

CRACCUM



APRIL 1935

PRICE 2^d

- THE VOICE OF THE STUDENT. -

The essential activities of the university student have been said to consist in 'thinking and drinking'. The last, from all present indications, can still be safely left to the individual initiative of the student. The first, unfortunately, suffers considerably, not so much from active avoidance as from passive neglect. Not that we have in any way reached the state of certain American universities, in becoming simply a residential building attached to a playing field. Our sporting life is threatened to a lesser degree by the same disease. But it is the intellectual life of A.U.C. which appears to suffer principally.

To descend from the sublime to the particulars, one might instance debating; although, indeed, our own Club is by no means the only one in Auckland which finds itself up against a general lack of public interest. But our particular grouch at present is connected with this very paper, 'Craccum'. Three or four years ago, we had in 'Craccum' a real organ of student opinion, appearing regularly, reflecting student humour, student interests and student activities. Last year it had declined into little more than an organ of official announcements, popping up shyly at irregular intervals.

Now a paper which does not appear regularly, with some kind of programme, does not invite contributions, and the less contributions arrive, the less number of issues can be published. So the vicious cycle continues, leading logically to a state in which students are apparently too apathetic to air their opinions in print, 'which is absurd', to quote our old friend Euclid.

One possible remedy, the adoption of which should not be impossible in the future, is that we should not despise taking an example from our sister-university, Otago, 'The Critic', which appears regularly once a fortnight during term, covers most student activities, and runs certain regular 'features', is managed by a committee of seven. And even if union is not always strength in such cases, at least it makes for the type of teamwork which ensures reliability. We, unhappily, although we use the editorial "we", are actually singular; or to be less misleading, non-plural; and we suggest that in future years an editorial committee might do something to remedy the position.

But the important thing, the vital thing, is that 'Craccum', not to mention 'Kiwi', should be supported by the students as a whole. Even if you cannot write for it, you can buy; judging from the number of students at 'Varsity, we should be able to sell enough copies to justify a printed, instead of a duplicated, issue.

Secondly, you can write for it. We want 'Craccum' to be as faithful a reflection as possible of what the student thinks and does. Contributions of all kinds are wanted; the only criterion is quality. You may feel you can write like Bernard Shaw. You may specialise in

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humorous (and preferably non-Mae-West-ish) verse. You may prefer to imitate the gentle Winchell, and cull the flowers of scandal. Or again you may be one of those "harmless drudges", the secretaries of societies; in which case you are probably the only person who can tell us what your particular society is doing. If you do all or any of these things, let us have the results; whereupon the editorial heart will be filled with gladness, and (far more important), we shall have a periodical put out by the University and for the University - truly "the voice of the student".

- The Editor.

ATHLETICS.

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Bright Chances for Easter.

Good performances on a track which gave little assistance were the feature of this year's championships.

Provided our Athletes do not get carried away by the Easter spirit, the local lads should make good in the frozen South.

The general increase in interest in Athletics in Auckland is reflected in better performances at this year's meet.

In the sprints, Sayers, ex-Secondary-school star, clocked good times in winning both the 100 and the 220 on a holding track. Miller was a good second in both events and will be first string in Dunedin with Jack Lewis his co-marker.

Another double winner was Ker, who collected the 440 and 880, in times which show that he should at least win a place at the Tournament. In the mile Cliff Francis scored a popular win to break the record, and seeing that the track was giving little assistance to distance men, it looks as if he may score Auckland's first win in this event since 1922. Auckland's record in the mile and 3 miles is a very poor one, her only wins in the mile being scored in 1907 by F. G. Dunlop and by R. M. Webber in 1920 - 1921 - 1922. The latter won the 3 miles in 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923. W. R. Vallance won again for Auckland in 1925, and since that date Canterbury has won on every occasion; our young athletes please note!

As was expected Ball won the 220 hurdles and can be relied upon to give a good account of himself at Dunedin. He was runner up to Anderson at the N.Z. Championships in the 440 hurdles last year, in the fast time of 56 3-5s., a new 'Varsity record.

Mason performed creditably in the field events, winning the shot, discus and javelin; while Ling collected the hammer. But compared with performances in other parts of N.Z. reveals the depressingly low standard in Auckland 'Varsity field events. This is due to absence of

facilities for training, lack of proper coaching, and general apathy. Field events count just as much towards championship points as the more spectacular ones, but up to the present have remained the Cinderella of A. U. C. Athletics.

In the absence of Hackett in the high jump, nothing outstanding was accomplished; and with Brainsby absent, J. Prendergast had no difficulty in winning the long jump and hop-step; granted ordinary luck he may win a 'Varsity title this year, as his distances are well up to standard.

While, on paper, Hackett is the only certainty, the team should make a good showing once more and courteously leave behind the wooden spoon, which until recently looked like becoming a permanent possession of A. U. C. Athletes.

A trip to the Tournament is well worth having and all athletes are recommended to keep up their interest in the sport and have a shot at the trip to Wellington next year.

Team chosen to represent Auckland University College, at Athletics, at the University Tournament, to be held at Dunedin during Easter vacation:

100 yards and 220 yards. W. G. Miller, J. D. Lewis.
440 yards, T. N. Ker. 880 yards, T. N. Ker, T. R. Johnston.
Mile, C. Francis, T. R. Johnston. Three miles, C. Francis.
220 yards and 440 yards hurdles, H. D. Ball.
High jump, P. J. Hackett. Hop, step and jump and long jump, J. B. Prendergast and P. J. Hackett.
Relay Race, W. G. Miller, J. W. Coney, J. D. Lewis, T. R. Johnston.

COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIPS.

100 Yards. - First heat: W.G. Miller, 1; E. Grant, 2; F.R. Wright and M.G. Miles, dead-heat, 3. Time 10 4-5s.
Second heat: A.J. Sayers, 1; P.C. Spittal, 2; W. Heerdegen, 3. Time 10 4-5s.
Final: Sayers, 1; Miller, 2; Grant, 3. Time 10 4-5s.

220 Yards Hurdles: H.D. Ball, 1; M.G. Miles, 2; P. Charlton 3. Time 27 4-5s.

880 Yards: T.N. Ker, 1; B.W. Thomas, 2; T.R. Johnson, 3. Time 2m. 3 1-5s.

Mile Walk: A.L. Arkinstall, 1; R.S. Edward, 2; Time 8m. 22 3-5s.

Javelin Throw: W. Mason, 1; W. Heerdegen, 2; Distance, 119 ft. 8½ in.

High Jump: P.C. Spittal, 1; J.W. Coney, 2; J. Prendergast, 3. Height 5ft. 3 in.

220 Yards: A.J. Sayers, 1; W.G. Miller, 2; J.W. Coney, 3. Time 22 4-5s.

Shot putt.- V. Mason, 1; A. D. McGregor, 2; M. W. Ling, 3.
Distance, 33ft 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
One mile. - C. Francis, 1; T. R. Johnston, 2; E. D' Ath Weston 3;
Time 4m, 37 1-5s. - a record.
440 yards.- T. Ker, 1; H. D. Ball, 2; B. W. Thomas, 3
Time 52 4-5s.
Long Jump - J. B. Prendergast, 1; E. Grant, 2; P. C. Spittal, 3.
Distance, 21ft 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.
Hop, step, and jump - J. B. Prendergast, 1; P. C. Spittal, 2; M. G. Miles, 3
Distance, 44ft 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
120 yards Hurdles. - E. Grant, 1; P. C. Spittal, 2; J. B. Prendergast, 3;
Time, 19 1-5s.
Hammer Throw.- M. N. Ling, 1; A. D. McGregor, 2; N. S. Joyce, 3;
Distance, 66ft 9in.
Inter-Faculty race.- 440yds, 220yds, 220yds, 880 yds.
Arts, 1; Commerce, 2; Science, 3; Time 3m 57 3-5s.
Discus throw.- W. Mason, 1; M. W. Ling, 2; C. Francis, 3;
Distance, 92ft 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Other Events

Freshers' Mile.- J. D. Matthews, 1; A. M. Ziman, 2; R. W. Mayson, 3;
Time 5m 1s.
100 yds. Handicap.- W. Heerdegen, scr. 1; E. Muir, scr. 2; W. M. Brown 2yds, 3.
Time 10 4-5s.
220 yds Freshers.- A. J. Sayers, 1; E. Grant, 2.
Time 23 3-5s.

ON THE COURTS

This year's tennis team, like the Civic Theatrette, will regale the public with a series of varied "shorts", ranging from those of Eric Halstead down to the pair which barely conceal the hairy calves of Cliff Brooking. But provided the umpires are not put off by this leg-show, the team can be expected to make a good shewing on the Dunedin courts. Tennis-fan's only regret is over the unavoidable absence of Charlie Floyd, whose performance with Gwen Gardner in last year's doubles was very encouraging. This year's players are all young and keen; the majority have represented before.

Team: Men's Singles: K. Carnachan, E. Halstead
Ladies' Singles: Misses G. Gardner, P. Bent
Men's Doubles: Halstead & Brooking
Ladies' Doubles: Misses Gardner & Mackinnon
Combined Doubles: Carnachan & Miss Bent
Brooking & Miss Mackinnon

B O X I N G

The finals of the boxing championships were decided on Monday evening and a high standard was revealed in all contests.

Results were as follows:

Bantam-weight -- G.H. Turner, 8st. 8lb beat R.C. Wallace 8st 10lb on a technical knock-out in the last round. This was an exceptionally good bout. Wallace put up a fine performance and should with experience make a N.Z. champion.

Light-Weight -- L.S. Watt, 9st 8 lb beat C.A. Calvert 9st 3lb on points in the best bout of the evening.
Abbott and Watt were advised not to box in the final of the Light Weight division owing to insufficient time being given for a spell.

Welter-Weight -- B.A. Abbott 9st 13 lb beat J. Ramsay 9st 12 lb on points after a good bout of heavy punching.

Light-Heavy-Weight -- A.C. Stuart 11st 2 lb beat E.D. Morgan 11st 8lb in a hard and close contest.

Heavy-Weight -- A.D. McGregor 12st 9lb beat F.C. Trott 11st. 13 lb in a very lively contest. McGregor won by default from W. Leggatt.
In a special contest J.D. Colleston 12st 13 lb beat S. McNicol 12st 8lb on points in a spirited bout. McNicol is a fresher and will be very hard to beat next year. Colleston showed good sportsmanship by entering the ring without notice.
J. Makgill 11st and J. Chapman-Smith 9st 3 entered for the contest and were unlucky in not drawing an opponent.

The following team has been selected for Tournament:-

Bantam-Weight, G.H. Turner.	Middle-Weight, J. Makgill (Capt.)
Feather-Weight, Clive Steele	Light-Heavy, A.C. Stuart
Light-Weight, L.S. Watt	Heavy-Weight, A.D. McGregor.
Welter-Weight, B.A. Abbott	

This is a good team and with hard training should do well. Clive Steele has the honour of being the only boxer who has won the gold medal for the most scientific boxer for two consecutive years. J. Makgill is the present N.Z. Varsity Middle-Weight champion. Mr. Postlewaite will be in charge of the Auckland corner at the Dunedin contest and all members of the team are advised to have a chat with him as soon as possible.

SWIMMING CLUB

Now that the season is almost over and our annual carnival a thing of the past it is possible to look forward to next season and anticipate a further improvement in the club's affairs. One of our main troubles has been to get a representative body of swimmers competing at outside carnivals. Next year we have great prospects of producing ten or twelve really good handicap swimmers. Our own championships this year were so closely contested by such a large number of competitors that interest has been stimulated to a very welcome extent. Now that we have what we have not had for years -- plenty of good material both among senior members and freshers -- we hope to develop some really class swimmers. This season a coaching class, subsidised by the club proved most beneficial to some, and these have agreed to assist with their knowledge in coaching on club nights during the winter, all other club members willing and keen to improve. If competition is any closer and keener next year than it was this, we have every reason to anticipate a carnival that will show a good profit.

Here it is necessary to say a few words about the Carnival which was held just recently, Tuesday April 9th. Entries were almost double the usual, attendance was slightly better, expenses were slightly less, performances were uniformly good, in some cases excellent. As a result we were able to prevent a financial loss which is usually unavoidable -- this despite the fact that hire for the Baths was £6.10.0 or 30/- higher than in previous years. For this satisfactory state of affairs we have to thank our outside officials who ran the actual carnival so smoothly, our committee members, particularly the ladies who stirred up interest everywhere, our club-secretary for his untiring efforts and last but not least the Hongis who made their row at the right time, turned on a really good novelty event, but failed to win the interfaculty Relay with the aid of Bob Frankham and Reg. Thomas! We thank also the Varsity students who turned up to watch -- just a little more support would enable us to show a fine profit and indulge in more coaching and activities in the way of week-end trips to Hamilton, Helensville etc.

This year only a small team is being sent away to Tournament, partly because the Students' Association cannot afford to send more, partly because we did not have more than two outstanding performers. Next year, however, with Tournament at Wellington, less severe opposition, through Symes not swimming, and improved swimmers to represent us, a full team will probably be sent. This is an encouragement for all likely freshers etc to join us, train with us, be coached by us, and swim for us. Our popularity as a club depends on how well our members are known in swimming circles.

The Carnival of the North Shore club on April 26th will conclude this season. This club will enter a team in the 20 man Relay. Will all swimmers who want a place in the team and also to swim in other handicap events please see Mr. L.E. Adams, the club captain or leave a note in the rack? Members and intending members are reminded that

the 1/- levy entitling them to a declared members' ticket and free-night at the Baths once a fortnight through the winter, is now payable either to him or to the club secretary, Mr. T. Haughey, C/o Architects' Studio, Room 44.

LITERARY AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY

DRAMATIC ACTIVITIES

"The London Wall" John Van Druten Wednesday, 1st May, College Hall.

"A moving and intensely interesting play with frank and occasionally richly funny dialogue".

"The Art of Make-up". An illustrated lecture by Mr. R.F. Spragg.
Probable date, 7th May.

All active members and others interested in the art should not fail to hear Mr. Spragg on this subject - a topic about which so many consider themselves well informed, and prove themselves really ignorant.

"Arms and the Man" George Bernard Shaw. Tuesday, 11th June, College Hall.

A few more gibes from G.B.S. - Politics in the Balkans.

"Gruarch" Bottomley

"World without Men" Tuesday, 26th June, College Hall.

Two excellent works, the second of which is a period play and will be staged in costume.

HINTS TO FRESHERS

1. Do not use too much milk and sugar in the Cafeteria.
2. Do not mistake people who wear gowns for lecturers - they're usually second years.
3. (For old timers) don't mistake freshers for Professors.
4. Hongis never graduate.
5. There are 569 Mae West stories - and everybody knows them.
6. When in doubt ask Collister.

MUSIC CLUB

The new Music Club, which has grown out of last year's free music lectures, can probably claim after its first five meetings, to be the most popular club in the College. With over 120 keen members, its meetings are always well attended, but there is still room for as many more as wish to join, and new members are enrolling every week.

Meetings are held on Fridays from 1 to 2 o'clock, so that 'lunch-time' people can come. They start with a short, interesting and very un-technical talk by Professor Hollinrake, after which everybody sings -- the sort of songs that everybody can sing, and enjoy. A 'voice' isn't at all necessary, nor even an 'ear', for one can always follow the next man!

Last Friday the club as a whole tackled the music of 'Patience' with enormous enthusiasm and enjoyment, as a preparation for the great performance which is planned for next year. From now on any student who can't hum or whistle these airs is going to feel very much out of it at Varsity.

Every third Friday the meeting takes the form of an entertainment by outsiders, followed by the usual free-for-all singing, and at it members as well as any friends they like to bring, have the chance to listen to visiting musicians. On March 29th Mr. Frank Sutherland gave a short song-recital, and on April 12th Mr. Harold Baxter of IYA studio with three other leading professionals played Haydn's 'Emperor' string quartet. Watch the notice-boards for announcement of other such concerts.

Every third Wednesday evening from 7 to 8 there is to be a concert given by members of the club followed by a general sing-song. All students are invited, especially those who are unlucky enough not to be able to come on Fridays. The first of these Wednesday concerts will be held in the Hall on May 1st. But the chief event of this year is to be a big public concert which we hope to arrange for the end of the second term. Of course its success will depend largely on the support of members, so that anyone who would like to perform, should get into touch with the committee and arrange for a 'preliminary canter' at the Wednesday concerts.

Perhaps the most outstanding feature of the club is its wide appeal. Members, from the freshest fresher to the most superior graduate, musical or unmusical, from all faculties come along and thoroughly enjoy themselves. Get hold of one coming away from a meeting at 2 o'clock on a Friday and ask him if it was any good. He'll give you the best testimonial the club can have!

PANKHURSTS ON THE PROWL

Women invade F.D.C.

The free Discussions Club has this at least in common with the Athenaeum and the Devonshire - that it has at last been forced to consider the problem of admitting women within its ranks. "A good time was had by all" at the meeting held to consider this important question on Friday, April 5th.

The opposing parties having entered the arena, it soon became apparent that the men, far from doing justice to their cause, preferred a policy of strength and silence, varied with nasty looks and pointed interjections. The women, on the other hand opened strongly with a fighting speech by Mrs. Banks. Bearing a striking resemblance to Mary Woolstonecraft defending the rights of women, she reminded us that the anti-feminist attitude was an anachronism, because of the breaking down of barriers within the last 50 years. Women receive the same secondary and University education as men; they are astonished to find a club labelled "Men only". "By so much", she prophetically concluded "as the Club ignores woman's point of view, by so much will it fall short of the truth."

Mr. Munro arose at this point to put in a much needed plea for sweet reasonableness, a plea which the subsequent proceedings seemed to ignore. The Club was started as an experiment, and women were excluded because it was considered that they might spoil the informal atmosphere. It was unfortunate, he felt, that Mrs. Banks might create an impression that the Club was anti-feminist.

It was courageously suggested by Mr. Braybrook that, in the discussion of certain subjects, some regard should be paid to the natural modesty of the male. Any attempt at this sort of argument was promptly squashed by Miss Alison, who stated that, anyhow, men had more experience in these matters (whereupon the ears of Mr. Braybrooke were observed to turn a delicate pink.)

Mr. Cotterall, who appeared to be labouring under some strange excitement, introduced a literary touch by quoting Banjo Paterson, and suggested that women, having no brains and no thoughts, therefore should not be admitted.

At this Mr. Spragg made a mysterious appearance from somewhere near the piano and remarked that, anyway, much talk did not apparently indicate much thought.

It soon became clear that the defenders (apart from Messrs. Braybrook, and Cotterall, left isolated in advanced positions) were becoming more and more dumb and disorganised. To account for this Mr. Hogan advanced the interesting theory that the men were dumb-founded by the charms of the women's delegation. He suggested that the women should retire while the question was considered.

It was insinuated by Mr. McIvor that a refusal to admit women to the Club would be taken to mean that the men had not sufficient confidence in themselves and afraid for their prejudices. And was it so likely, after all, that a mixed Club would lose its informal atmosphere? To which the Chairman replied that, as a matter of fact, the informal atmosphere had gone; the air could be cut with a knife. (Physics students please verify.)

After some discussion on limiting the franchise women were admitted to the Club on a shew of hands.

The Committee elected consisted of:-
Mrs. Banks, Miss Martin, Dr. Anschutz, Messrs Collister, Dumble, Hogan, Kay, Munro.

In the words of a contemporary, "interesting developments are expected", as it remains to be seen whether the women's victory was a purely technical one.

FLASHES ON THE FILMS

It is quite reasonable to assume that University students take at least as much interest in films as such, as they do in books as such. That is one reason why a University magazine should run a film-review. And as Varsity students we should know our movies and be able to supply intelligent criticism - a type largely absent in most New Zealand publications.

It is not their mis-titling of 'stills', their mis-naming of film-players, their often garbled accounts of plot, which matter. It is not even the advertising, varying from fatuity to bombast; any man with a child-like faith in modern advertising deserves all he gets foisted on him. It is their uncritical and indiscriminate enthusiasm for any and every picture, which makes the film-goer suspicious and at last indifferent. He prefers to 'see for himself'.

For example, de Mille's 'Cleopatra' arrived in a blaze of publicity; it was found to be a hodge-podge of chorus girls, bad history, and sound actors, voicing perhaps the worst dialogue ever heard on the screen. On the other hand 'Jew Suss', which arrived much more quietly, is noteworthy for several things. There is, first of all, Veidt's acting, always sensitive, never flabby; there is the consistent support he receives, especially from the male cast; the subdued richness of the settings; and finally there is the skill of the adaptation. The film succeeds in giving life to the central character just as conspicuously as 'The Mighty Barnum' for example, failed to do so.

In a similar way 'One Night of Love' combining first-rate music and third-rate sentiment, was lauded to the skies and had a record run. A little earlier 'Man of Aran', even with a ready-made reputation, ran only a week on a double-feature program; while two Claude Rains pictures, both characterised by his beautifully sensitive acting, ran for a week and passed on into oblivion. Incidentally, 'Crime without Passion' with 'Man of Aran' are probably the only two outstanding pieces of direction we have had this year. Two others worth mentioning were Boleslavski's 'The Painted Veil', with its unostentatious use of suggestion, and Mamoulian's 'We Live Again'. In this picture Mamoulian did a real service to Anna Sten by shewing that she was not merely a second Dietrich. 'Red Morning' is worth mentioning in this class for its New Guinea setting; while 'British Agent' was conspicuous for its accurate impersonations of the Russian leaders in 1917.

Quite a number of recent pictures have been saved from a merely average excellence by the tour-de-force of one actor; this applies conspicuously to Laughton in 'The Barretts', and to Hull in 'Great Expectations', an otherwise disappointing picture handicapped by the fact that the novel is poor screen material. A partial recognition of this phenomenon is seen in the way in which certain feature players are advancing, Atwill and Guy Kibbee for example, are building up solid reputations in their separate fields; while Connolly at last achieves stardom in 'Father Brown', which looks far more promising than the recent run of detective pictures.

AT THE FRESHERS' BALL

(Thoughts of a disillusioned graduate)

The same old superfluity
Of bashful incongruity
In rhythmic contiguity
 With saxophones agree...
See hoary-beard antiquity,
So reverend in obliquity,
Go prancing with ubiquity --
 Professors on the spree,
And Third-Years laud with charity
These specimens of disparity,
This organized hilarity,
 This academic glee...
While our emblem bureaucratic
Jostles warriors mathematic,
We, with impulse hydrostatic
 Seeking liquid solace flee...
Yet, in duty meritorious
We must champion all that's glorious,
And, postponing verse censorious,
 Syncopate for A.U.C.

S. C. F.

E A T I N G

This activity takes a number of forms. Eating one's hat would be an everyday thing if more promises were kept. Many people have eaten their words in most embarrassing circumstances. But these are mere foibles. The big stuff in the nutritive world is seen elsewhere, quite elsewhere.

Enough is B E T T E R than most feasts if it is consumed at your

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We supply anything from steak pies to magpies.

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