

CRACCUM STAFF

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CRACCUM

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MOMENTS MUSICAL

"THE MESSIAH"

"The Messiah" of December, 1942, is old news by this time, but there is not such a wealth of musical activity in Auckland that I can afford to ignore any event. Of the soloists only one, Miss Ada Lynn, the soprano, was equal to the task. I say this not altogether by way of disparagement: the solo parts in "The Messiah" have taxed some of the greatest singers; I merely record it as a fact. Miss Lynn's performance would have satisfied me better if she had sung, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" with a little more feeling. The contralto, Miss Colleen Challis, has a promising voice. She should try, by exercise, to improve the middle section of her voice, so as to make it as effective as the high and low sections. This defect at present makes for an unevenness of execution that is not good. Mr. Clinton Williams sang the bass part without using a score. His singing was pleasing and intelligent, but he has not that true "singing bass" which is required for this part.

Contrary to several opinions I heard expressed, I consider that the tenor, Mr. Donald Ross, was poor. The chorus was, as it usually is, good. I judge that the choristers know and love the work; they deserve more credit than anybody for this performance. The orchestra was execrable. The wind instruments of the orchestra are unable to tune to the low pitch of the Town Hall organ. So Mr. Muston, apparently determined to use the "grand organ" at all costs, was obliged to dispense with all the wind instruments; this being done, he excluded all the brass and the timpani.

From the miserable string band that was left there came such a mewling and scratching as I have never heard before, and which I sincerely trust I shall never come within ten miles of hearing again. The very recollection of those violinists scraping their way through the Pastoral Symphony and vainly trying to incorporate the trills into the 12/8 rhythm makes me angry.

To Mr. Trevor Sparling, the organist, who was obliged to act as substitute for half an orchestra, I can only offer my condolences. He performed a well-nigh impossible task with great skill.

"MUSIC FROM POLAND"

A few days after "The Messiah," Ignaz Friedman gave a pianoforte recital. It is indeed a pleasure even to be in the company of a man who is so completely master of his instrument. This feeling was doubtless shared by all those present; but apart from this initial pleasure, the recital was disappointing.

The programme lacked variety, though it was thoughtfully arranged. It contained no modern music, for Friedman himself cannot be classed

as a modern in composition. And the encores were trifles of gossamer and lace, obviously designed to titillate the ears of the audience. It is always good to hear the Appassionata Sonata. The days are gone when this sonata was treated as a mere bravura piece by virtuoso pianists; it is now appreciated as a singularly fine essay in Sonata form with which is incorporated a strong element of romanticism (Beethoven being one of the very few composers who have been able successfully to combine the two styles). Friedman treated it with the respect it deserves, and gave us a reading which, if not strikingly original, was at least thoughtful. People who know Chopin's works well told me that Friedman's playing of this composer was inaccurate. I cannot say: first, I don't know Chopin well enough and second, when he begins to outpour those "tender yearnings of love" (to quote the programme), I lose most of my critical interest, and resign myself to the enjoyment of that chromatic confectionary of which Chopin was so prodigal. I was not particularly interested in two very wine-woman-and-song-ish dances by an Austrian composer whose name I have forgotten.

Friedman's second recital, on February 10, was a delight. I heard what I have been waiting for a long time to hear from Friedman—Mozart—and I know now that Friedman is as good as they say he is. For when a pianist has dazzled you with Schumann's Symphonic Studies or a Scherzo by Chopin, ask him to play you ten bars of Mozart or Mendelssohn in order really to test his musicianship.

When we in New Zealand have to accept all reputations on hearsay and on the strength of gramophone records, it is a welcome novelty to hear and decide for oneself. Both the Variations in F Minor by Haydn, and the Rondo in A Minor by Mozart were played with a sensibility of touch and a wealth of gradations in tone that delighted me. The melodies sang from the pianist's right hand, and if only his left hand had touched the keys as sensitively as his right, I should have been completely satisfied. I think the careful study Friedman has given to Schumann and Chopin has so developed that powerful threshing movement in the left hand that it has slightly impaired the pianist's ability to give that full and careful attention to every single note that is required by the left as well as by the right hand in the music of Haydn and Mozart.

These two compositions were for me the highlights of the recital: this is music in which there is no abuse of technique, no false sentiment; a composer has a thought to express; he does so with the least possible fuss, with lucidity and with dignity.

Mendelssohn's Songs Without Words fall into this category. There is here true refinement of workmanship combined with a rare fluency of expression. I suspect that these pieces are so seldom played not, as has often been the assumption, because they are too easy, but because they are much too difficult. They are well worth inclusion in any concert programme, and I am grateful to Friedman for letting us hear them.

I don't know what Friedman has done to Beethoven's Ecossaise, but in my opinion he has not improved it. I remember hearing Mischa Levitski play the dance as Beethoven wrote it. He treated it as simply as possible and with a great sense of fun, but Friedman has made it an excuse for a display of his technical ability.

Though I prefer the original setting the charm of the thing is irresistible, and I much enjoyed it. I have regretfully to record that I am as much in the dark as ever as to the why and wherefore of Schumann's Symphonic Studies. I would not go so far as one critic and call Schumann a sentimental trifle, but it does seem to me that in these Studies he is toying with his immense musical powers for no other reason than that he likes to toy. I see by the programme, incidentally, that Mr. Percy Grainger disagrees with me entirely on this point. He says that "Schumann's ideas were so rich and prolific that he did not think of the piano as an end, but only as a means." I wish the quotation had continued and informed me, as an interested enquirer, just what end those tremendous scale passages and crashing chords are intended to serve. The variations are, however, very exciting, and Friedman played them with great brilliance, never weakening his grasp from the moment when his hand lay so firmly and evenly on the first quiet chord to the final tremendous climax. Recalled for this item, Mr. Friedman, with a want of consideration for my feelings that took me aback considerably, played—you will never guess—Waltz in C Sharp Minor (Chopin).

My enjoyment of Weber's Invitation to the Dance was somewhat marred by three small boys in the row behind me who stolidly crunched ice-cream cones. I have a particular regard for this dance, because at an early age I went to see the ballet, "La Spectre de la Rose," which is danced to this music. It has thus a charm for me, which always remains fresh. Chopin's Berceuse in D Flat Major is a lovely thing, and Friedman played it as a man who really loves it. At the end of the recital, Friedman played, as encores, a prelude by Chopin—I thin it's called the Butterfly, but I'm not sure—and Chopin's Waltz in A Flat.

He also played a piece that reminded me of a musical box that I once possessed. I have a notion that Friedman composed this himself.

CHAMBER MUSIC

Important for the welfare of music in Auckland is the inauguration of a series of lunch-hour chamber-music recitals arranged by Mr. Owen Jensen and members of the Auckland Chamber Music Society. The concerts are held in the Tower Room of Chancery Chambers, on the corner of O'Connell Street and Chancery Lane. Admission is one shilling.

The concerts begin at 12.30 and last an hour. There is a short break at one o'clock when you can either eat your sandwiches, or take your leave. This is the sort of pioneer work that deserves recognition by the award of an O.B.E. or a knighthood. But do you suppose that Mr. Jensen will become Sir Owen Jensen? Not a bit of it.

I hope that Professor Holinrake will see his way clear to continue his gramophone recitals, which take place in the Hall at 5.30 on Friday evenings. They have provided solace for many a weary student, and we all owe Prof. Holinrake a debt of gratitude.

—S.D.E.D.

"A YANK AT A.U.C."

At the next International Relations Club meeting you will get from the horse's mouth the low-down on "Inside Conditions in U.S.A." Local colour provided by courtesy of Green Lane Hospital.

Watch the notice-board for the date of this revelation.

KIWI can't go to press without your article — drop it in the CRACCUM Box.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

History will be made at Graduation Ceremony this year, when women graduands will wear evening dress instead of the traditional short white frock.

A petition signed by twenty-eight women graduates, together with a letter from the President and Secretary of the Students' Association, was sent to the Ceremonies Committee. The letter pointed out the disadvantages arising from the wearing of short white frocks, especially in wartime, and drawing the attention of the Committee to the dignified appearance of women ushers in evening frocks and gowns at University functions.

The Committee passed a motion authorising the wearing of long frocks this year, and if the innovation proves successful, there is every likelihood that it will be continued.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COMMUNISM?

The Editor,
Madam,—

I have returned to 'Varsity after a lapse of several years. A bottle of fountain pen ink (nearly full, alas!) disappeared within half-an-hour after being deposited in the cloakroom. Upon enquiry, I find that would-be pilferers do not stop at mere bottles of ink.

The world is in chaos. We must begin now to raise a new order based on clear honest thinking. The leadership ought to come from university students who have had the privilege of more advanced education. I was deeply ashamed to discover that there are fellow students, who stoop to such despicable tricks, especially as I have been attempting to inculcate such social virtues as truth, consideration for others, in native students over the sea. However can we hope to build a community based on truth and trust, if we are unable to trust even our own fellow students?

I do not condemn the persons. I do not know their surroundings, social influences or inborn weaknesses, and I therefore find it difficult to imagine the state of mind of the persons concerned.

The motives may be dire need, a passion for practical socialism or the desire to possess. In any case, the pilferers must either be having uncomfortable moments, or living a complacent existence with a conscience completely dulled by repeated little acts of dishonesty.

P.S.—Any student in dire need of ink, gloves, furnish proofs of necessity and make application to me through the Editor, but please refrain from lifting them without the permission of the owner.

ONE OF THE VICTIMS.

AGAIN THE CAF.

Madam,—

You tell us—in effect—that even if we don't like the Cafeteria meals, it doesn't matter, we may still come in and pay our shilling for the privilege of "happy conversation." We are not impressed. In taking a meal we like to address ourselves freely and undistractedly to the business in hand. Consequently, we find the short commons unsatisfactory. Indeed it is no reflection on Mrs. Odd (and others who do their best for us with available materials) to say that against any sort of effective competition, our Cafeteria couldn't last ten minutes. There is one innovation in particular we need. That is a Milk Bar. Milk—it should be pointed out—is available in fair quantity, can be dispensed at little cost, and — most important — cannot be spoiled in the cooking.

"EPICURUS."

WOMEN

Craccum would like to publish news of students overseas. Can you help?

If you have a father, husband, brother, fiancé, or boy-friend in camp or overseas, why not take out a subscription to Craccum for him?

Two students of Psycho-Analysis
Corresponded on Sexual Fallacies,
Till confusion arose
And now nobody knows
Which Algernon was or which Alice
is.

—Sir Arthur Quiller Couch.

TRAMPING CLUB A.G.M.

In spite of the fact that the A.G.M. of the Tramping Club was long, it proved to be quite a bright one. The length resulted mainly from extra business connected with changes in the Constitution. An innovation was a report from the President, dealing with the Club's 10th Birthday. Part of the brightness of the meeting resulted from the happy mood of certain members of the party, and from the attractive display of posters for the various functions held last year. The main interest, however, was the election of officers for this year. The seventy-nine people present unanimously and with acclamation re-elected Mr. C. M. Segedin as President for his third consecutive term, while the other officers were as follows:—

Vice-Presidents: Miss P. Thomas, Dr. L. H. Briggs, Messrs. A. F. Odell and A. Horsman.

Club Captain: Campbell Reid.

Secretary: Ann Burbidge.

Committee: Susie Perl, Margaret Hoodless, Aileen Stanton, Marin Segedin, Graham Millar.

Mr. Morrison Cassie, former Club Captain, was elected a life member. Mr. Cassie has done much for the Club, and we wish him a long life of active tramping.

So the die is cast for 1943, and with such a backing we may look forward to the re-elected Club Captain, Campbell Reid, leading the Club in another very successful year.

GENERAL EXODUS FROM CITY

Tramping Club Visit Mokaroa.

Sunday, March 14th, marked the beginning of the year as far as Tramping Club was concerned, for on that date the Freshers' Tramp was held to the Makaroa Falls. All records were broken as far as numbers were concerned, for sixty-one joined the train at various stations along the line. Incidentally, Peter Wong wishes now that he had walked, for a shirt can prove so very elusive in such a crowd. This stupendous total included quite a number of Freshers, plus two Otago trampers. (We assume, of course, that our fame has spread.)

At the Falls, the men boiled the billies while the women swam; then places were changed while the women made the tea. The lunch hour was quite long, and of course, the bright spirits of the party couldn't refrain from having a little fun. I won't mention any names, but I do wish the immediate past secretary would not appropriate shirts and boots from innocent males and run round threatening the same with billies of water. It just doesn't become a high school mistress.

The trip back was taken the usual way, via Horsman's and Wairere roads to Waitakere, and on the return train journey the Freshers were introduced to the 'Varsity songs.

It looks as though Tramping Club is going to have an even more phenomenal year, so "be in."

BOOKPLATE

They borrow books they will not buy,
They have no ethics or religions.
I wish some kind Burbankian guy
Would cross my books with homing
pigeons.

—Carolyn Wells.

ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY'S
LATE NEWS

Hey, waitamin't!

We got left out of that free publicity drive in the last issue (our own fault), and if that self-admiration forum is still open we'd like to be in.

After all, who runs the best Coffee Evening each year? (don't shout). Who causes Studio Stampede? Who puts that splash of colour behind the orchestra at 'Varsity Balls? Who are those grown males running about in short frocks—sorry, smocks? Who do the worst posters? Who wins the Peanut Race? What Society guarantees to put hairs on your chest and rings under your eyes in a year or your money back? Who teaches you how to miss Physics? Who makes Mr. Desborough glad to be in camp? Who keeps Mrs. Odd in pocket?

But enough!

Dash our modesty, we can go no further.

Oh yes, we must say that in our more serious moments we intend to hold public lectures fortnightly in the Women's Common Room, upon topics allied to Architecture. This year's series will have been commenced by the time of printing this with a talk by Mr. Mawson, the Government Town Planner; an excellent curtain-raiser to an interesting itinerary. You know, we were rather disappointed last year with the lack of interest displayed in these lectures by the rest of the College. Some at least of this year's talks should be no less stimulating to you people than they are to us, so don't be scared to drop in and listen if you are at all interested. After all we do provide a cup of Odd coffee free after the event.

Anyway, if for any strange reason you should want to know more about the aims, objects and activities of the Architectural Society, consult its President, I. B. Reynolds, or if he's asleep in a lecture, try K. L. Piper, the Secretary—you'll find him on the tennis courts. Thank you.

Watch the next issue for another gripping instalment on Architectural Life.

DRAMATIC CLUB

Next time the Dramatic Club reads an Irish play perhaps it will choose St. Patrick's Day. This time we were only one day late with "The Playboy of the Western World," by Synge.

June Savage produced it and was responsible for the lively pace and for getting people with very good voices. Most of the action followed from John Lyttleton's accounts of how he practised patricide on Marshall Hobson (of whom more later, we hope). We hadn't thought Pam Key-Jones was so terrifying in the dark, but the effect she produced on Bob Robertson says something for her portrayal of the Widow Quin. Some of the players lapsed into brogue in moments of excitement, tho' fortunately this wasn't attempted throughout, and most gave a convincing flow of abuse when necessary. Travis Wilson was very adept at this among other things.

At the next meeting several one-act pieces will be read by Freshers, and David Dunningham hopes to find a large gathering and some new talent.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Freshers' Play-Readings.

Don't be caught this year—you'll be a fool again if you miss the three One Act Play-readings on April 1st.

These Plays are to be read entirely by Freshers and Novices to the Dramatic Club, in the Women's Common Room at 8 p.m.

Come along with your friends and see our new, and as yet, undiscovered talent. We hear rumours that among the Casts there are some budding Garricks, Gables, Garsons and a real live double of Mae West—but we'll leave you to find these out for yourselves.

The Plays to be read are:—

1. From "THE INSECT PLAY," by Copek.

2. "PROPOSALS," by Edward Genn.

3. "A ROGUE IN A BED."

Don't forget to keep Thursday, 15th April, free also, for another 3-Acter Play-reading. Watch the Notice-boards for the title of this—it's going to be good!

WHAT IS THIS
CHRISTIANITY?

That the S.C.M. keeps bringing before us? Have we really found out what it is? Perhaps the S.C.M. hasn't helped us. Well, it's going to NOW.

Come and thrash it out with S.C.Mers. and representatives of these denominations. We are going to suit times to you so please watch notice-boards for arrangements.

EVANGELICAL UNION

In opening a series of studies on the historical background of the Hebrew prophets, Mr. Blaiklock stressed the importance of a correct understanding of the part played in the events of their day by the writers of the Bible. A misunderstanding of the true meaning of the word "prophet" has led to a wrong attitude to the prophetic literature. The prophet was primarily a preacher to his generation, an interpreter of the spiritual issues of its history. An inspired insight into the essential processes of that history is the basis of the astonishing applicability to other ages of their message. Thus it is of first importance to see such as Isaiah and Nahum against the background of Assyrian imperialism, and Habbakuk against the neo-militarism of Babylon. Likewise the Apocalypse receives its first, though by no means its final illumination, against the background of totalitarian Rome, whose persecution dictated its message, and whose censorship its cryptic form. Future studies will aim at developing this theme in detail. Mr. Blaiklock is continuing this series of most interesting studies throughout this term, at the E.U. weekly meeting every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. in Room 2.

FRESHERS!

Demosthenes practised oratory with pebbles in his mouth. You try half a dozen aniseed balls and get in training for Debating Club's Big Year. You will now have the noble example of the Staff Debate to look back to, but why not look forward to your own Debate for the Freshers' Mug?

Plans for inter-Departmental debates are under way. These debates should stimulate the spirit of friendly rivalry that has been lacking since the old Inter-Faculty debates were abandoned.

Freshers, Second years and Seniors, give your active support to Debating Club—it's worth it!

SPORTS CLUBS ATHLETIC CLUB

The elections at the last meeting resulted in the following Committee: A. Thom, J. Lowe, D. Jones, J. Wilkins, D. Jackson. Hon. Sec. and Treas.: J. Shackelford.

Despite the unavoidable "mid-stream horse-swapping" of the Secretaries, owing to the sudden departure of Alan Thom for regions unknown, the club has continued to function smoothly and is still making its presence felt. The Provincial War-time Senior and Junior Championship results were highly gratifying to spectators and competitors alike. All our representatives gave excellent accounts of themselves. The Thom combination, as usual, took the largest share of the honours. A summary of the results is as follows:—A. C. Thom—2nd War-time Junior Broad Jump; 2nd War-time Junior 100 Yards; 2nd War-time Junior 220 Hurdles; 3rd War-time Junior 220. N. W. Thom—2nd War-time Senior 220 Hurdles; 2nd War-time Senior Broad Jump; 1st Services Hop, Step and Jump. A. L. Cantwell—3rd War-time Senior 3 mile; 2nd Services Broad Jump; 3rd Services 3 mile.

Other performances worthy of note have been put up by R. N. Brothers in the field events, Dave Jones in the Sprints, and Stan Wilshire, Gin Millar and Jim Shackelford in the long distance runs.

The approaching Inter-faculty Sports promise to produce some good talent, as we have noticed many faces, familiar to those in Athletic circles, amongst the Freshers this year. Now it is merely a matter of rounding up any likely aspirants and convincing them that the A.U.C.A.A.C. is a fine organization and that it has infinite possibilities of becoming one of the best clubs in Auckland. However, with the go-ahead committee which we have at present, the Secretary feels confident there will be no difficulty experienced, and appeals to all Athletes and others interested to rally round and help put 'Varsity well and truly on the Athletic map next season.

The season is rapidly drawing to a close and two more meetings in Auckland, together with the Waikato meetings at Easter, will terminate the Club's activities for the time being. But don't forget, chaps, the Athletic Club needs your support as soon as the winter months have left us "fit" for another season, so it's up to you!

SWIMMING CLUB

Picnic at Palm Beach.

The day was cloudy, but this by no means affected the success of the trip. Thirty-two people turned up, quite a few of them were Freshers, and somehow everyone managed to pack into the bow of the boat. The trip down was uneventful except for comments on hats and retaliating actions.

At Palm Beach a swim was voted for before lunch, and a waterpolo ball provided lots of fun. Surprisingly enough, after a large lunch everyone showed great energy and climbed to the top of a steep hill. And if you want to know how to come down a hill on your seat, ask Mary Kenrick.

The rest of the afternoon was spent playing baseball. Pitcher Revington displayed great style and Pat Keane gets to a base by hook or by crook—

usually the latter. Rules were made as the game proceeded and this might have been the reason why several fights ensued.

There was a short swim before leaving. Brownie Ward and Pat Hastings going so far out that they were given up as lost, but unfortunately we were too hopeful.

Back at Auckland, the party broke up, after giving loud cheers for the Baroona, its Captain, and a few other things. It was a great day and it is to be hoped that even more students, especially Freshers, will support the Swimming Club the following season.

And don't forget Swimming Club's CARNIVAL on Saturday, April 3rd. It is going to be held in the Epsom Girls' Grammar Baths at 2 o'clock. There will be all kinds of races including handicaps and novelty events. So turn up, whether you are a good swimmer or not; you never know what might happen.

CRICKET NOTES

The University Team has played three games since the last issue:—v. Eden—lost by 40 on the 1st innings; v. A.S.C.—won by 190 on the 1st innings, A.S.C. being dismissed for 35 (Macarthur took 3 wickets for 10, while Andrews took 6 for 21, the majority of these wickets being bowled). v. Rotorua Army side (this year's Bay of Plenty Champions). This was an all-day fixture played on Saturday, 20th March. 'Varsity batted first on a very difficult wicket, and scored 167 (Drummond 27, Andrews 22, Pearson and Cooper 21, Jackson 17, Albrecht and Elliott 14, Smith 12). Rotorua replied with 104.

In the second innings, when the wicket had dried out, 'Varsity scored 120 for 3. In half-an-hour, Taylor (61), and Bell (49 not out), put on 100 runs, the pair giving the best batting display seen on Eden Park this year.

FOOTBALL CLUB

At the Annual General Meeting held recently, the following officers were elected for the 1943 season:—

President: Professor Bartrum. Club Captain: Mr. Laurie Drake. Hon. Auditor: Mr. D. Mulvihill. Secretary: Jim Gwynne. Treasurer: Wally Wilkins. Committee: John Burns, Peter Davenport, Tom Naylor, Allan Howes, Mac. Wallace, Pat Towle, Jim Lowe.

Judging by the number of students who announced their intention to play for 'Varsity at the beginning of the year, a record war-time season seems likely. It is hoped that the 70 odd concerned will maintain their enthusiasm throughout the season. Regularity of attendance at practices and matches by all players is essential in order that the full complement of three or four teams may be kept in the various competitions.

The fostering of team spirit, an essential feature of 'Varsity football, depends on the co-operation of all players, so get behind the committee from the start by attending regularly at the practices, and a highly successful and enjoyable season is certain to be the result.

Have you a grudge against a Grad? Send in a KIWI quotation and watch him squirm.

Leave KIWI contributions in the CRACCUM box on Exec. Room door.

NEW ZEALAND NEW WRITING

"New Zealand New Writing" as a representative selection of current New Zealand Literature is disappointing and dull. It has, however, this healthy and redeeming feature: its contributors write about things immediate to their experience; they do not take over material from overseas. Unfortunately they do borrow their style and use it self-consciously, clumsily and often pretentiously.

Sargeson and Gaskell spoil good material with tiresome mannerisms; Gilbert spoils a good story through an inadequate method of telling it; Cynthia Aston's story is good in conception, but makes dull reading. Marie Bullock produces arch and uninteresting reporting. Only Holcroft, Anna Kavan and Jackson-Thomas succeed in mating style and subject matter and achieving a lack of self-consciousness.

I, like Jackson-Thomas' "Unto Us"—despite his lapse in the title. This writer lets the truth and the importance of his experiences gather their own momentum; and the result is taut and moving writing.

Apart from Fairburn's "Poem," the poetry is contemptible. Technical efficiency is not lacking—in Curnow it is carried to absurdity—but the verses have no living heart.

—R.S.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Although most students do not seem to be aware of the fact, the College Library contains current numbers of many student newspapers from other colleges. At the moment these are mainly from New Zealand and Australia, but is hoped this year to increase the system of exchanges so that it incorporates the student newspapers of many other countries as well.

Students are sometimes inclined to regard their own College as the only one in existence and it is a good thing for us at A.U.C. to read what other Colleges are doing and saying. Also, the knowledge that students are comparing CRACCUM with other publications of a like nature will help to keep it on its mettle. It is hoped that this year far more interest will be taken in exchange publications than has formerly been the case. On arrival the newspapers in question are placed in the folders in the Library rack.

JUBILEE BOOK

In 1933 the Students' Association published a book to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the College. We have several of these books left, and we are offering them to students at a reduced price.

There is a survey of the history of the College, and another of the history of the Students' Association, written by Mr. A. B. Thompson.

In an article beginning on page 63 we read of student rags that show more inspiration than those perpetrated in recent years.

The roll of distinguished students contains names that are well-known to most people at College—Kenneth Sisam (author of Fourteenth Century Verse and Prose), Willis Airey, Prof. Algie, Prof. Sinclair, Prof. Worley, etc.

This is a publication that students should not miss. Buy your copy from Exec. Room.

REVIEW OF CURRENT AFFAIRS — 1942

At the International Relations Club's first meeting in 1943, Mr. E. Olsen looked back particularly to those events of 1942 which would influence a post-war settlement. Naturally he considered the Atlantic Charter important—expressing as it did the determination of U.S.A. to play an active part in European and World Politics. Mr. Olsen examined particularly the "disarmament of aggressors" clause in the Charter and discussed ways in which this might be applied to Germany.

Considering 1942 again, Mr. Olsen looked at the German "New Order" in Europe. He pointed out that Nazi methods were abhorrent to him, but, like G. D. H. Cole and other independent observers, he thought the Germans had given to Europe an order that was greatly needed. Sound economic units had been built up, production had been rationalised, and numerous customs barriers had been removed. Europe had become a more integrated and workable economic unit than ever before.

If the Atlantic Charter meant economic disarmament for Germany, chaos would come again in Europe and particularly in Germany, which is essentially a manufacturing country with resources of Europe complementary to her own. Mr. Olsen pointed out the dangers to the peace of the world in such a policy. Political dismemberment of Germany, he considered, would be even more foolish.

In his eyes the solution of the problem lay in two measures. One was the establishment of socialism throughout Europe. This, he thought, would remove that social discontent which is the opportunity of dictator and militarist. The other measure was to leave Europe integrated much as now, so that the best use could be made of her resources.

In the discussion following the talk students raised the question of the acceptability of such a policy to the U.S.A.—a capitalist country and the wealthiest of the Allies. Doubt was also expressed as to the likelihood of U.S.A. allowing such a policy to be applied to Japan. A lively argument developed about these points and the speaker's general case.

THE UNIVERSITY COACHING COLLEGE

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PRINCIPAL

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ADVICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

It is with regret we learn that contributions to CRACCUM must now be placed in a letter-box set aside for the purpose on Exec. Room door, instead of being left in the letter-rack. In the good old days, if a young writer were suddenly seized with remorse concerning his hastily-written words, or felt his pocket would not stand the damages liable for slandering the Editor, all that was necessary was to slink surreptitiously to the letter-rack and remove the offending contribution. The present innovation complicates the task, not insurmountably, however, and we are able to present the following methods of extracting the material.

(a) The Isaac—Walton Process.

Materials: 1oz. treacle, 17½ins. stout string.

There should be no difficulty about procuring this gear. The writer personally always carries pockets full of treacle for the purpose. This is knotted carefully to one end of the string (being careful to avoid the loathsome Granny Knot), and inserted carefully

into the orifice of the box. The remaining procedure should be self-explanatory.

(b) The Gandy Process.

In this simple method the materials are substituted for ordinary food over a period of many days. We believe the normal human being can live three weeks without food. Thus at 23.50 hours on the 20th day, the subject should proceed to the letter-box, when he will find the wrist will be thin enough to insert the hand into the aforementioned orifice. A necessary prerequisite for this method is that contributions be in early.

(c) The Neeroh Process.

Materials: 1 box matches, ½ pint gasoline.

The main obstacle here is the obtaining of the materials. The matches may be purchased at any tobacconists if in addition twelve packets of De Reske Cork are bought. The latter should be forward to the writer, G. Neous, c/o letter rack.

The petrol may best be procured by hiring a rental car and siphoning the liquid from the tank. To open the lock on the cap of the petrol tank, the services of an expert are required. The Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society should be approached in this connection.

It is probably advisable while carrying out this process, to conceal its real object. We therefore advise the ignition of the complete Students' Block, which is well covered with insurance anyway.

(d) The Neous Process.

Materials: The G. Neous Letter-Extractor (Patent Pending).

This method is extremely simple and

lacking in the small flaws which even the originators will admit exist in the above.

The Extractor will be forwarded post free in a plain wrapper on receipt of the sum of seven shillings and threepence (\$1.43). This should be forwarded to the inventor, G. Neous, c/o Letter-rack. —(Advt.)

WHOLLY MATRIMONY

(The Editor does not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed in this article. No characters are fictitious.)

Bee Belshaw Nee Sweetman.

The last round of this exciting engagement was witnessed at the uncivilized hour of 8.30 a.m. on March 8th, but the news of it still rotates, revolves, and reverberates round the College. Betty, having eschewed all mention and practice of matrimony since her early youth, inconsistently succumbed with only a few words of warning.

The College has recovered sufficiently, however, to give its very best wishes to Betty and Cyril. As Solomon used to say, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing."



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FRESHERS' BALL

Ask any Fresher what happened on Saturday night, 13th March, and he (or she), if still alive to tell the tale, will say in a tone of horrified wonder at your ignorance, "Why, the Freshers' Ball, of course! Weren't you there?" Well, you probably were, so it won't need much describing.

The first thing to notice was the decorations, and they sure did hit the eye. There was, among other things, a large representation of a stork carrying a pop-eyed youth (presumably a Fresher) in a handkerchief suspended from its beak.

The second thing to notice was the great number of people present. The Hall seemed full of earnest young Freshmen propelling their partners round the crowded floor with painful conscientiousness. It was noticeable too, that the balcony outside was well patronised by star-gazers, although you couldn't see even the moon for clouds.

The most important item on the programme was, of course, supper. (After all, that's what everyone came for!) After supper, there seemed to be less people on the floor, so perhaps some innocent Freshers, unused as yet to 'Varsity dances, were swallowed whole or trodden savagely under-foot in the struggle for refreshments. Be that as it may, everyone seemed to have a good time, and if appearances are anything to go by, Freshers have had a good introduction to 'Varsity social functions.

At School a man finds his feet,
At University he too often loses his balance. —Hopkins.

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