

## CORRESPONDENCE

The Joint Editors  
*The Journal of the Institute of  
Actuaries Students' Society*

18 September 1958

Sirs,

*Random Muse*

Your more senior readers will remember that excellent publication *Random Muse* which first appeared in 1946. To others I would say that this was a light-hearted miscellany of articles, letters, verses, notes, queries, and conundrums, having some remote bearing on our profession. Unfortunately, the flow of material from those keen enough to contribute was insufficient in quantity (though not in quality) to sustain regular publication, and after thirteen numbers the Committee of the Society was reluctantly compelled to discontinue the experiment.

In 1960 the Society celebrates its Golden Jubilee and it has been suggested that, as part of the jollifications to mark the event, a special number of *Random Muse* should be issued.

This seems to me a first-rate idea. A reservoir of fun insufficient to maintain a periodical can easily suffice for an occasional issue. I have long thought that for a Society of students we are far too solemn. The Teuton, for example, is rarely indicted of frivolity, yet German student songs and drinking bouts are, or used to be, notorious. Nearer home, medical students have a reputation for a praiseworthy lack of decorum. But can one imagine a rag on University lines, red-brick or otherwise, hatched in the sacred precincts of the Institute?

Joking apart, I feel certain that if enough support is forthcoming a bumper number of *Random Muse* can be issued. But the time factor must not be overlooked. The whipping-up, sifting, editing and printing of such an occasional number may well occupy the time (not much more than a year) that is available. If any of your readers are interested in this project, may I ask them to get in touch, in the first instance, with

Yours truly,

G. E. WALLAS

19 Coleman Street  
London, E.C. 2