SUSS

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EDITORIAL

The ASF Conference was the time and place for appraisal of Speleology up to 1960 and a glimpse of Speleology to come. I felt, sitting in that stewingly hot YMCA camp shed that ${\bf I}$ was witnessing a basically Speleological meeting such as has always been held and will always be held, like a prayer meeting or a speech day.

Speleology in Australia has changed very little, and why should it when it is sound and practical. Speleology here is net carried on with the same intensity, scientificness, and professionalism, which is accompanied by expensive probing scientific equipment and a good deal of publicity. It lacks a bevy of scholars and scientists who have been churning out papers since 1930 on matters related to speleology

This is because Speleology in Australia is relatively a tiny tot, there hasn't been time for this type of person to grow up in speleology and confer on it the aura of prestige itenjoys in Britain, Europe and America. Other factors in the retardation of its growth are the immenseness of the distances compared with the smallness of the population, but the mushrooming of small, keen societies will help to advance the barriers of knowledge into the great unknown, crying Speleology Alive! Alive 0!

The next General Meeting of SUSS will be held on THURSDAY February 2nd at 7.30 p.m. in the 3rd Year Lab. on the third floor of the New Geography Building, Manning Road, University of Sydney

Adgenda: 1: Opening by the President in the Chair

2: Confirmation of minutes of last General Meeting.

3: Correspondence and business arising.

4: Reports: Treasurer.

ASF Conference.

5: General Business

Notice of motions etc. ASF Conference Circulars Irresponsibles etc.

Ropes

Gropes Gripes. THE NEXT GENERAL MEET-

ING: FEBRUARY 2nd. NEW GEOG. BUILDING

3rd Yr.Lab. !!

Several erroneous statements concerning Jeff Hinwood and SUSS Productions were made in the last circular. I hope to rectify all mistakes made as pointed out to me in letters from both Hinwoods.

Jeff is concerned about the circulation of various rumours suggesting bad managership by himself and Jon, alleging that losses were made due to incorrect bookkeeping and sales losses made due to delays in despatching orders. These are groundless, orders dropping off due to failure of or delay of supplies of slides. The minutes of a past committee meeting also state

incorrectly that the books were kept according to Mr. Hinwood's instructions. A further incorrect allegation in the minutes was lack of interest by Jeff.

The above points were the ones about which Jeff requested an apology or a note in the minutes to mark them incorrect. He did not ask the meeting to adjudicate, and he has not withdrawn his request for an apology. There is nothing for a Business Management Consultant to investigate.

And that's where it stands.

I would like to bring to your notice the good work done by our Jenny Tomlinson in the field of exploration. Jenny has led several trips to Jenolan over the last few months and on one of these an extension to the Glass Cave was discovered on 27-11-60. Jenny claims discovery because of the complete absence of detrimental marking in the pale flowstone floor, and because a boulder was removed to enter the extension.

The extension is entered through a horizontal squeeze four feet long, leading from the floor of a cavern situated to the right of the foot of the ladder in the Glass Cave. The passage is narrow.

The extension consists of two caverns 7xl0xl0 to 15 feet, separated by a dip in the roof. A third small chamber 3x5 feet is situated at the end of and above the first entered cavern and is connected to it by a squeeze. Formation is good, consisting of white to pink flowstone, stalactites, and crystalline fldors in 3 and in part of 1.

squeza 1 12 diffing roof

TRIPS: Bungonia; Jan. 28-30. Ian Williams, JY1694. To look at newly discovered sections of the FOSSIL.
Tuglow; Jenny Tomlinson, Feb4-5. XX7105. TUGLOW TUGLOW TUGLOW

Orientation week revels will be held in the PNR on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday, with the usual talks, slides etc. Further, a semi-social symposium evening which will concern itself with Jenolan, will be organised by Jon and Marian Hinwood. The place? Thursday of Orientation Week. The time? 3rd Yr. Lab. New Geog. The food? is provided.

Again I exhort, beseech, order, and beg you to enlist your services with Glen Chandler, Phone or present yourself at the Science Road table.DARLING we need you, more than that mannequin needs your tomatoes.....

X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X

May I say a word about ropes in homely spun NYLON. Discussed and rejected at the ASF Conference, by the Safety Committee, on the advice of Alpinists as being fusible, frayable, and too springy. However Jon Hinwood BE (Syd.) who has tested exhaustively all manner of ropes claims all sorts of advantages for nylon over natural fibres.(1)Belaying conditions in caving are different to those in rock climbing. A fall of at most a few feet can be expexted with a properly conducted belay in a cave, as opposed to one of up to 50 ft. and more in rock climbing. The shock is thus much less, and the spring, far from being a disadvantage, softens the shock on the body.(2)With 10 inch circumference rope as used by SUSS, the factor of safety is enormous, and the chance of knots fusing is diminished as compared with thinner ropes by the greater bulk of rope. A fused section of this rope would quickly cool to give a rigid bar of nylon.(4)The wet strength of nylon far exceeds that of natural fibres.

Terylene rope is less susceptible to fusing, but is far more expensive than nylon. So..... Yrs. Elizabeth de Burgh Hon. Sec.

IRRESPONSIBLE RUSHES INTO PRINT!

O President Peck his views has expressed; In all of SUSS history his screed is the best. To save SUSS repute's his ostensible aim But ugazziniz perhaps egomania's really his game. He'll squash anybody who questions his law But his own peccedillos he'll gladly ignore.

The attached communication was mailed to selected members of SUSS by the President. It is quite transparently is designed to muster a "stack" to this meeting so that some as yet unspecified disciplinary action can be taken against certain members who are alleged to be irresponsible. The President describes this irresponsibility in the responsition. The Freshdent testories this irresponsibility in the vaguest possible terms, but no doubt he has a vast supply of facts ready to put before the meeting, and if he runs true to the form he displayed at the last Committee meeting, we can expect to see mountains of malediction made from molebills of minutiae.

Whether you as a member are annoyed or merely emused by this high-handed action, the fact remains that it is only one of a series of such actions by the President, which prompts me to ask the following quastions:

(1) Why did the President take it on himself to write the minutes of the last G.M., when such action is clearly beyond his preserv

(ii) Why has he persistently obstructed attempts by members to have the rough copy of the minutes restoord to the Secretary?

(iii) Having written these minutes himself, why did he give them to the Assistant Secretary only to remove them from the Assistant Secretary's house while the was unattended?

(iv) Why did he suppress a circular put out by the Secretary and substitute one of his own making, despite the fact that he has stated that, over him own signature that he has no power to do such a

(v) Having issued his own circular, why was he at such great pains to have it kept segret?

K.A.Stillmen



roads penning a decision on the Society's fature as you are no doubt aware, SUSS visits the Tourist cave areas by right. The persons who decide whether SUSS is to be permitted to visit these areas, base their decision on the Society's reputation. But the past year or two has seen the rise of a new cult in SUSS, known as the Cult of Irresponsibility. It is bad enough that these self styled "Irresponsibles" often abuse the Society's Privileges, but what is far worse, they broadcast full details of their escapades far and wide, and even add a few fictitious details to give extra spice to their stories. A few "Irresponsibles" openly state that they couldn't care less if, because of their activities, SUSS was banned from these caving areas, and certainly, unless some action is taken soon, this could easily result.

Not content with using word of mouth to harm the Socity's reputation, the "Irresponsibles" have rushed into print. Their latest effort (which probably reached you in mid-December) was a poorly produced, immature and not always even factual political screed; not expressing Society Policy, although it bore the Club's name, but one individual's views. It attempted to wash all the SUSS dirty linen in public, and carried a juvenile "advertisement" of doubtful taste. I shudder to think how the Society's stocks would have crashed in the eyes of the Tourist Department, Mr. Dunnill at Cliefden Caves and the Australian Speleological Federation had they received the copies the secretary intended them to get.

I consider that behavior at caving areas calculated to affewd the authorities in charge of these areas, or calculated to give a bad impression of the Society, is irreconcilable with Aims of SUSS as set out in the Constitution, and indeed with the sim of any bens fide Speleological Society. As I understand the Position, the self-styled Elrresponsibles have either their own highly distinctive interpretation of the Aims of SUSS, or no regard for them at all. Some go so far as to make no secret of their disregard of the Society's Rules and virtually challenge the Society to pin something on them if it can,

One of the leaders of the "Irresponsibles" who was elected (at the last poorly attended general Meeting), the Society's voting spokesman to the A.S.F., Camberra conference, inter alia, apparently disregarded a Society instruction and voted against the only SUSS member to be a candidate in the A.S.F. Executive Elections. The next general meeting will hear his reasons, which he assured the Committee took 16 hours to think up.

To sum up, this cult of irresponsibility is a centerous growth, and anti-social movement, which is a major threat to the continuance of SUSS as a bona fide Speleological Society. It is time to take a definite stand against the egoism and selfishness of the "Irresponsibles".

Decisions affecting the whole future of SUSS will be made at the next General Meeting, to be held on Thursday 2nd. Feb. 1961. Questions such as "Will irresponsibility be tolerated" and "Is SUSS to become a juvenile political and pionic club?" plus many more will be answered. The answers are important, as they will decide whether you, as a SUSS member will, in future, be able to go caving at Tourist Cave areas and cave systems on private property like Cliefden. The "Irresponsibles" are confident of getting their own way at this meeting, as although they constitute under 20% of the Society's Membership, they are going to turn out in force, and anticipating a small attendance of other SUSS members, expect to be a majority. Therefore, I request your presence, and the presence of all members so that decisions of the meeting will represent society opinion. If you can't make it, please express your views in a letter to me at the above address.

Yours felthfully, Warren Peck SUSS President

President Aust. Sp el. Source Fed .