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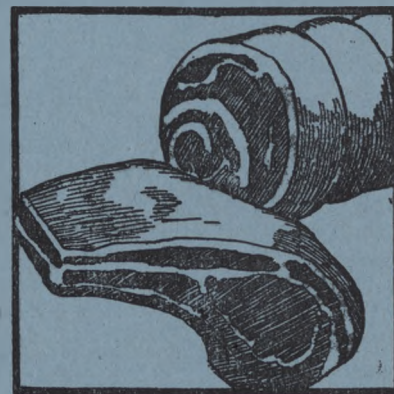
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## THE REVISED CONSTITUTION

At two Special General Meetings, the revised Constitution was passed by the Students' Association. The Revision Committee, which was set up by the Executive at the end of last year consisted of Messrs. D. H. Steen, N. S. Alexander and A. K. Turner. May we be permitted to offer them our very hearty congratulations on the result of their efforts? It is gratifying to think that the agitation for this very necessary piece of work was first started in these pages.

The changes effected by the new Constitution are mainly the addition of empowering clauses to enable the Association legally to carry on such matters as the Cafeteria, sale of badges, stationery, etc. Provision is also made for the future when it is hoped that the Association may be in a position to acquire its own sports grounds and perhaps the still more distant future when we may desire to purchase a hostel for students. It is becoming more and more apparent that we can expect no financial assistance, though all good wishes, from the College Council in this direction.

Some important changes were effected in the Constitution by the Revision Committee, and others were effected, on its recommendation, by way of amendment. The former include the altering of the date of the end of the Association's financial year from the end of July to the end of June. This was done at the request of the Treasurer, Mr. Postlewaite, who pointed out that at present it was hardly possible to take out the balance-sheet and have the accounts audited by the date of the Annual General Meeting. Other changes by the Committee included the alteration and tightening up of the powers of borrowing and the insertion of a provision enabling the Executive to appoint trustees to invest the Association's money. The latter is likely to be of use very soon when the provision of a sinking fund to cover depreciation on the Student Block is put into operation. The creation of a Returning Officer's Seal for use at elections removes a very serious abuse of the Common Seal. Power is also given the Executive, at its discretion, to provide polling booths outside the College.

The chief change effected by amendment was in the personnel of the Executive and the method of electing it. Under the new Constitution, the President, woman Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are elected a week before the other members and the man Vice-President is elected by the new Executive from its members. The "Kiwi" Editor also is no longer elected by ballot, but is appointed by the Executive. This gets over a long-existing anomaly, that a man whose office requires such specialised powers should be elected on a popularity vote.

BUSTER'S MARRIED !

## "TILLY IN THE CITY"

When the curtain goes up on the Opening Chorus on Tuesday next we shall see the fruits of our labours and our return for hours of preparation, rehearsal and practice. "Tilly" starts with an advantage not possessed by any of her immediate predecessors—that of a definite season early settled and not subject to the usual fluctuations which attend our productions in His Majesty's Theatre. We have the further good fortune that there has been no play in the theatre for the past two weeks and that no tremendous attraction such as "No! No! Nanette!" either precedes or immediately follows it. The play itself is very bright, the music splendid and the cast, on the whole, one of the best that we have been able to obtain. The ballets, done by women students under the training of Miss Marjorie Turner and at first regarded as a most tentative experiment, are likely to be very popular. The excellence of the material available for these is one of the greatest surprises to those whose acquaintance with our plays is long and varied. Mr. Sparling, the Musical Director, waxes enthusiastic (in private) about his chorus, which he swears (also in private) is easily the best that has every considered that principals are necessary evils in a play.

Last, but the very reverse of least, this year's play has the enormous advantage of a producer such as Mr. Kenneth Brampton. To say more would be fulsome, so well known are our Producer's abilities. This, also, is no time for bouquets—that comes after, but with a Company so spirited as this, the Committee may justifiably feel full of confidence in its production.

## ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY

At a meeting of the Engineering and Architectural Society held in the Engineering School on Friday, May 4th. Mr. A. J. Sedcole, who has just returned from America, gave a most interesting lecture on his rambles through California. He explained what was being done in the way of Town Planning, and contrasted the architecture of Los Angeles and San Francisco. His remarks were illustrated by an excellent set of lantern slides, and altogether everybody spent a most enjoyable evening.

Owing to the fact that several freshers were present, Mr. Sedcole, as a matter of courtesy to the Men's House Committee refrained from discussing the question of Prohibition. However, when interviewed by a few senior members of the Society, he stated that although Prohibition is in force in America, many people still keep pups.

(Order ! Gentlemen !)

# A.U.C. Sports Notes

## FOOTBALL

This season has started well, a very large membership providing plenty of material. So far two matches have been played. In the first, the Senior team was defeated by Grafton. How far this was due to the sadly-depleted condition of the University Team is a question that can only be satisfactorily answered when the teams meet again in the second round. The second match against City, was a different story, and our team had a very comfortable win.

The Senior B team is a very solid all-round team and should not be far away when the winner of the grade is declared. So far it has won both its matches, and though the last one, against Marathon, was a very close go, it is considered that the latter team is probably the strongest our team will have to face.

## HOCKEY

The Hockey Club has again entered six teams in the Club competitions. These are one Senior, one Senior B (known as the Whippets), one Second, two Third and one Fourth Grades. Great keenness is shown throughout.

The Senior Team was decisively defeated by Somerville in the first game of the season. The forwards, though hard working, seemed totally unable to shoot straight, and the halves were not able to cope with Somerville's fast forwards. In the second game, our team drew with Mt. Eden. The forwards showed improved form, but have still a good deal to learn. The team must reckon itself unlucky in not winning.

The Whippets have lost both to Training College and to Epiphany—and in both cases by the margin of one goal. Slowness to settle down seems to be this team's fault. When once started there is a very good line of forwards from whom something should be heard ere long.

## VAGUE IMPRESSION

### Of the Swimming Carnival

The Swimming Club held its first Carnival on April 24th, at the Tepid Baths. The whole affair was excellently organised and thoroughly deserved the success which attended it. The races were started quickly and efficiently and a comprehensive and attractive programme was completed in good time. This Committee deserves the highest praise. The only thing that was forgotten was a list of official results in the *Craccum* box.

However, as far as our memory serves us, the Championship sprints were won by Mr. J. L. Farrell and Miss Leitz, or by somebody else and another, the 220 yards race was won by O. N. E. More, the Men's Diving by Mr. Johnston and the Women's Diving by Miss Ida Knowe.

One of the most popular items on the programme was certainly the diving contest—particularly that for women. Some very fine performances were witnessed, and several men students expressed their willingness to swear off the Regent if the Swimming Club would hold Carnivals at reasonable intervals. The Horse Race (for women) was also popular, and we consider that, in the interests of the purity of the turf, the suggestion of a tin man propelled in front of the "jockeys" should be summarily dealt with. We also failed to catch the name of the winner of this race.

While we are on this subject (of the purity of the turf), we most earnestly hope that the stipendary stewards have investigated the case of Miss Cranwell who, in the first race, fell into the water, and so spoiled her chances of winning. What we, as her financial backers, want to know is, *did she fall or was she pushed?* The whole business has a most sinister look and, pending the result of inquiry, no bets are being paid.

The most gratifying thing about the carnival was the number of records established. A new record was established for each event and was duly cheered as such. In fact there must have been a record number of records established—

(Oh, shut up !—Ed.)

## ODE

### In praise of Melisande.

*O Muses Nine, I pray you all arise,  
Inspire my numbers with a magic power;  
For she, whose praise inspires this enterprise  
Is, of the "Craccum" garden, fairest flower.*

*For I, unworthy, would not sing,  
(No, not for gold, or anything)  
The praise of one, on whom the dullards glower  
In envy, when her spirit, soaring, flies  
Exuberantly. Muses, Verses bring!*

*O Melisande, a duty sweet is mine.  
I am but one of throngs, who thee would praise.  
When inky dew from off thy pen decline  
To snowy meadow 'neath thy hand, its face  
Enlivened is with wine of youth—  
Thy soul, of which the naive truth  
The blood of centenarians makes race.  
Not quite a hundred yet, my praise I'll join:  
Why, for thee, I would give my only tooth.*

*Yet, though mayhap you think I only jest,  
I cannot but admire your artless art.  
The matter is provided by the rest;  
The subtle simple style is but your part;  
And if they slander (as Doreen)  
The blame is theirs—that can be seen.  
If at you their envenomed tongues they dart,  
Just call the thousands who at your behest  
Would fly to your defence—their brands are keen.*

NARCISSUS.

## MORE MURMURINGS

Darling Toots,

I think you are a Cat suggesting such things I mean of course one has to look after oneself in this world but no one who *is* anyone has to ask them to be taken to a dance because there are so many better ways of doing it. Of course I *did* hear it whispered about Celia and then I saw them at the College Dance on Saturday together and he the other I mean looked so glum my dear *too* triangular but as I said its too utterly sulphuric for a really nice girl don't you think? So I was just as nise as I could be to the other one and I let him take me home and when we got there he said did I mind and I didn't and he did. My dear, he's perfectly *Arabic* and he is taking me to Grad Ball so I hope you don't think I should have said no about Grad Ball I mean because of Celia.

I met Celia today and she gave me a most felinely *venomous* look so I did think I ought to be nice to her and I went and sat next to her at lecture and talked to her about how we women ought to stick together and there being so much competition which some thought was due to it being Leap Year but I said of *course* no one took advantage of that and what a pretty silk dress she was wearing and anyhow there are better fish in the sea than ever were *caught*. And she said wasn't it *too* true about fresh fields and pastures new and some things were too *odiously* second-hand. Then the Professor said that he hoped he was not disturbing the conversation of the young ladies in the back seat so I couldn't tell her that I thought unripe grapes were simply *too* acid and instead I caught *his* eye and smiled at him when Celia was looking and *darling* Toots if you could have seen her look my dear absolutely *fatal*.

Well darling Toots, there's been absolutely *nothing* doing at the College lately I was so bored that I went to a Special General Meeting of the Association just to please Marion because she said that if I didn't go something ghastly would happen to the Constitution and darling I *was* glad that I did because darling Alec was there I am perfectly *rapturous* about him because everybody says that you *never* know with him and I think he called the other man a liar I mean the man who simply talked and talked and all his hair stood up at the back but A.B. and Carl and Sholto simply *trampled* on him and Alec too—like avenging Jove my dear.

And darling Toots I had an absolutely *throbbing* time the other day when all the *sheiks* and *galahads* came along one after another and talked with little me poured out all their woes in my sympathetic ears and my dear there are more broken hearts in that College than you could ever imagine positively heartrending darling and your little Sandy stood there and sobbed and smiled by turns and had a simply *lackrumsly* lovely time you know what I mean they all tell the same tale and think they're the only one and it makes me feel like a mother to them and I want to offer them all sticks of lolly only my dear it wouldn't *do* so I just promise them a dance at Grad Ball and they go away cheered up and Ive filled three programmes that way and I dont know what *he* will say.

Grad Ball is on Thursday I think it will be simply too heavenly because *everyone* is going and my dear just look at the men graduates Keith and Guy and Edwin and Bob and that lovely man who was at Tournament the debater I mean I feel simply *exotic* every time I think of it darling Toots you *must* come up for it and what are you going to wear because I am making a new frock for the occasion a most *provocative* blue taffeta with (Censored. Too technical—Ed.) and you know that simply divine shawl of Doreen's the one Jack said was big enough for a Common Room carpet but hes a beast well I dont think that she will be home in time for Grad so we shall see what we shall see because I always believe in co-operation between sisters esprit de corps my dear.

And talking of team work I think Jack and Alan are simply splendid not so much their tennis darling as their social side. Combination my dear such as we women only dream of.

Life in the Women's Common Room is horribly dull just now with everyone talking of weddings and presents and trousseaux my dear *too* matrimonial for a young girl like me though some of it is rather thrilling then there is the play coming on Tilly in the City which I am going to see with my *hypotenuse* but darling Im rather nervous because they tell me that some of it is simply too *broadminded* not that I mind of course but what *does* one do with an embarrassed hypotenuse and then I have promised to sell programmes on three nights I only meant to do it on one but they tell me that they are having six girls each night and that it is *really* simply thrilling teasing men into buying three or four programmes with their wives sitting next to them and just *glowering* and there is a competition to see who can sell the most so I asked the man who is in charge and he said I could if I would do three nights and that I would probably be quite good at it as some of the least promising looking girls turned out the best he is a beast its the man that talks. Still what with *exclusive-ness* and the fun I shant mind.

Darling I must *fly* or I shall *never* finish my frock in time for the Ball.

Eestatically thine,

MELISANDE.

Engineering and Architectural Society

ANNUAL BALL

SATURDAY, JUNE 9th

*The Brightest and best Dance of the year.*

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REMEMBER THE DATE!

In view of the fact that the Senior B Grade hockey team is to be called the "Whippets," should not the Third Grade B team be called "Snippets"?

## THE BEDSIDE BAND

### A COUNTERPANE CAUSERIE

The whole situation is distressing to say the least. It must be several minutes since the hall clock sent its good-night chime around the house, and ticked on past mid-night into a new day. Yet I am still propped up in bed trying furiously to conjure up ideas for a promised article. In any case, it is far too late to start pondering over an article, even if it must be ready later this very day. And it would be but an insult to write for University men if one had not pondered deep and long. Moreover, this is usually my most coveted hour of the day, and it is being ruined by a process of slow mental agony.

One of the few legacies I inherited at birth was a great capacity for sleep. A bad habit I have since acquired is reading in bed. It is a practice to be discouraged, but nevertheless a very delightful sin. At the end of a long day it is this little draught of literary opium that so pleasantly dismisses the cares of waking for sound slumber. And like the more vicious drug, once the taste for bedside friendships have been acquired, it is futile to try to discard it. The flavour must be had before Consciousness will slip away quietly without showing a restless desire to stay.

These Comrades of the Bedside are most affable fellows. They are too jolly a crowd to keep downstairs in the everlasting gloom of the library shelves, which groan almost audibly under the weight of solemn learning they support. None of your Platos or Darwins must even enter the bedroom. Indeed, I half surmise that, had I the temerity in a moment of absent-mindedness to place Adam Smith on the little shelf near at hand, all the sweet spirits there would leap upon my head. How dear, garrulous Bozzy would stamp at the thought. Yes, he is right at this end of the shelf, and I would sacrifice the Wealth of all the Nations to retain his friendship. Macaulay may say he is a fool but I delight to follow the urban Laird of Auchinleck around London from the Mitre Tavern to the home of Sir Joshua Reynolds, and from the Essex Head Club to Mr. Beauclerk's. What a gossip he is! And every time the great Dr. Johnson bellows forth his "Sir!" the room seems fairly to rock with anticipation. Perhaps you recall the remark of Mr. Birrell, who, when asked what he intended to do when he retired, said he would go into the country and really read Boswell. Not finish him, observe, for that would be impossible.

Of course, friend Pepys occupies next place on the shelf. Have you ever come across anyone who reveals himself as does the confidential Samuel? It has become the fashion these days of pen voluminous memoirs containing all sorts of personal references, piquant and "risque." But how artificial they all are after one has read Pepys. Everyone must have read him, but to my mind he is the admirable bedside gossip. It is quite as useless to read Pepys at a table as to own omnibuses under the new regulations.

Then there is Mr. Pickwick, whose posthumous papers can be opened at any hour and at any page with equal effect. Also the wistful Elia, whose delightful style and

quaint pictures (quite apart from his beautiful conceptions) qualify him for an honoured and oft-sought place among the kindly ones. I must love gossip for there is Montaigne with a worn cover. However, one may be excused for listening to the tongue-wagging of a past age. It is all so free, so humorous in its seriousness intended for the delectation of a day that is gone.

There are several more who rank among the Bedside Band. It is some time since "Alpha of the Plough" was taken down. His little gems are always readable. In fact I shall go to his cottage at the end of the hawthorn hedge to-night, and hear him talk on all sorts and conditions of men and things.

That means the article will not be written after all. Oh, well, here is friend "Alpha" with "dressing gown and slippers, as it were," and he has an oft-told tale to tell. I will not dare to say I have heard it.

T.R.

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### EXCURSION TO ARAPUNI

On Thursday, 19th, the Engineering and Architectural Society went on an excursion to Arapuni. Five private cars were obtained by great diplomacy. At about 8.30 the expedition started amid loud cheers from the assembled populace, that is, five small boys.

The cars arrived at Arapuni from about 3 o'clock onwards. The occupants of one car, on arrival at the dam, looked enquiringly round for permission to drive across. A workman nearby, seeing the car, said 'damn' so the car proceeded. The expedition then foregathered and visited the recently uncovered forest. Here a very interesting curio was found. It consisted of a prehistoric bottle made of a brown transparent substance. It was in a remarkable state of preservation, even to the label on which was inscribed the word "ale."

That night the party slept in quarters kindly lent by the engineer in charge. On the following day a workman showed the party round. Except for a thorough soaking in the diversion tunnel, the tour was without incident. On the way home, an engineer showed the party over the Hora Hora power station. The cars then proceeded homewards, after a most enjoyable excursion.

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### TENNIS TOURNAMENT

#### *Engineers versus Architects*

The annual tennis competition between the Engineers and Architects took place on March 28th, for a shield presented by Professor and Mrs. Knight. The play was as follows:

Aubin (E) beat Salmond (A), 6—1, 6—2. Schnackenberg (E) beat Harris (A). Hay (E) beat Syme (A). Aubin and Hay (E) beat Salmond and Harris (A). Schnackenberg and Edgecumbe (E) lost to Syme and Morgan (A).

The Engineers won the shield by 4 matches to 1.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## EXTERNAL POLLING BOOTHS

Sir,—Indebted as we are to the members of the revision committee set up by the Executive to revise our Constitution, for the long hours they must have spent in the work I still feel impelled to voice a protest against the provision inserted by them dealing with the subject of polling booths.

The stated policy of the Committee was simply to bring the Constitution in line with the extended activities of the Association and to remove existing anomalies. For this reason several matters were, against the personal convictions of the members, left untouched in the revised Constitution because they touched upon what might have been matters of policy. In taking this attitude, the Committee set a magnificent example of impartiality and they cannot be too highly complimented upon it. Unfortunately, in the case of the Polling Booths to which I have referred they departed from the principle by ignoring the resolution of the last Annual General Meeting which declared, by a substantial majority, that there *should* be external booths at Training College and in town. The revised Constitution presented by the Committee contained instead a rule permitting the Executive *at its discretion* to establish such outside booths as it considered necessary. This clause was passed by the barest majority at a very poorly attended and by no means representative Special General Meeting last Wednesday.

Now, sir, I wish to base my objections on two grounds. First that it does not represent the wishes of the majority of the members of this Association; and secondly that the clause itself is wrong in principle and objectionable in practice.

With regard to the first ground, viz., that the clause does not represent the wishes of the majority of the members, there are three points to be stressed: (1) A constitution by which all members are bound should be acceptable to all members, or, failing that, to a decisive majority. This is so axiomatic as to require no discussion; (2) That probably the best-attended Annual General Meeting which this Association has ever held decisively voted in favour of the booths in town and at Training College. It is therefore futile to argue, as was done last Wednesday, that the Executive is left without direction as to the number and locality of the booths which it must provide, or to say that other groups of students are equally entitled to outside booths. If the latter is indeed the case the students concerned have only to place their case before the General Meeting to receive an equally sympathetic hearing. (3) That the bare majority in favour of the clause in the revised Constitution, obtained at so poorly attended a meeting as last Wednesday's, should, as a matter of policy, never have been accepted as an abrogation of the opinion of the Annual General Meeting. Certain matters, such as the rules as to Blues, were reserved, and, if the meeting was not prepared to agree with the ruling of the Annual General Meeting, it should, it is submitted, have reserved this matter also.

To the clause itself, I have the strongest objections. It authorises the pernicious practice of permitting a retir-

ing Executive, the majority of whom will normally present themselves for re-election, to decide whether or not there shall be outside booths. This, sir, I beg to suggest, is fair neither to the members of the Executive nor to the students, all of whom are expected to exercise their vote. It is impossible for the Executive, at such a time, to give to the question that dispassionate disinterestedness which is obviously required and their decision, whichever way it is given, cannot fail to damage their prestige with the general body of students who will naturally tend to suspect them of "axe-grinding."

I am afraid, sir, that I have occupied more than my fair share of space, but as this is, in my opinion, a very vital question, I should be greatly indebted to you if you would publish this letter in full.

I am, etc., LEX.

Sir,—I think that, at this time, it is advisable to draw the attention of the body of students to the fact that this year again the Executive has made no provision for polling booths outside the College.

It will be remembered that the the general meeting last year, a resolution was passed requesting the Executive to make such provision. The Executive had a wonderful opportunity of giving effect to that resolution at the time of the revision of the Constitution. But they, with characteristic obstinacy, neglected to take advantage of the opportunity. Instead a provision was inserted "that the Executive *may* appoint booths outside the College," as in past years.

At a meeting held on May 3rd, at which there were almost ten members present, that provision was ratified (in the teeth of considerable opposition) by the smallest of majorities. The chairman refused to accept an amendment unless it appointed specific places for the booths. He said, "We could put one down in Wellington." That is an original idea, of which only an intelligent man, intent on furthering the wishes of the majority of the students, could think. It is high time the Executive ceased to be a kindergarten, and learned that the whole body of students must come before a group. There are, of course, many members of the Executive who are elected by that select group of the holy who brim over with the College spirit that is our President's pride, and who at present control the College elections. This college has become one largely for part-time students, and these students must be considered. It is not everyone who can spare time to come up to the College to vote.

The Executive have complained repeatedly of the lack of interest of the part-time students in college affairs, but they forget that they have only themselves to blame. They make no effort to stimulate interest. This matter of polling-booths seems to have dragged on long enough. If the Executive will not voluntarily defer to the wishes of the students, its hand will have to be forced.

I am, etc.,

POLLING BOOTH.

Sir,—To the Republic of France has been attributed the characteristic of being the most bureaucratic organisation in the world. However, in view of recent de-

velopments, it seems that it must yield pride of place to our Students' Association.

For a number of years sections of the Association, representing the greater portion of the student body, have advocated the establishment of external polling booths for the Association elections. At the last annual meeting, which was a well-attended and representative one, a resolution was passed in favour of establishing such external booths. But this resolution has been disregarded. A meeting held on May 2nd and comprising twelve persons had the colossal impertinence to overrule this previous resolution and leave the position as formerly.

To the keen observer of College politics it is obvious that the Executive is not representative of all members of the Association, but is nominated and elected by a handful of full-time students, the majority of whom are women students. In view of this fact, it is not difficult to understand the attitude of the Executive in persistently opposing all proposals to facilitate and encourage voting by those students who find it inconvenient to attend at the College booth. "Every man for himself," sums up the position.

To bolster up their attitude the "powers that be" indulge in a lot of cheap talk about "College Spirit." How can this develop when the Executive will not extend to members facilities to take part in activities of the Association? Is it more important that the Executive should have the gratification of seeing members come from the City and the Training College to vote at 'Varsity, or that the Executive should be a representative one having the support of all members?

The ideal method of voting in an Association such as ours would be by postal ballot, but so long as the present system obtains it is the duty of the Association to extend to all its members the greatest possible opportunity of taking an active interest in its affairs.

May this serious blunder be rectified without delay.

I am, etc., ONE OF THE VICTIMS.

Sir,—There seem to be some members of the Association who are under the impression that the revised constitution contains one clause—that dealing with election booths—which is in direct opposition to a motion on the subject at the last Annual General Meeting. The clause in the new constitution reads: "(e) there may be a polling booth or booths situate outside the University College if in the opinion of the Executive it shall appear desirable."

The motion passed at the last Annual General Meeting reads as follows: "That there be a recommendation to the committee for the re-drafting of the constitution that the elections be made more representative by the provision of booths outside the College."

The old constitution was silent as to the power of the Association to provide a booth outside the College. The re-drafting committee, in deference to the recommendation of the Annual Meeting, therefore inserted a definite provision giving the Association a definite power in the matter. The Executive is now empowered in its discretion to provide outside polling booths.

This seems to me to meet the case perfectly. It may

be taken as probable that the Executive will from time to time be guided in its decisions by the expressed wish of a General Meeting. On the other hand, well-informed students will probably be of the opinion that it is by no means desirable to bind the hands of the Association by any definite mandating provision in the constitution, which requires so much time and trouble to alter.

I happen to know that it is extremely likely that the present Executive will announce its decision in regard to external booths at an early date, and it is highly probable that such booths will be provided this year. I also think that it would be a mistake to take too seriously the suggestion that a booth should be opened in the Capital City.—I am, etc., STATUS QUO.

#### PING-PONG TABLES.

Sir,—As a regular user of the ping-pong section of the billiard room, I should like to voice a protest against the most unsatisfactory state of one of the tables. The one to which I refer has two loose boards projecting inches, in some places, from the general level. If it were but one loose board, one might let it pass with an oral malediction on the authorities responsible, but when it is a question, practically, of but one board in position, one's blood boils over in a torrent of ink. I regard this neglect as a cunning and dastardly attack on ping-pong; and unless the evil is remedied it will seriously diminish the popularity of this athletic, if indoor, game.

For instance, I go to deal my cannonball reverse-American twist service. What happens? The ball strikes the edge of some loose board and, in a most disconcerting manner, darts off at a tangent. The casualties so far have been only two black eyes (one dealt by the ball to a spectator, the other given by him to me, in retaliation); but where will the matter end? Imagine the consequences, the mental strain, nervous tension and what not, if a ball in an important match should chance to put out the lights!

Also, if I manage to hit a crack at the other end of the table, my opponents are quite capable of claiming a let under subsection (c) of Rule 13, which states: "It is a let:— (c) If either player be prevented, by an accident beyond his control, from returning a ball in play." (N.B. The punctuation is my own.) The fact that they claim a let under this clause at any time when I put the ball on the table does not affect the question.

Think of the wear and tear on the balls also, caused by the unevenness of the table. In the Cafeteria one buys for 6d a ball which costs 3½d wholesale; and on this table one finishes it off well within a week; result—misery for you and happiness and 2½d per player-week for the Students' Association. Compare this with the farthing or so that it would cost to supply a few nails to mend the table, and you at once see that it is no mere oversight that the table remains in its present state.

I am perfectly willing, if the Member for Ping-pong can find out who I am, to put in ten minutes effecting repairs. Of course, for the purpose of this correspondence I wish to remain anonymous; but if the aforesaid Member call on me, in person, with a hammer and some nails, my time is at his disposal. I am, etc.,

INCONVENIENCED AND  
DISGRUNTLED PLAYER.

## ALMAE MATRI FIDELIS

*By Maevius*

[The following is an extract from a letter signed "Internal Undergraduate" which appeared in the correspondence columns of the *Auckland Star* for May 1st, 1928: "As an internal student I would say with regard to this statement" (made by a former correspondent): "(1) That we have not a magnificent library; we have a very poor one. (2) Students may be able to discuss 'points,' but they do not; there is more intellectual activity in any workers' study circle than in the Auckland University College. (3) That the external student who puzzles out problems from books instead of imbibing 'easily-remembered axioms' from his professor desires more credit, not less, than the internal student. As for 'contact with ripe minds'—that, no doubt, accounts for capping day riots. In conclusion, I would say: Never mind the traditions of Oxford and Cambridge. Let us build up our own."]

*The library's a rotten hole, and sadly out of date;  
It's time old-fashioned books were scrapped, and room  
made for the great.  
I'm feeling quite disgruntled, and I think I need some  
solace,  
For I've searched the shelves for hours for the works  
of Edgar Wallace.*

*The students' intellects are weak, they send me off to  
sleep!  
I wish I'd joined the circle of the Student Chimney  
Sweeps!  
The minds of A.U.C. aren't ripe—they're rotting right  
away,  
Which accounts for the 'tomatoes that are thrown on  
Capping Day.*

*I long to go away to Teatree Flat, and live alone,  
And take a correspondence course, and swot all on my  
own,  
And build up new traditions, thus eclipsing A.U.C.  
For the Oxford and the Cambridge ones aren't good  
enough for me!*

*But I don't air my grievances among the College men,  
For fear they might retaliate—and what should I do  
then?  
But I'll write to the newspapers, while I'm getting my  
degree,  
And show how beastly is the place that's educating me.*

## QUOTATION COMPETITION.

The Lady Editor reports that some very good entries were received, but that the answers were so diverse that she has been unable to decide on the winner. Some guesses were so surprising that she referred them to Melisande, but Melisande replied that she had heard nothing of them: so the Lady Editor came to the conclusion that they were only guesses. At any rate, we hope so.

## SIMON GOES SOUTH

*A TALE OF THE MAIN TRUNK**By a Travelling Companion*

Yes, I have often travelled on this train before. It's not a very entertaining trip, is it? Though I remember one occasion—let me see, it was during that very wet winter—a bitter night. My friend Simon, made me sit next the window, because he declared he couldn't stand the hot water system obstructing his feet. He always has an excuse for doing me a kindness. And yet he could make a real nuisance of himself where principle was involved. On this occasion he had set his will against the prevailing custom of turning down the lights early in the evening without reference to the will of the majority. It was all right at first, with everybody peaceably reading, but presently a man in a great coat, with walrus whiskers, got up and put out the light above our head. It was rather inconsiderate, as several people were reading. Simon, without hesitation, rose to his feet and switched it on again. I confess I tried to look as if I didn't belong to him. Walrus-face turned around at once, and asked him what he meant by it, and how were people to get to sleep? Simon courteously informed him that he for his part was desirous of reading, as he never could sleep so early in the evening. Walrus gave a snort, as to its being early indeed, and said he might consider other people, to which Simon rejoined that he had refrained from an exactly similar reproof on the grounds that it might seem impertinent. Simon was so scrupulously polite in his address that the man had now become speechless; so he could offer no other reply than to turn out the light again.

Silence reigned for about two minutes. Then Simon burst into song.

After the first verse,

"Confound you, sir, how are we to sleep with that bellowing going on."

"I am very sorry you cannot sleep, sir, especially as I am troubled with the same affliction myself. I cannot sleep, I cannot read, therefore I must sing."

"I should be obliged if you would stop," said the enemy shortly.

"I admit that my voice is not pleasant. Very well, I will not sing. I will recite. Casabianca. The boy stood on the burning deck—"

"Go to h—l," said Walrus feelingly.

"Ah, you do not care for tales of heroism. Indeed, sir, you are very hard to entertain. Mercy. The quality of mercy is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven—" As if in confirmation, a furious squall lashed the heavy drops against the window. Walrus shuddered.

"My dear," he said to his wife, "why did you let me take cucumber? I shall be awake all night after it."

"I told you not to," she answered shortly.

"I'm afraid I shall have to read. I shall never get to sleep if it does not get better." He put on the light as he spoke.

It was certainly a graceful exit from the fray. But Simon had not yet finished with him. After a quarter of an hour he resumed.

"Methinks it grows late," he communed with himself in measured tones. "All good folk should now indulge in beauty sleep, which some of us sadly need. How many are in favour of this light giving forth its beams?"

Walrus alone replied. Simon awaited a chorus of seconding votes, and looked round in surprise.

"I gather that all the rest desire its extinction? You are unfortunate, sir, in that the minority is always with you. I trust that your digestion is somewhat improved. Goodnight, everybody," and he turned out the light.

### CAPPING

It is regretted that, as the meeting of the New Zealand University Council at which Degrees are conferred does not take place until the end of the month, the Capping Ceremony cannot be held upon the same day as Grad. Ball. It is, however, intimated from semi-official quarters, that a public congratulatory ceremony will be held early in the second term.

### WHY CRACCUM?

It appears that there exist quarters in which *Craccum* is yet unknown. A certain firm engaged in the manufacture of aerated drinks, upon receiving from the printer a bill for advertising in our columns, rang up and enquired "what is this *Craccum*—is it a disinfectant, or a flea-killer?"

Such ignorance is not altogether untempered with truth, a gleam of intuition, perhaps. *Craccum*, we do sincerely hope, is a purifying influence within these demoralising walls, where the extreme youth of our land is immured in its prime and later, emerges a mass of seething corruption and defilement. At least, so popular report has it.

Now, a suggestion. One cannot but think how the cause of purity would be advanced if the firm in question were to offer us a free supply of liquid refreshment. How many a pure young man would turn eagerly from beer to imbibe the liquid bubbliness of cool crystalline lemonade. The problem of the smoke concert solved at last!

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### THIS WEEK'S HOWLER

From a Latin prose: "Cicero set out several times but was driven back by adverse winds"—"Cicero aliquoties profectus, ventribus (stomachs) adversis repulsus est."

Seems to have been some moaning as he was crossing the bar.

### THE GREAT SWIMMING EVENT

33 1-3 yards Women's Scratch Back Stroke

Pity the poor starter. One can imagine a competitor fainting in his arms with the cry "Scratch me, Hardy!"

We are indebted to a couple of Freshers for the following. Can you beat it? If so, why not?

*There was a young maid of Cathay*

*Who went for a swim in the Bay.*

*Her bathing suit tiny*

*So shrank in the briny*

*That the fishes all scuttled away.*

## DON'T FORGET

## GRADUATION BALL

TOMORROW NIGHT, THURSDAY

### A.U.C.S.A. COMMITTEES

**FINANCE:** President, Sec. and Treasurer ex officio, Mr. Wilson.

**CARNIVAL:** President, Secretary and Treasurer ex officio; Messrs. P. S. Arden (Chairman); E. C. East (Sec.) J. M. Stevenson, D. H. Steen, G. G. L. McLeod, H. E. Strickett (Business Manager).

**SOCIAL:** Messrs. T. C. Hay (Chairman), E. D. Robins (ex officio), Winstone (Treasurer), Edgecumbe, Wilson. Misses Mueller (Sec), M. Forde, J. McCormack, N. Whitelaw.

**KIWI:** Messrs. J. N. Wilson, Editor (ex officio), Straubel (*Kiwi* Sub-Ed.), T. Ross (*Craccum* Sub-Ed.), Miss Kissling, Miss Lambourne, Mr. M. L. Stewart (Manager).

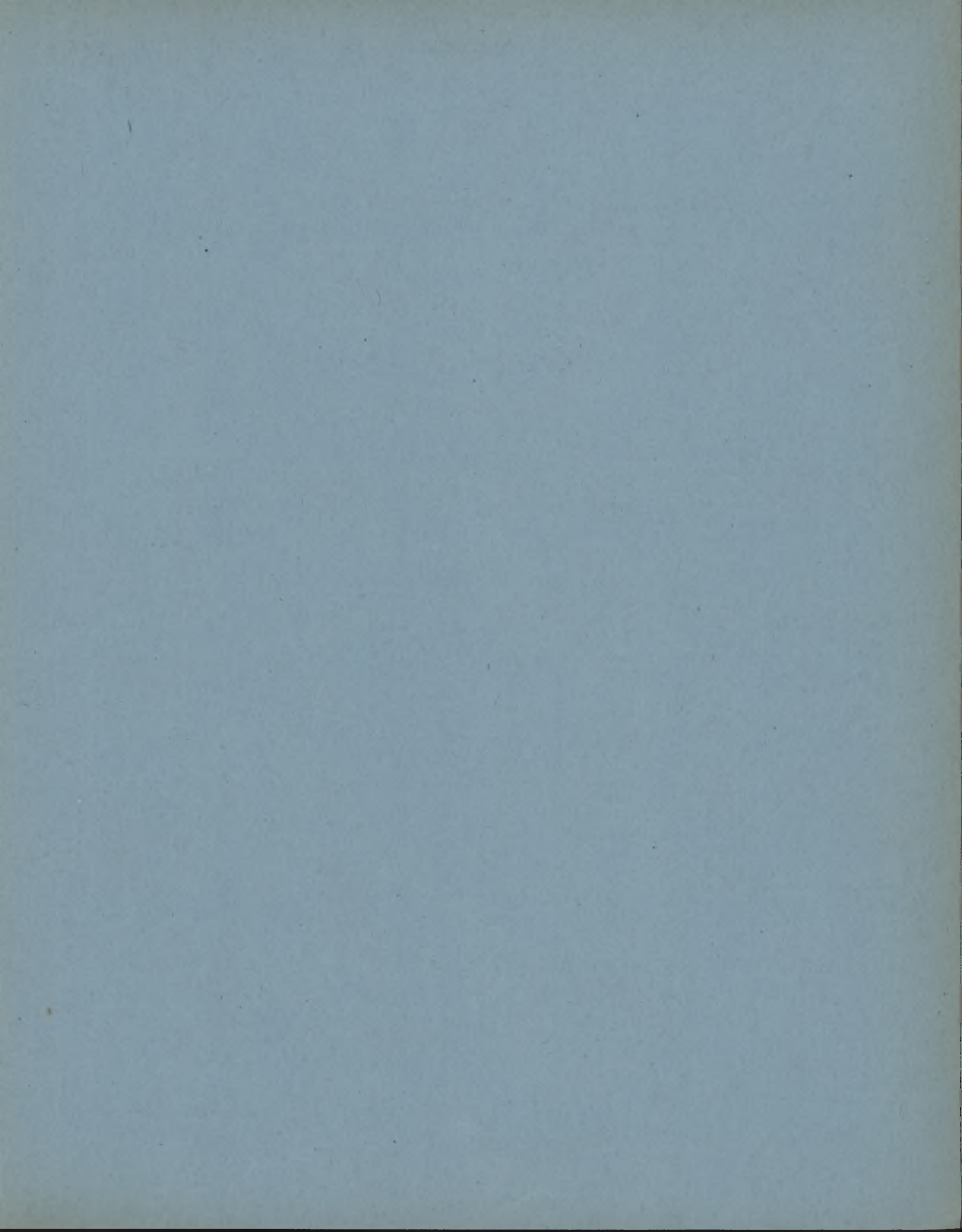
**MEN'S HOUSE:** Messrs. A. K. Turner (Chairman), McDonald (Sec.), East (Treas.), Sagar (Furniture), Robins, Miller, Wilson, Straubel.

**BOARD OF CONTROL:** Mr. D. H. Steen, President and Treasurer.

**WOMEN'S HOUSE:** Misses M. B. Forde (Chairman), D. Gilmore (Sec), M. K. Dunning, L. M. Cranwell, A. V. A. Lambourne, L. A. D. Hardie, D. K. Potter, M. G. Schmidt.

**CAFETERIA:** Woman Vice-Pres., President and Treasurer.

*Unless specially signed, statements made in "Craccum" do not represent the official opinion of the Students' Association Executive.*



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