to Pol. Science Society by Prof. Townsley (who was patron. M. Hills president) - but became a "hot issue" and Hills and John Clark dubbed subversives. Polarisation led to no one talking politics and no political clubs.

- 280 Last issue 1954 - a special issue of Togatus to publish certain information. No money to publish, anonymous donations coming in, John Clark (of N.I.D.A.) is person with most inside information about this extraordinary story. [Jump to end 1955?]
- ?? The role of Prof. Sam Carey and his attitude to Orr. One Bentham "shut up" by other side, who subpoenaed and then didn't call him. Difficulty of being allowed to "tell what you knew" when opposed by clever counsel.
- 440 The kinds of people who became involved in the SRC.
- 455 Attempt to unseat Mr Hills as President of SRC.
- 480 J. Brasil as editor of Togatus - world circulation! Attempts by V-C to censor Togatus.
- 515 Prof. Hardie of Education Faculty threatening Mr Hills with failure if he didn't resign from outside activities. Prof. Hardie a close friend of Professor Hytten. H. failed Dip.Ed., was to be sent to Queenstown, got job at The Friends School. Then Ed. Dept. offered Hobart H.S. job. Invited to stay on a second year at Friends. During that year Univ. Council invited Wm. Oats of Friends School to join Council. [Check: was he (Oats) a member earlier? some doubt about this sequence of events].
- 050 Effort to get P. McManus and M. Hills removed from Council meetings.
- 070 "It doesn't need two of us from the one school on the University Council".
- [IS THIS BELIEVABLE?]
- Did The Mercury encourage an enquiry on the University when they thought they were the Labor Government - and then back-pedal when they discovered the U.C. was Tasmanian Establishment ???

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- 110 H. given choice of staying at Friends, or with his extra-curricular activities: took job history-teaching at Hutchins.
- 170 Resigned from U.C. in 1959 when joined Foreign Affairs in Canberra.
- 175 1955. Prime Minister Menzies to open Student Union in Tas. Pre-MURRAY Commission on Universities local colour. Murray in Tasmania.
- 220 More about Orr; and Council relations with staff and students. Council "looking for someone to hang for these impertinences" - strong sense of affront on part of Council at people daring to criticize or question or "misbehave".
- 325 Sir John Morris "exercised" too much authority as a lay chairman".
- ? There were troubles with the Adult Education Board ... Leslie Greener resigned as a result ... "The V-C played little part in situations where Sir John Morris was present".
- 360 Prof. Pitman peculiarly vindictive, bigoted and self-righteous.
- 380 Effect of Royal Commission on Council.
Suggestion that Commissioners "came round" to see the justice of staff - student case, after initial assumption that the Council was being unfairly attacked.
- 425 Reference to special issue of Togatus at end of 1954 which contained information that the U.C. didn't like [see Side A 280].
Donation of 100 pounds from Plymouth Brethren member, also Professor King and others - towards cost of this special issue of Togatus.
- 500 "A witch-hunt to mark those people who were not with them".

[All this section a serious attack on the U. Council. Hard to know whether exaggerated / paranoid. I am inclined to think there is more than a little substance.]

The appeal for the Student Union building - effort to make Tas. more like the free university of Western Australia.

The appeal was "the biggest Art Union that had ever been held in Tasmania".

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Side A ?? Treasurer?? Donated a pony. Other city firms donated cars,
New Tape refrigerators etc, etc.

[Sir] Peter Lloyd of Cadburys and EZ competitive offers - P. Lloyd joining Univ. Council and subsequently becoming Chairman of Finance Committee. "Pushed to become Vice-Chancellor at one stage". Later changed his attitude of friendliness to M. HILLS.

100 Union building project - early development. Attempt to involve Cosgrove Govt. on pound for pound basis. Cosgrove saw it as easy way of making political capital at no cost to himself - never thought he would have to match the 25,000 pounds the students had to raise.

160 "Lot of money which should have but never did get to your appeal" - but got into V-C's Hytten Hall appeal instead. [ref. Geoff Harrison].

195 "I still - even now - am amazed to think of the effort that went into trying to denigrate people such as John Clark, Jim Brasil, myself, Jill Carrington Smith, Professor Orr. ... In my own case there was so little I could do - I really didn't have the power ..."

More than 25,000 pounds raised by students. Appeal launched by Sir Robert Menzies.

The monster Ball.

255 "A question of getting the building off the ground".

END