

"CRACCUM"

A.U.C's. FORTNIGHTLY SCRAP-BOOK

VOL. I; No. IX.]

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1927.

[PRICE, 3D.

DAVE'S WEDDING.

By Our Own Correspondent.

Spent morning in mourning and getting ready. Was unable to decide whether to wear an Eddie Horton waistcoat or coloured socks.

2 p.m.: Set out for Church armed with essentials.

2.15 p.m.: Joined up with Pip, A.B., and Jack outside church.

2.17 p.m.: Arnold arrives in car with Cuthbert and Nigel.

2.20 p.m.: Dave arrives well groomed and with best man.

2.20—2.32 p.m.: Terrible suspense for Dave.

2.32 p.m.: Bride, bride's parents and bridesmaid arrive and show commences.

2.41 p.m.: Declared man and wife.

2.50 p.m.: Signing the register. All over. The deed is done. Cuthbert weeps falsetto.

3 p.m.: Reception at bride's home. Much kissing! A.B. kisses the bridegroom and Nigel the bride.

3.7 p.m.: Wedding festival commences. Tea is served by the 'Varsity five—not much enthusiasm.

Later: Further liquid refreshment served by 'Varsity five—great enthusiasm. Bride and bridegroom's toast honoured—immense enthusiasm. Parable—Story of the modern David and Goliath. More speeches, more toasts, speeches becoming more difficult to follow. A.B. was an excellent butler.

Telegram from O'Shea, Registrar, then read. Registrar of what? A hundred or so other telegrams then read by Mr. Bone, an experienced best man. Dorothy the blushing bridesmaid, attacks

the wedding cake with great determination, but it penalised for giving "sticks." The cake was a great success, considering that it was Nancy's first, though it was beginning to revolve rather rapidly.

During the necessary interval before the departure of the principals, the guests viewed the wedding presents which, as far as our reporter could discover, included no mousetraps. It is with regret that our reporter announces the absence of soap. Registrar, however, cables one bar (J.D.). Certain of the guests observe an ancient custom in saluting the bridesmaid.

Dave then tries to give guests the slip by bolting out of the window but is well collared and filled to repletion with rice and confetti.

Shrieks of Joy! Howls of Meriment!

4.15 p.m.: Car and escort leave abruptly—estimated speed 35 m.p.m. (round corners).

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Queen Anne is dead.

The uncertified circulation of "Craccum" is less than 100,000.

Recent research has shown that the prehistoric monster, the Taniwha, was first discovered by an Auckland scientist, J. Dumble.

Great Britain entered the Great War on August 4, 1914. The last number of "Craccum" for this year will be published on August 4, 1927.

Community buses were first invented by Harold Schmidt, the uncrowned king of Mount Eden. They were killed by the Little Parliament, sometimes called the Auckland City Council.

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At a recent meeting of Stud. Ass. executive the most satisfactory method of charging for meals at the Cafeteria was discussed. It was decided to install a weighing machine at the door to weigh all patrons on entering and leaving, and charge accordingly. It was decided to rely on the honesty of students not to bring bricks in with them and leave them behind.

"CRACCUM" ASSAILED.**"CONTEMPTIBLE
TRIVIALITIES."**

The following is a slightly condensed reprint of a letter received by the editor of "Craccum" last week:—

Sir,—Permit me to protest against a detestable abuse of your paper. Students who look to its pages for a reflection of our attempts to create a University spirit which should bind us all as students and as friends, find printed a mass of contemptible trivialities, the consideration of which is utterly incompatible with the manliness we should like to foster. I refer expressly to the childish personalities, the pointlessly obscure allusions, and the feminine puerility of the indescribably foolish letters which are the sum of genius among some of your women contributors. Can there possibly be anything of interest to healthy students in these pitiful gibes, these fatuous innuendoes, all referring to the same narrow set of meaningless soubriquets? Which of us has the remotest desire to hear whether "Phyllis" or "Doreen" did or did not dance with "Doug.;" or to read what some initial-and-blank personage said to "Winnie" or to some other obscurity. For the sake of the virility of student social life, sir, let this mawkish imbecility cease. It smacks of the magazine of a girl's college, and should find no place in the organ of a University. The themes are childish, the wit is feeble, and the references again and again are to members of the same restricted little party, whose Christian names are no doubt familiar to themselves, but convey nothing whatever to the several hundred other readers of your paper. If you imagine, sir, that those readers will continue to purchase a paper filled with such "balderdash" as I have described, let me assure you of your appalling error. For myself, I shall cease to do so; I have no objection, however, to making a fort-

nightly donation of threepence by way of compensation. I can imagine the reply these little people will labour to produce. I hasten to reassure them that I have no more to say, and that their defence, should they attempt it at all, will be unchallenged.

KOTUKU.

"We hasten to assure "Kotuku" that we accept his generous offer of a fortnightly donation with both hands. If every student showed equal public spirit there would be no need to publish our little paper at all. For the rest, we will try hard to look penitent. At least it is a compliment to "Craccum" that anyone should feel so strongly for its welfare.—Ed.).

(P.S.—"Kotuku" will doubtless be relieved that there will be only one more issue of "Craccum" this year.—Ed.).

THE CAFETERIA.

In assumning control of the cafeteria the Students' Association has made itself responsible for by far the most important business undertaking in its history. It now rests with the students to support their own business and make it a success. An estimate of the results of the first week's trading under Stud. Ass. management shows a profit of £6, a small enough margin to work on when the number of improvements that might be effected are considered. With the hearty support of all students the Cafeteria will probably continue to show a profit, but without that support it will certainly show a loss. The takings last week totalled £74 2s., and the expenditure amounted to £68 2s. Among the principal items of expenditure were wages £20 17s., meat £10, groceries £6 17s., gas £6, vegetables £5, butter £4 6s., and bread £3.

What DID the officiating clergyman at Dave's wedding mean by his reference to a FULL house?

**PHYLLIS'S AUCKLAND
LETTER.**

Doreen Dearest,

I'm sick to death of dances. I've worn all my three dresses in turn about three times and it's a bit of a bore trying to tie pieces of ribbon on the skirts to make them look different. Why ever didn't you go to the Training College ball? I missed you terribly and I ran out of powder, too. The orchestra was the peppiest thing thinkable. The principal told me he didn't like it—gave him a thorn in the flesh, he said. Still I told him every rose has its thorn and he didn't look pleased. Some women are the limit the way they vamp men.

You had a smallish time at the hockey dance, didn't you? Even if you do like a man, there's no need to dance three times with him. I had the loveliest lesson in the flat Charleston, only just as I was getting along nicely someone gave me a push and we fell down such a bump. I've been rather sore about it ever since. Then I danced with Nigel and he had a sprained ankle or something—only Max said it was because I trod on his foot. I couldn't help it. I was trying to decide whether Isobel's dress was rose or just plain pink and I had just made up my mind that Kath. was looking so blue because Jean M. wasn't there, when someone bumped into us from behind. Don't Sholto and his partner dance nicely? Didn't Allona look swish?

Have you heard the latest scandal? The Classics girls are all losing their hearts, not to mention their handkerchiefs. Valerie told me she loved her lectures—Florrie said she adored her work—but Clarice gave me to understand that they are not so keen on the lectures as on the lecturer.

The Lit. Club did "The Romantic Age" last night. I went because I wanted to see Jean S. being romantic, only she wasn't. Ailsa was rather stunning, and when she fell in love with the perfectly good prince I wished I'd

had her part—'cause, of course, I've always admired Dick's' legs. Isn't Les. a dear old man? There weren't many there and I had to go home by myself because Ron. hadn't his motor-bike. Ruth was there, too. I wish Guy had had a part. He's always telling me I'm not romantic enough.

So the poor Mansionites are being turned out into the cold world. I think it's mean of everybody to blame the Board of Control just because Grif. took ill. As if he could help it!! Arch and Keith don't know what's going to happen and Jock's been looking like a dying swan for days. Maisie tells me she thinks the boys are going somewhere else and she always seems to know. I hope they don't go far out of town because they are dears and Dick's' so handy for dances. Olive is still alive, rather muchly; she had us in fits the other night doing Apache dancing. Nigel has been rather interested in the women's hockey recently. One of the girls was mean enough to suggest . . . but she's a puss-puss. Smut is still as enthusiastic as ever on science. I wonder why she doesn't specialise in physics? Dorothy was Dave's bridesmaid, and had the time of her life—you ask her!!

I got a wicked blast for reading your last letter in English lecture.

Must run now. May, Belfy, Allona, and Marg. have just called to take me to C.U. Study Circle, so farewell.

Yours always,

PHYLLIS.

P.S.—Do you think it was? I think it was Honey or Leslie.

P.P.S.—I hear Mac insists on living out Ponsonby way now the hostel is closed. Wonder why?

COMBINED DANCE.

The A.U.C. Basketball and Football Clubs will hold a combined dance in the College Hall on Saturday week, July 30. Invitations may be obtained from members of the committees.

THE HOSTEL.

AN IGNOMINIOUS ENDING.

The Auckland University College hostel is "bust!" Its career was short and its end was startlingly sudden, but it will leave happy memories in the minds of a merry band of students. So sudden was the end that the authorities can scarcely be blamed for not saving something from the wreck.

But there is an important lesson to be learned. Those who have spent several months of this year at "The Mansions" would be the last to deny that it is ideally suited for the purpose of a 'Varsity hostel and that it will be almost impossible to discover in Auckland another building with so many natural advantages. But they will also be the first to point out that one defect was obvious from the beginning—lack of suitable management.

Doubtless it would now be hopeless to attempt to start afresh another 'Varsity hostel this year; but the career of our first hostel, though short and chequered, was sufficient to show the value of such an institution and the part it might play in College life when firmly established. It would be unthinkable to drop the project completely because of one temporary defeat.

It behoves the authorities, therefore, to make early preparations for the re-opening of a 'Varsity hostel next year; and let it be hoped that this time it will be possible to discover both a suitable building and also a proprietor better fitted for the conduct of a University hostel.

One word more in conclusion—to those who have spent the past few months at "The Mansions" the alternative of "licensed lodgings" in place of a hostel presents a thoroughly depressing prospect. Perhaps we might take as our ideal: "The Mansions"—with suitable management.

TOURNAMENT SHOOTING.

ANOTHER AUCKLAND BLUE.

As a result of further information regarding the eligibility of one member of the Otago Haslam Shield team the Otago team has been disqualified. As a result G. E. Watt (A.U.C.), with a total of 110, is deemed to be highest scorer and qualifies for a New Zealand University Blue.

TOURNAMENT DEBATE.

The V.U.C. Tournament delegates have already decided upon three judges for next year's Tournament Debate. They have invited the Chief Justice, Sir Charles Skerrett, K.C.M.G., the Rev. Father Gilbert, and Mr. G. G. Watson to perform the thankless task. The last two have both replied acceding to the request, but no reply has as yet been received from the Chief Justice.

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL ELECTIONS.

The election of officers of the Students' Association for the year 1927-28 will be held on Thursday, August 4. The election of members of the executive will be held on August 11, and the annual meeting will be held the same evening.

COMBINED DANCE.

A.U.C.

BASKETBALL and FOOTBALL CLUBS.

COLLEGE HALL,

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1927,
At 8 p.m.

N. C. JENKIN,
N. BRADANOVICH,
Hon. Secs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE CARNIVAL PLAY.

Sir, — Your correspondent "Graduand" has displayed, in his letter on the Carnival Play, a lamentably poor grasp of the situation which is all the more deplorable in that it is too much the general opinion of the average misinformed student. His argument is based on two facts which are correct. There is little else in his statements for which I can conscientiously say the same. These two facts are that "Crooks Ltd." brought in £250, for six nights, whereas the Unofficial Graduation Ceremony brought in £150 for one night and that it would be better for the Students to produce a good farce than a second- or third-rate musical comedy.

Now to compare the Graduation Ceremony with the play is futility. "Graduand" has not considered that the fact that the proceeds of the former went to charity was no mean attraction, and that if it had been put on for six nights the total takings for the rest of the season would have been nearer £15 than £150. Now from this we can learn a lesson, which is that the public can enjoy a bit of fun, at first, but they are speedily bored by it. This is only natural, but what the average student seems incapable of realising is that for a farce to provide a more vital part of College life, etc., and also to produce a substantial profit, it must be a very good one. Not even good or mediocre will do, for unless the audience is kept in a titter all the time a farce falls horribly flat. It looks just what it usually is—very amateurish—and people say so.

Now this belief in farces as our panacea of all ills is founded on the outstanding success of the "Bolshie," "Bill Stoney," and "Bug." My contention is that when we can write farces equal to these, then is the time to produce them, and not before. Those plays were written by no mean genius. Students have attempted

to emulate them, e.g., "Bu Blux Blan," and "Farewell Gravity," which efforts have been crowned with no conspicuous success, but which were certainly detrimental to our prestige as entertainers. Then came "Tilly of Tamaki," whose outstanding success was followed by the loss on "Size Three." Since then it has become popular to cry for our old farces once more. Now as a member of the company I am qualified to say that had "Size Three" been the best farce ever written it could not have made any more than it did. Impossibility of securing the theatre followed by inclement weather made it practically impossible to secure a success. Yet on this basis is founded the new cry for the good old University farce.

Well, when we can better "Bill Stoney" I am quite in accord with that cry, but until then, remember the fights to get in to "Bu Blux Blan" (Ahem!) and go carefully. Our present style of third-rate musical comedy is not up to "No, No, Nannette" standard, but it is better than a series of intended jokes tacked on to a string of songs where often the author could not even supply a popular parody of the words!

One other little point where "Graduand" stands in need of correction—a farce would become a "much more vital part of College life." Well, if the present play does not fulfil that function the College has itself to thank. Imploring notices to roll up and try your hand were posted, and recruits for the chorus and cast were welcomed at all times. There was no examination of credentials. There is not, as is so popularly supposed, a "clique" which runs the play—see the letter by the business manager in a past number of "Craccum." If the College generally has not the "go" or public spirit to make a vital part of College life out of the play it will never do so with a farce. "Crooks Ltd." did absorb a great number of untrained students with no theatrical experience—about twenty of them, I think.

Finally, as to the price of admission, is "Graduand" aware that His Majesty's Theatre costs about £50 a night to rent, that this is necessary because, strange to say, people have some sort of objection to sitting in great numbers on the hard chairs of the Concert Chamber, and that our prices, as they are, are approximately half those usually charged in the theatre.

COMMON SENSE.

GRAD. BALL REPORT.

Sir,—As reported in the last number of "Craccum," the Graduation Ball Committee, in presenting its report, made the following recommendations:—(1) That the cost of supper be reduced, possibly by arranging for students to supply a part of it; (2) That the ball be held in the College Hall; (3) That the price of admission be reduced. Of these, only the first recommends itself to anyone who has had experience with big dances. There is no doubt that the great source of loss is in the catering, because the caterer requires two or three days beforehand to be guaranteed a fixed number, and only long experience or phenomenal luck will enable the ball secretary to make an accurate estimate of the number who will be present. Where, then, the ball is to be run by an unexperienced committee it would be a very useful safeguard against loss in this way if part of the supper were provided by students. Some such system, I believe, prevails at the Victoria League balls. That it is suggestive of "gents a bob, ladies a basket" is the only objection—apart from those of the caterer.

One is inclined to think that the second recommendation—that the ball should be held in the College Hall—was made by way of jest. A moment's reflection will convince anyone that even the attendance at this year's ball would be a cruel crush in our little hall, the limit dancing capacity of which is one hundred couples. Each year over one hundred complimentary tickets are issued.

Surely no one really believes it possible to hold Graduation Ball in the College Hall! It must be a joke!

The third recommendation is that the price of admission be reduced. It must be admitted that the price at present is a considerable hurdle to the indigent student, but I fail to see, unless the whole of the catering were taken over by students—a distinct possibility if we control the Cafeteria—how it is possible to reduce the prices any lower without incurring unwarranted loss.. Those hundred or so complimentary tickets must be compensated for, and it would be necessary to pack the Scots' Hall far beyond its capacity before the lower prices would justify themselves. Two years ago a minimum loss on the ball was sustained—two pounds.. There were then present over 350, of whom at least 80 were graduates. Suppose we reckon that 280 persons paid for admission, and that these all came on double tickets. The takings would then be 140 times 15/-, equals £105. Any reduction in price to be worth while would be from 15/- to 10/- a double ticket. In order to bring in the same amount 140 more persons would have to be present, and these would entail extra catering, which it would take another 60 to make up. That is, in order to justify the lower price there would need to be 550 persons present, including 80 graduates of the year. Those who were present at the ball to which I have referred will agree with me that the presence of another 200 persons would make the function one to which it would be no compliment to invite a graduand. The limit dancing capacity of Scots' Hall is 500, and it is the limit.

May I suggest in conclusion that the Graduation Ball Committee use its utmost endeavours so to popularise the ball that students will consider it worth while sacrificing other pleasures for weeks beforehand in order to be present at what should be the Ball of the Year.

LOUNGE LIZARD.

THE UNOFFICIAL CAPPING.

A cheque for £120 has been handed to the Auckland City Mission as the first instalment of the proceeds of the Unofficial Graduation Ceremony. The second and final instalment, which will probably amount to about £15, will be handed over as soon as the few remaining students who have not yet accounted for tickets issued to them for sale, return the tickets or cash.

The following letter was received by the treasurer of the Unofficial Graduation Committee last week from the Rev. Jasper Calder:—

Dear Sir,—Please forgive my unpardonable delay in acknowledging the splendid kindness of the students in sending along such a substantial cheque to our funds.

I cannot quite put into words how fearfully bucked I feel about the whole stunt. To say that it was magnificent is to put it very mildly; to say that my beloved students acquitted themselves well is also rather tame. The whole business from start to finish was a fine inspiration. It had all the go and punch of spontaneity. The Grads. and Undergrads. were at their best, the crowd was good-humoured and thoroughly appreciative, and of course, the dividend was big in consequence.

If I were bold enough to suggest that this be made an annual affair (with the Auckland City Mission as beneficiary) I would do so, but being rather shy and modest, I scarcely like to suggest it; but a nod is as good as a wink, my son. Anyhow, tell your pals that when they want someone to help them overcome hoary profr. and burly policemen, all I can say is, with becoming modesty, "send for J."

With heartiest congratulations and renewed thanks,

Believe me, yours sincerely,

JASPER CALDER,

City Missioner.

DEBATERS AT WELLINGTON.

The debating team from A.U.C. which visited Wellington last week-end thoroughly enjoyed its trip, although on a vote of the audience being taken it was declared to have lost the contest. The debate was held in the Wellington Town Hall, but the attendance was only about 100, partly as the result of a very stormy night. As the year is already far advanced it was decided not to hold a return debate in Auckland this year.

"CRACCUM."

There will be only one more issue of "Craccum" this year. The tenth and final number for the year will appear on August 4. It is confidently anticipated that the new "Kiwi" Committee will continue the publication of "Craccum" next year.



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NATURE NOTES.

By J. SOMEONE, F.O.O.L.,
M.U.G.

A number of specimens have been forwarded to me by Prof. J. A. Bartrum, the well-known geologist and explorer, who has recently been visiting the wide open spaces of the Civic Square. A yellowish rock which Mr. Bartrum found outcropping all over that district is undoubtedly brickwurkus vulgaris, or common brick. It is also found in the Avondale and New Lynn districts. It is similar in origin to tilus Winstonus, or Winstone's tiles, a rare mineral only obtainable at great expense.

Mr. Bartrum advances the theory that rocks of volcanic origin, found in the same locality, were ejected from Mt. Eden during eruptions in the prehistoric era. He has found similar rocks in the crater of the mountain. I incline to the belief that these deposits were carried there by workmen in the Baildonian period before the locality was covered with grass and vegetation.

Luxurious grass and clover grows on the square, Mr. Bartrum reports. The tinkataila soljersaila, or common rye grass, is fairly common. This is a valuable grass much prized by children, who forecast their fortunes by counting its seeds and repeating a familiar rhyme, whence its name. The leonis raris, or garden variety of dandelion, also flourishes there. Mr. Bartrum picked several and forwarded them to me. This flower is the subject of ancient and picturesque legends.

An egg sent for identification by Mr. — proves to be that of the great Auk, a bird now extinct which was quite common in this country during former centuries. Hence the name Auckland. Mr. — says he discovered the egg on the breakfast table of his lodgings in Symonds Street. Its odour convinced him that it was antique so he was prompted to send it for examination. I would compute its age at over 60 years.

These eggs are not really formidable unless one has a keen sense of smell.

The Kiwi is still occasionally seen in Auckland. Sir Charles Fergusson writes that he has seen this rare bird. "While bird-nesting (an old Scottish custom) on the boundary of my estate in Princes Street I counted several hundred kiwis disappearing on to the University grounds. They were afterwards caught by numbers of students. A licence fee of 1s. is required before persons may take this rare bird. I may be Scotch, but I think the fee should be increased by at least sixpence. The kiwi provides a repast fit for a king—a feast of wisdom though perhaps not a flow of soul."

ON DIT.

That Keith B—n dares not sit at the staff table lest the waitresses should say "Students are not allowed here."

That the party in whose platform the principal plank is "Pretty waitresses" will be a sure winner at the next Stud. Ass. elections.

That the flooding of the cafeteria market with butter is due to the abolition of absolute control.

That a roller skating club is being formed at A.U.C., the College Council having granted the free use of the concrete footpath of Princes Street as a rink and that roller-skating will be one of the events at the next Easter Tournament.

That ping-pong, like tennis, having qualified under the new rules as an excellent inculcator of team spirit, contests in ping-pong will be included in the next Tournament; and that games of marbles, being independent of weather conditions, will also be included.

That Mr. Roderick Gordon-Griffith is ill in Wellington.

That Mr. Roderick Gordon Griffith is now staying at his sea side residence (which sea-side does not seem quite clear), and that he has omitted to renew his wireless licence, an oversight which has added £3 to the expenses of his holiday.

That the famous wireless set which received 2LO, London, is of such great historic value that it was thought better to remove it to safer quarters.

That Mark Antony's oration to the Romans had nothing on Mr. Ingram's address to the Mansionites; and that even Mr. Ingram's eloquence grew pale by comparison with the impassioned outpourings of the soul of Eric P. Wills.

That double doors for bedrooms were a popular innovation at "The Mansions" toward the end of last week.

That "the work of hoodlums" was much in evidence at "The Mansions" last week.

That there was a flutter in the dovecotes at "The Mansions" last week when an increase in the tariff was announced; and that the "doves" quickly sought new quarters—some went, some were sent.

An optimist is one who expects to get into touch with a University student on the students' 'phone—but anyone who tries it is carrying the joke too far.

Progress report from the A.U.C. Debating Society: A further postponement of the Parliamentary evening has been secured.

What is this strange tongue which the Professor of Agriculture speaks, that even the typistes shrink from the task of translating it into the King's English?

TOURNAMENT.

THE CRITICS CRITICISED.

(By Omnes Omnibus).

The remarks of Messrs. Pitch and Toss on the above subject in a recent issue of "Craccum.. are, in the main, amusing. Like most ardent would-be reformers, they condemn in scathing terms the existing order of things, and with captivating modesty, outline the correct and infallible method of conducting Tournament. To use their own winsome words, they "go into the whole question again in the light of some principle which is not an insult to ordinary intelligence."

The addition of Basketball is "a strange adventure." In what way strange, may we ask? It is certainly strange that Basketball was not added long ago. Women students have always loyally supported the Tournament. They have traditionally done the lion's share of the billeting. They have been indispensable in entertaining visiting representatives, and yet tournament events in which they had any reasonable hope of competing were limited to tennis and, very rarely, debating.

Rowing is cited as eminently suitable for inclusion in Tournament, having all the attractive features of team spirit, etc. It is "ideal and should certainly be the first event to be included." Evidently the principle, so plain to Messrs. Pitch and Toss, has never guided Tournament Committees, or perhaps it is just possible that these two gentlemen have merely overlooked some dozen or so of the most important features of Tournament. To quote their own words, climatic conditions are the first practical consideration. In the short period of Tournament a choppy sea may make rowing futile and postponement impossible. It is a rare occurrence, however, to experience three to four days' bad weather, in which an hour's game of football cannot be played. Be it noted also, for the benefit of these two erudite gentlemen, that instances are on record of Basket-

ball having been played indoors in places like the Drill Hall.

Be it noted also by Messrs. Pitch and Toss that without billeting there can be no Tournament. Few University students can afford to be tourists at their own expense. Tournament delegates have always been conservative about increasing the numbers requiring billeting. This aspect alone is enough to justify the present programme for Tournament. As explained before, the addition of Basketball presents no difficulties in this respect as the women students understand the billeting difficulty better than most of us and have undertaken to look after the Basketball teams. To Pitch and Toss these considerations seem hopelessly illogical. To those who are versed in Tournament affairs they are vital factors. Too much billeting would kill the Tournament.

Debating receives the censure of these critical reformers. They are certainly in good company here. All the best people censure Tournament Debates. Debating as a Tournament event is condemned because it centres too much attention on the individual. What about the "individual" who clears 5ft. 11ins. amid breathless silence? What about the "individual" who breaks the record for any field event? What about the singles tennis championship finals? What about the "individual" who fights his way through to the boxing finals, and what about the last man in, who carries the whole fate of the game on his shoulders and makes the tail wag? What Messrs. Pitch and Toss do not realise is that a man debating in a Tournament is debating for his College. They condemn the awarding of one point for the best debater, "an encouragement of individualism which is contrary to the best ideals of Tournament," yet are strangely reticent about the awarding of the Trevor Hull Memorial Shield to the winner of the high jump, the Sievwright Cup to the best walker, the de la Mare Challenge Cup to

the winner of the mile, the Ladies' Cup to the athlete who rakes in most points, each of which trophies, with the exception of the last, carries a point for the Tournament Shield with it and also a New Zealand University Blue. Pitch and Toss are distinctly amused that a New Zealand University Blue should be awarded for debating. It may be news to these gentlemen that such a Blue has never received the serious consideration of Tournament delegates either.

Eligibility: Now on this question Pitch is talking sense and, for that matter, so is Toss too, although the language is rather hyperbolic. The rules certainly ought to be made more explicit on this point, but it would be rather sweeping not to leave a certain amount to the discretion of the delegates.

Tournament Finances: Certainly the burden on the home College is heavy. The prospect of having to share in a possible loss, however, is a healthy inducement toward businesslike management of the Tournament. After all, the home College runs the Tournament and can make or mar it financially. Then again, four years should be sufficient time in which to recuperate.

A sounder scheme would be to fix the minimum margin of Tournament Fund at £100 and the maximum at £150. Any deficiencies which lower the fund below £100 should be borne by all Colleges equally. Any surplus that would raise the fund over £150 should go to the home College. A well-run tournament in this way would not cripple the finances of one College as at present, when no refund can be obtained even if the proceeds are large. We commend this matter to the Students' Association Executive for immediate consideration.

Anyone who wishes to know why a young man attends the University should consult Mrs. Carter, or ask a Mansionite who has heard her unbiassed opinion.

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