

# Craccum

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## UP NEW ZEALAND!

### Apathy too Evident.

FOR the past few months the minds of young and old have become confused. A bewildering train of events, breath-taking when soberly considered, have enveloped us. Singapore has fallen. That bastion of the white man has surrendered with 70,000 troops to the unspeakable Jap. Someone, it seems, forgot to safeguard the water supply. The riches of the Far East, the Near East to us, are no longer in the hands of the white man. The little brown man is exploiting his fellows. Emeralds set in tropic backgrounds are ours no longer. Moving his forces with incredible speed, having first established practically absolute command of the air and sea, the despised Japanese have succeeded in doing far more, relatively, than the great German army.

Six months ago the Japanese had little rubber. Now they have rubber to burn. On December 7th the Mikado's empire had practically no tin. Now it has plenty. Let those whose memories are long remember how the Japanese in 1937 were declared bankrupt. Their war against China would inevitably fail. A certain English journal, sold exclusively to gentlemen, declared time and time again that Germany was bankrupt. Edited and written by gentlemen this same journal foresaw disaster ahead for the Land of the Rising Sun.

Is it presumptuous to ask why a bankrupt nation, poor in mineral resources has been able to rampage and pillage for six long months?

The answer is rather obvious. To win wars a nation needs guns in plenty and all the rest of modern war material. We did not have much at the beginning of this war. We have not got enough now. But we are getting it! Another question that must crop up when Varsity students discuss the war. Why in the name of every saint, present or past, did we sell munitions and scrap iron to the Japs? Remembering, however, that the cause of profits is, necessarily in the interest of big business, sacred, that question must for the present remain unanswered. Recriminations, in any case, never won wars, and will certainly not win this.

It is safe to say that never before have we been so threatened. Not even the conquering legions of Napoleon or the hordes of the modern Attila, Hitler, have threatened large sections of the English-speaking race, as do the Japanese to-day. Faced with an invincible strong home navy and a fast-flying, straight-shooting air force, Hitler was forced to turn his attentions from Britain to Russia. May God assist Russia! To-day New Zealand and Australia are for the first time in their history likely to become a battlefield for large-scale war. One by one, slowly, inexorably the bastions of defence have fallen. The enemy is more than at the door. He is endeavouring to smash down the door.

In Australia the stakes being played for are apparent to every citizen. Under the realistic leadership of Mr. John Curtin, ex-journalist, our Australian neighbours, our Australian fellow Varsity students, are fighting mad. And it is about time. That carnival spirit condemned by General Blamey after his return from the Middle East where the Australian soldiers were policing some of the toughest country in the world, now seems to have disappeared. Like snows melting before spring sunshine, the Australians have awakened

under the blast of bombs on Darwin. When the snows melt comes the avalanche.

Up to very recently our part as students of a university, as supposedly intellectuals, in the war effort has suffered from that lack of drive that hampered our national war effort. We were in the war. But not for better or worse. There was something magnificent and so exhilarating in the first swift British advance into Libya. The capture of vast quantities of material and prisoners was admirable coming after so many defeats. So was the second initial advance into Libya. A natural reaction no doubt. And yet why is it that only in advance have we in this war, so far, been capable of any great enthusiasm and drive in our war effort. Victory in defeat. For that follow the example of the Russians. Bereft of valuable territories, naked and bleeding she has fought, not with a lethargic attitude, but with a fierceness unparalleled even in our long history. We salute you, Russia.

There comes a time, however, in every country's history when that country must be capable of a sustained and vigorous effort. Now is the time for New Zealand. Not to-morrow, not next week, or even a month's time. To-morrow may be too late. This is the time. Knitting socks and serving in the army is not enough. Wars are not won solely by tanks, guns and planes. They are won by the quality of a people's spirit. If you as a university student are not capable of making the effort now, then you deserve to lose this war.—Jason.

### Minutes of Executive Meeting Held in the Executive Room on Thursday, April 28th, at 7 p.m.

#### Present:

Mr. Cawkwell in the chair. Misses Ayers, Messrs. Postlewaite, Reid, Morrell, Buddle, Denne, Sweetman, Belshaw, Lyttleton, de Lisle, the Secretary. Apologies were received from Miss Hogben and Mr. Bassett.

#### Correspondence:

Letters were received from Miss Blakey (our Resident Member N.Z.U.S.A.), Miss Dora Miller thanking the Association for the camera presented to her on her retirement, the Secretary N.Z.U.S.A., and the President of Otago University Student Association.

#### N.Z.U.S.A.:

Discussion of business connected with Annual General Meeting of the above body:—

- (1) Appointment of Delegates — "That Misses Blakey, Ayers and Kissling be appointed Delegates to A.G.M. of N.Z.U.S.A." (The President, Mr. Cawkwell, was unable to accept nomination because of military duties.)
- (2) The motions proposed by the Chairman of Tournament Committee were then discussed. — "That the status of students on active service, with reference to the next Tournament, be discussed at the N.Z.U.S.A. meeting preceding that Tournament."
- (3) Nomination of Officers of N.Z.U.S.A. — "That the Delegates nominate Mr. G. L. Cawkwell as President of N.Z.U.S.A."

#### Fire-watching and the Use of the Student Block:

After some discussion it was decided that the following be recommended to Professor Belshaw:—

- (1) "The Men's House Committee Room be used to quarter fire-watchers for the Arts Building, provided that they do not exceed six in number, and that the Men's House Committee be permitted to use the Executive Room for Committee work."
- (2) "The present scheme whereby fire-watchers are picked from a roster be discontinued so far as the arts building is concerned, and instead a system be introduced whereby fire-watchers are appointed more permanently. In return for their duties, these fire-watchers should receive free board, but meals provided by the cafeteria should be charged for at a small price. A roster system would be re-introduced only as far as it is necessary to provide for such periods as holidays and week-ends, when the permanent watchers are not on the premises."
- (3) "That Mr. Desborough be asked to leave the matter of closing or opening rooms in the Student's Block in the hands of the Student Association and its representatives during the vacations. If the Registrar agrees the Secretary is to inform the House Committees asking them to close the rooms under their control at their own discretion."

#### Student Relief:

Miss Buddle was instructed to form a Committee, in collaboration with the S.C.M., and to prepare for a Student Relief Campaign for 1942.

M. KISSLING,  
Hon. Secretary.

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

The following is an extract from "Salient," the paper of the V.U.C. Student Association. There is little we can say about it except that the action was not originally taken under the instigation of the A.U.C. Executive. We would point out that a call to action was made by John Mandeno,

last year's President of N.Z.U.S.A. That is, perhaps irrelevant, but it is a factor in the case.

"Craccum" would welcome correspondence on this issue, because although the actual event is beyond recall, the principles involved are important. Cast off that apathy for once and write to "Craccum" about it.

#### WESTFIELD STRIKE.

The following letter was sent by the executive of the Victoria University College to the Auckland University College executive:—

"With regard to the action of your Association in connection with the Westfield strike, I have to advise you that the following motion was passed by my executive:—

"That this executive, while it regrets very much the necessity for a stoppage of vital production at this time, feels that it was most improper for the executive of the Auckland University College Students' Association to observe other than an impartial attitude in the present dispute."

The following reply was received:

"In answer to your letter of 23rd March the following motion was passed by my executive:—

"That this executive took no official action with regard to the freezing workers' strike; but on the other hand this executive feels that it is more capable of deciding whether or not to take action in questions that arise locally, than the students of Victoria College."

Commenting on the letter sent by Victoria, we would even question the reference to "vital production." On investigation "Salient" has found that there are vast quantities of tinned products already stored in New Zealand, awaiting transport. However, they are correct in deprecating strikes at the present time, unless such action is the only possible way of overcoming a position which if left unadjusted would cause greater harm to our war effort than the dislocation caused by a strike.

Less venial, however, is the attitude of the Auckland executive who regard the strike as a local issue. Strike-breaking is a practice abhorrent to large sections of the community and such action by a small section of the student body must prejudice students as a class in the eyes of these people. The record of students in the struggle for democracy and progress is one of which we may well be proud—and interference in industrial disputes against the democratic rights of the people is utterly alien to that tradition.

### PERSONAL.

I, Aubrey F. de Lisle (Snooks) hereby declare that in future no debts may be contracted in my name without any written permission, and that also any relationship which is rumoured to exist between me and the Editor of Craccum is entirely fictitious.

Signed: SNOOKS DE L.



### EXTRA CURRICULAR.

On Tuesday, June 16th, and Tuesday, June 23rd, lectures will be given by Mr. Robb and Doctor Elizabeth Hughes to the men and women students respectively on the subject "Sex and Health." The women's lectures will be held in the Women's Common Room and the men's in Room 22.

These lectures were a great success last year, and it is to be hoped that there will be a large attendance. Much work goes into the preparation of them, and it is only right that students should pay to such busy people the compliment of going to hear them.

### JOYNT SCROLL.

What is Joynt Scroll?

Answer: The Annual Debating Contest of the N.Z.U.

And where is it to be held this year? Auckland.

So that means we will want Speakers, Audiences, Billets. Let's show the Southerners what we can do.

The tentative date is Independence Day, but further information will be posted on the notice boards.

This term the INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS' CLUB is continuing its series on recent trends, economic, political and social. So far Russia and New Zealand have been considered, the latter being the subject of the last meeting, when Professor Belshaw gave a clear, interesting and unbiased survey of the policy and works of the present Government.

This term Australia and Japan are to be the subject of talks by Mr. Leatham and Mr. Martin-Smith on Monday, June 15th and Monday, June 29th.

The MODERN LANGUAGE CLUB has so far gone with a swing this year, with a talk by Professor Keys, and a highly amusing play-reading to its credit. Future activities consist of a talk on comparative literature, in conjunction with the Literary Club—another talk by M. Bois, a sailor of the Free French fleet, and a musical evening on June 25th. So watch the notice-boards and be sure you make time to come along. It will be worth your while.

Do you ride a bike? And are you interested in hiking? If so then we shall look forward to seeing you at the TRAMPING CLUB'S "Bike-Hike" on Sunday, June 14th.

The Tramping Club Committee felt that after the most enthusiastic attendance at their last outing, something of a novel nature might well be attempted. Many bright suggestions were put forward, and the one finally adopted, was that on the second Sunday of the second term a bicycle excursion should be arranged. The Committee has decided on Huia Falls as the destination, and this should provide ample scope for all interested in hill climbing, native flora, West Coast scenery and photography.

All that you have to do is beg, borrow or steal a bicycle if you don't possess one. It is also as well to know how to ride it. Watch the notice-boards for further information such as time of departure and assembly point, etc. Full particulars may be obtained from Campbell Reid, Norm. Page or any member of the Committee.

A hearty welcome is extended to all, and students are urged to invite friends from outside the College.

The first item of the LITERARY CLUB'S programme this term is a series on the literature of Revolution in France, England and Russia. On Thursday, June 18th, Miss R. Seymour will survey the literature of revolution in Russia.

There will be an Olla Podrida (at which original work by students is read and discussed) either just before or just after the mid-term break. Get that masterpiece written, everyone!

A clank of metal, a glint of moonlight on steel as a dimly outlined figure moves through the night. . . . Is it a Jap. invader? No. . . . A duel by moonlight? Getting hotter. . . . Actually it's Rev. George Naylor, the FENCING CLUB'S coach, carrying equipment from his car to the men's common room weekly (usually on Friday nights), he meets a circle of twenty devotees. The Club is flourishing, and (as each member provides his or her own foil and jacket) financial. The agile Rev. George has put his pupils through the intriguing and strenuous mysteries of tierce and quarte, parry and riposte, lunge and thrust, and many other refinements of the art, amplifying and illustrating constantly by personal demonstration, and, on one occasion, by staging a performance in co-operation with the Auckland Swords Club. If the Japs. come with foils, let them beware!

Saw David Dunningham looking harassed the other day—appears DRAMATIC CLUB is up to the high water mark in its production—and the Vac. was an interference. Word rehearsals have been held covertly in odd corners and Archie Fisher takes over in the very near future—it is rumoured that the central heating system will become quite unnecessary. The date of the show has not yet been fixed—as David said, "So much depends. . . ."

David himself is playing Bluntschli, the chocolate cream soldier, who in the end falls victim to the charms of the fair Raina—Tui Stallworthy. Tui's Ma and Pa, the lady Catherine and Major Petkoff, are played by Pam. Key-Jones and Ron. Noakes. Additional love interest supplied by Maile Morris (Luka) and David Rodd (Sergius) with Bob. Robertson in the role of "old faithful."

This should be a good show—watch for it!

This year the BASKETBALL CLUB has again entered four teams in the A.B.A. competitions, and although we started off successfully, the intervention of the holidays caused a great deal of confusion and combination was sadly lacking. However, we hope that after a few Saturday morning practices we shall regain our usual Varsity vim and vigour so—

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Mr. Julius Hogben, re-elected Club President of the **HARRIER CLUB** for this season, presided at the general meeting. He made a strong recommendation that strenuous endeavour be made to support harrier-running throughout the war, and that if it was at all possible the Inter-Varsity Harrier Tournament should be held as usual this year.

There was quite a large attendance at the general meeting, and an even more heartening number at the opening run. Since then, however, members have dwindled, and an earnest appeal is made to every member to give us regular support.

This year only two members of last year's team, Orange and Millar, started the season. However, since then the veteran harrier, Clem Green, has appeared after his discharge from hospital; we earnestly hope that his recovery will be a quick one and he regains his previous good form. However, to fill these vacant spaces we have members such as Shackelford, Allpress and Entrican, as well as improving members of last year's pack. So if Tournament is held A.U.C. can be assured of a good representation.

As usual the **FOOTBALL CLUB** suffered from its old complaint "holiday sickness," and consequently the results are not good.

The seniors, who are about 70 per cent. Varsity, have played three competition games.

v. Eden	drew	3-3
v. Suburbs	won	9-5
v. Ranfurly	lost	6-21

The juniors have played two competition games:—

v. Marist	lost	0-3
v. Trinity College	won by default	

This team was minus most of its backs, which accounts for its defeat. Provided the Seniors do not draw on

them too much the Juniors should be very successful.

The Club has temporarily lost an old friend in Mr. Dinnie Mulvihill, who played for us and later coached us enthusiastically. The fact that we won the Peter Macky Trophy last year was largely due to the good sportsmanship which he inspired. We owe him many thanks and wish him the best of luck in the Navy.

We still need more players! Where are all these tough men with hair on the chest?

### Sich Goings-on!

That Tramping Club should entertain the Army was a thought that occurred to no one, but an opportunity to show their hospitality to the services was granted during the camp over King's Birthday week-end. All those interested may apply to Eileen Dubois.

The camp went very well in spite of the frost and insufficient blankets. Ask the President and committee members the easiest way to get to Hunua from the Moumoka Valley, and if they happen to be Ces. Segedin, Alan Horseman and Norm Page they will immediately say by Army truck even if the driver (Morrison Cassie) is only learning.

Heard passing a dead sheep:

Marin Segedin: "Gee there's a whiff round here."

Neville tSevenson: "A whiff in sheep's clothing."

Anyone feeling that they would like to participate in an eating competition see Susie Perl—she defeated Campbell Reid and Mac Wallace after 1½ hours' solid eating.

If you are ever asked if a man can marry his widow's sister, refer to Tramping Club. Here are a few sample answers.

Cecil Segedin—"I'm cautious."

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Bonnie Baker—"Gee, I wish I'd listened to my mother."

Aileen Stanton—"Yes, of course."

Peter Wong: "Legally yes—Morally no—Personally a man's a damn fool."

Pat Thomas declares that what with suspension bridges and stream crossing by logs she has lost ten years off her life. What with the twenty years life she's lost trying to keep her "Rose bush" story from the males of the party she must be reaching her senescence.

Swimming at mid-night is not advised, especially by Morrison Cassie and Campbell Reid. They know, they tried; and speaking of swimming Susie Perl turned up prepared to wear innocence and bathing cap.

Even though we are a Tramping Club we have to thank the Army for taking our packs and the ladies back to Papakura for us on the way home.

By the way, ladies, if ever you chance to be taken by an engine driver with the most gorgeous brown eyes, don't do as Ann Burbidge and Pat. Thomas did, and choose a train going the wrong way.

### TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Madam,

I'd rather see women's legs without stockings than with them. Unfortunately, women inform me that stockingless legs are rather cold, and they resort to the even worse idea of wearing patched up stockings or those horrible woollen up to the knee socks. Ugh. Suggest that they wear slacks, and they throw up their hands in horror and squeal, "What about the Profs?" I'm sure the Profs. wouldn't mind. I therefore formally suggest that the Secretary interview representatives of the Prof. Board, and whom it may concern, to obtain their paternal blessing. Women will then no longer be faced with the problem, unsightliness, or cold.

Yours till the Army agrees with me,

THE DOODLE BUG.

### AUNT ALICE.

#### NATURE RAMBLES.

What happens when boys and girls get together studying flora and fauna? That, my dears, is where your old auntie comes in. I have been inundated for requests as to just what one should do when lost in a forest with the mathematics lecturer, and just what one should do when one has not managed to get lost in the forest with the mathematics lecturer. So far, I have received no communications from the mathematics lecturer, who appears to be able to deal with all situations with his customary nonchalance. Also, someone has asked me why Aubrey de Lisle never goes into the backwoods for his enjoyment. We can only refer them to the Editor. However, revenons a nos forets. Here is one pathetic little note I received.

Dear Aunt Alice,

I don't know where to turn next, so I am taking the liberty of applying to your superior knowledge, your insight. I am a handsome youth, and from childhood have been overrun by old ladies who wanted to hold my hand. I therefore came to Varsity to study medicine and to immerse myself in my work so that I would no longer be worried by these attentions. In pursuance of my studies I decided to be one with the Field Club, so that I would have an opportunity of studying nature in the raw. Since I have been going to their camps, however, I have been overwhelmed by damsels who also appear to want to study nature in the raw, but with certain modifications which

cannot be anything but distasteful to me. Please, dear Auntie, help me, as I am becoming a hunted being with all the terror which inevitably is associated with an h. b. I have tried all the obvious methods of shaking my pursuer off, but nothing is successful. All she does is to say how she loves these strong men. What can I do?

Yours,

RABBIT.

P.S.—Would you send me an autographed photo. of yourself? I feel that yours is a face one could lean on.

Dear Rabbit,

Yours is, alas, a problem which so often affects the young and yearning, particularly if they are as well-favoured as from all accounts you appear to be. You say you have tried all the obvious methods. I presume, therefore, that you have gone through the Cold Shoulder, the Wedded to my Work, the Other Woman, and the Brutality routines. What you need is a rather more subtle approach. The best plan is to make it quite clear that you have Been Through the Mill in the days of your foolish, but now happily past, youth, and that you can quite definitely Never Feel Anything Again. Be gently distant and resignedly firm. Bring the words Embittered and Platonic and Old Family Friend frequently into the conversation. Dally with the terms Introversion and Extroversion. If all else fails say that you have been psycho-analysed and have been proved to possess an Eastern Temperament which now and then rules your entire outlook to its utter disintegration. Be rock-like in your determination and nothing can assail you.

YOUR LOVING AUNT.

P.S.—Would adore to send you an autographed photo., but gave away my last to Graham Reid because he said it gave him confidence to carry on as usual every time he looked at it.

### Gossipal Truth.

Craccum's roving reporter tells us that in the opinion of the people in the carriage Ian Reynolds and Elizabeth Taylor on their way down to Wellington ought to be engaged at least.

But then these architects do get around so, don't they Mary and George?

Griff. Jones, we hear, is coaching his (?) little blonde girl friend in trigonometry. A matter we presume of sines and indications.

It is reported that Fred Tucker recently only just escaped leading a parade of W.A.A.F.'s in New Plymouth. We have not yet discovered whether it was his mistake or theirs.

The Public Trust has apparently been too much for our Poppy—or was it vice versa? At any rate, the young lady is we hear, going to have a short holiday in Tauranga before she goes dental nursing in Wellington.

Congratulations to Pauline Buddle and Lewis Martin, who have just announced their engagement. Not before it was time either.

Incidentally, Lewis reached England to train in the Fleet Air Arm after a record trip of three weeks. A fast worker (ask Buzzy).

Another engagement of interest is that of Annette Every, ex-lady-vice, and John Mandeno last year's President of N.Z.U.S.A.

The news about Alan Segedin most unfortunately had to be censored owing to wartime regulations, but if you ask Tui Stallworthy she may be able to tell you something.



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