



A.U.C.'s Unofficial Monthly Magazine.

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August 10th, 1932

## Elections

The election fever hits the College at the same time every year. It lasts for about a week and then dies abruptly down. During that week the student world does not always appear in its best light. Sectional interests, which one would suppose the College to be without, are revealed and faculty "tickets" are strewn all over the common rooms. This ticket business started about three or four years ago with the Hongi Club—it was the worst of that clubs' innovations. Last year other groups of students who fancied that they had a certain community of interests produced their tickets, and it looks as if it will be worse than ever this year. As it develops the voter will find himself voting less and less for the man and more and more for the faculty or club. The Executive that is elected on such a system will be hopelessly divided. It has always been reckoned the mark of a good Executive officer to have a certain impartiality and to refrain from attempting to further the interests of the clubs to which he belongs. This is a spirit which should not be allowed to vanish, but it will pass inevitably with the spread of the "ticket" system. Of course there is this to be said for it that it helps the voter to know what sort of a man he is voting for, but if anyone were to take a little more trouble before the election to select his candidates, and to make sure that he knows

them all, this would be unnecessary. Students should remember that the man is more important than the thing he stands for. It has often been suggested that a grand election meeting should be held in the week of the election at which all candidates would appear, be introduced to the audience and speak if they wished to. It only needs some active individual to arrange such a meeting and it would become an eternally popular event.

## DRINK AND THE DEVIL

A little more unfortunate publicity came the way of the students lately on the subject of drinking at College functions. Such publicity, which it seems impossible to avoid, should serve as a warning as to the necessity of considering sometimes the public who are pleased to keep a fatherly eye upon us—and as they pay at the rate of about a pound a head for our education, one is compelled to admit that they have some right to their say in our behaviour—although not much. Father of Ten should really confine himself to the judging of the results and not the process of University education.

Without considering the ethics of the question of drinking it is possible to arrive at certain conclusions as to the attitude of students and staff to the matter. It is in the first place fairly reasonable to prohibit drinking in the



College. It is in the second place reasonable to prohibit the presence of people under the influence of liquor at College functions. Most students would admit these things. The Professorial Board is fairly clear in its attitude—students are to control their own functions only so long as these two prohibitions are observed. To any self-respecting student there is only one course open, the control of his own functions. Having agreed to this then, as the great majority of students would, there remains the question of the enforcements of these prohibitions. There are two ways by which a man can stop himself drinking a bottle of whisky. One is to lock it in a steel safe and throw the key away, the other is to decide not to have it and to abide by this resolution. The self-respecting would again prefer the second method. It is possible to apply this parable to the subject under discussion. Given the right attitude among the students and the regulations which the "Herald" chooses to feature would no longer be necessary. With the election of a new executive and the start of a new year for the College, it might be possible to approach the Professorial Board with a view to removing the restriction on the parking of cars within the College Grounds. This restriction is a slur on students, a slur—it must be admitted—which has been earned in the past, but it makes rather a bad impression on outsiders, and it is a restriction that could be made unnecessary by the co-operation of the students. There is no doubt that the student attitude in this matter has changed radically in this respect during the last two years. It is no longer thought fitting for a man under the influence of liquor to find his way up to the University and amuse the other men; nor has drink been found to be essential to the conduct of University functions. It remains only to form this present attitude into a tradition, and then to remove the restrictions. Abstinence is a higher thing than Prohibition.

J.M.

A mule and a Ford car met on a certain road in the neighbourhood of Tarbes in south France.

"Hullo," said the mule, "what are you?"

"I'm a motor car," said the Ford, "And you?"

"I'm a horse," said the mule.

And they both laughed heartily.

\* \* \*

One disadvantage of being a hog is that at any moment some blundering fool may try to make a silk purse out of your wife's ear.

## WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE COLLEGE ?

### AN INDICTMENT OF OUR ADMINISTRATION

There was a time not long since passed when by power we meant a straight right arm. We have now progressed beyond that era. Liberal education has given to us a new power—that of the intellect. But men to-day are very much what men were in those olden days when the strong right arm was law. Their hearts are just the same and their hearts are still as important as their brains. Men are not yet cold, calculating, intellectual machines.

In some cases intellect has progressed to the stage when it controls the man, instead of the man controlling it. Such individuals are not capable of understanding the existing standard of morality nor of making the legislation it demands, nor have they the qualities of leadership. Intellect of this type is not the true aim of education whilst the world and men remain as we know them. As we know, "Great wits are akin to madness and 'tis but thin partitions that as walls divide."

The great trouble in our College life to-day is that the masculine element is not dominant on the governing bodies. Individuals are trying to legislate for men whose qualities they do not understand—individuals who have none of the strong masculine personality required to set a code of conduct which may be followed. Apart from the sectional interests, I could not for some time understand why there should be such strong feeling between the students and the Executive. The truth of the theory which I have just propounded was revealed to me by accident. At about 8 p.m. one Thursday recently I walked into the Men's Common Room. Gathered together there—God alone knows from where—were about thirty young chaps—helpless looking individuals, regarded separately, and showing little promise taken collectively. They were buzzing like flies—not big blowflies but pesty little house flies—preparing tickets which advocated the election of candidates of their own calibre. Later I went out to a Rugby practice and saw about 50 strapping young fellows exercising their still dominant masculine side. The iniquity of the whole situation thrust itself upon me. I realised immediately that it was from men of this type, the scholar and the

athlete combined, that the candidates should be selected—from types of manhood at their best. If this masculine element dominated in our College there would be no need for copies of undignified and really unnecessary restrictive regulations being posted around the Notice Boards. There would be no need for a committee of fools to parade dances sniffing the breaths of those who mysteriously appear sufficiently intellectual despite deep chests and thick calves to be able to appreciate beauty and wit. There would be no possibility of narrow minded gossipers undermining the foundations of University life, of unpatriotic traitors running to the city newspapers with every bit of scandal from the same common rooms.

This is the really great trouble in College life to-day. The senior masculine element is not dominant on College bodies. Every person who has a vote at the forthcoming elections, and who has the welfare of the College at heart, should give this matter his serious consideration.

Greater interest would undoubtedly be created in the College administration were copies of the reports of each Executive meeting posted on the Notice Board. It has been remarked how little such a body can do in an hour: This move might stimulate the Exec. to quick thinking and short talking. My belief is that the Exec. would either wake up or wear leather pants.

The House Committee should be selected by the Executive. Little interest is taken in such an election and a few fellows—again the type that seeks easily won College honours—may get together and be returned by about a voting power of about thirty or forty strong. The House Committee should be composed of men of a good type, capable of using physical suasion if necessary, rather than a group of highly-trained, plain-clothes detectives.

With regard to the Elections, I think that legislation should be passed permitting two separate elections, one in each common room. From my own experience I am opposed to women being on the Executive in any numbers. Most of the "women" are very young girls, in many cases exceedingly foolish and with incredibly distorted ideas of what life really means. But as they have the franchise it is only right that they should vote for their own representatives.

The men of the College must be gathered to-

gether occasionally. Biscuits and coffee may suit an S.C.M. Sunday tea admirably but prove a poor drawing-card for the masculine element of the College. Periodic smoke concerts, with sufficient beer for a few drinks all round, could be run very cheaply and would do more to mould a college of men than a thousand coffee evenings, or ten thousand restrictive regulations.

College life can be revived almost immediately by pulling down all posters—works of art though they be—which notify that certain "don'ts" must be recognised. For men are moulded finely by nature and have their code of honours. An essential to this is that the senior masculine element of the College be put in power. If this is recognised and acted upon then once again College functions may be worth attending. If not, the sooner the Professorial Board takes over the better. In fact I would advise and would be prepared to lead a deputation to the Professorial Board, begging them to do so and thus save making a scapegoat of some poor unfortunate who will be picked on for the occasion on which power will be removed from student bodies.

We members of the Students' Association put the Executive in power. If they fail in their duty let us have a day specially set aside—call it "Settlement Day"—on which every financial member of the Students' Association, together with two friends, may be at liberty to kick each and every member of the Executive as often and as hard as he likes.

From our interest success will come.

WILLIAM LONG BARKER,  
Retiring Sports Member.

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## THE PAST YEAR

### A CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET

Students will have had an opportunity of perusing the Annual Report of the Students' Association for the past year, before the Annual Meeting, which is to take place on Thursday, August 11th. The Annual Meeting is usually well attended, but more interest could be sown, and any really sensible student should be deeply interested in seeing what has been done with his guinea.

Generally speaking the year has been a successful one for the Association. The Executive which took over in August last found itself faced with several questions of policy to decide, and with the prospect of a large drop in income. It is for students to say whether they consider the matters of Dictation Lectures and smoking in the Women's Common Room were dealt with adequately. The plans for Capping Celebrations were of a comprehensive and fairly satisfactory nature and it is unfortunate that circumstances outside the College prevented the programme from being carried out. It is to be hoped that this will not discourage future Executives from trying to put our Capping Celebrations on a good footing. Next year being our Jubilee year should add incentive to the movement. A fairly successful Tournament took place in Wellington at Easter, and the College has no cause to complain of the showing of its representatives. In sport generally the College has not had an outstanding year, but all the clubs seem to be on a sound footing and the advent of the Harrier Club means something. The Bona Fide student question seems to be settled once and for all—or at any rate most students would be prepared now to wish it oblivion. Socially it has been a fairly quiet year, although Graduation Ball and Freshers' Welcome were outstanding successes. It is time, however, that a definite movement was made towards cheaper social functions; and furthermore far too many so-called "Balls" are held during the winter term. Some are successful, but most of them are failures, and the average student is debarred from attending them. The time is past when we could depend on a rich social set to finance our dances, and something more definite in the way of a social policy should be laid down for the coming year. There seem to be too many mid-week coffee evenings, functions which

could equally well be held on Saturday nights at the expense of more pretentious dances.

The purchase of the printing press by the Executive is open to criticism, but it seems to be functioning satisfactorily at present. Only the future can show what is to become of it. Further criticism may come the Executive's way over the rules regarding the conduct at dances. It must be pointed out, however, that the Executive has had little choice in the matter. It seems rather, however, as if the right attitude has not been adopted always in this connection. More could be done by way of examples and personal influence and less in the way of black and white posters and inquiries. The Men's House Committee has offended in this respect, and looked at one time as if it would develop into a permanent court of justice.

On the financial side everything is, to use a poetic phrase, rosy in the garden. This, the worst year of the depression, has been the Association's best financial year. Every department has earned a profit, and the way in which the Cafeteria has been made to pay reflects credit on the Business Manager. The decisions of the Grants Committee may have caused some heart-burning, and it remains for students to question if they so desire the policy which has been laid down of reducing all but sports grants.

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"I hear your Professor called you a wooden-headed fool."

"No, he didn't make it as strong as that. He said, 'Put on your hat quickly! Here comes a wood-pecker.'"

\* \* \*

A high-brow musical lady

Gave a high-brow musical tea;

"What's Goodonov for them," she said,

"Is good enough for me."

—Beachcomber.

\* \* \*

Then let us not at all condemn

The prophets of the S.C.M.

Who with their daily bit of leaven

Make this College more like Heaven.

For Heaven, so the proverb says,

Is the making place of marriages.

—Maevius.

## A FREE DISCUSSION CLUB

A propos of what we are pleased to dignify with the name of a leader on the "Student and the Outside World" which appeared in our last regrettable issue, a correspondent writes as follows:

Dear Sir,—I feel that the lack of interest shown by the average student in the outside work is more or less superficial and that the interest is there but lacks a means of expression. There is in this College no society which devotes itself to the consideration of things which are actually happening in this country. The International Affairs Society is interested in the affairs of the world, as its name implies, but there are at present more urgent things happening at home. The Debating Society needs to be demolished and reconstructed. There is little hope for it as long as the present team method rather than the parliamentary system dominates University debating. Such a method destroys the spirit of give and take, which should be a feature of University debates, and produces a race of third rate orators, rather than quick witted, thinking men and women. The old art of interjecting has died with the years and it needs a question such as the Abolition of Women from the University to rouse any enthusiasm or to fill a lecture room. Meanwhile the city may fall in ruins before we think of it. The great problems of the day, socialism, unemployment, capitalism, sovietism, democracy, fascism—in short, all the varied aspects of man in his relations to the world in which he is condemned to live—these things are left to obscure groups of thinking people throughout this city, but they concern not the University which, as the reputed intellectual centre of the community, should at least be trying to find out an answer to these problems of the day. These things are more important to us than economic or international questions. Experts in high places are dealing with such matters, and we can influence them but little from our end of the world. But everyone of us is continually being forced to put into practice the views which he holds on social questions. A Free Discussion Club need not necessarily end there. As far as religion goes, it would do both Christians, rationalists, and agnostics good to meet on a common ground and to hear what their fellows are thinking. But whatever the Club discussed

it would add something to University life which is lacking now.

As far as the constitution of such a club goes, little difficulty should be met in forming it. A club of this nature flourished for many years in Victoria College. The procedure seems to be to get, if possible, someone from outside to address the meeting for not more than half-an-hour, and then for the assembly to tear him to pieces. Most speakers would enjoy the chance of explaining their views to an audience of intelligent students. Proceedings should be quite informal, speakers would be able to address anyone at all and for any length of time, provided there were no other claimants for the honour, in which case one presumes that they would be silenced fairly quickly to make way for others.

I should be glad to hear through your columns if anyone is interested in the idea, and, if possible, a start might be made this year with the necessary organisation with a view to starting the club next year.—Yours, etc.,

SOCRATES, JR.

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## CANDIDATES AT THE ELECTIONS

(The following details were obtained in most cases from the candidates themselves. The Editor wishes to apologise for any omissions.)

- ADAMS, G. O., B.A. College representative Athletics and Debating. Member Debating Society Committee and Men's House Committee.
- BELL, BRUCE. Commerce. Commerce and Debating Society Committees, leader Student Orchestra.
- BLOW, E. H., B.A., Teacher. Chairman Social Committee, Editor Publications, 1931. Member Literary Club Committee.
- BOSWELL, W. G. 4th year Commerce Student, B.Com. Secretary Football Club.
- BOWDEN, C. G. (Penny). Teacher and Arts Student. Tournament rep.
- CRAWLEY, L. W. A., B.A. Full time Arts Student. Senior Hockey Player. Senior scholarships in Greek and Latin.
- FITZPATRICK, LL.B. Member Law School Committee and Hockey Committee. Member Swimming Club Committee.
- GARLICK, J. C. Full time Science and Engineering Student. Senior footballer—captain University Athletic team—N.Z. University Blue.
- GRAHAM, J. C. Full time Arts Student—Secretary Men's House Committee. Sec. Athletic Club, Sec. International Relations Club, Deputy Captain Harrier Club, Member Tramping Club Committee.
- HAMILTON, S. S. P. Head Prefect Auckland G.S. President Training College, 1931, Senior Footballer, Arts Student.
- HILL, A. R. Law faculty. Member for Legal Affairs, Sec. Literary Club, 1930-31, Sec., Grad. Ball, Captain Harrier Club, Tournament Rep.
- HOLMES, P. Full-time Arts student, resident St. John's College.
- JONES, F. G. B.A. Dip. Journ. Practising journalist.
- LOWRY, R. W. Full time Arts Student and Master Printer. Member of Literary Club Committee, Debating Society Committee and Secretary Carnival Committee.
- MACVEAGH, J. P. LL.B. Law Faculty, Senior footballer, N.Z. University Football Blue, Law Scholarship, member Football Committee.

- MACDAIRMID, S. Full-time Engineering Student. Secretary Tramping Club. Engineering Society Committee. Orchestral Society and Harrier Club.
- MILLIKEN, W. M., LL.B. Law faculty. Senior footballer and Auckland rep. Law Society and Football Club Committees. Law Scholarship.
- MOIR I. 4th year Commerce Student. Treasurer Men's House Committee 1931-32. Tennis Club Committee.
- MULGAN, J. A. E. Editor Publications 1932. Carnival, Literary Club, Social and Football Committees.
- PATERSON, E. B. Chairman Men's House Committee 1932, Social Committee, Debating Society Committee, Musical Society Committee.
- RICKETTS, J. Full time 3rd year Science student. Secretary Field Club.
- ROBERTSON, F. H. Head Prefect Mt. Albert Grammar School. Full time Arts and Divinity student. Secretary French Club.
- RUDMAN, B. E. Final Year Accountancy and B.Com. Men's House Committee. Athletic and Harrier Club Committees.
- SPOONER, T. G. M. Training College Student. S.C.M. President.
- STEWART, I. Commerce. Men's House and Social Committees.
- WHITE, S., LL.B. Secretary Law School. Hockey Committee. Social Committee 1931.
- WHITMORE. 4th year full time Architecture student. Member Architects Society Committee.
- BYRNES, M. P., M.A. 8 years Auckland cycling champion. Chairman Amateur Cycling Club. Member of College Orchestra and Jazz Band.

## Women Candidates

- CALLIS, NANCY. Prefect Epsom G.G.S. Commerce student. Secretary Commerce Society. Literary Club Committee. Hockey Committee.
- CHAMBERS, JEAN. Prefect Auckland G.G.S. Tennis representative.
- MACKY, RUTH. Head Prefect Epsom G.G.S. Women's House Committee. Social and Literary Club Committees.

NORRIS, PHOEBE, B.A. Prefect Auckland G.G.S. Captain Basketball Club. Tournament representative.

ROBERTSON, BARBARA. Head Prefect Auckland G.G.S. Women's House Committee. President Science Society.

THOMPSON, JEAN. Arts student. Tournament representative and N. Z. University Blue. Member Swimming Club Committee.

Voters are reminded that they are to elect seven men and three women.

At the presidential elections last week Mr. M. G. Sullivan was elected unopposed for a further term as President of the Students' Association. Miss Dorothea Mulgan was also elected unopposed as Women's Vice-President for the coming year. In the election for the secretaryship Mr. E. P. Haslam was successful against Mr. Rudman.

## "THE WIDE OPEN SPACES"

To the minds of many this title may bring the image of green fields, mountains, bush and flowing streams. It may denote the air fragrant with the perfume from native flowers and cool with the taste of the sea, or it may refer to the great blue sky or the softly lighted heavens of night; it may speak of the songs of birds, of the whispered greetings from the tree tops or of the beautiful friendship of nature. But to me such delightful thoughts lie dead. I, too, was once as sentimental as a spring-time poet; but experience has increased my knowledge and altered my judgments entirely. Within the rising and setting of the sun a single ray of knowledge enlightened my whole outlook. From romance I have slipped to realism, from theory to fact.

"Learning," said Lord Bacon, "must ever be subservient to action." But by action he meant mental re-action. The breaking of twenty-mile records, tramping hastily over bush-clad mountains, sliding recklessly down precipitous cliffs, slogging mile after mile through knee-deep mud, and sitting, wet and cold, in a crowded bus for an hour—these are not the types of action to which Bacon refers, for they can in no way be related to mental reaction. Such extreme physical exertion displays an entire lack of mental activity or judgment.

If last Sunday's tramp to Bethel's Beach exemplifies the motives of the Tramping Club, then I would seriously advise that the names given to the participants be altered from "trampers" to "legalised lunatics."

As one who has lived all his life among nature, I cannot see what great benefit can be gained from association with such a club. The true motive of tramping should be to give the members the opportunity of visioning nature. By visioning I mean more than merely seeing. The sight, touch, taste and reaction of nature on man, are the elements of importance in the motive for tramping. The physical development gained from the tramping may be of considerable importance, but strength is as much mental as it is physical. Indomitable courage and inflexible will power, true strength, are displayed in nature, and the example when seen may be remembered and emulated.

The conservative claims that the great barrier to socialistic success is that when the aim for profit is removed, initiative and resource will fail. The Extreme Socialist claims that the profit element does not count. He considers that man often works best when the reward is not considered.

At one part of the journey on Sunday I almost adopted Socialistic doctrines. The trampers

## ERRATUM

Miss Callis is not standing: for her notice please read:—

WARREN, Betty. Prefect Epsom G.G.S. House Committee  
S.C.M. Executive

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TD.



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seemed to be seeking no material reward, yet they were releasing more energy than a football team endeavouring to win a cup final. But later realisation came to me. Just as Russia is working under a competitive system—competing with her policy against the rest of the world—just as she is seeking a reward—the reward of being able to say to the world, “We have done that which we set out to do; the game is over, let us begin again”—so, too, the reward which the Tramping Club was seeking certainly existed. It took the form of a satisfaction—the satisfaction of being able to say, “Boys, we have broken the record. Last Sunday we travelled eighteen miles; to-day we have covered twenty miles.” But just as in the case of Russia, should she reach her goal, the stimulus to action dies with the triumph and the effort brings little that is permanent. A narrow end was sighted, sought and achieved. Energy was expended in making a structure, but its foundations were on quicksands.

It is, indeed, a sad state of affairs when a man's pleasure becomes a labour. What profit to man though he gain the whole world yet suffer the loss of his own soul? What benefit to a trumper though he reach his narrow goal yet fails to see the flowers upon the roadside? He leaves the city to seek the open spaces; to be away from the clatter of machinery, but no sooner away than he in turn becomes a hard, cold automaton constructed to smash records.

When the “trumper” leaves the artificial life of the city in the pursuit of a more gentle environment where contentment may reign, he seeks true happiness. Undoubtedly the “trumper,” as I found him, receives an ephemeral thrill of pleasure from his triumph, but the

goal was so narrow that the effort counts for little in life and leaves no lasting impression. Surely by now we should know that sips from the cup of pleasure are often followed by regrets, but a comb from the hive of happiness sweetens the whole of life. Trampers should aim at a wider goal than the mere thrill of pleasure arising from an insignificant triumph. for, as 'tis said, “Pleasures are as poppies spread; you seize the flower the bloom is spread.”

—W.L.B.

### THE CAFETERIA

(To the Editor)

Sir,

In writing to your paper on this subject, I do so with a certain amount of reluctance. But I find it necessary to put aside for a moment my scruples in the matter of discussing food in public, and draw your attention to the fact that in my opinion the University Cafeteria suffers from a surfeit of cabbage. Now the cabbage, in itself, is a notable vegetable—quite devoid of any of those snares and wiles that make up the character of, say, the vegetable marrow. Nothing to my mind could be more delightful than to gaze on a landscape composed of Chinamen's gardens, with row upon row of stately cabbages swaying majestically in the foreground and middle distance. Even the snow-crowned cauliflower, shyly ushering in a new spring, has not that atmosphere of solid worth, that Victorian security, that so endears the cabbage to me. And even when killed and purified by fire, the cabbage may still have a charm all of its own when nestling against a slice of roast beef.

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But, Sir, when I dine in our Cafeteria and see before me, day after day, this noble animal, I become a little weary. Even Aeneas tired of Dido after he had seen too much of her. So do I tire of the worthy cabbage. The effect on the body of such wholesale ingestion of boiled cabbage must be a source of gratification to the apothecaries of this city. We absorb boiled cabbage at every meal and inevitably we must develop brains composed largely of boiled cabbage. I think the root of the troubles of to-day, depression, unemployment and civil strife, lies in plateful after plateful of boiled cabbage.

In suggesting that our Cafeteria should occasionally add the carrot and the bean to its menu, I feel that by so doing, the cabbage may in time become a thing of delight, an article for the epicure, a rapture for the gourmand.

Trusting you, sir, will use your influence in helping me to bring the cabbage back into its own,—I am, etc.,

“PANGLOSS.”

#### THE TRAINING COLLEGE STUDENT

(To the Editor)

Sir,—For how much longer are we to have Training College students in our midst? Is our University to be a place of learning for the sake of knowledge, or must it become ever increasingly vitiated by these obnoxious parasites who throng to it in an over-zealous endeavour to gain the small modicum of knowledge that is necessary for them to attain before they become the over-paid servants of our

glorious Government and settle down to the easy life of teaching the children of New Zealand to speak English with a Colonial accent? These students are no credit to our University—they are the fly in the ointment—the lump in the porridge. They pollute the Common Rooms and the Cafeteria—they wear lumber jackets—they are intolerably smug. There is not one single revolting indecency to their credit. They are the most vicious band of anti-vice snoopers in two thousand years of Christianity. They are exquisitely parasitic upon their fellows—and what do they give to the University in return for fouling it? Nothing.

Sir, a number of these students should be annually sacrificed to the other faculties. No doubt this could be arranged, and might prove a pleasing sight. The Professors of Biology would, no doubt, take the matter in hand. I, myself, would be pleased to lend any small assistance that is in my power.

There is one other use to which these spiritually sterile creatures might be put. The interest shown by the public in the lower and more obnoxious animals is well known. The persons who wisely avoid the pole cat in its native haunts, throng to see it when caged in a suitable zoo. I suggest that we turn evil into good by taking advantage of the curiosity of the public and exhibiting a number of these adenoidal pole cats in some institution, making a small charge for admission—all profits to be given to the Mayor's fund.

Trusting that the Students' Assn. will act in the matter.—I am, etc.,

“PANTAGRUEL.”

## STONEX BROS.

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## THE POETS IN OUR MIDST

Within a few days of the appearance of this issue of "Craccum," there will appear the second issue of that esoteric bird, "The Phoenix." Those people who have the pleasure of reading "The Phoenix," will be doubtless struck by the poetry that occurs at well spaced intervals throughout its nicely designed pages. To some, this poetry is a strange, an alien thing. It has none of that simplicity of thought, that musical cadence that we were accustomed to find in the poetry that graced our school days by way of the Golden Treasury of the excellent, but I fear, old-fashioned Mr. Palgrave. It doesn't rhyme, it doesn't scan. In fact, we secretly ask ourselves, although we would be ashamed to admit it, can this be poetry?

I have been reading lately a collection of verse and have come to the conclusion that the Oriental races have many admirable qualities. They are pioneers. They gave us, I believe, gunpowder, the magnetic compass, and a profound reverence for the sayings of politicians and other sages. I have made the interesting discovery that they have also given us *vers libre*. Take, for example, this beautiful little thing called "Cherry Blossom."

"Oh boy cutting grass on the hill  
Do not cut it like that.  
Leave it as it is for the feed  
of the honourable horse  
that bears my master home."

You see the exquisite pathos of it all. It gets its effect without rhyme, without scansion.

Then there is another little gem appropriately called "Evening Rice."

Verse 1.

"Oh worthy Yang-tse-Kiang  
Where are you going,  
you are so large  
and so full of water.

Verse 2.

The gong beats  
over the coolies  
who watch the noble famine-Lord  
and make obeisance.

Verse 3.

When you flow, oh river,  
rippling, rippling, rippling, rippling,  
how sad the helping of each other  
to tie the pigtail.

Verse 4. [Unfortunately cut out by the editor.]

Nobody could deny this is true art. It is perhaps a little marred by the hint of obscurity in verse 3. Yet verse 4 makes it all so very clear.

I could not help feeling that authors connected with "The Phoenix" might with advantage follow the example set by the style of the poems.

Here, for instance, is a little trifle that I may send to the editor of "The Phoenix."

"Because the Hotels in Queen Street  
are so many,  
are so many,  
somehow I lost you  
after my second ginger ale.

# Hellaby's Prime Meats

"Better Meats that cost you no more"

Hoping that I would soon awake  
I spent a whole night  
At the honourable Peter Pan.

In the next dawn  
there comes a strange feeling  
sickening, sickening, sickening,  
how sad the walking home  
of the too unworthy body.

The title of that is, by the way, "Windgrass."  
Or, we might, with effect, make a paraphrase  
of the first example given and call it "The  
green Buddha awaits."

"O student making hay  
with that Training College girl,  
Do not make such hay.  
I want her—if possible—  
to be punctual for the honourable lecture  
of Professor Egerton  
Who is now in the room."  
You see the possibilities.

—NEPHROS.

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## FOOTBALL NOTES

By W.L.B.

'Varsity A team are by no means selfish. They certainly have no desire to win all the games. But their motives are not entirely altruistic. Undoubtedly they work on the principle, "You win this game and let us learn a lot about football from your performance." Following this argument to its logical conclusion, 'Varsity A will soon have learnt so much about the game that it will be impossible for them to lose. (I hope Pat Caghey listens to Billy Wallace in Australia, or he will appear a novice the next time he dons the blue jersey.)

Keddely had undoubtedly been in the wrong position during the early part of the year. In the match against College Rifles he was moved out to centre and Vic Butler moved into second five-eighths. Allowing for the fact that the forwards did their work and got possession this change resulted in a victory. For the first time in the year 'Varsity backs began to pass the ball about quite cheerfully. Movements reminiscent of the days when the back line was Carter, Jenkin, Stotter, Goodwin, Minns, were in evidence.

In the match against Grammar, pouring rain and a muddy field gave an advantage to the heavier Grammar pack, which scrambled to a win by 12 to 5. A fine day would have seen good football and perhaps a hard fought close decision.

The following Saturday in a curtain raiser match to the Rep. fixture at the "Park," Crossman and Bunny Townsend, with occasional aid from the Training College team, were allowed to win and in turn gave 'Varsity A (minus Carter, Drake, Bush, Smith, Colgan and Stacey) an excellent opportunity to learn a little about what the backs should do with a

# Graduation

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ball when it comes their way. The lesson was undoubtedly appreciated, for the following Saturday 'Varsity A defeated Grafton by 20 to 9. On this occasion Carter, Drake, Bush, Cregan and Stacey were playing. Bush was moved up to centre and let the ball out to Milliken. This was the second time Milliken got the ball during the competitions this season. (In the match against Ponsonby Carter raced over from behind the scrum and gave the ball to Milliken to score—this was the first time.) Four tries, three of which came from back movements—one of them the result of a sole effort by Colgan—all of which were converted by Bush, gave 'Varsity a 20 point score and an eleven point margin.

Last Saturday, July 30, 'Varsity A had the "Big Game" in the Pollard Cup Competitions at Victoria Park. Carter, Drake and Milliken were away with the Touring team, while D'Arcy Smith and Stacey were on the injured list. In this match against Marist, Keith Anderson, who has been on the injured list all the season, turned out as full back.

'Varsity sportsmanship came to the fore during the game. A 'Varsity forward, brought up from the lower grade, picked up the ball at near the half-way line. He beat the whole of the opposition and went over, by the flag. Instead of touching down he ran on. Either he had such impetus that he couldn't stop, or he had so little faith in Bush's boot that he wanted to make the kick at goal as easy as possible, because he kept on going in an attempt to place the ball dead centre between the posts. As a consequence he was tackled behind the line by four Marist forwards who took the ball from him. Considering that this score would have

won the game one may have expected the well-intentioned but inexperienced player to receive some severe criticisms. But the 'Varsity team as a single man saw the humour of the situation even before the "wags" on the line, and were laughing heartily immediately. Cries of "Good old Bill" from his colleagues soon cheered the unfortunate chap. Bush confided that the next time "Bill" got the ball he was going to follow him up and as soon as he went over the line tackle him.

Pollard Cup matches will be continued until the Auckland touring team returns, when the four leading teams in the competition will play off. 'Varsity A is still among the first four. During these Pollard Cup games many of our seconds will receive some higher education. Rushworth on Saturday played on the wing for the A's. Playing with such wise Rugby heads as Butler and Bush he is getting an opportunity which many a young footballer would be prepared to leave home or steal chickens to obtain.

#### SAXON SONG

Sleete and snowe, sleete and snowe,  
Rain y-falle, windys blowe,  
Ena, deina, dina, do,  
Pop gowen weazyl.

—From the *Gowbottle Ms.*

#### ON A MODERN POET

I know of scribblers who compose  
Sad verse in drunken dozes  
But Mr. — simply sits and  
Decomposes.

—*Beachomber.*

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## POETS' CORNER

By M.—

It has become increasingly apparent to me, and doubtless, therefore, to many others that some method of control is urgently required in the case of a severe symptom of mental unrest that appears to have taken firm root in our unfortunate country. I refer, of course, to the writing and dissemination of poetry or alleged poetry or verse (free or otherwise). Mr. Cresswell writes verse in a traditional manner; Mr. Mason in another; and our lamented Count Potocki gets prosecuted for it somewhere else. Surely something must be done about it, but what?

This matter much distressed me until one day in Cafeteria I heard from a heated discussion round the centre table the phrase "poetic licence" hurled into the void. It entered my mind. The problem is solved. I beg, therefore, to offer to our rulers a suggested draft of legislation to attach a hitherto genuinely untrapped source of revenue. (Unfortunately the Bills Drafting Officer seems to have got mixed with the Defence Department or to have been having a heart to half-handle talk about the taxation of breweries with his boss, so the clarity of the following is occasionally dissipated.)

### A BILL TO REGULATE AND CONTROL THE LICENCE OF POETS

*Interpretation.*

A POET (which term includes "alleged poet" and "poet so-called") shall be a man (which term includes "woman") who or by whom writes or is written, as the case may be, poetry (alleged or otherwise) verse (or worse) free verse or blank

cartridge as issued to trainees in course of instruction.

POETRY AND VERSE is that which is written or alleged to have been written by a poet.

A LICENCED POET is a poet who has paid his fees and whose Statutory Commission has received a certificate duly signed by two medical practitioners.

LICENCED POETRY is poetry written by a licenced poet.

LICENTIOUS POETRY is licenced poetry written by a licenced poet on licenced premises.

### IT IS HEREBY ENACTED

1. Every person desiring to write poetry shall either write licenced poetry or unlicenced poetry.

2. Every person desiring to write licenced poetry shall fill in the prescribed form and duly tender present pay and discharge the duly assessed fee.

3. Every person so doing becomes a licenced poet and entitled to the rights, dues, dignities, privileges and freedoms the status of which thereunto as shall hereinafter be defined appertaining.

4. Every person desiring to write unlicenced poetry shall be prosecuted and the said poetry published in the annual Carnival Programme.

5. Regulations may be made by order of the Auckland Transport Board.

### FORM OF APPLICATION FOR LICENCE TO WRITE POETRY

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
of \_\_\_\_\_, being in my



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right mind and realising the consequences which may herefrom arise do hereby make oath (state whether 3B or 6H) and says as follows:—

\*I can write {readable } poetry or what  
                                {unreadable} verse  
may pass for same.

\*I {can {sonnets  
          {cannot write {ottava rima {Well  
                                {free verse {Badly  
                                {ballads  
                                {epics

\*I desire to publish {Craccum  
                                {The Phoenix  
                                {The Star  
                                {Sydney'sider  
                                {N.Z. School Journal  
my work in

\*I {admire {Chaucer  
          {do not admire {D'Arcy Cresswell  
                                {R. A. K. Mason  
                                {W. de la Mare  
                                {Humbert Wolfe

and can write {as well as  
                                {better than any of em.

\*I am {modest  
          {quite modiste and in witness  
          {very modiste  
whereof I here-to set my hand, etc.

\*Strike out what does not apply.

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2. May use the words "God," and "Damn" not more than three times on any one poem, lampoon, vilanelle or epic, and not more than once or any one of them in any one stanza of five lines. ("A" certificate, adult audience recommendation.)

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certificate, and may receive permission to be promulgated to the A.U.C. Men's Common Room.)

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### JOHN O' NORTON'S GAZETTE

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Degree I: R. A. K. Mason, G. S. P. de Montalk, A. R. D. Fairburn.

Degree II: Maevius, J. M. Bertram.

Degree III: Allen Curnow (this specimen is dangerous).

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## HARRIER CLUB

Few sports can claim as rapid a rise in popularity as that of harrier racing; and few clubs have risen as rapidly as our own University Club. Founded only last year by Geoff. Sceats, the club now boasts a membership of nearly sixty, and fields of over forty runners have been turning out regularly on Saturdays.

With only two races yet to be decided the season is drawing to a close, and although we failed by a narrow margin to win the inter-club teams championship, we have had a most successful team. Particularly gratifying have been the performances of the newcomers to the sport, noticeably J. Farland, E. Holmes, G. Robinson and G. Carter. Of the more experienced racers R. C. Haszard, C. Francis and A. Ball have all given good performances, while M. Hewitson has certainly been unlucky.

The value of the Harrier Club to athletics in the College cannot be over-estimated. After the Club's first season the 'Varsity managed to rid itself of that nasty wooden spoon, and if enthusiasm is any criterion the members of the club may see to it that the Athletics Shield remains in Auckland after Tournament next year.

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