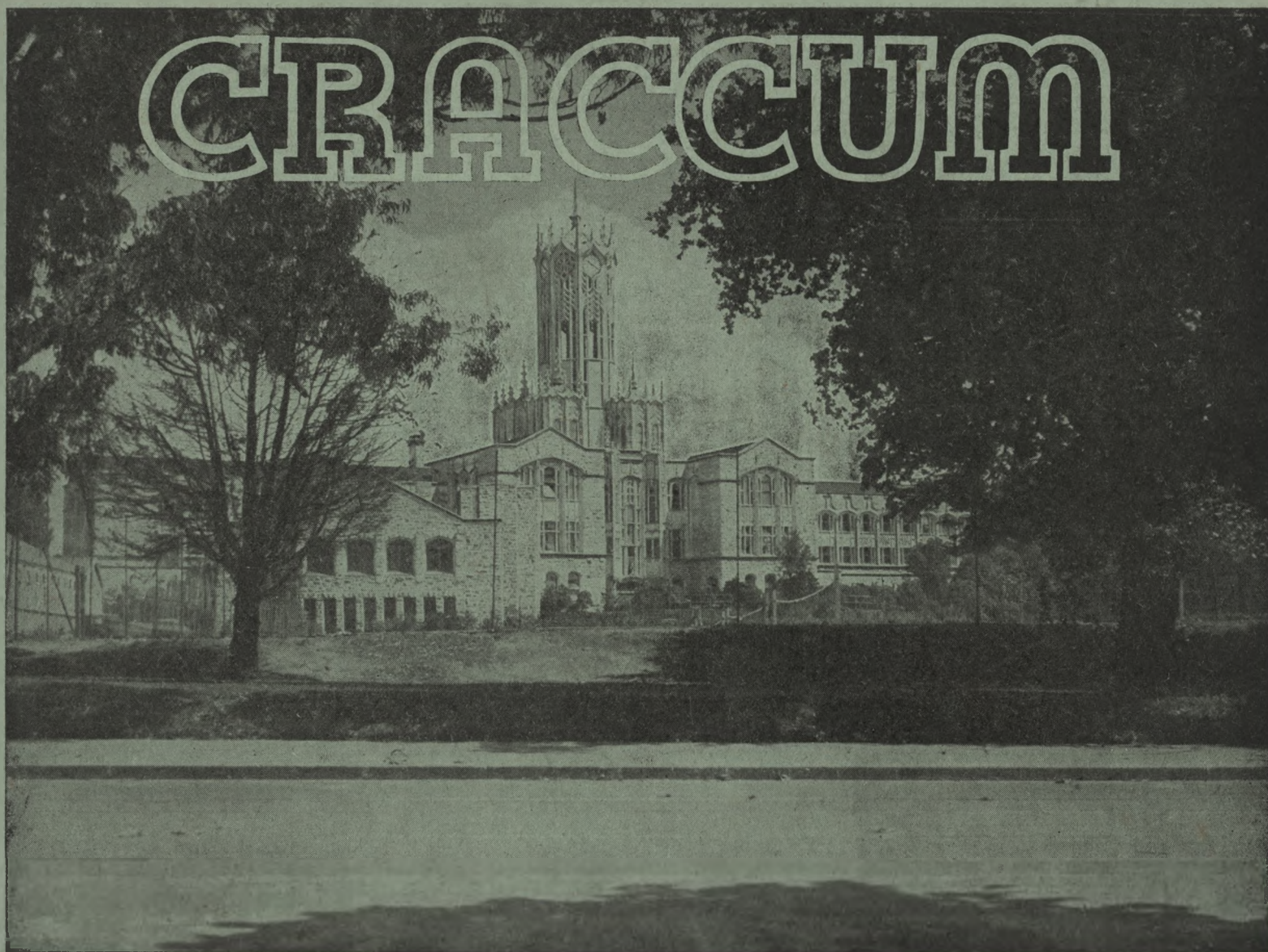


CRACCTUM



VOL. 12—No. 3.

AUCKLAND, N.Z., THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1938.

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● Highlights of this Issue

BOOM YEAR IN BOXING

SPORT REVIEW

WHAT OF THE GRADUATE?

TOPICAL TOUCHES

IN THE STUDENT MIND

THE BOOKSHELF

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TOPICAL TOUCHES

After all, as Mr. Algie says, to er—er is human.

Our geologist informs us that insects attack blondes more than brunettes. Fair game, eh?

What can we do to get soft, white hands?—asks a worried Science student. Nothing.

Professor Anderson labels the benches in his lecture-room, B1, B2, B3, etc. He refuses to state in which bench the YZ's are.

Tall strong men are usually good tempered, urges an advocate of physical culture. So are short weak ones—they have to be.

An A.U.C. scientist affirms that there is no known method of making rain fall. Has he never tried arranging a Tramping Club outing?

Mr. Darcy Walker declares that he only walked in his sleep once, and that time he ran into a wardrobe mirror. And then of course, he came to himself.

For the benefit of South Island students who will be coming to Auckland at Easter, we repeat the advice that sheirry is good for seasickness—though, of course, port is better still.

People training for the tournament swimming team are advised to keep the mouth closed when taking a header. Otherwise they do what is known as a swallow dive.

An exhausted member of the Tramping Club asks for a good tonic for hikers. A passing lorry is a fairly good pick-me-up.

The youth who serenaded his lady in Albert Park the other night on the bagpipes is to be congratulated on getting something right out of the bag.

Miss Corinne Hall states that the average city typist spells abominably. The employer adds that some can't even spell that.

Miss Millicent Ward, of the Health and Beauty League, says there are practically no plain girls to-day. There are plenty of coloured ones, though.

The secretary of the Rowing Club insists that oarsmen do like to win their spurs. Then why do they so seldom put them on?

Ivan Hodder maintains that moustaches are gradually recovering their popularity. They certainly do grow on one.

A recent article tells us that petrol is to be made from coffee-beans by a secret process. Business must be bad if Mrs. Odd is forced to sell her secrets like that.

A parent who has seen the Tournament Programme says that young people should keep better hours. But are there any better ones than those already in use?

The President of the Lit. Club says that the young poets of to-day put plenty of fire into their verses. In fact, their only fault is that they do not put enough of their verses into the fire.

Mr. Alan Gifkins assures us that it is unwise to smoke cigarettes one on top of the other. For our part, we believe he just can't balance them.

The Men's House Committee are thinking of refurbishing the Ping-Pong Room, and ask what is the best wood for bridge tables. We suggest a good deal would be popular.

English lecturer, finishing translation: "... and say what I am called." To the class: "Apparently I am called a barnacle goose." O-h-h-h! Mr. Lecturer, how mild!

A correspondent asks if our journalists are specially subject to nerve diseases. The only thing they suffer from is rumourism.

Craccum

THE OFFICIAL FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION OF
THE AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION ISSUED ON THURSDAYS DURING TERM.

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Thursday, April 7, 1938.

Subversive Propaganda

We have recently received two letters which we print in this issue drawing our attention to the radical and Leftist tone of a recent issue of "Salient," the V.U.C. paper. While it is scarcely our place to comment upon the policy adopted by a publication of a sister university, we cannot but regret that only one side of a problem has been stressed in "Salient," and that an organ which should express the opinion of the general body of students should be used by a minority for the purposes of flagrant propaganda. The day is fortunately past when the old fallacy was held that one man's opinion is as good as another's, for in the present state of world affairs, the necessity for keeping down subversive propaganda whether it be Communist or anything else, becomes increasingly evident. Especially in view of the havoc wrought by Communist activities, should all fair-minded people, while respecting the reasonable opinions of their fellows, differentiate between the subversive and anarchical doctrines, no matter how subtly disguised as "democratic," "anti-fascist," or "socialist," and the reasonable solutions propounded within the present fabric of our traditional heritage.

It is therefore deplorable that such a misrepresentation of facts as appeared in the recent "Salient" should be allowed to appear as the opinion of the majority of students, a view which would naturally be held by anyone looking upon it as the official University publication. "Craccum" is certain, in view of the feeble Left influence at Auckland Varsity that the views expressed by "Salient" are those of a decided minority; and in that case it is regrettable that younger students should be subjected to the force of such propaganda. "Craccum's" policy is to have no violent tendencies in any direction. In "The Open Forum" and elsewhere all opinions received are printed. In this manner and this manner alone can a true reflection of student opinion be obtained.

Tournament Obligations

If Tournament is to be a success, its duties as well as its joys must be recognised. It may be a fact neglected by the student body that there should be obligations associated with an Eastertide of undiluted revelry, but, if the more serious claims of the occasion are discounted, it will readily be found that it will be sapped of a good deal of its spontaneity and enthusiasm.

In one particular respect there is need for the closest co-operation between students and the executive—namely in the provision of accommodation for the hundreds of southern students for whom Auckland will be a Mecca. In the news columns of "Craccum" it has been repeatedly stressed that billets are urgently required, but up to the present stage the response has not been overwhelming. Auckland University College has, according to the critics and to our shame, never been notable for its camaraderie, but a revival in spirit has been noted, and welcomed, in recent years. If this glad trend is to be fostered and nurtured, it behoves us to do our utmost for visiting students who in past years have done so much for us.

POINTS OF VIEW

Dictatorship is like a great beech-tree—nice to look at, but nothing grows under it.—Stanley Baldwin.

Education is the inculcation of the incomprehensible into the ignorant by the incompetent.—(Sir Josiah Stamp in "Medley").

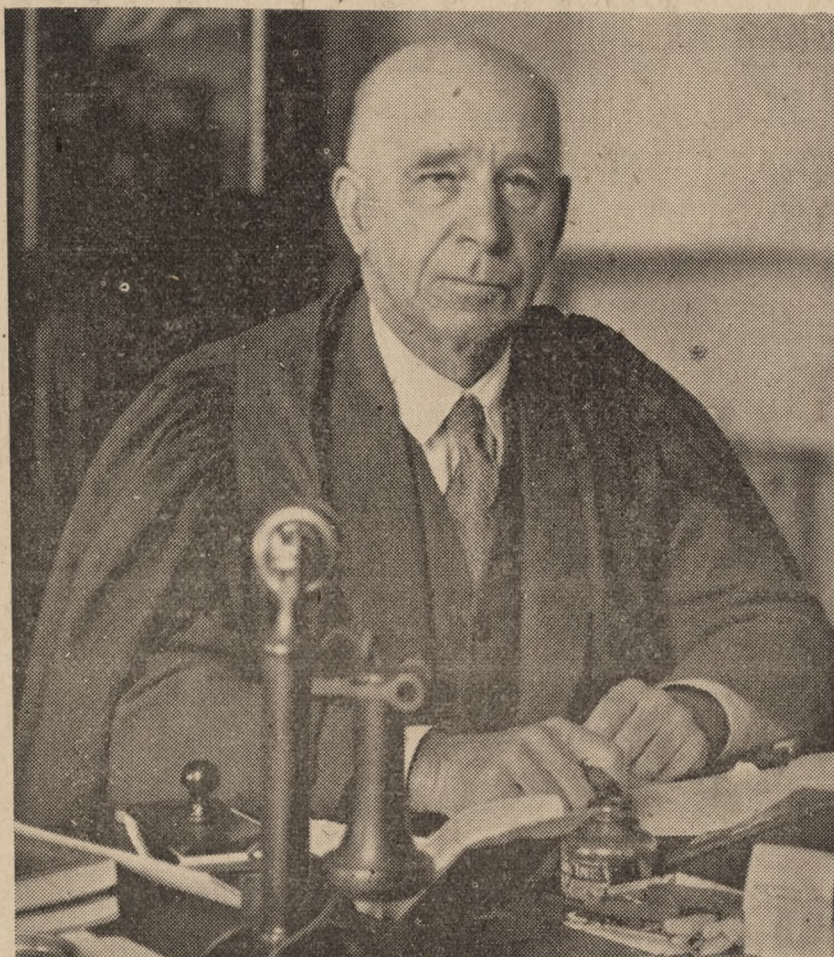
Einstein says, "It is enough for me to contemplate the mystery of conscious life perpetuating itself through all eternity, to reflect upon the marvellous structure of the universe and try humbly to comprehend even an infinitesimal part of the intelligence manifested in Nature." I myself need no better definition of God than that.—(Robert A. Millikan, Nobel Prize Physicist, in "I Believe in God.")

Mustard gas is the most humane weapon ever invented. Of the casualties from mustard gas during the late war, there were 170,000 in the British Army alone. Three per cent. or less died, and less than one per cent were permanently incapacitated—a very low proportion compared with casualties from other weapons. Perhaps it is for that reason that its use has been condemned by the enlightened representatives of almost all civilised nations.—(J. B. S. Haldane in "Science in Western Civilisation.")

The Russian "socialism" that offers to fill the bellies of its people but retains the privileges of slitting those bellies at will is retrogressive; it cancels out ages of struggle and costly victory in the domain of the human spirit. I left Russia convinced that man's greatest task is to defend the basic concepts of freedom and respect for life. Precisely today when such concepts are being spat upon, they must be defended from Bolshevik onslaughts no less than from fascist and capitalist onslaughts.—(Eugene Lyons in "Assignment in Utopia").

The brutal materialism of our civilisation not only opposes the soaring of intelligence, but also crushes the affective, the gentle, the lonely, these who love beauty, who look for other things than money, whose sensibility does not stand the struggle of modern life. In past centuries the many who were too incomplete to fight with the rest were allowed the free development of their personality. Some lived within themselves. Others took refuge in monasteries, where they found poverty and hard work, but also beauty, dignity and peace. Individuals of this type should be given, instead of the inimical conditions of modern society, an environment more appropriate to the growth and utilisation of their specific qualities.—(Dr. Alexis Carrel, world-famous scientist, in "Man the Unknown.")

His Majesty's Government! Regard them. Do they look as if they could run a war? Do they look like men worthy of being called upon by men of action like Hitler, Lloyd George, Maxton or Mussolini to form a coalition to meet some world-devastating emergency apart from war. The idea is impossible. And the Opposition, as an alternative government, is hampered because it has at its head inexperienced men, following in the footsteps of the "grand old English gentleman" and utterly unable to make up their minds as to what they are going to do about world peace; they are terrified of Hitler, terrified of Mussolini, terrified of Communism, terrified of Fascism, terrified of being considered revolutionaries or "disloyal." That is the only alternative choice to the war-like, yet war-incompetent, gang at present in power.—Brigadier-General F. P. Crozier, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. in "The Men I Killed" (1937).



LATE MR. H. J. D. MAHON, PRESIDENT OF THE AUCKLAND AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY, 1937—MARCH, 1938.

In Memoriam

One of New Zealand's foremost educationists and a great friend of Auckland University College for over forty years, Mr. Harold James del Monte Mahon, President of the College Council, passed away on Tuesday of last week. The previous evening he had presided over a meeting of the College Council and appeared to be perfectly well. His sudden and untimely death has been a great shock to his many friends and associates, but the students of this College as well feel a very deep sense of loss. In a personal way they could feel that one of their predecessors, a past member of their executive and one-time President of their Association, had graduated to the highest administrative position in the University. His kindly sympathy for student interests and his understanding for the view-point of the Students' Association will not easily be forgotten.

Mr. Mahon was born in Auckland in 1873, a son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Owen Mahon, and his first connection with Auckland University College began in 1891, where he was elected to an Entrance Scholarship. After serving a term on the Executive of the Students' Association, he became President in 1899 and finally left the College upon graduating B.A. in order to carry out more intensive studies in the field of education. His influence upon the moulding of the Auckland Grammar School is so well known that it needs no elaboration in this column, but it is proper that such a remarkable record of quiet service should be mentioned beside the more personal memory that we have had of him as President of the College Council. For thirty-nine years he worked as a master of the Auckland Grammar School and during that time many thousands of young Aucklanders came under his scholarly and friendly influence. For seven years, as Headmaster, he added notably to the fine traditions and record of the school and was responsible for extending the Curriculum to a marked extent. Perhaps it is fitting that after a life-time of work in the interests of education he should have been in harness right up to the last. At least he was not destined to spend the last years of his life in what might easily have been for a man of his industry and talent, an empty and irksome retirement.

It would be appropriate to record one of the remarks of Mr. A. H. Johnstone, K.C., vice-president of the Council, made on the day of Mr. Mahon's death. "He presided last night at a council meeting," said Mr. Johnstone, "with his customary dignity and courtesy, and it is pleasant to reflect that the last item on the agenda paper was an expression by the council of appreciation of some special work which had been committed to his hands."

To the late Mr. Mahon's widow and family the Students' Association at this College extends its very sincere sympathy. His services for the A.U.C. have left a lasting impression and his name will immeasurably enrich the future records of the College.

The Law Students' Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD PRESENTATION TO PROF. ALGIE

There was a time when the number in the Faculty was more than double what it is today, and an attendance of 50 at the Society's functions could be depended on; the Studass. in those days had a decidedly legal flavour. Though numbers have declined since then the present enthusiasm does much to compensate for that, as the Dinner, Ball and final address by Judge Callan last year showed.

Something of a setback was caused by the resignation of Prof. Algie, who always took the keenest interest in the Society; on the 18th of last month the Society showed its appreciation of his work when past and present members joined in making him a presentation.

ANNUAL RETURN

An encouraging annual report was adopted at the General meeting which followed the presentation, and the election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the return of a strong executive as follows:

President: Mr. L. K. Munro, LL.M.; vice-presidents: Messrs. C. P. Hutchinson and G. P. Hanna, LL.B.; secretary: Mr. D. H. Lewis. treasurer: Mr. J. S. Alexander; committee: Messrs. G. L. Hesketh, E. D. Morgan, LL.B., and A. G. Tudhope.

It hopes to present the best programme ever put on by the Society. Besides the Moots and Addresses with which it is always graced there are to be Debates on the Oregon (cross-examination) System, and Junior Moots to encourage the younger members of the Faculty. The Dinner will take place earlier than usual and members wishing to attend should see Secretary Lewis now about the lay-by (no deposit, no interest) scheme, by which they can finance themselves for the Dinner and Ball. The Law Ball is well known to be Auckland's best social function.

MOCK COURT IN JULY

And then it is rumoured that there is to be a Mock Court in July. This will be stupendous affair for one memorable night in the College Hall. Learned counsel are making sure that this will be a unique portrayal of justice. Watch "Craccum" for advance notices of this colossal event!

All the students of the College are invited to attend any meetings of the Society in which they may be interested; meetings are held on Monday evenings in Room 33. First and second-year students of the Faculty are particularly requested to get in touch with the Secretary at an early date. And all those who wish to take part in Moots and Debates during the year should see the Secretary or a Committee member right away. The Secretary may be found (sometimes) at the office of Mr. A. H. Johnstone, K.C., in O'Connell St., or at 'Varsity.

MUSIC CLUB FESTIVAL

SUCCESS CROWNS INITIATIVE

The Music Club was fortunate enough to secure the talents of Mrs. Starsfield Prior on March 3. Mrs. Prior gave a piano recital in the College Hall to an appreciative audience of about 130 students and friends. Her selections included Bach's "Partita"—andante and scherzo movements; Schubert's "Posthumous Sonata in A Major"; Ravel's "Sonatina"; Holst's "Dame Get Up and Bake Your Pies." As an encore number she played Brahms' "Rhapsodie in G Minor."

After the recital several of the audience availed themselves of the opportunity of meeting Mrs. Prior and discussing modern composers—upon whom she had some very interesting comments to make. Amongst her other wise remarks she complimented the club on their very fine piano.

The Music Club is to be congratulated on its initiative in securing the services of Mrs. Starsfield Prior, and on its decision to secure as many talented musicians as circumstances and student support may allow, to give recitals in the future.

In the middle of the second term Prof. Hollinrake (assisted by the Music Club) intends to produce, in the College Hall, the Peasant and Coffee cantatas by Bach, and their meetings to date have been enthusiastically attended. "Craccum" recommends all students interested in this and other club activities to attend the College Hall on Wednesdays from 7 to 8.30.

WHAT of the GRADUATE?

Prime Minister's Assurance BLAIR MEETS SAVAGE :: DEPUTATION'S CLAIM

"I would like to give you an assurance that I personally—and here I speak also for the Government—will do everything possible to widen the opportunities not only for the University graduate, but for all those who are leaving our schools and colleges," stated the Prime Minister, Mr. Savage, in receiving the deputation from the New Zealand University Students' Association seeking better opportunities for graduates to enter the Public Service. And for three-quarters of an hour, with hardly a pause for breath, he surveyed the whole question, finally leaving the delegates with the feeling that their thesis had received the utmost sympathy and consideration.

The personnel of the student deputation was Mr. A. P. Blair, President of the N.Z.U.S.A., Mr. R. S. V. Simpson, resident Chairman of the Executive Committee in Wellington, Mr. A. M. Quennell, resident member on the Executive for the Otago University Students' Association, and, in an advisory capacity, Mr. H. H. Cornish, K.C., Solicitor-General. The Minister of Education, the Hon. P. Fraser, was present with the Prime Minister to consider the requests of the Delegation.

REQUEST OF DELEGATION

The point stressed by the deputation was that the best men were required in New Zealand, particularly in view of the increasing complexity of administration, but the best did not always remain. Its request to the Government was simply that a Committee of inquiry be set up to inquire into the relationship between the Universities and the Public Service and to see if the educational system could not be made to dovetail more satisfactorily with the Public Service. Both Mr. Savage and Mr. Fraser gave an undertaking that an authoritative inquiry would be made into the whole question. Even now names for the proposed Committee are being considered and the Minister of Education remarked that the persons selected will be of the highest qualifications and experience of the University and Public Service systems.

PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Cornish has been mentioned as the probable chairman of this committee and Mr. Quennell will almost certainly be one of the graduate representatives. The name of the Public Service Commissioner has been mentioned as one of the Committee and in addition about eighteen other prominent persons will

be approached with regard to the matter.

Mr. Blair, when approached, stated that the Committee will consist on the whole of Civil Servants who have had advanced University education and also a wide practical experience of the Public Service system. "Its work," he stated, "will probably extend over a period of twelve months. Existing Public Service Systems, such as the British, which is admitted to be among the best in the world, will be closely examined and every aspect of the problem considered." Mr. Savage himself said that somewhere there is "a screw loose" which had not allowed the two systems to dovetail satisfactorily in the past.

DIFFICULT PROBLEMS

One of the most difficult problems that confronts the committee will be to adjust the relationship between Civil Servants who have not had a University training and the man with high academic qualifications but little experience on the administrative side. Opportunities for graduates in the service should be based on a set policy and not merely the by-product of other policies, but the greatest care will have to be taken so that present members of the Public Service are not penalised.

We, as students, have every reason to be pleased by the reception accorded the deputation. It was given an interview lasting an hour and a half, and Mr. Savage seems to have gone out of his way to meet its request. It is interesting to note that at least four of the leading newspapers in New Zealand have published full column editorials on the matter. Altogether, it is one of the most progressive moves that has been made by the students in recent years. N.Z.U.S.A. can see, at last, a successful outcome of four months' intensive preparation and research.

Publicity For Tournament BILLETS NEEDED :: RADIO APPEAL

Publicity and propaganda, being the most prominent literary developments of our age, have become the tools of tournament. Which is to introduce, dear reader, stimulating facts about Easter and Lawrence Hogben and athletics—not that the three necessarily go together.

On Good Friday hundreds of students from the South will arrive in assorted states of clothing and respectability. On our college then, will descend the joy and the labour of providing them with hospitality, and of unequivocally defeating them in every form of athletic sport. Auckland, mark you, at present, is the far from proud holder of the Wooden Spoon—a lamentable state of affairs which, we hope, is not destined to last long.

Everyone realises what the spirit of tournament does to lighten the pervading gloom of a university town, but not everyone realises what lies behind it all. Tournament's sordid side finds its expression in the worried looks of Charlie Fleming and Lawrence Hogben, respectively responsible for billeting and general organisation. Billetting, we are sad to say, at present, falls short of the required standard—due entirely, to lack of support on the part of students and of the Auckland public. We hope that the A.U.C. will make a last-minute effort and succeed in rectifying this.

Since 1902—except in the war years—N.Z.U. Tournament has been held every year in one

of the four university towns. It was last held in Auckland in 1933—the Jubilee year—when, by a special dispensation, we held tournament up here, although it was not ours in rotational order. One obvious result of the 1933 arrangement is that Auckland has not had tournament for five years—another, not so obvious is that both the public and the student community have, to a certain extent, forgotten their obligations. It is incumbent on A.U.C. to provide a perfectly organised and thoroughly successful show this year, both to justify the trust imposed in us by the N.Z. Tournament Committee, and to justify the claims we have made on the Auckland public in print and over the air.

One phase in 1938 tournament publicity which is setting a new note is the use to be made of radio talks from Auckland stations. The first of these was given by G. L. I. Hogben from 1YA last Friday night. In resounding and typically Hogben tones, the N.Z.U.T. committee chairman exhorted the proletariat to come and enjoy university athletics and allied sports—and incidentally to give both moral and financial support. Even the Hogben wisecracks must have affected wireless listeners, because five minutes after arrival back at Varsity, a phone message came through offering two more billets. And next morning a woman rang up asking for the "Scone and Girrdle Company"—it just shows, doesn't it? And even though you don't believe it, this last remark is authentic!

CONSTITUTIONAL DULLNESS

ASSEMBLY OF STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Last Thursday night saw our own college students' executive in flowing garments at the half annual meeting of the association. True to tradition, both the executive and the meeting were extremely dull on this constitutional occasion, the only bright spot being our esteemed (if slightly inarticulate) president's dignified reply to Prendergast's complaints re Cafeteria. "Mrs. Odd," he said with sacerdotal accent, "has been having labour troubles. . . ."

A final amendment to the Blues regulation was presented and passed. But then some sort of amendment to the Blues regulations is necessary to make any A.U.C. Studass general meeting a success.

After dragging its slow length out, the meeting finished at 8.25—it began at 8.10.

NOTICE

As the result of an unfortunate mistake, Miss Margaret Matangi was reported in the last issue of "Craccum" to have performed at the S.C.M. Welcome to Freshers. The Editor is extremely sorry that this error should have occurred as he understands that she was not at the function at all. He offers to Miss Matangi the sincere apologies of "Craccum."

CARNIVAL PRELIM

CAPPING WEEK FESTIVITY

Following the lead of last year's Carnival Committee, the newly constituted Carnival Book Committee (A. D. Gifkins, secretary), is making valiant efforts to improve the material and circulation of Capping Week's publication. Last year the entire issue of the book was sold out, twice sold copies selling at phenomenal premiums. This year we hope things will be even better, but this depends entirely on student support, student advertisement, and student contribution.

The cover design on the 1938 Carnival Book is by Mr. Norm. Derby—a very fine piece of design in red and blue with white lettering. Mr. Derby thus wins the prize in the competition—a competition kindly run by the staff of the Architectural School in the form of a six-hour exquisite. Thus the cover is an assured success—help the association to make the inside as good. Send your contributions and drawings, cartoons, etc., to Mr. Gifkins, or to Mr. D. T. Clouston. And do it now!

On Mondays and Thursdays the Ping Pong room is thronged with the future stars of 1938 Revue—but not thronged nearly enough. John Reid and his Carnival committee earnestly desire men and more men. They already, we are told, have enough women.

Secondly they yearn for ideas and contributions: so much so that they are willing to pay for them. Kindly help them to capitalise your semi-humorous alcoholic wanderings.

Thirdly the students are triumphant in their battle with adverse circumstances. The College Hall is at our disposal for Revue, which will hit the Auckland public on Friday, May 6th, and run for five full-house nights. Bear this in mind.

TEACHERS AS GYMNASTS

There are approximately 560 students at Auckland Training College and every one of them will be in white shorts on Saturday, April 9 in Auckland's most exceptional, phenomenal, record-breaking show since Wirth's Circus boarded the Wanganella. For A.T.C. is putting on a gymnastic show.

Accompanied by the martial strains of the Auckland Regiment's Band, the students will show people how to march and to do a programme of exercise. In addition, if more could be desired, Mr. G. L. Hogben (slightly known to one or two at the A.U.C.) accompanied by 559 others, will dance, in true bucolic fashion, Christchurch Bells and Sellengers Round—two of the hottest folk-dance numbers in his extensive repertoire.

The Bookshelf

REVIEWS AND COMMENTS

(By Malvolio)

Only a student of the history of the times could have any idea of the herculean task that Dr. William Walsh set himself when he undertook to write his recently-published biography of Philip II of Spain. His success is evidenced by the skill with which he has compressed into one large tome the life and times of this monarch whose activities pervaded the history of his century. "Philip II" is really a panorama of sixteenth century history, through the pages of which pass the most important persons of the day, Henry VIII, Elizabeth, the two Marys, Coligny, John John of Austria and others. It epitomizes such wide phases as the Protestant Reformation, the Council of Trent with the Catholic Revival, Elizabethan England, and the foundation of modern politics. In the midst of this vast canvas, Dr. Walsh paints a living portrait of the enigmatical person who played the most important part. Throughout the intrigues of tricksters like William of Orange and Antonio Perez we see the real Philip under the masterly hand of the author, never excusing but always factual, ever vigilant for the truth. With amazing scholarship, Dr. Walsh examines every available document and points to numerous oversights and slips on the part of Philip's previous biographers. He does not hesitate to show Philip's faults as well as his virtues, his intrigues, his lack of perception in his English dealings, his over-bearingness toward Papacy, and so on. Philip is indeed an enigma, but not the craven coward and the gloomy bigot that some prejudiced historians have painted him.

Dr. Walsh has written his huge biography in the light of the evidence of the times, a somewhat unusual innovation which should make it of immense value. In "Philip II" is history that will prove invaluable to the student, and vivid drama more gripping than fiction, written in the usual masterful style of Dr. William Thomas Walsh.

"Philip II," by William Thomas Walsh. Sheed and Ward.

* * * *

The Papal Encyclical, *De Rerum Novarum*, On the Condition of Labour, by Pius XIII, has long been considered one of the most important documents of modern social science. Many of the improvements in labour conditions made since its publication have been directed along lines laid down by the great pontiff and many policies of the leading nations have been consciously or unconsciously influenced by it. For this reason, a knowledge of the *Rerum Novarum* is a knowledge of many of the chief lines of contemporary Christian social theory. Scarcely less important is the study of the *Quadragesimo Anno* of Pius XI, written in commemoration of the earlier Encyclical. "The Christian Social Manifesto," by Joseph Husslein, Ph.D., is a concise summary of the social teaching laid down by Leo XIII, and its application to modern conditions. To anyone interested in economic conditions of the day, and the various social theories of our times, a knowledge of the Papal Encyclicals is indispensable. In this book, Dr. Husslein gives an excellent introduction to the further study of these proclamations, offering a bird's-eye view of the economic history of the past hundred years. Such subjects as "The Church and Social Questions," "The Christian Viewpoint of Labour Unions," "Christian Trade Unions," and "The Proper Use of Wealth," are carefully treated. To an unbiassed person desiring to become conversant with social theories other than those presented in radical newspapers, "The Christian Social Manifesto," in its new edition, is highly recommended. Dr. Husslein, as Dean of the School of Social Science at St. Louis University, writes with authority and even the most unsophisticated student will find no difficulty in following his masterly exposition.

"The Christian Social Manifesto," by Joseph Husslein, Ph.D., Published by the Bruce Publishing Company.

In the Student Mind

VIEWS FROM OTHER COLLEGES

A STUDENT'S OBLIGATIONS

At the present time the student's responsibilities are greater than ever before. Every month the challenge to our democratic traditions grows more insistent. It may also seem trite to say it, so frequently is the phrase heard, but the future of civilisation is at stake. The next few years may determine whether mankind will progress in peace and true prosperity or whether the forces of international anarchy will conquer and cause our whole social edifice to crumble into dust. Internally, too, we are passing through a momentous period of our national history. In the face of all this, it is tragic that in our University, students should remain so apathetic, so ignorant and so unreasoning.—(Editorial, March 18th, 1933, to "Critic," University of Otago).

CHINESE STUDENTS TO THE FORE

Most of the students who succeeded in escaping from the bayonets of the enemy in Peiping and Tientsin are now scattered in the cities of Tsinan, Hankow, Sian, Chenchow and Shengtu. About five or six hundred of these at Tsinan have completed a short course of training given to them by the provincial government and will be sent to various districts to take up the work of organising the people. Most of the seven or eight hundred students who took refuge at Taiyuan have joined the regular troops or the guerilla groups operating in North China. At Nanking, some are conducting training classes for the students in the North. Some of them have organised their own publicity corps and are now travelling to organise and train the people in the interior.

("Chinese Students in the War," from "Student Voice," Paris.)

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Whenever I meet any of those mildly pink gentlemen who pride themselves on being the intelligentsia of this College, I have met either a poseur or a fool or both. They cry aloud that they are the bold thinkers who dare to champion the true values of life, but reality is a thing with which they have never come into contact. Divest them of their cloak of academicalism and the cold wind of common-sense will soon set their pudgy nakedness shivering. They can shout enough hot air

to fill a large balloon and when all is over it remains hot air and nothing more. We all know that University students need a radical change in their ideals before they can play a useful part in the community but it is obvious that it cannot come from the wind-bag rhetoric of these so-called radicals.

("Stomp," in a letter to "Canta," Canterbury University.)

OH, THOSE WOMEN

Women may be divided into the following categories:—

- 1 Ingenue—
 - (a) Natural
 - (b) Sweet
 - (c) Just Dumb.
- 2 Pseudo-sophisticated—
 - (a) Intellectual
 - (b) Pseudo-intellectual.
 - (c) Nit-wit
- 3 Sophisticated—
 - (1) By experience
 - (2) By instinct
 - (a) Intelligent
 - (b) Intellectual
 - (c) Hot stuff.

Classification of women, amended so as to cover all types at the University is as follows:

- (1) JUST dumb
- (2) Dumb
- (3) Just dumb
- (4) Damn dumb

(From "The Pelican," University of Western Australia.)

THE NEW EDUCATION AND THE LIBERTINES

The New Education is no longer heterodox. It has even penetrated the inmost citadel of learning, the Great Public School, and its principles are, imperceptibly as yet perhaps, coming to dominate all education. No University student, except such as have lost their savour, can be indifferent to the future of education, quite apart from the fact that many of us later on hope to have children of our own at school. In so far, therefore, as this University is responsible for the training of teachers or the dissemination of educational principles and practice, we should strive to eliminate the dangerous teacher who uses his or her own position to facilitate their readjustment to their fellows.

("The New Education and the Libertines," from "Farrago," University of Melbourne.)

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EPSOM

THE OPEN FORUM

CURRENT STUDENT OPINION

(CONDUCTED BY DON JOHN)

(Students are cordially invited to air their views on each and every subject in this column. Letters or articles, however, must not exceed 700 words. The "Money and War" controversy, continued in this issue, will terminate in the next "Craccum.")

SOCIAL CREDIT

Dear Don John:—

The article on Social Credit which appeared in your columns was somewhat superficial, but still it was of value in that it directed attention to financial power in relation to war. It is also of value as indicating that Marx is not the only contributor to economic thought. There are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in Marxian philosophy. Likewise, there are more things in economic thought than are contained in Das Kapital. And if Canadian Universities include Social Credit in the economic syllabus there appears to be no reason to bar it from discussion at Auckland. It may be, of course, that we have nothing to learn. It may be that we have reached the absolutes in Adam Smith-cum-Marx and may now rest our case upon authority. We may, in fact, have reached that lofty eminence whence, "secure in our grasp of nineteenth century economics, we gaze in cold contempt at the unenlightened. It may be so, of course, and "Economist" would know. On the other hand there is a possibility that Professor McLennan of St. Patrick's College, Ottawa, and Professor Levesque of Lavelle University, are not quite so ignorant as your correspondent would suggest, and they may, in fact, know a little about economics. Should they not we might make good the deficiency by inviting them to a course of lectures at the W.E.A. However, I hardly think they need the instruction so we may assume that Social Credit is worthy of intelligent discussion, and that "Economist" has not said the final word on the subject.

PURCHASING POWER

In criticising the Social Credit proposals "Economist" said that they rested on the proposition that the present financial system does not, cannot distribute sufficient purchasing power to buy, at prices which will cover costs, all the consumption goods currently produced. That statement of the proposition is inaccurate. What Douglas says is that the financial system does not distribute IN WAGES, SALARIES, and DIVIDENDS sufficient purchasing power to buy the consumption goods currently produced at prices which will cover costs, and that at the present time that deficiency is made good by purchasing power issued from another source, that is to say loans. The thousands of millions expended on armaments are a glaring example. The bulk of the money spent in this direction is purchasing power available for consumption goods and is being spent in that way. But if, as your correspondent claims, the present financial system does distribute sufficient purchasing power through the ordinary channels of industry, then all this money is simply a vast inflation and prices should be rocketing to the skies. There is, of course, an obvious rise in the price level but it appears to have risen only to a point at which industry can function reasonably well. And the reason, I suggest, is that the money available from loans has to a large extent filled the gap which previously existed between the purchasing power and prices. Industry is now functioning at the cost of National indebtedness. As to the armaments which have been brought into existence they will not be used for bumping-off stray cats. The probability is that we will be the targets, as members of a benevolent society for reciprocal slaughter.

With regard to other points raised by "Economist" it is possible in the space only to deal with the more glaring errors. The statement that the financial system is subsidiary to the economic system, for example, is not very intelligent. Common experience should make it plain that the economic structure is now so complex that it is vitally dependent on the financial system. It is true, that wealth is not synonymous with money and that, in fact, it can exist by itself. It is likewise true that economic systems can and have existed in which money was relatively unimportant. But we are dis-

cussing the economic system which manifestly exists at present. And as far as the existing system is concerned it is obviously a money-economy. To treat money as a minor issue, therefore, is to make a first-class error.

ECONOMIC NATIONALISM

Another statement which "Economist" makes and which is not remarkably informed is the assertion that Social Credit involves economic Nationalism. It is not essential that a country should be self-contained in order to introduce Social Credit any more than it is necessary as things are. On the contrary, monetary reforms would assist international trade by breaking down artificial barriers to trade which now exist to preserve markets for sectional interests. The tendency then would be for international trade to revert to its proper function. Under existing conditions the need to export is conditioned by the fact that most countries have unsaleable surpluses. If this financial pressure were removed the exchange of goods would be governed by economic laws. We would export those goods which were not required for internal consumption and import those goods which we could not economically produce. That is the only proper function of international trade, and the only justification for its existence.

Finally may I remark that we are not interested in your correspondent's credo but in the rational basis of his economic beliefs. It is not sufficient to say that Social Credit will be no cure and then add the statement that if it was it would not be satisfactory. Irish wit without Irish logic is not a very heady mixture, and as bulls go, that particular one was a cow. It would be interesting, therefore, to know what causes economic strife, why there is a struggle for markets, how monopoly has become so strongly entrenched, and where lies the seat of power in the economic system.

—E. J. K.

PRODUCTION BRINGS PROSPERITY

The social credit men are barking up the wrong tree. They are wrong and their programme is negative. Social Credit can lead only to anarchy. The labour idealists are also wrong. They want to create work by reducing the hours of toil, thus redistributing work amongst more men—to increase wages by limiting profits.

Why are they wrong? Because they neglect the all-important factor of production and the necessity for maintaining and stimulating it. New Zealand has had a Labour government for three years. Wages have risen considerably, hours of work have been reduced and production has lagged behind—resulting in a rising cost of living and a falling standard of living. There is only one way to raise the standard of living. That is to increase production and, at the same time, progressively to cheapen the cost of it.

Suppose that wages were doubled by law. Would the standard of living rise? Not unless production were correspondingly increased. Every wage-earner would have more to spend. But there would not exist in all the warehouses in the land one more article to satisfy human desires. What would become of the surplus money in the hands of the wage earners? It would be divided into the quantity of things already existing and the price of things would rise accordingly.

PRODUCTION IN NEW ZEALAND

In New Zealand a rise in production has been accompanied by a steady rise in wages. From 1900 to 1930 there was a steady increase in national production, an increase in the national payroll and a progressive rise in the standard of living. The rapid expansion in the years 1933-35 was followed by the rise of wages, of profits and of the standard of life. Then came the labour programme. Wages were increased,

hours of work decreased and production impeded. Prices and the cost of living rose. Laws were passed to limit wages at the top end of the economic scale and to increase them at the bottom end. This meant that unless the productive power of the lower orders of the economic scale was increased, the standard of living must fall. This has happened. Production has not increased to correspond with the wages increase—living costs have risen—and the standard of living is beginning to fall.

PRODUCTIVE POWER

To say that those who live at the low end of the economic scale are there because they lack buying power is not true. The inadequacy of their buying power is an effect. What they do lack is productive power. The greater the productive power of an industry, the greater are the profits and the wages. The great increase of dairy production in New Zealand reveals the truth of this. Profits and wages rose with production. However, the wage must be elastic if it is to progress with production and if the standard of living is to rise progressively. The only justification for free competitive capitalism is that it shall multiply the things that satisfy human wants, and progressively cheapen the cost of them. This does not mean that reduced hours of toil are impossible.

The reduction of hours must follow a rise in production—not as has happened in New Zealand, where the principle of reduced hours of toil has been unscientifically applied so that it interferes with production.

THE DISTRIBUTION PROBLEM

In 1930 the depression came. Private capitalism had lost its sense of direction and in some countries, needed the guidance and control of the state. That the governments of the world lengthened the period of depression cannot be denied. They proceeded from the illusory premise that there was already plenty—even too much. The capitalists were blamed for bungling the distributive machine. They had failed to provide buying power—that was the difficulty—there was plenty everywhere and not enough buying power. Therefore, the first thing was to restore prices and in order to do this it was necessary amongst other things to control and limit production.

However, if a large proportion of the population is ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed, there is not plenty, and there never was. To redistribute buying power in favour of the poor will not create a plentitude of food, clothes and houses. Plenty can only be created by greater human exertion.

—POSSUM.

TOURNAMENT BALL

IS
HERE
ONLY
ONCE
IN
FOUR
YEARS

DON'T MISS IT

OLD GIRLS' NOTES

(By AUNT DORA)

Wally Taylor is now at the Adelaide School of Mines working on sulphide gold ores—rather a change from the kowhai seeds which he studied under Dr. Briggs.

Bruce Orchiston is thriving in Wellington. He is now a big shot in the Haeremai Club, the local analogue to the Hongis. Bruce will be up for tournament, complete with car and corkscrew.

James H. Henson, perhaps more widely known as Hendy, has been distinguishing himself at Massey. Foiled in his attempt to start a branch of the S.C.M., Hendy turned to athletics.

Ru Macky is still in Belgium helping the Trade Commissioner with his French. Ruth was one of my brightest young things in the old days and I feel sure she is making her mark on the Continent.

I haven't heard of Rona Munro for an age but I understand she is scrounging her way round the continent of Europe with very marked success. She was heard of in Berlin and later on in Paris. Good luck, Rona, we admire your spirit. Write to me some time.

Thursday last Charlie Benstrum was farewelled at the Station by a large concourse of oarsmen. He is leaving to take up a position at New Plymouth High, where he will be joining Skip Watt who has been on the staff since the beginning of the year.

I see quite a lot of Jim Ricketts these days, in fact, we often slip into the Grand for a quiet beer together. James tells me that he is deep in industrial chemistry and is about to startle the scientific world by producing tomato soup without tomatoes.

Last time I gave a little news about the late lamented Richard Toy. Last week someone told me that he is now married and living in London (where all good architects go). I cannot vouch for the accuracy of this statement and beg Dick to drop me a line and let me know the worst. I have always had a soft spot for him.

I had the pleasure of meeting Rene Turner (now Mrs. Gene Robins) just before Christmas. She went over to Sydney and married Gene there on Christmas Eve. They have now settled down in Melbourne, where Gene is one of the leading lights in the local armaments industry.

I am told that Mr. and Mrs. Peter Crawley are also in Melbourne where Peter is a pedagogue at the Grammar School.

A very entertaining and not too rowdy party was flung the other Saturday by the one and only Moggie Bartrum in honour of Edome King-Mason, who has since departed for Australia en route (French) to England. Most of the well-known identities of yesteryear were present, including Phoebe Norris in a blue, backless whatnot and a very fine coat of sun tan (one shilling per bottle at all chemists), Pat Blair, in a 1929 dinner suit, James Ricketts in about the same (by the way James is growing out of his clothing), Shona Paterson, in something or other (I never notice women's clothes), Margaret Shaw, looking quite devastating in something else, and Beryl and Bronc in a perfect state of contentment. Lawrence and Corrinne were there also, but in spite of this, the evening passed off with reasonable dignity and decorum. Bob Spragg gave the 457th performance of the "Erald and the Star" with Eleanor Brownlee at the mighty Wurlitzer. Lawrence (the little liar) claimed that some of the verses were quite new to him. This is quite incorrect. They were the same old ones I have heard for years. A thoroughly good time was had by all and the party quietly broke up about 11.30 p.m. By the way I have been asked to contradict the rumour that Professor Bartrum spent the whole Sunday morning collecting the empties from the front garden.

How's that for a column, Mr. Editor (blast you)? I haven't received any letters from old friends since my last impassioned appeal but I'm still hoping. Shake it up because, unless I get some soon I don't know how I'm to fill this column next week.

AUNT DORA.

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Salient Attacked

CORRESPONDENTS' VIEWS

"Undesirable Propaganda"

The Editor has received the following letters from two correspondents. As they are rather critical surveys of one of "Craccum's" contemporaries, an invitation is extended to "Salient" to reply if the Editor feels that it is a matter worthy of his attention.

When perusing the last edition of the V.U.C. publication "Salient," my attention was drawn to a lengthy article titled "A Lesson to Learn." Read a little further I became aware, that he matter under discussion related more or less to the Spanish conflict and after dwelling at some length on the respective rights and wrongs of this struggle some reference is made to "Freedom Leagues," Defence Leagues, Anti-Fascists and so on. Oh, yes, and something or other about garden parties and entertainments conducted by New Zealand's National Party.

Carnage in Spain and garden parties in New Zealand! Surely there is no connection between the two, yet the article clearly stated "A Lesson to Learn," and no doubt further reading would provide the necessary enlightenment. Now Mr. Editor, these two "isms" we have been hearing so much about lately have no particular interest for me, but frankly, I am just a little puzzled why "Salient" should feature something, that in my honest opinion has absolutely no interest for the majority of sane minded readers. Still, this "Lesson to Learn" business was perhaps a lead worth following for even "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings proceedeth forth wisdom," and possibly the author, with the cause deeply at heart was sufficiently well versed in situations of international complications and civil embroilments, to voice an extreme opinion even through the columns of a College newspaper.

Reading further, the following statement, "Our Government's programme must sooner or later challenge the property rights of a minority as did the Spanish Government," it now becomes apparent to my tired brain that here, was an opinion voiced with such confidence as to denote a supporter of the Extreme "Left."

He says "is progress impossible without the appalling ordeal of civil war?"

And then he suggests that we can only avoid it "if the popular forces as a whole and their leaders in particular, have shed every illusion that the owning classes will 'acquiesce' in the acts of a legally elected progressive government."

Does this mean that in the event of non-acquiescence by the owning classes that the "legally elected progressive government" would completely ignore the rights of the property owning class, and use every means possible to suppress their freedom of action?

After all this, Mr. Editor, I am afraid that Salient's viewpoint cannot be a general student opinion, but rather that of a minority group intoxicated with the "Marxian brew" and addicted to the spreading of undesirable propaganda which should not be associated with a college paper.

"PERE."

NECESSITY FOR IMPARTIALITY

"Spain is an emotional outlet for a gang of sap-headed dillitantes"—Ezra Pound.

Dear Sir,

At a time when intelligence is at a premium and ignorance blares with the assistance of loud-speakers, university men have a duty towards the community to provide informed and intelligent comment on world affairs. It is to be regretted, therefore, that the recent "Spanish" issue of a certain college paper descended to the level of a communistic rag. The issue in question is a monument to uninformed comment, and a reproach to any institution with pretensions to learning. It contains generalisations which are largely untrue, arguments which are specious, and statements which bear little relation to fact. The article relating to Lieutenant Spiller, for example, is merely the glorification of an ill-informed propagandist, a fact which we recently proved by personal contact. We have no hesitation in saying, therefore, that the report of an interview with him was merely an excuse for propaganda. As such it had no place in an intellectual journal, which is supposedly representative of student opinion, but should have been reserved for such scholarly papers as "The Workers' Weekly."

"EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS"

THE SOCIAL ROUND

By "GIPSY"

Courtville is all agog because it is thought that Charles Hutchinson is returning to his flat some time after Easter.

* * * *

Kingston Braybrooke watches women's fashions, he even goes as far as Waiheke to view the vogue in beach-wear. His comment on his return was, "All the females at Waiheke are either in tight shorts or short tights!"

* * * *

Noted at the Rowing Club dance on Saturday night: various members of the team indulging in a cautious round of frivolity because of the race the following morning. We feel that the frivolity might not have been so frivolous if they could have foreseen the nasty trick that fate was going to play.

* * * *

Don Algie, by the way, has thoughtful admirers! One of them presented him with a bottle of Turpentine to rub into the "sore parts and toughen 'em up some!" Such consideration in these hurley-burley times is almost reminiscent of Dido's care of our old friend Aeneas. (Photo supplied on receipt of penny stamp. Write in block capitals Mr., Mrs., or Reverend.)

* * * *

Jock Callan had a stunning five-o'clocker the other night. Everybody was there, there was everything to drink and a lot more to eat. Jock is a good host and you always enjoy yourself at his parties. Lloyd Hesketh looked bewitching with his piquant little smile, Graham Tudhope bold, blonde and blooming, Moray Wilson, a symphony in beautifully-blended shades of green. There were lots more men there, but these models of masculinity impressed the most.

With regard to the Civil War in Spain and the factors which produced it there is a considerable difference of opinion. Important principles are involved and numerous parties contending, whilst the general scene is obscured by a mass of propaganda. From a dispassionate survey of the situation, however, certain facts emerge. The first fact is that the Popular Front government secured its power by very questionable means. The second is that it has since been repudiated by founders of the Republic, as, for example, Zamora and Lerroux. The third, and for university men the most important, is that the intellectuals are opposed to it, preferring to support Franco or remain neutral. Unamuno for example, was a supporter of Franco's forces at the outbreak of the war, and in opposition to the Government until his death. Salvador de Madariaga, who is frequently quoted by our Liberal professors as an authority on Spain, refuses to take sides, but his position has been defined as one of "malevolent neutrality to the Left." As illustrating the truth of this he has attacked the intellectual sympathisers with Communism, who, he says, "have not been deterred by the explicit contempt for Liberalism in general, and freedom of thought in particular, which is one of the few features of Communism to be found both in theory and practice." Perhaps the most striking of all, however, is the testimony of Gregorio Maranon, who was President of the Academy of Medicine at Madrid and who, incidentally, was imprisoned in the regime of Primo de Rivera, whilst Largo Caballero was a well-fed Councillor of State. In an article published in the "Petit Parisien" Maranon writes as follows: "My story is one of contrition. I have been mistaken, I have been misled. Save for a few new-fangled Catholics who persist in favour of Communism, all the intellectuals of Spain think as I do, speak as I do, and, like me, I have had to flee from Republican Spain to save their lives." He then goes on to admit his responsibility for having assisted the radical forces in Spain, and says how he had been led to do this by the executions of Ferrer and Sirval. "But what has happened since then," he continues. "Thirty thousand Ferrers, guilty of freedom of thought,

Seen in the library in a hot afternoon. Ian Broadfoot working frightfully hard, he won't even look up and smile. Frances Cooper wandering round like a lost soul getting books and rattling chairs. Millicent Kirton, asleep. Two Freshers, whose names I don't know, likewise. Jocelyn Hesketh doing harmony and making notes in the air with her tongue.

* * * *

You must have been freshers 'cos any old hand knows that the side path past the hall at 'Varsity is not a good place to park o' nights, too many people use it. Remember in future, patronise the free seats under the palms in Albert Park. Not the darkest and most frequented thoroughfares!

* * * *

The Big Apple Coffee Evening was fun, except that there was no Big Apple. But there was a girl—who lost part of a nether garment and it is now adorning a tree in the college grounds waiting to be claimed. The tree from now onwards is to be called the Suspended Sycamore.

* * * *

Poor Piggy Leary! We always knew her brain wasn't all it should be, but we never liked to say anything because she is so sensitive. But alas, the truth will out; she came second to bottom in an intelligence test—not even bottom; just second to bottom. Cheer up Peg, all is not lost.

* * * *

If you want to be "alawn" with someone go on one of the 'Varsity tramps. It is very easy to drift away and get semi-lost in the bush—at least if it isn't what were Naera Mackie and Trevor Danial doing when they arrived half-an-hour after everyone else at the bathing-place, Naera, with the innocence of a babe on her quivering and flushed face and Trevor with the clenched hands and set jaw of a man going through mental agony.

have been shot without trial. Five thousand Sirvals have been killed in prison with hand-grenades. The same actions have led to the same reactions on my part. I did not wait for these hectacombs to dissociate myself from stupid murderers, from frenzied primitives, who hate all science and intellect." That is the opinion of one of the leading scientists in Spain, a man who was a Radical deputy in the Cortes and who had suffered much for championing the liberal cause.

However the attitude of these intellectuals may be regarded and whatever interpretations we put on their opinions, one thing should be clear; the situation in Spain is not the simple, clear-cut issue of a democratic and liberal government being sabotaged by military force. The causes of the struggle go far deeper than that, and are intimately bound up with the culture and traditions of Spain. The best way, therefore, to assist that unhappy country and its suffering people is to oppose the imposition of alien systems, whether communist or fascist, and to allow them to work out their national salvation in their own way. From this it follows that the best service which intellectuals can perform is to refrain from propagandist activities, but to assist in the formation of a true perspective by supplying the public with all the facts. This, notoriously, is not being done, and in this connection the paper mentioned is not the least guilty. Might we suggest, therefore, that it forsakes propagandist activities and reverts to the proper function of a 'varsity paper?

DIAZ.

MALVOLIO RECOMMENDS

"Furthermore," by Damon Runyon—More humorous stories by the most individual American short-story writer.

"The Flying Wasp," by Sean O'Casey—The famous Irish dramatist makes inelegant hay of modern critics. Delightful.

"Spanish Rehearsal," by Arnold Lunn—An eminent English philosopher exposes the Communist plot in Spain.

Pearls & Pebbles

(By CALIBAN)

THEME WITH VARIATIONS

("An old alligator was caught in a trap of lianas one morning at Kaste."—Duguid's "Green Hell.")

Why paint the rose?
Why gild the flower?
Oh, that such prose
At this late hour
Should come to charm
With haunting numbers
Our ears, and calm
Our restless slumbers.

"An old alligator was caught
In a trap of lianas
One morning at Kaste." How 'tis fraught
With the sound of hosannahs!
Great poets with rhythm and rhyme
Could never sing sweeter,
But we'll change from this cadence sublime
To an easier metre.

{ "An old alligator was caught in a trap of
lianas one morning at Kaste,"
If you phrase it like this it possesses more
snap and the rhymes can be got in more haste,
Its swing you can sing like a bird on the
wing and the rhythm appeals to one's taste.
(Chorus)

{ Oh, an old alligator was caught in a trap
of lianas one morning at Kaste.

But while the above has a lilt that is pleasant
and plastic
(Though rhymes are a pain)
This arrangement gives greater effect to
its gaily fantastic
Swinburnian strain
It's as beautiful now written thus as a
bunch of bananas—
Smooth, yellow and chaste,
"An old alligator was caught in a trap of
lianas
One morning at Kaste."

And yet if for Swinburne you care not a
rap,
You can phrase it, so time you won't
waste,

"An old alligator was caught in a trap
Of lianas one morning at Kaste."
The magic of music which poets have
sought
Is here so sublimely encased
"In a trap of lianas one morning was
caught
An old alligator at Kaste."

Why gild the rose?
Why paint the bloom?
With such rare prose
Can there be room
For verse? I guess
Such words enshrine
In fairest dress
A thought divine.

A LIMERICK OR TWO

There was a young fellow named Kandy
Whose legs were so frightfully bandy,
By way of a joke he
Employed them in croquet
As hoops, when there weren't any handy.
There was a young girl of Antigua,
Who said to her spouse, "What a pig you are."
He replied, "Oh, my queen
Is it manners you mean
Or do you refer to my figuah?"

NOEL

(From the French of Theophile Gautier.)
(By CALIBAN)

White the earth and dark the sky,
(Fill, ye joyous bells, the air)
Christ is born, the Virgin nigh
Watches Him with tender care.
There, to shield Him from the cold,
Are no folds of hangings fine,
Festooned from the rafters old
Spider-webs alone entwine.
On the straw He trembling lies
Little Jesus, weak, adored;
Ass and ox with tender eyes
By their breathing warm their Lord.
Though the snow is piling high
Choirs of white-clad angels bring
Tidings from the open sky
"Noel, Noel!" hear them sing.

ON THE CURRENT SCREEN

What—And What Not—To See

(Conducted by "Manfil.")

My first column, published in the issue of March 10, has got me into trouble with one of "Craccum's": new subscribers. Writing to the Editor under the nom de plume of "Touchstone" in last issue, he criticised my work on the following grounds (I quote his exact words):—

1 That my criticisms are "half-baked."

2 That the film "Victoria the Great" was "nothing but a sentimental plaster from start to finish." He asks: "If a picture sets out to add something to technique or worth of the film, and fails, why should the public be fooled into believing that they are witnessing a shilling's worth of masterpiece?"

3 That I should not quote from overseas reviews because "they are generally bad or patronising or the reviewer would not get his free seats."

4 That my remaining criticisms were on the same plane as that of "Victoria the Great."

Now I should like to thank "Touchstone" for his letter. It is always encouraging to know that one's work is read, however carelessly. But while I was glad to see his letter, I cannot honestly congratulate him on what he said, how he said it, or even on his choice of a nom de plume.

Shakespeare's Touchstone was a clown, yet a subtle humorist who, on occasions, had some remarkably acute and truthful things to say. I don't mean this comment to be in any way personal, but I must say that the more I study "Touchstone's" letter, the more am I reminded of what Jacques had to say about his namesake: "His brain is as dry as the remainder biscuit after a voyage."

However well-meaning, "Touchstone's" letter revealed two things: (a) that he is wholly ignorant about some aspects of film criticism and (b) that he would have been wiser if he had read my column carefully before writing as he did to the Editor of "Craccum." Let me show why, beginning with criticisms one and four.

I do not dispute "Touchstone's" right to call my criticisms "half-baked," though I would pay more attention if he had revealed any relevant knowledge in his letter, but I will dispute to the last ditch his right to say what he did about "Victoria the Great" and the review which appeared in "Craccum." He says it was mine. If he had read it more closely, he would have noted that it was acknowledged to "The Observer," London.

Criticism two. In his comments on "Victoria the Great," he falls into an elementary fallacy of criticism. He is quite entitled to think "I did not like this film," but he has no justification for adding "therefore it is bad." His phrases "the technique and worth of the film" and "the highest standards" of criticism may sound well. As maxims of sound revealing they are useless. The only way of assessing the merit of a picture—or a book, or a play—is to judge it according to its own standards and limits. It is the critic's first job to see what is aimed at and then, and only then, to form an estimate of the materials employed.

"Touchstone" condemns the film because it was "a sentimental plaster." Will he deny that it was a sentimental age? He refers to "the tiresome insistence upon make-up and sets, surely nothing but an indication that the film is deadly dull." I dispute that the use of make-up and sets was tiresome and ask: "how else could an historical film embracing 50 years be presented?"

Thirdly, I quote from overseas critiques because I aim to mention all the films of any importance currently showing in Queen Street at the date of publication of each issue of "Craccum." To do this, a certain amount of anticipation is necessary. In many cases I have to write about a film before I have seen

it; quotation from a reliable source is therefore necessary.

"Touchstone" disputes that my sources of information are not sound, a statement which reveals total ignorance of the work of overseas film critics. For the review of "Victoria the Great," I quoted Miss C. A. Lejeune, who is indisputably England's leading film journalist. To say that she, or any other British or American critic of standing would hesitate to condemn a picture for fear of not getting free seats is as naive a statement as I have read in years.

I don't claim that the reviews I shall publish will be infallible, that they will name pictures which everybody will appreciate; no critic, however good he is, can achieve that. But I do aim to present reviews which will indicate the pictures of real importance. "Victoria the Great" was not a masterpiece, yet I do suggest that it was worth going out of one's way to see. A few million people in Great Britain, Canada, the United States, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand thought so, too. Anyway, there are some new and forthcoming films to consider.

"THE BARRIER" (Regent, showing).—Revival of the old stager in film production, adorned with good photography of handsome settings. But nothing can disguise the marks of resuscitation. James Ellicott makes a humourless hero and Otto Kruger an unconvincing villain. Best performances come from Leo Carrillo and Andy Clyde. Miss Jean Parker, cast as the heroine, is required to be sweet but never at any stage to show more than the glimmerings of intelligence.

"A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS" (Civic showing).

—Written by P. G. Wodehouse and a couple of other fellows, this picture improves considerably after a comparatively tame commencement. The English backgrounds (shot in California, no doubt), make a refreshing change from the usual glittering productions associated with Fred Astaire. Some clever dancing, including a remarkable drum dance, farcical situations—for the most part routine, yet still amusing—and music by the late George Gershwin are among the better features of this enjoyable show. Astaire, Joan Fontaine (to spare anyone from memory-cudgelling, it is Olivia de Havilland she resembles—they're sisters), Ray Noble, Reginald Gardiner and Montagu Love are all fairly good. So are George Burns and Gracie Allen, except when they make puns like: George—"It's a bona fide castle." Gracie—"Yeah, that's where Napoleon came from." If you like Astaire, you will get some pleasure from this picture.



Fred Astaire

"STAND-IN" (Plaza, coming).

—"There are no jokes about Hollywood that are as good as the jokes that Hollywood can make about itself, and "Stand-in" is one of the best of them. It introduces Leslie Howard as the mathematical expert of a New York banking house who is sent to watch over the bank's interests in a failing film studio. An utter innocent in the ways of film production ("Who is this Miss Temple? I've heard her name several times to-day. Oh well, it's not important"), he finds the working conditions at the Colossal, to say the least of it, curious. . . . The more I think about this picture, the more I like it, both as entertainment in itself and as a naively dazzling illumination of all our problems. True, Mr. Howard's methods are sometimes a little arbitrary . . . but their logic is irresistible, their justice unassailable, and their total effect to provide some millions of people with 90 minutes of laughter."—"The Observer," London.



Leslie Howard

[Continued next page.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REVUE CHORUS

Dear Sir,

When the first revue rehearsal was held recently it came as something of a shock to hear several well-known hymn tunes being lustily sung. Perhaps they are good "catchy" tunes, but does the producer really think they will increase the popularity of Revue? I venture to think that many people will be offended when they hear "Abide With Me," a hymn with poignant associations for many, sung or yelled—to Revue words.

Perhaps the producer would care to justify his choice, which seems to many students to be thoughtless and inconsiderate.

ABRACADABRA.

(Editor's Note: The above letter was handed by the Editor to Mr. Reid, to give him the opportunity of replying in the same issue. Mr. Reid writes as follows:—

Dear Sir,—With reference to the comments of "Abracadabra" (oh, thrice-appropriate name) on the opening chorus for revue, I would like to state (a) the words of 1938 opening chorus were written, not to known tunes, but for original music. As this was not forthcoming, several of the pieces were fitted—not by myself—to known melodies. (b) If our correspondent would read the instructions in the script, he (or is it she?) will see that "a hymn-like tune" is asked for. This is somewhat different from a hymn tune. "Rock of Ages" is a hymn tune. "When Britain really ruled the waves" from "Iolanthe" is a hymn-like tune. (c) The first rehearsal of revue was the first time that I personally had heard the opening chorus played right through. (d) "Abide with Me" was not used in the opening chorus. Four lines of words were set to portion of "Oh, God, Our Help." (e) This has since been changed at my personal request, before, indeed, the above epistle was brought to my notice. (f) In view of the fact that previous revues with which I have been connected as author and producer have, in marked contrast to those of some other Universities, contained nothing to harm the susceptibilities of the most sensitive, I feel that it would have been better taste for your correspondent to have approached me personally and ascertained the true position before rushing into print and, in a manner of speaking, casting reflections in public on the good faith of the producer. —JOHN C. REID.

THE LATEST BRICK-BAT

Dear Sir,

I wish to voice what I am sure must be the opinion of a great many students. That opinion is this—"That an otherwise respectable paper, "Craccum," is absolutely degraded by the insertion of such unmitigated tripe as the material ascribed to "Gipsy."

This material is devoid of literary ability, and is remarkable only for the junior form standard of its humour and the unsophisticated nature of its outlook on relations between men's and women's common rooms. It is reminiscent of the twaddle entitled "Playboy Gascoigne," which appeared in one of the more unfortunate "Craccums" last year.

If "Gipsy" persists, she (it cannot be he) will be responsible for a sharp drop in sales.

"TIPSY."

[Would "Topsy" meet "Gipsy" to offer a little constructive advice? If he (it cannot be she) would lift the heavy veil of anonymity no doubt this could be arranged to their mutual sophistication!—Ed.]

OUR PICTURE COLUMN

Dear Sir,

It was with great interest that I read Touchstone's letter which was printed in your last issue of "Craccum." I feel sure that if Touchstone puts as much energy into College Affairs as he does into condemning our film critic, he will be an asset to the College.

I would like to draw Touchstone's attention to the fact that Manfil did not offer any criticism of "Victoria the Great," but simply reprinted the words of the reviewer for the London Observer.

It doesn't seem right that one so proud of reading divers books on film technique, should entertain such strange ideas about reviewers and their habits. These reviewers are em-

ployed by the newspapers, because of their knowledge and ability. They generally pay for their seats and they give a perfectly unbiased opinion. As for them being patronising—well! Allow me to quote just one example from "Craccum," March 10th—"Fight for Your Lady."

"A fumbling, unoriginal and infantile farce which comes close to being the composite year's worst acting."—New York "Times."

Patronising, isn't it? But if we can believe Touchstone, the man that wrote this had his eye on some free seats—possibly a whole row of them.

If Touchstone doesn't appreciate the Film column, why doesn't he offer some constructive, instead of destructive criticism? He might even write an article on Film Technique.

IAN SMITH.

VIVISECTION DEFENDED

Dear Sir,—One of the best of the new features of Craccum is the "Points of View" column on the first page, and I always read it with great interest. I could wish, however, that whoever is compiling it would select authorities more accurate than Charles Edward Russell. This "noted American writer and lecturer" states that "Vivisection is the most colossal failure in human experience." Almost anyone who knows anything about the subject can immediately contradict this statement. I need only quote Prof. Meyer, of Vienna: "Experiments on animals are indispensable for the progress of medical science." The most important surgical operations, e.g., on the kidneys (Simon) . . . as well as the prevention of wound infection (Semmelweis and Lister) have been made possible only by preliminary well-considered and frequently repeated experiments on animals." With much more in the same vein.

—BARKER.

COMMUNISTS IN SPAIN

Dear Sir,—May I congratulate "Craccum" on the able manner in which it reported the recent address to the International Relations Club by Mr. Patterson?

I must thank Mr. Patterson for making it abundantly clear that Marxists in general, and Russians in particular, were, and are, the driving force behind the opponents of Franco. I had read, of course, in English papers, that the notorious Bolsheviks, Béla Kun and Lovovskii, had been sent to Barcelona in March 1936 to organise the Spanish Soviet, but it is rather interesting to have confirmation from a man who was lately in the midst of the fighting in that unfortunate country.

While dealing with his actual experiences, the speaker held my attention completely, but there were phrases in his address that did not seem to grip with the same intensity, rather as if he were repeating something memorised. For instance, when questioned on what he had learned from captured Italian soldiers, he was most voluble, but evaded making a reply to a member of the Labour Club, who twice asked if he understood Italian.

I fail to see why the College should be used as a place where people can be misled—let us by all means hear both sides of a question, but I hope we may not be carried away by too plausible argument. It is this very spate of propaganda, flooding the world, regarding Spain and other countries, that is most suspicious to a critical mind. A reasoning man will say: "These people are repeating the same thing so often and so loudly that they must have an ulterior motive."

—GERTIE.

DON JOHN AGAIN

Dear Sir,—The article entitled "Money and War" in the March issue of "Craccum" is timely, and it is pleasing to note that the writer has a grasp of the true position. May I suggest that the words "Credit Monopolist" take the place of the words "Money Lender" in the article, and that Don John, in a further article, develop the subject along this line. There can be no question in the statement that the private creation and destruction of credit is responsible for war.

Credit creation belongs to the people who create the wealth upon which the credit structure is built, and until this power is wrested from its present controllers and restored to its rightful owners, wars are inevitable. Life or

death to the world's millions is at present in the hands of those who to-day wield that power, and time wasted in futile discussion about profit simply permits a consolidation of control which may well take generations to break. The banking system is the keystone of the edifice, but it is quite unnecessary to nationalise this or anything else. The complete restoration to the people's chosen representatives of the policy of credit creation and cancellation is the only remedy. When that which is physically possible is made financially possible then will "peace on earth and goodwill toward men" be more than a mere empty phrase.

—F. ALLEN.

NOTICE.—The Editor wishes to announce that unsigned correspondence addressed to College publications will receive no consideration whatever. This precaution, which should ensure sincerity, will not necessarily mean the publication of the identity of any person unless particularly indicated.

COLLEGE LECTURES

Dear Sir,—While not wishing to cause a disturbance of any magnitude or to incur the dislike of anyone who will have a say in my examination destinies, I must protest strongly against the permitting of Communist propaganda in the college. The University, no matter what colour the private opinions of certain members of the staff might be, should be, as a University, impartial. Yet at a recent history lecture in which the lecturer was giving an exposition of the Marxist panacea as a historical influence, a list was passed round under his very nose by one of the class (a member of the Young Communist party) to secure the names of those who wanted a copy of the Communist Manifesto. I am just an ordinary student, and I realise that those parts of the Communist Manifesto which are intelligible, could not do a great deal of harm to the average intelligent student, but that is not the point. If this sort of thing is possible in history lectures, might it not be the thin end of the wedge and might we not shortly have history (and, I have no doubt, economics) lectures deluged with the lurid propaganda and puerile pamphlets of the "Progressive" bookshop? It would surely be a very great pity, in view of the noted impartiality of the University lectures, to have them identified with the type of people who circulate this dope; but what other conclusion can one draw from the incident I witnessed? What is the W.E.A. for, but for these propagandising pests to indulge in their class-hatred away from the common people? Why should Communist bunk, or, for that matter, any kind of bunk, be canvassed during history lectures? I am sure the bulk of the students feel as I do, and that I am only voicing the opinion of the majority of history students when I say that the further abuse of lectures is a matter that requires serious attention.

—"IMPARTIAL."

(Continued from page 10.)

"JERICHO" (Embassy, coming).—"This film begins admirably—the director does his work with skill and energy and Paul Robeson establishes Jericho as a person of considerable interest. But, after the first 30 minutes, it declines into the commonplace. . . It is always a pleasure to hear Mr. Robeson sing, whether on sand-dunes or off them, but he is an actor too good to be thrown away on Jericho, who is only a shadow of the man he promised to be at the beginning.

"OVER SHE GOES" (St. James', coming).—"Musical comedy brought to the screen without much adaptation. The antics of Stanley Lupino and Laddie Cliff are amusing in a theatrical fashion, but the story has little continuity and rather less reason. A dated type of picture which will appeal only to a few by the heartiness of its gags."—"Film Weekly," London.

BEST OF THE WEEK

"THE OLD MILL" (Civic, showing).—The latest Disney Silly Symphony, this offering is remarkable for its use of subdued colour and for the three-dimensional effects obtained. Superlatives are in order to describe its quality.

"RADIO CITY REVELS" (Civic, coming).—Hotch-potch of good, bad, and indifferent. Verdict, painful.

FOUR TENNIS REPS. DROPPED

1938 Team Youngest Ever

The Tennis Selection Committee, Messrs. A. S. Brown, R. Turner and L. H. Watson, announces that the following will represent A.U.C. at Tournament:—Misses Joan Howie, Pat Roberts, Jean Anderson, Jean McGeachie; Messrs. Bill Butcher, Brian Hotson, Laurie Stevens, Murray Speight. Outstanding features are the omission of four of last year's team: Messrs. Halstead and Finkelstein, and Misses Walker and Hewitson—and the average age of the team, which is below nineteen. "Craccum's" tennis correspondent draws the moral and comments on the team.

The moral is this: To improve their standard 'Varsity players must enter outside competition and gain the match experience which is an essential part of their tennis training. Thus the majority of members of this year's teams belong to other clubs while playing for 'Varsity and they played in the Auckland Champs. at Christmas. Through failing to do this, most of last year's team have not improved to such an extent. Now for the team:—

W. BUTCHER:—Bill is at present the most promising player in the 'Varsity team. He has all the strokes with a particularly strong drive on either wing. His chief fault is lack of restraint — he tries to make every shot a winner. Nevertheless his experience as a member of the 1937 team should stand him in good stead against the particularly strong opposition which seems to be coming north.

B. HOTSON:—Brian, like Bill, hails from Training College and is a new comer to 'Varsity tennis. He plays a similar game to Butcher and their combination should win points for Auckland.

P. ROBERTS:—Pat has been playing here for several years, but this last year has seen a very great improvement in her play and she fully deserves her place. There is no noticeable weakness in her play but she must increase her severity both in her driving and her net work. The same can be said of all the women players who are very liable to be upset by a strong opposing net attack.

J. HOWIE:—Joan is another very popular selection. She plays a very strong game, not being frightened to hit hard to the lines, but at present is patchy. Still, she never gives up trying and every ounce goes into her game. If she strikes an on day in tournament she will undoubtedly provide the Southern champions with solid opposition.

J. ANDERSON:—Jean upholds the Arts Faculty against the other three team members who hail from Science. Nevertheless, this won't prevent her forming a good combination for the ladies and combined doubles. Jean plays a very steady game—at times forceful—and if she overcomes her nervousness, should prove a valuable acquisition at Tournament.

J. McGEACHIE:—Jean, the third Science member, is a good doubles player possessing a fine forehand drive. She, too, is inclined to be impetuous, especially at the net. Her second serve is rather weak and must be improved or the Southern men will have no mercy in the combined doubles.

At all events the team chosen is a very all-round combination and should gain valuable experience for future tournaments in which we hope to see them clinching the titles. Of course, if they can bring it off this year, so much the better.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The various events have progressed well and the semi-finals or finals have been reached in all except the women freshers' singles. As can be seen the selection of the Tournament team has been greatly influenced by the Championship results.

In the men's singles the four semi-finalists are Brown, Prendegast, Butcher and Watson. Brown, who is playing better than ever, should beat Prendegast, but the other match should be very close if Bill strikes form. Mention should be made of the good form shown by Prendy who successively defeated Ryalls, Turner and Cox. He is a good steady singles player, but at present his serving and volleying are weak and as a result he is not up to the mark in doubles.

In the men's doubles the four seeded pairs reached the semi-final. In the first semi-final Watson and Brown defeated Halstead and Thomas, 6—3, 8—6.

In the ladies' singles the four semi-finalists were the Tournament representatives. In the top half, J. Howie created something of a surprise to out-drive J. Anderson and win 6—4. P. Roberts proved too steady for J. McGeachie and entered the final with a good win, 6—4, 6—2. The final, a battle of contrasting tactics should be a wonderful match.

The final matches in the combines will be Brown and Jean McGeachie v. Finkelstein and Pat Roberts, and Turner and Shona Paterson v. Speight and J. Anderson. A good match was that in which Butcher and Rosalie Walker, after losing the first set 0—6 to Stevens and Lois Stanton, went on to win 0—6, 6—4, 6—3.

The ladies' doubles has also run to expectations. The final will be played between J. Howie and J. McGeachie and P. Roberts and J. Hewitson. The latter pair had a marathon semi-final to defeat J. Anderson and B. Reburn, 2—6, 6—5, 11—9.

There has been a good entry in the freshers' events. Owing to limitations of space these will be described next week.

Powerful Combination

GIRLS PROMISE WELL

BASKETBALL TEAM

The basketball team which was announced a few days ago, should prove well up to the high standard set by previous A.U.C. teams. With most of last year's team back, there has been particularly keen competition for vacancies, but the resulting selection must be considered eminently satisfactory.

Meg. Matangi is again captain. As an N.Z. rep. an N.Z.U. and A.U.C. blue she has won most of honours the game has to offer. This year she has left the defence to strengthen the goal, with the result that this three will be particularly strong. The other members are Val. Wyatt, well-known for her steady, solid play, and Beryl Campbell, perhaps the most accurate shot who has played for a 'Varsity team.

The centre will also be strong. Here we have three old campaigners in Mary Martin, Marjorie Pettit and Lois Stanton. Like Meg. Matangi, Mary is an N.Z. rep. and an N.Z.U. and A.U.C. blue—one of the most formidable players in Auckland. Unfortunately she will not be available after Easter but will be a tower of strength at Tournament. Lois Stanton and Marjorie Pettit need no introduction here.

The defence, while by no means weak, is not perhaps as strong as the rest of the team. On the other hand we anticipate that they will not have a great deal of defending to do! Ailsa Blakey, after a couple of seasons with the whites, wins well-deserved promotion. Joan Howie is also a newcomer to the team. As a finalist in the women's singles and doubles she should have a great chance of being a double rep. Finally we come to Murielle Smeed, who played well at tournament last year, though selected in the first instance as emergency. This year's emergency is Margaret Bartrum, who must be accounted most unfortunate. She has the consolation of knowing that it is a strong team in which she could not find a place.

OUR CONTEMPORARY SLIPS

Salient, V.U.C. student weekly, states: "Rumours have come through of M. H. Oram surprising even himself with the remarkable time of 1.55 for the 880 at a recent meeting in Palmerston. This is barely outside the N.Z.U. record." Our local tournament delegate assures us that the time was 1.55 4-5, not 1.55, and anyway, that Oram ran off 70 yards. So he might not trouble Boot after all.

In the N.Z. Rugby Annual's list of the five most promising players in the 1937 season appears the name of Trevor Berghan. This will not surprise those who knew him at A.U.C. a couple of years ago, when he played outstanding football for the Senior B's and the Science Faculty.

THE EDITOR COMMENTS

TOURNAMENT ORGANISATION

At tournament more than any other time the University is on show before the public, and we must make as good an impression as possible. This calls in particular for carefully planned organisations to handle the various sporting events smoothly and efficiently.

At previous tournaments the athletic sports have not been as well run as could have been wished. Events have been rarely up to time, announcing has been confusing when it should have been clear, important events have been run simultaneously, and there have been obviously too many officials on the ground. Here in Auckland where the public have become used to the extremely efficient running of the secondary school sports it is doubly necessary for the tournament meeting to be run smoothly. The club will be able to have a good try out at the interfac. sports. If last year's improvement is maintained we should have little to complain about.

The same remarks apply more or less to the swimming club. Here the technique of announcing and conducting a carnival has been well developed, but the club will inevitably have to contend with large numbers of inebriated gentlemen coming on from the various dinners on Monday night. Last year at Christchurch these made most of the announcing quite inaudible and most of the audience very annoyed. The swimming club are to be congratulated on securing the secondary school champs. for the carnival, and they are certainly providing a most attractive programme.

The other sports should not be so difficult to manage. A more or less professional staff will be running the boxing, which always goes off with a swing anyway. This is a great field for barrackers. Basketball, as befits this more lady-like amusement, usually draws a more gentlemanly crowd. Much the same applies to tennis. But it is up to every club concerned to select members of its organisation judiciously and to plan every detail with care.

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, 5th APRIL — Tournament teams must be selected by this date.

THURSDAY, 7th APRIL—A.R.A. Maiden Eights.

SATURDAY, 9th APRIL—Football Club Practice. Interfaculty Rowing Fours. Tennis Finals.

THURSDAY, 14th APRIL—Special tournament Craccum.

FRIDAY, 15th APRIL—First day of Tournament.

SPECIAL TOURNAMENT NUMBER.

A special tournament issue of "Craccum" will be released on Thursday, 14th April. This will be largely devoted to sporting topics and will contain lists of all competing teams with comments thereon, the usual forecast of tournament events and in addition to these a table of Australian university athletic records which should be of considerable interest. There will also be articles on Australian inter-varsity sports, prominent 'varsity athletes, and so on.

BOOM YEAR IN BOXING

Hopes High For Tournament

CHAMPS. REVIEWED: WILLIS GAINS CROWN

We are having a boom year in boxing. The Auckland Club gymnasium was packed out for the championships, and the crowd, which included several lady members of the college and a strong representation from the Hongis, saw the best display which the club has put on for several years. Hopes are high for tournament and deservedly so. Outstanding features were the displays of Harry Willis and Harry Turner, the former being awarded the cup for the most scientific boxer, and a very popular win by Pat Blair in the feather-weight.

LIGHT-WEIGHT CONTESTANTS

In the semi-finals Willis (10.10), using his superior weight and reach to good advantage, was not troubled by Ball (9.12), while de Lisle (1.0) beat de Stigter (10.0) in a bout which did not arouse much enthusiasm, both men being afraid to lead. The final was a good bout. After a cautious start Willis opened out in the second round, and proved too strong and aggressive for de Lisle, who was nevertheless by no means outclassed. Willis was awarded the cup for the most scientific boxer. He proved this was no fluke when he effectively disposed of T. Balcombe in the preliminaries at the Town Hall last Monday, and must be given a good chance at tournament.

BANTAM-WEIGHT DIVISION

The final of this weight saw Turner (8.9) beat Brown (8.8) in one of the most interesting bouts of the evening. Brown started very aggressively and, fighting well, kept Turner working hard throughout the first round. The second round was very even with both men attacking strongly. Turner, however, by making very effective use of his left, was definitely superior in the third round, and was awarded the verdict. This fight had the crowd on its feet, and at the conclusion both men were heartily applauded. Brown is fighting Pat Blair to see who represents the College in the feather-weight at tournament.

FEATHER-WEIGHT.

Here Pat Blair created something of a surprise by going out in his shirt-sleeves to clean up Tudehope (9.3), and Berny Cox (9.2), and carry off the title, much to the delight of the crowd. In his first bout Pat, revealing a hitherto unsuspected vicious streak, attacked from the gong, and won comfortably. The final against Cox was at least entertaining. In the first round Cox spent quite a lot of time sitting on the bottom rope, from which vantage-point he was once rather suddenly removed by Ackroyd Wylde-Brown who inserted a pin into the nearest portion of Cox's anatomy. Blair was clearly superior over this round. Next round Cox gave promise of evening the fight

up by keeping Pat off with a good left, but the latter was well ahead, and the referee stopped the bout.

WELTER-WEIGHT

In one of the closest bouts of the evening McDonald (10.8) beat Ken Blakey (10.7). The first two rounds were strenuously fought, but were not very exciting. In the last round with the crowd cheering lustily, both men went all out for the decision, and a splendid struggle saw McDonald given the verdict after an anxious consultation between the judges and the referee.

In the light-heavyweight Barry (12.0) t.k.o'd Overton (11.9) in the first round. Overton has a good school record, but he found in Barry an opponent who was stronger, heavier and in fact generally superior. Barry packs a very powerful punch, and is going to give the Southerners something to think about.

EXHIBITION BOXERS

There were two no-decision exhibition bouts between Milligan, who wins the middle-weight title unopposed, and Branch, and McHugh and Branch. Branch is a prominent outside boxer. None of the men took these bouts very seriously. Milligan displayed some good foot-work, and Morry McHugh, who gave quite a bright exhibition, looks very fit.

At the conclusion of the tournament Eric Halstead congratulated the winners of the titles. Pos. urged the necessity for training, thanked the officials for their assistance, and expressed a few pious hopes for tournament.

News from the south indicates that although C.U.C. won the boxing shield last Easter, the strongest opposition may come from Otago, who are particularly good in the lighter weights. V.U.C. appear to have a very good feather in Caveny. Their welter, Ryan, broke his thumb in the concluding stages of his bout, which was most unfortunate. At the last tournament in Auckland Otago won every weight. We cannot see them or anyone else doing so this year, and competition should be very keen.

RIFLE CLUB TEAM FIGHT FOR PLACES

The A.U.C. Rifle Club has been hard at practice for a month, and slowly but surely the boys are coming on to form. Preparation for the 1938 Haslam shield match entails much work and expense, as practices have to be carried out in the early hours of the morning.

Cars loaded with bleary-eyed individuals leave the city at 5.45 a.m. and dash madly along the Great South Road to the Penrose Rifle Range. Usually the first detail fires the opening shot a few minutes after dawn breaks across the Westfield works. With a delicately perfumed wind wafted gently across the range—comes the first signs of real energy and enthusiasm.

We trust that this highly scented wind will on the day of the match lull our southern rivals into a state of semi-oblivion.

As has been mentioned before in these columns, this is the first time in the history of University shooting that the Haslam Shield will be fired at the tournament centre. The A.U.C. has preparations for the "big shoot" on Easter Saturday morning well in hand, and it is hoped that a large gallery will witness a fine match.

Competition for a position in the A.U.C. team has been exceptionally keen, but the members have gradually been reduced, until now eight riflemen are contesting for positions in the small team of four. The eight selected are:—B. Boaden, W. Maurice Brown, H. L. Clarke, R. Duthie, J. L. Weir, J. Pybus, R. C. Taylor, L. E. Tweedie.

LADIES IN BLUE HOCKEY CLUB'S MEETING COLOURFUL NEW UNIFORMS

There was a good attendance at the annual general meeting of the Ladies' Hockey Club, presided over by Miss Edone e King-Mason, and prospects are bright for the coming season. Reference was made to Blandford Park, to the welcome credit balance of five pounds odd, and the meeting then proceeded to the really important business—the colour of the new uniforms. The result of the discussion is that this year will see the club brightening the hockey fields of Auckland with gym. frocks of royal blue. Zowie!!

It is probable that this year's coach will be Miss Jean Paterson, sister of f Shona F., and ex-games mistress of Wanganui College. She learnt the game in England, for where the meeting learnt with real regret that Edone King-Mason was shortly leaving. Tournament this year is in Dunedin. Practices will begin after Easter, and intending players are advised to get in touch with the secretary, Beryl Hooton. The new officials are: President, Miss K. Dunning. Vice-presidents: Mrs. Bull, Miss Bourne, Dr. Briggs, Mr. Deesborough. Club captain, Shona Paterson. Secretary and treasurer, Beryl Hooton. Selection committee, Shona Paterson, Clara Lynch. Committee, J. Bell, R. Mason, P. Leahy, J. McGechie, C. Lynch.

HOODOO ON OARSMEN WEEK-END MISFORTUNES

ALGIE NAMED STROKE OF CLUB SHELL

An account of the University Club's part in the A.R.A. Regatta, the last of the season, must necessarily read like an extract from the Book of the Prophet Job. First the weather caused the postponement of the function until Sunday when it was rowed in miserable conditions over the short Hobson's Bay course. This incidentally hit the club's dance on Saturday night, as the racing crews preferred to conserve their energies at home instead of expending them in frivolous amusements. Then a series of injuries disorganised most of the crews. Harold Hughe cut his hand badly, Doug. Angus was incapacitated by a boil, and Ted Anderson had to go to New Plymouth. To cap everything the heavy maidens, who had gone out to do or die, broke a poppet-string at the start of their heat and were unable to take part. This was a most unfortunate end to a rather unlucky season.

THE EIGHT

The tournament crew, which was announced last Sunday week, is more or less as was expected.

The crew is: D. C. Algie (stroke), S. C. Gascoigne (7), B. R. Mouelston (6), A. Godfrey (5), F. R. Wright (4), R. Hardy (3), D. M. Kenrick (2), E. W. Henderson (bow), J. Fairbrother (cox). The emergencies are D. Angus and J. J. Carroll. Four members of last year's crew are included—Algie, Gascoigne, Wright and Kenrick.

The racing experience which members of the crew have had during the season should make them a formidable combination. They are trained nightly by Mr. A. Russell.

TRIALS

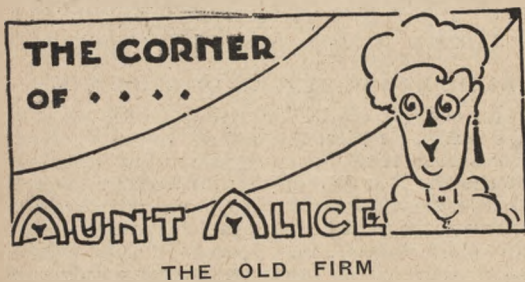
The previous Saturday the club rowed a series of trials for trophies consisting of four sets of cuff-links. The resulting races were among the best seen on the harbour this season. In the first heat a rather light crew stroked by Henderson beat Wright's crew by three feet in a desperate finish. Then Monckton just got up to beat Algie by a half-length after the latter had led most of the way. The final saw a gruelling contest. Monckton gained an early lead and spent the rest of the race staying off repeated challenges by Henderson to win again by half-a-length. In so doing Monckton concluded a remarkable season and won the trophy for the member gaining most points in trials. The winning crew was: Monckton (stroke), Hooper, Kenrick, Angus (bow).

GRID-MEN BITE DUST FIRST FOOTBALL PRACTICE

The first practice of the Football Club was held on the Showgrounds last Saturday on a ground which, after the long dry spell, was as hard as the rock of ages. The drought, however, broke after the practice. In view of the counter-attractions provided by cricket, tennis, athletics, rowing and so on, an attendance of over forty must be accounted particularly satisfactory. There was a good muster from the various secondary schools, which form the principal sources of the Varsity club's strength. We noticed some promising forwards and several good halves among them.

Only light practice was held, after which Ron Bush took the boys for physical jerks, thereby losing quite a lot of the popularity he has previously acquired in the Club. Laurie Drake and "Babe" Armitage were among the old stayers present; also Bob Thomas, who, alas, leaves us shortly after many years' sterling service. The selectors were present in force and saw plenty of good material, particularly in the forwards. However, it is as yet too early to attempt any forecast for the season.

Performances at an informal meeting of the Otago University Athletic Club may be of interest to readers. The 100 yards was won by Steele in 11 secs., the 440 hurdles by Harper and Borrie in 63 3/5, which is very slow beside Doug. Ball's performances. Borrie won the high jump with 5ft. 5ins. The best performances were put up by Adams who won the shot put with 36ft. 2ins., and the discus with 100ft. At the Otago Athletic Championships Vossalaigi, a well-known tournament performer in athletics and boxing, was unfortunate enough to sprain his ankle while attempting to break the high-jump record after winning the title. He is now a doubtful starter at tournament.



Dear Aunt Alice,

Because there is nothing like praise for a lady, I must confess to you that, of all things in this ghastly magazine that I dislike the least, it is YOUR column. Your influence on the morals of this college must be profound—one way and another. But I am moved to write to you an injunction, nay an impassioned plea, to watch your spelling. In your column I read that Mr. Spragg was balanced on the edge of a chair, and that the girls are drawn to a certain gentleman like moths to a candle. Of course "a moht it is to trouble the mind's eye," but the disease has spread. I see that a certain member of the English lecturing staff has acquired the name of a forest—one "Pip" Arden. This can't go on. 'Tis said that a lady smiling at a proof-reader is all the difference between Mr. Spargg and Mr. Spragg. What is it that you mabbee do about?

MILAN.

Dear Milan,

I accept your reproof with due meekness and humility. I could point out that the mistakes occurred not in my answers, but in the queries. Honesty, however, compels me to admit that I was probably responsible, as it was necessary for me to copy out the letters in question so that the linotypist could read them (intending contributors please note), and in spite of my lack of practice on the typewriter I already seem to have acquired the bad habit of pressing the keys in the wrong order. Thus teh becomes eth sorry liet DAMN the got it, an d so, No.& Must rty and do bteter inn4futuRE.

AUNT ALICE.

* * * *

Dear Aunt Alice,

Why is the official organ of the Auckland University College Students' Association known by the most obscure name "Craccum"? Is one to assume its editors are all nuts?

NUTS.

Dear M.,

The answer to this is that you ought to have become a subscriber to "Craccum," and be sure of your copy—2/6 for 12 issues, 3/- posted, see Averall Halcombe for further details. Because then, you would have seen a scholarly and erudite article on the origin of the word "Craccum," emanating, I believe, from the pen of Mr. D. T. Clouston. But he doesn't say anything about the Editor and neither will I. If you had to find thirty-odd columns for each issue you might not feel so good about it, anyway.

AUNT ALICE.

Dear Aunt Alice,

I don't know whether I ought to have consulted Gassy or you and so I tossed up and someone put his foot on it and I don't know whether it was heads or tails and anyway here I am.

There is something that has been puzzling me in the most alarming manner. I wake up in the middle of the morning to find myself thinking of it. My thoughts constantly turn towards it. My loved one complains that I am not giving my whole attention to her; in other words, my technique is suffering. Even the most absorbing of Prof. Anderson's lectures on logic fails to keep me from thinking and thinking.

In other words, Dear Aunt, why is CRACCUM green? Have they only got green paint in stock or did your mother come from Ireland? Look at the effect that a constant diet of green has! Look at the associations—seasickness, toheroa soup and grass. Anyway, you can't paint the town green, can you? If you're not sure you can always ask Giffy. I'm sure he can tell you.

Now red would be nice, but then they'd say that Craccum was a Labour Daily, or something and that would be just laying oneself open, wouldn't it? Yellow would be sweet, but then it's so liable to get dirty and there is no use getting mixed up with the yellow press just now with the east like it is and all. Why not a polka dot issue if its originality you're after?

Anyway, you should really put an orange cover on occasionally and that would please the Orangemen instead of all this green,

Yours in wonder,

OS(F)WALF.

P.S.: Could you lend me a pound till next Friday?

Dear Ow(t)wald,

You say why green? Well, why not? Very appropriate for the first issues at any rate—matches the freshers. Besides green as a colour has plenty of Varsity associations, such as architects' smocks, Albert Park, cafe sausages, our memories of Professor Sewell, creme de menthe, what the tennis courts used to look like, Mr. Desborough's blazer and so on. If we do run an Orangemen's issue that will not only get us into trouble with the Irish right away, but we will receive demands for special numbers from Communists, Nazis, St. Cuthbert's Old Girls—all sorts of people—in fact, and each with their special cover. Carrying the idea to its logical conclusion we would be having a rosy-covered pre-tournament issue, a pink elephant pattern for the post-tournament issue, black covers to signalise the approval of terms and the McGregor tartans for when the new Science block is opened. No, Os(t)wald, it's absurd.

AUNT ALICE.

P.S.: No, I can't lend you a pound till Friday.

Dear Aunt Alice,

For quite a few months now we have been missing in the library a presence to which we had become very attached, whose size and colour, nay, whose very odour had all the savour of long familiarity. No more do we see him plodding over to the philosophy section (why did he always prefer Philosophy?). No more does he sit and gaze silently into your eyes, Aunt Alice, no more does he sleep long hours, behind the counter where we ordinary mortals dare not venture. Yet he cannot have died. We see no marble tablet, no stained-glass window, no presentation picture immortalising his memory. Where is he, Aunt Alice, that foremost representative of his species—Hector, the Hellhound, New Zealand's only library dog?

HELEN.

Dear Helen,

The whereabouts of the noble animal to which you refer are as much of a mystery to me as they are to you. I missed him in the third term and in spite of the untiring efforts of all our staff we have been unable to trace him. It has been suggested that he has been borrowed by Mr. McGregor's natural history museum in the new science block; or alternatively that the Stage III and Honours Zoology students have been engaged in dissecting him, but they are a close lot and I can get nothing out of them. Even if I could it would be too late. But the fact that he was last seen in the vicinity of the caf., and the extraordinarily frequent occurrence of cottage pie on the menu in the weeks following his disappearance suggests that he may have a far more intimate association with the body of college students than they suspect. In this case a monument would be quite superfluous, for the upright and vigorous carriages of the men and women whom we daily see within our portals would be a far more eloquent testimony to many of his best qualities than any I could ever hope to pen. Any further information will be gratefully received by

AUNT ALICE.

NIFTY HIPS IN COLLEGE HALL

Last week saw the College Hall in an undulating mood (no, not Prof. Holly contemplating Revue). The two Ward sisters celebrated new-style physical culturists from England, gave an exhibition of balance and rhythm exercises to an admiring audience of college women and Pat Blair.

The display included a graceful Greek interpretation of grief, ecstasy, prayer (complete with flowing drapes), and a short tap-dancing number—which last did not strike A.U.C. as being very good.

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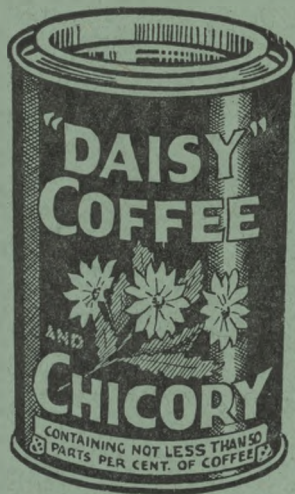
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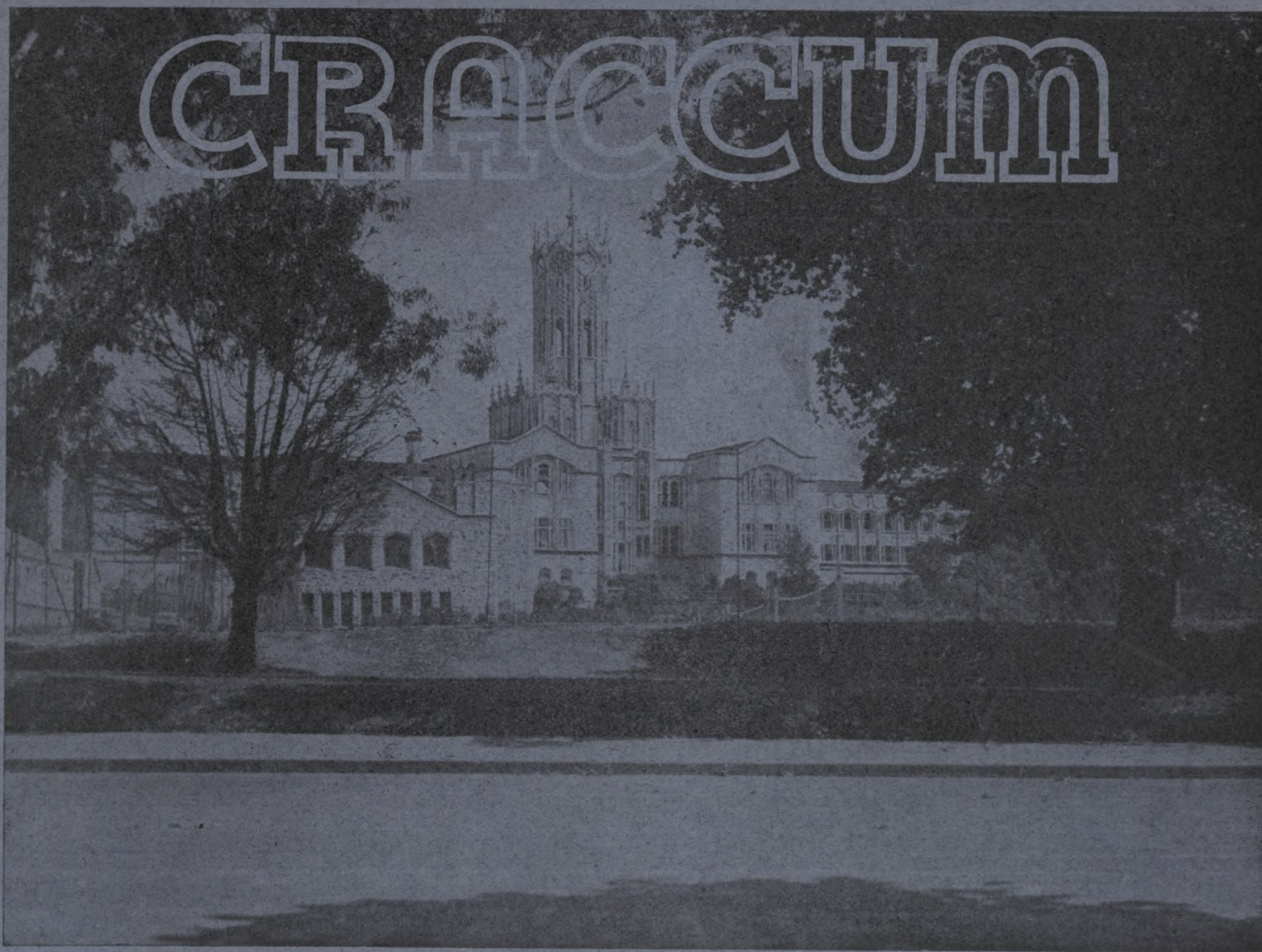
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WE'LL BE THERE! - AND HOW!

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