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Vol. IV. No. 5

AUCKLAND, JUNE 13, 1930

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Craccum

Vol. IV. No. 5

JUNE 13, 1930

Price : 3d.

1/3 WILL PAY
FOR THE
REMAINING
ISSUES OF
CRACCUM.

Editor:
P. L. SOLJAK.

Honi Soit!

Managerial :
J. H. MURDOCH.

"Give a dog a bad name and you'll hang him," saith the old adage, and the same note of pessimism colours the outlook of those who, in criticising our present policy, have maintained that the case for *Craccum* must always be a hopeless one. With this policy of futility and defeat we are glad to disagree. *Craccum* can always be improved. Indeed, the course of reasoning followed by our opponents in arriving at the conclusion that a magazine, financed by a University Students' Association, and published for an intelligent circle of readers, should continue to be organised primarily for the expression of gratuitous personalities and scurrilities of a still more offensive nature, is beyond our comprehension. *Craccum*, they contend, was founded on a policy of "few ambitions, and fewer ideals;" far from aiming at the chronicling of college social activities and the expression of student opinion, the primary object of the magazine, they hold, was to tickle the ears of academic groundlings, who, failing to attain success in athletic or intellectual pastimes, would pursue the gentler sport of gossip as their sole divertissement. Here again we are pleased to disagree. For we feel that by adopting such a policy we should be wasting the finances of the Students' Association, and insulting the intelligence of our readers.

We need only refer to the "Handbook" publications manifesto, issued under the official authority of the Students' Association Executive, to determine the policy which *Craccum* is to follow.

"*Craccum*" it states, "has relieved *Kiwi* of the burden of chronicling all the minor activities of a flourishing College life. In addition it offers facilities for keeping the college as a whole fully informed of the doings of the various affiliated clubs and societies. Any student desiring to bring any matter of general interest before his fellows may do so by leaving in the *Kiwi* box an outline of his ideas on the subject. Clubs and societies are especially invited to make use of *Craccum*

for advertising their activities." The primary object of *Craccum*, then, is that of a college chronicle, and in achieving this it would fulfil the primary object of a university newspaper. "The minor activities of a flourishing college life," surely cannot include the gossiping references and anonymous innuendoes in which our critics have taken delight, for such material has never found a place in *Kiwi*, or any other magazine issued by a New Zealand university college. Both our southern contemporaries, for example, *Canta* and *The Critic*, stand first and foremost as chronicles of their respective colleges, and we should be foolish to adopt a policy different from this. The chronicling of activities connected with Tournament, Carnival Play, the Students' Association, and occurrences in academic and athletic spheres, besides the publication of club notes and the expression of student opinion, gives *Craccum* enough to do without deviating into those doubtful paths where flourish the weeds and tares of an idle mentality.

Were it not for the fact that the beardless immorality of our critics is of a purely literary and theoretic nature, *Craccum* readers might well take alarm at the news that such degenerates are harboured in our midst. In actual life, however, our critics lead the mildest of student existences, though we understand they have denied the rumour that one of them has joined the W.C.T.U. Ancient fable relates that the ass, parading in the lion's skin, was detected by his bray. We have noted the voices of our critics: "They lisped in numbers, and the numbers came."

It may interest readers, finally, to know that our very advertisers recommended an improvement in the *Craccum* policy at the commencement of the year, and since then in advertising revenue has increased accordingly. Moreover, the combined support of the student body has further heartened our efforts towards getting more and more of true news value into our fortnightly. For gossips, defeatists, and old women of both sexes, *Craccum*, 1930, has little to offer. Honi Soit!

STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

It does not seem likely that the application made by Training College students for a remittance of their subscription to the Students' Association will be granted. The College Council, it is understood, is against the proposal, and action has been deferred for the time being.

The annual club grants were approved at a meeting of the Students' Association on May 7th, with the exception of the Hockey Club's application, which was deferred for further investigation.

The question of an N.U.S. official magazine was considered at the same meeting. It was recommended for the time being that N.U.S. affairs receive publication in the present college magazines, "*Kiwi*," and the southern annuals.

A request from the Auckland Hospital Auxilary that the Students' Association assist at the Auxilary's proposed garden-

party at "Cintra" was received at the last meeting on June 6th. A sub-committee of three (Miss Walker, Messrs. Wilson and Soljak) was appointed to investigate.

Mr. Moorhouse was appointed house manager for arrangements at the Graduation Ceremony, June 12th, the provision of floral and other bouquets being placed in the hands of Mr. MacDonald. The lady members of the executive were appointed to take over the afternoon tea arrangements.

The Carnival Play Committee was congratulated on its efforts in the production of "All Quiet on the Waterfront," which has resulted in a fair profit. A similar vote was accorded the Hockey Club on its victory in the recent inter-university tournament.

A request was received from the "Sydney Referee" for contributions on University sports activities. Messrs. Minns and Soljak were appointed correspondents for the association.

CAPPING DAY

Canterbury and Victoria Celebrate.

Capping Day in Auckland is observed in comparatively quiet fashion, whereas in the southern centres it continues to be regarded as an event of civic importance, a manifestation of that love of sport which is said to actuate our national life. Celebrations at Canterbury and Victoria took place during the first week of May, and in Dunedin will be held late in the present term, commencing on a Monday and ending the following Sunday at daylight. We submit the following reviews of this year's processions and extravaganzas in the South for the entertainment, and possibly the instruction, of our readers:—

VICTORIA.

Capping Procession: Capping Day is too important an event to be dismissed in any prosaic fashion. For many years the most outstanding function in the proper celebration of Capping Day has been the procession through the streets of Wellington, and for a couple of hours on May 9th the students of Victoria, strangely clothed, invaded the main thoroughfares and made merry at the expense of all and sundry. This year's procession was not, perhaps, as ambitious an effort as those of previous years, but it provided ample entertainment for all good Wellingtonians, and in that it achieved its main purpose.

Heading the procession came two "dirt track riders," doing their best to retain a rather uncertain seat on a motorcycle whose general craziness was accentuated by the fact that its back wheel was more oval than circular. Next came a patient draught-horse towing an antediluvian car labelled "The Silver Pullet," followed by a band of unemployed musicians discoursing anything but sweet music and serving to introduce "Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Blodieslow," a rustic couple who surprised everyone by bowing smiling acknowledgments in the approved Vice-Regal manner. In their wake advanced a fearsome dental clinic of buxom nurses, who took manifest pride in the long rows of sheep's teeth displayed above the operating theatre, which was also occupied by a doctor who gave illustrations of the wonders of modern surgery by producing a cow's shin-bone from the stomach of his lusty and unwilling patient. Vividly depicted was the tableau of a band of policemen and hula maids mingling in an idyllic medley of paint and palms, with the labelled invitation, "Come to Samoa and be a Bobby." The Wellington carillon was amusingly caricatured in the form of strings of quart bottles and kitchen utensils carefully marked "high" notes and low "notes" played with great gusto by a lusty sexton. Then came topical burlesques on the Sarron-Donovan fight, the "smellies" (a near relative of the talkies), the British XV., and a "flying" police squad. Last of all was seen a cardboard cow, fully life-size, from which a dairy farmer produced beer instead of milk by operating its tail in pump-handle fashion. The procession finally halted in Post Office Square, where the Mayor handed over the keys of the city to Lord Blodieslow, inviting him to "go where he liked, but to please leave the pubs alone."

The undergrads' supper was held on Thursday evening, followed by items from the Haeremai Club and a dance at Victoria College. The Diploma Ball came off with great success in the Town Hall on the evening of Capping Day, the cardboard cow being once again in evidence.

Extravaganza: "Captain Kyd," showed that the standard of student entertainment is definitely on the upgrade. Hitherto the extravaganza had tended towards musical comedy, with

neither the music or the comedy of a very high order. This year a change was made. In the preface to "Kyd," the authors (who modestly hid their identity under the names of Gulbert and Sullivan) lamented the failure of their work "to attain to the full dignity of topical burlesque." "Kyd" may not, perhaps, be worthy of so complete a laurel wreath, but at least a few bay-leaves are due for the many topical allusions with which the piece abounded. Current events, particularly politics, occupied a large part of the play.

Captain Kyd ("scourge of the scuppers") is in search of £70,000,000 in treasure-trove buried in the United Archipelago, and also seeks the favour of Fairiel, with whom he is sure he is in love. His companions in adventure are pirates, piratesses, politicians, and Little Eric from Berhampore, who referees everything that comes along, including the First Test and the Sarron-Donovan fight. Through an unfortunate error, Kyd falls in love with Quina, Queen of the Fairies, but later transfers his affections to the real Fairiel. Matters are further complicated by the arrival of Pimpernickel, a lady of decisive notions, who has put to sea to learn the pirate trade—and marry Captain Kyd too, if she knows anything about it. But the slighted Quina takes bitter revenge by changing the much-sought-after seaman into the Member for Parnell, and in this nameless plight he is left until the arrival of Sherlock Holmes, who, with the inevitable Dr. Watson and an outsize in magnifying glasses, is looking for New Zealand, a land where "there's wool and flax and little All Blacks wherever you choose to go." The peerless detective promises to restore Kyd's identity if, in return, he will put him on the right track to Aoteroa. The bargain is struck, and the finale precipitated.

The songs included "How to Make a Party," and "That's What Put Me into Parliament," together with some rollicking sea-chanties. Mention must also be made of the colourful ballets and the ensembles, which were introduced with striking effect. Other gaps were filled in by the divertissements of two Darwinian apes and a ballet of simian "he-houris." Altogether a refreshingly novel type of display.

CANTERBURY.

Capping Procession: This year's procession, held on the morning of May 6th, was neither very long nor very original. However, the boisterous pranks of the students, and the very absurdity of their jokes and dress, easily carried them through the day, diverting most people for the moment. The revels culminated on the balcony of Warner's Hotel, where the regal party had its say under a bombardment of oranges, tomatoes, pumpkins, apples, and dishwater.

At the head of the procession came a confused murmuring from the band of the "Samoan Police," in which several of the Mau were conspicuous for their tropical headgear. This was followed by the regal chariot, in which reclined in some, if not in all their glory, the King of the Students, the Queen of the Students, the Bishop of the Students, and numerous titled Retainers of the Students. The bishop pronounced innumerable benedictions, while their Majesties made low comedy.

On the next lorry "Warmer Bros.," in conjunction with "Pathos Pictures," presented "Pure Squawkies for Impure People," the first being an "all-squawking, all-silent, all-fighting, all-flesh-and-blood, all-skin-and-bone, all-bunkum, dramatic superphosphate." A frenzied appeal was made for more cen-

sors, the Rev. E. Pardoner Mildew being the first nominated.

"Spend Your Next Holiday in Sunny Antarctica" flaunted the headlines of Rear-Admiral Byrd's expedition, a "copyright U.S.A. scene" depicting doubtful doings at the South Pole where explorers in bathing costumes noisily defied both wind and weather. A penguin of a new species looked indifferently on while the Rear-Admiral's aeroplane was nailed to the Pole. The Women's Christian Temperance Union appeared in the act of superintending marriages at the Majestic, and the men of "The Black Watch," in appropriate costume, sang longingly of their loves and of their homes.

"Chromadyne—How We Do It!" showed "The Gold Diggers of Christchurch" hard at work, surrounded by a collection of electrical gear and minor mechanisms. One of the best displays of all was labelled simply "Heaven!" and pictured beneath an exuberant gentleman playing a harp among six formidable barrels labelled "Honey-mead, XXXX," while half-a-dozen student saints looked in bibulous admiration. Gruesome sights were revealed in the civic crematorium, where stalwart butchers cut up bones and fed them into a stove. "Early to bed and early to rise; we all get up in the dark" was the motto affixed to a vigorous presentation of "Atmore's Agricultural Academy," which was followed by an unorthodox version of the "Carniferous-Dribbling" heavyweight bout.

Nearly 4,000 people were massed in the Square by the time the royal group appeared on the balcony of Warner's Hotel. Undaunted by the hail of fruit and vegetables, which rained upon him, His Majesty proceeded to address "all those groundlings of this, our talkie-ridden city, a city infested by mayors and their myrmidons, Hackers and Thwackers, with plump, podgy, prying, passively-passionate, pseudo-politicians, policemen and parasites who crowd upon this Babylon, where the purity of our lads and lasses is nightly threatened at our early-closing dance-halls." There was a great deal more, a few words of which could be heard amid the laughter of the crowd. Before he retired the King conferred birthday honours on "Mr. J. K. Archer, D.H.A. (Diploma of Hot Air), Dr. A. J. Thacker, D.F.P. (Doctor of Football Disputes), Justice E. D. Mosley, S.M.M.F. (Master of Fatuity), Hon. G. W. Forbes, O.N.P. (Our Next Premier), and Professor J. Shelley, P.W.W. (Popular With Women)." By noon the Square was clear for the cleaners, who had been specially appointed for the occasion.

The undergrads' photo was taken in the College quadrangle at 2.30 p.m., followed by a formal procession through the streets and afternoon tea at Ballantyne's. Dancing at Dixieland was continued till 5 o'clock, and the Diploma Ball in the evening completed an arduous day.

Extravaganza: A noisy Capping Day was brought to a conclusion with a fairly quiet and unusually respectable revue called "Knuts in May." As a home for student productions, the Concert Hall is much less satisfactory than the Theatre Royal, for by the nature of its design it does not give the same opportunity for that by-play before the curtain, which was once one of the most amusing attractions of the carnival. Now, more than ever, the success of the evening depends on the revue itself; no longer diverted by cat-calls and introductions by megaphone from the boxes, the audience looks to the stage alone for the return for cash invested in the box-office. It is good to note, therefore, that an effort is being made to give the revue a real artistic standing, and to include in it something more worthy than burlesque of the cheapest and most vulgar kind. A measure of success was thus attained in

the 1930 revue, which consisted of three potted plays, and a series of interludes.

The production opened with three songs by "The College Crowers," whose conventional dress-suit garb was in marked contrast to the motley raiment worn earlier in the day. The songs were strictly topical and well rendered.

In the "Interlude, 1930," the women of the college discussed topicalities to the tune of "Funiculi-Funicula." "The Disorderly Room," a military melodrama set to music, was good, although over-long. In the second half, a pleasant pot-pourri of song and dance by the women was followed, unexpectedly enough, by a very serious and convincingly martial exhibition of fencing. Next came the men of Rolleston House with a burlesque starring "Greta Garbage" in "The Broadway Nightmare," described as "her first all-stalking picture, and probably her last." The scene moved from a Broadway nightclub to the American Supreme Court, while the "Vixen Movie-tone News" was shown to beguile the audience's waiting. The night-club scene included a couple of "shootings," executed, according to best American tradition, to the accompaniment of nasal choruses rendered by a scintillating "gold-digger" ballet, which in this case, however, was bony and masculine, and had to be seen to be believed. The tragedy was received with applause.

The scene of "Yung Chang," the final act, was laid in China, and was played entirely by men of College House. Though hardly novel, the story of Oriental love and intrigue was good, offering rich opportunities for the asides of the student, who for 35 years had tried to win his B.A. The acting of the five principals was excellent, and the songs, written mostly to Sullivan's airs, were effectively sung. The book and staging of "Yung Chang" were, indeed, so good, that the play ranks easily as the best effort in college revues in the past three or four years.

SARTOR RESARTUS

or

The Tramp Triumphant.

It was a summer evening,
Proff. Tommie's coat was done;
And he was quite ashamed to look
So shabby in the sun.
His hat was very old, and he
Walked in the shade, that none
Might see.

It was a winter's evening.
The weather-clerk felt jolly
And therefore tipped a ton of rain
On Tommie's ancient brolly.
He hurried home in rags and tatters
Musing upon sartorial matters.

And so on Graduation Day
He donned a robe silk-lined,
And musically made his way
(His graduettes to find)
With joyful step, through dry and damp
Looking no longer
Like a tramp.

"ALL QUIET ON THE WATERFRONT—"

A Candid Review

By ONLOOKER.

Possibly the most attractive feature about "All Quiet on the Waterfront" was its title; but the name was the only thing that savoured of the waterfront. In recent years there has been a tendency to produce musical comedy, with not a great deal of music, and very little comedy. The dearth of topical references in the lay-out of "All Quiet," apart from the songs, and the detail involved in the illustration of Chinese social philosophy and court procedure did not make for the type of production to be expected from a student body.

ACTING GENERALLY GOOD.

The actual interpretation of the various parts was good, and the actors are to be complimented on their performance, particularly as the material with which they had to work was not easily adaptable to student efforts. The first act depicting exotic scenes of Imperial China was more than reminiscent of the Mikado, with this difference that the action dragged considerably. Spontaneity was indeed lacking until the arrival of Mrs. 'Iggins, whose charwomanly qualities were displayed with true feminine insight. Mr. P. Brodie was the life and soul of the whole play. Once again Mr. A. H. H. Fryer-Raisher proved a tower of strength, and his singing was deservedly popular. Though smaller than usual this year, the part of leading lady was gracefully filled by Miss Joan Hankin, whose first appearance was promising. It is a pity her voice could not compare with the appeal of her winsome personality. It is, however, satisfactory to note that the University has been able to produce a lady capable of taking the leading part.

The urbane cruelty and the ruminant philosophy popularly attributed to Imperial China were skilfully portrayed by Mr. E. C. Laurie. He played his first big part this year, and he certainly produced the 'splendid dignity' essential to the depicting of a Chinese Emperor. Anything in his part which contained the element of humour was developed with real skill by Benjamin Bunsen. Mr. R. F. A. Grey appears to have some instinct for what will make an audience laugh. The ballet was interesting. Individual efforts often are.

It may be said that any success attained by the play was due to its portrayal and production rather than to its construction. We hesitate to say how much of the success of the piece itself and how much to the humour of its audiences. We repeat that the title of the play was its cleverest mistake.

MUSICAL COMEDY A FAILURE.

Let it be said straight away that the following remarks do not apply solely to "All Quiet" but to other similar productions. Instead of basing the plot on some topical event, happenings of local interest were incidental only in songs. The "topical hits" were a source of never-failing popularity. They always are. And we suggest that had the whole plot been topical, there would never have been the fear, always present on the first night of amateur shows, that it "might not go across."

Moreover, topical incidents were not lacking. The Samoan situation was a veritable 'promised land,' while the Harbour

Bridge Commission was far from a barren wilderness. It might also have been possible to stage a 'Lundon night' with the City Council, or to help the Transport Board with its manifold temptations.

The successful production of musical comedy calls for perfection in a multiplicity of detail. It calls for a large cast, each member of which is an amateur. Mastery over this detail implies more than mere word perfection in the cast. It means stage presence, which few people have naturally. There are numberless little details in production and construction which appear only on the first complete rehearsal. Furthermore, all who have taken part in a 'Varsity play know the time spent in preparation; but to overcome these defects the time spent in rehearsing is insufficient. And it is scarcely possible to lengthen it.

No impersonal criticism of the ballets could be anything but harsh. The ballets are always weak, and in the nature of things they can scarcely be anything else. Of all sections of a musical comedy which require hard work, the ballet perhaps calls for the most. Professional troupes take years to reach only imperfection, and the time at the disposal of a 'Varsity cast is a mere few months. The inference is obvious. Our girls do wonders, and deserve all the credit which a loyal student would like to give them, but

MAKE YOUR AUDIENCE LAUGH.

The public do not go to our shows to see third-rate ballets and second-rate singing; but they are very willing to be amused. For the duration of the "topical hits," 'Varsity plays are completely successful; and that is the part which might be called burlesque. To treat lightly incidents of the day has grown to be a tradition of 'Varsity extravaganzas. That is, the public expect it, and when they get it, they emulate the proverbial Oliver Twist, and ask for more. It is logical to suggest therefore, that the more there is topical in the piece, the more there will be of laughter.

Once make an audience laugh, and the little things important to the success of the musical comedy, simply do not matter. Did it excite the criticism of the audience that Mr. Aubin's voice was like a rusty saw? Certainly not. But supposing Mr. Fryer-Raisher The thought is ghastly, but it nevertheless strengthens our contention.

Criticisms which appear in the press always seem to be the part only in a kindly sort of way. Generous allowances seem to have been made beforehand for "the young people." This implies that our plays will not stand the cold light of honest opinion, and to a large extent this has been true. Patronage is more intolerable than the unpleasant truth; and we suggest the remedy lies along the lines indicated.

A word of appreciation is due to the producer of "All Quiet," Mr. J. A. S. Coppard, and to the committee, whose untiring efforts were largely instrumental in making the production a financial success.

It is understood that a profit of about £200 has accrued from the play.

EXPENSIVE DEGREES

Impoverished Students.

By TWO OF THEM.

"A very high proportion of our young people receive their secondary education free," said the Hon. J. A. Hanan, M.L.C., Pro-Chancellor of the University, in an announcement recently, "While a considerable number are provided with a free education at the University." We may, we consider, quite rightly join with a newspaper commentator in asking the honourable gentleman to define the word "free." For every student has realised ere now that any such usage must be strictly comparative, if the word can, indeed, be used at all.

A year or so ago, for instance, the scale of lecture fees was raised all round, so that it now costs an arts student £5/5/- and a science student £8/8/-, for each unit of his degree, besides an all-round charge of £1/1/- for each examination subject. Still another levy is required for his diploma, but it is not until he commences reading for honours at anything from £7/7/- to £10/10/- a subject, that he fully realises what our "free" educational system entails. Even with a scholarship or bursary, it costs a student a minimum of sixteen guineas, not including text book expenses to qualify for an honours degree.

Student executives have already protested against this

crushing burden of fees and levies, but apart from this, we consider it undesirable that a university education should be assessed in guineas. Roll numbers for the four colleges have dropped steadily within the last three years, a fact which strengthens the suspicion that the present scale of expenses has already created a serious class distinction within a supposedly democratic university.

It is a fact, indeed, that free education was more of a reality 500 years ago than it is to-day. When we read of the student multitudes who attended the free universities of medieval Oxford, Paris and Bologna—sometimes to the number of 30,000 in one centre alone—we realise more keenly that the ideals of true culture have been to some extent forgotten. Those universities flourished through public, but still more, through private endowment, and the opportunity of enjoying a free university education was open to all. It is regrettable to think that the University of New Zealand is so little assisted by public or private endowments that it must look to an impoverished student body for so great a proportion of its revenue.

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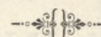
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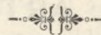


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FOOTBALL

The form shown by the College football teams this year has provided considerable food for reflection and grounds for much varied criticism. A review of matches played, particularly those by the 1st fifteen, show a distinct drop in form as compared with the last few seasons.

In levelling criticism, however, "Craccum" recognises that there are two salient features to contend with; firstly, that in the law of averages a club cannot persistently be, season after season, at the top of the ladder, and, secondly, that the individual player must vary in form from year to year.

A perusal of press reports reveals a consistent weakness in the back tactics. Game after game the inside backs failed to draw their men, and when this fault was eventually overcome in the Grammar Old Boys game last Saturday, the result was the obvious reward for a much-to-be-desired change in attack.

There also appears to be considerable doubt among older footballers as to whether the best is being developed in the team; however, Mr. Hardy must be congratulated in at last being able to view some material reward for his labours.

Rae, at half, is absolutely sound. N. Jenkin has given a poor display to date, but should he again strike the form which he showed in past seasons he will, with McKay, make a steady five-eighths combination. On the manner in which he makes use of opportunities, McKay is undoubtedly the best of 'Varsity's inside backs.

Minns, on the wing, is quite up to his last year's standard and should have again a strong claim for representative honours. Milliken, on the other wing, played patchy football

in earlier matches. However, his determined running in last Saturday's match may prove that he is capable of becoming one of 'Varsity's most vigorous backs. Butler is, of course, a tower of strength, and without his ability as full-back 'Varsity's defeat on several occasions would have been decidedly heavier.

The forwards generally are sound, particularly Anderson, whom we must congratulate on again reaching well-deserved representative honours.

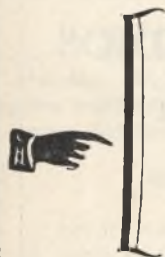
In regard to the lower grades, the success achieved has been very moderate. Undoubtedly next year the question of strengthening the A. team in these grades will have to be considered. Other Auckland clubs have for some time now adopted the practise of composing the A. team in each case of the cream of the players in that grade, and although it thus bears to some extent a flavour of "Pot hunting," it also produces a better standard of grade play and its adoption by 'Varsity would certainly result in the College being in a much more pre-eminent position than they have so far held this season.

Special mention regarding junior teams must be made to the services of those gentlemen who are giving up their time to train younger players. In almost every case they have been actual participants in big football. It is at considerable sacrifice to their personal pleasure that these men have devoted their time to the management of grade teams, and in consequence this makes another solid reason why players should consistently attend training practice. "Craccum" pays a special tribute to the work done by Mr. N. Cashmore, and trusts that, as the result of that gentleman's efforts, the 'Varsity 2nd Colts will produce the quality and form which is certainly latent in the team.

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HOCKEY

Victory for A.U.C.

The inter-university hockey tournament played in Wellington at the end of the vacation resulted in a win for the A.U.C. team, present leader in the local competitions, the much coveted emblem of victory, the Seddon Stick, thus returning to Auckland.

Play throughout the tournament was of a refreshing type. There was a complete absence of bad feeling and the talkativeness so much in evidence in local club hockey of late, with the result that Wellington hockey fans were treated to an exposition of the game superior to that seen in club competitions.

In the eliminating rounds Auckland defeated Canterbury in a very evenly contested match, in which extra time was needed to decide the issue. Victoria, although holding a substantial lead at half-time, were forced to lower their colours to Otago in the closing stages of the game. The best game of the tournament was witnessed when Auckland defeated Otago in the final, 4-2.

Both teams favoured the short passing type of play. The Auckland forwards, well served by a cool and solid set of backs, with combination and judgement, played an inspired

game. The Otago team played with determination, but were still two goals behind at the final whistle.

Of the Auckland team Bestic and Hay deserve special mention in a line of good forwards. Brown, full-back, was one of the main supports of the rear division. Radcliffe, at centre-half was as clever and versatile as ever. Dr. Noakes played a very solid game, using the push stroke to good advantage. Crawley delighted with his cold judgment and strong hitting. The value of penalty corners was illustrated by the fact that during the tournament, Auckland scored five goals from the seven penalty corners awarded, Radcliffe being responsible for four and Hay for one.

A team selected from the combined universities played a drawn game with Wellington. The 'Varsity team, after being two goals down, played aggressively, just failing to snatch a victory. The game was played at a very fast pace, the Wellington team showing signs of cracking up just before the end. Four members of the Auckland team played in the New Zealand University team, gaining New Zealand Blues—Crawley, Brown, Radcliffe and Taylor. Radcliffe, who captained the 'Varsity eleven, was the outstanding back on the field. V.U.C. has been invited to send a team to Auckland at an early date.

The women's tournament was won by Otago.

E. Africa



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CORRESPONDENCE

HATS OFF TO THE HONGIS!

(The Editor, *Craccum*)

Sir,—It seems to me that the attitude of students officially towards the Hongi Club conveys the impression of a critic “desiring to damn with faint praise.” In defence of this club, I maintain that it fills a valuable function in University life. It represents that section of the student community which has not quite left its youth behind and which thinks it not in keeping with a degree to frown upon all gaiety not strictly middle-aged.

I do not sympathise all that the Hongis do, but inasmuch as they represent the desire to form a ‘Varsity spirit, they have my whole-hearted support. I maintain that during the recent tournament they saved our College from acquiring the almost deserved reputation of being merely a glorified night school. They formed the rallying-ground, round which could gather any other of the students who desired to present a solid front for Akarana. And if one is to judge from results, they fulfilled the popular need. The same people who “without sneering teach the rest to sneer,” when now they hear tales of a noise made by the Hongi Club, would gather round to smile and listen when at tournament time, they heard the college war cry swell from some 60 enthusiastic voices. Of course, one realises that circumstances alter cases, and that the college need only make the pretence of a spirit when its painful nakedness would be obvious to visiting teams.

Is it possible that, since the Hongis have made their presence felt, I have heard rumour of letters received by student officialdom, suggesting that the Hongi Club use its organisation for charitable purposes? If so, it would appear that their fame—and not notoriety, as a body like the Hospital Auxiliary which have no use for the latter quality—grows apace and stretches beyond the confines of Princes Street.

To those few original members who had the courage to brave the indifference of their fellows, and the prejudice of officialdom, I take off my hat. I am, etc.,

ONLOOKER.

‘LET US NOW PRAISE FAMOUS MEN’

(The Editor, *Craccum*)

Sir,—I am pleased to have this opportunity of expressing in your columns the gratification I feel at the behaviour of the students at this year’s carnival play. Last year the play was presented at St. James’ Theatre, and the management was somewhat perturbed at the rumours which were current concerning the behaviour of the students on the last night of the play. The executive and the carnival committee, I regret to say, went to the length of guaranteeing that the behaviour of the students would be as good as that of any other audience; and their confidence was justified to such an extent that Mr. Ray Fuller gave the association a most cordial invitation to use his theatre again this year, if it could be arranged.

As a spectacle, however, everyone must admit that the last year’s student show was a “dud” when compared with the more convivial atmosphere that prevailed this year. Under the 1930 regime, the dull decency of last year seems to have passed away, giving place to a livelier and sprightlier student atmosphere. The public must have particularly appreciated the deafening cheers which prevailed in the theatre almost throughout the first scene. They were treated too, to the spectacle of the students receiving two separate exhortations from their leaders to calm down. (I might have said, had I been prejudiced, two public rebukes by their own fellows for their ill-breeding.) This alone must have seemed to the audience worth the price which they had paid for their seats.

Perhaps the funniest item of the evening’s entertainment was the pelting of the audience and orchestra with bags of flour. They must have appreciated this intensely. I award the palm, however, to the beautifully accurate shot of the gentleman in the gods who hit one of the ladies in the ballet direct in the eye with a carrot, knocking her down on the stage in the direct view of the public. This act must be admitted to give the thrower a considerable chance when the election of Students’ Association officials for the ensuing year takes place.

Yes, let us be glad, sir, that the bad old days of prosy and stodgy 1928 and 1929 are passing away: in 1930 let us congratulate ourselves for acts such as these I have mentioned, which will certainly keep our college well before the public. I am, etc.,

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