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CRACCUM

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Auckland N.Z., Wednesday, April 26, 1944.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

CIVIC PRIDE AND THE STUDENTS' FUTURE

I hope that I shall not be condemned for believing that the student of to-day will be the City Father of to-morrow. If you agree, then I believe it is your duty to form an opinion on the present proposal to extend the Town Hall across Grey's Avenue. Should this scheme be permitted to eventuate, there is absolutely no doubt that it will be a burden, and an unnecessary one, for the City Fathers of the future.

Up till now an apparent state of apathy exists in regard to this proposal and my faith in human nature forces me to believe that this is owing to the lack of knowledge of the circumstances and possible result of the execution of the proposed scheme.

The scheme is to extend the present Town Hall across Grey's Avenue and completely fill in a large block of land up to Bledisloe Street. It is presumed that most people have seen the plan which was published last year in the local papers.

To point out all the difficulties of such a scheme, I would like some space, which is not available. Let us, however, consider the main ones.

Surely everyone will agree that a visitor to a city gains his impression of the city from several items, the harbour up which he sails, the railway station he arrives at, the hotel at which he stays and the city's civic buildings. Now, with how much pride may we point to the present Town Hall and say "and there is our Town Hall." And yet the proposal is to extend and perpetuate the style, etc., of a building which is outmoded, badly oriented (with its acoustically faulty main hall, crude heating, lighting and ventilation. If the Town Hall is extended as proposed, it will remain in its present position for 50 years or more as a tribute to nearsightedness and temporary arrangements, similar to the Engineering School's building which was put up for two years' duration 25 years ago and is still there.

The whole question is not one of a crystal bowl probability, but a definite fact. Plans have been prepared and everything is almost ready to proceed. Look at the question in another light. This city has been chosen to be a terminal for post-war travel, commerce will come our way with post-war aviation, we will have tremendous air fields with the most modern design and behind all these modern amenities, a decadent, outmoded city, with congested outlets from the city and civic buildings of archaic design.

Departing from the aesthetics alone, of the Town Hall, the mere blocking up of one of the main outlets to the western suburbs should be enough to stop this scheme. Again, we have just recently become, as a city, the possessors of a new fire service headquarters, placed, in such a position as to be capable of serving all parts of the community with a rapid fire service. And yet it is proposed to block access to the heart of the commercial centre of the city with, of all things—a civic building.

It is left to the students, the future City Fathers, to make a decision, and now is the time. The mayoral elections are very near, possibly a promise from one of the tickets might be of advantage. However, it is our duty to show the public our sense of civic pride and point out to them what a handicap this scheme will be, even if we completely disregard the materialistic point of view, that the future extensions will cost £200,000.

If you agree with this article, publicise it as much as possible, make the University known throughout the city as an institution which breeds men and women who have Civic Pride.

K.L.P.

STUDENT RELIEF

From the ranks of the students of the world come many of the world's leaders, and therefore, at a time when half these students are driven from the universities, and deprived not only of the right to study, but also of the right to live, it is incumbent upon the Free Students to help their comrades by every means in their power.

The channel through which we must send help is the World Student Relief Organisation, which acts in collaboration with the International Red Cross. Student Relief started in the last war, but to-day the necessity for it is ten times more urgent. Adequate testimony of the work done by W.S.R.O. is given by students who have received its help.

A Dutch student writes: "It will certainly give you satisfaction to know that the trouble you have taken for us now makes it possible for many in this camp to pass their time in a useful way."

From the U.S.S.R.: "Please accept our sincerest thanks for the kindness and interest you are taking in our well-being, and please note that, no matter how small a part of our request you will find it possible to fulfil, it will be met by us with the greatest appreciation."

It is not only the tangible effect upon the body of the help Student Relief is giving, but also the intangible one upon the mind, which make it our duty to support the cause wholeheartedly. Surely, the realisation of student unity throughout the world must have raised hopes in hearts where only despondency and defeatism were.

Last year, A.U.C. made a good contribution to Student Relief funds, but, considering numbers, not good enough. This year the goal is £500: if we raise less than this we must consider ourselves unworthy of the name of student—we shall be degree-hunters only.

WORK DAY this year will be May 20. All students of the University are asked to work upon that date, and to hand their earnings in to the Student Relief Fund. Last year the public of Auckland were very co-operative, and we have no doubt they will be so again.

"The right to work" was the slogan of the French during one of their revolutions: let us be deeply grateful that we have that right—to work for ourselves and for others.

ERRATA

A reshuffle has taken place in the Exec., and the vacancies caused by the resignation of Messrs. Horsman, Segedin, Smiler and Wallace have been filled by co-option.

EXEC. 1944.

J. E. BLENNERHASSETT (in place of Mr. Horsham), President, Legal and Ext.
 T. C. WILSON, Woman Vice, Publications.
 A. LOWE, B.A., Man Vice, Carnival.
 E. C. N. GRAY, B.A., Hon. Sec.
 B. LEVIEN, B.Sc., W.H.C.
 P. KEANE, Registrar of Societies.
 M. McMILLAN, B.A., Stud. Relief, Extra-Curr.
 M. HOODLESS, Records, Bookstall.
 P. DEMPSEY, B.A., Sports.
 T. NAYLOR, Social Committee.
 K. PIPER, Assist. Sec., Properties.
 J. P. MACKIE, M.H.C.
 P. WONG, B.Sc., Corres. Member.
 A. P. POSTLEWAITE, Business Manager.

THE NEW ADDITIONS

MARGARET HOODLESS, Records and Bookstall. Slim bundle of energy, tramps vigorously. Noted for "Gosh" "Golly!" and a throaty chuckle. Sec. Women's House Committee. Final B.Sc.
 PAT KEANE Registrar of Societies. Enthusiastic debater. An attractive and enthusiastic Irish Colleen. Member Women's House Committee. Keane (ouch!) swimmer. A.U.C. Hockey Rep. last year. Third year B.Sc.
 KEN MACKIE, Chairdman Men's House Committee. Returned from service in the Pacific. One of the more mature students on Exec. S.C.M. Committee. Final B.A.
 TOM NAYLOR, Chairman Social Committee. A hard worker who tries to hide his light under the bushel of his own caustic wit. Responsible for success of most of last year's balls. Third-year Engineer.

Certain people are beginning to think the most dangerous part of a car is the nut behind the wheel.

CLAUDIA

Claudia is the story of a girl who had not grown up. I think the producers had the same opinion of the New Zealand theatre-going public.

The acting was second-class, the settings third class and the whole production did not make a class at all. Even judged from the standard of N.Z. amateur theatricals which incidentally is very high—it did not justify presentation.

If that is the sort of farmhouse that American farmers will persist in living in on the stage then John Steinbeck has been writing in vain.

Evidently J. C. Williamson came to the conclusion that if a pack of amateurs could draw good houses to His Majesty's Theatre, he could do it with a company of hacks. This is the only conclusion I can come to, because they have made no previous attempt to rectify the lull in professional dramatic activity caused by the war.

The play is a delicate tangle of psychological relationship, with a little dirt thrown in. There are eight other theatres in Queen Street presenting that type of entertainment much more adequately than His Majesty's could ever hope to do.

The only difference between the eight and the one is that eight are "movies," and the one falls into the category of a new type of entertainment fast becoming popular in Auckland—the "smellies."

R.A.S.

Pray, butcher, spare you tender calf,
 Accept my plea on his behalf.
 He's but a babe, too young by far,
 To perish in the abattoir.
 Oh, cruel butcher, let him feed.
 And gambol on the verdant meads;
 Let clover tops and grassy banks,
 Fill out those childish ribs and flanks.
 Then may we, at some future meal,
 Pitch into beef instead of veal.

OGDEN NASH.

APOLOGY

We wish to apologise for an error which appeared in the last issue of CRACCUM. Hilton Porter, not Arthur Collins, took the part of Falstaff in the radio-dramatisation of the same name.

COPY OF PETITION

SENT BY WOMEN AND GIRLS EMPLOYED AT HALL'S FARM (Services Vegetable Production)

We, women and girls employed at Hall's Farm, near Hamilton, desire to bring to your notice the fact that our rate of pay is on a lower scale than that paid to men and boys.

Our knowledge of the facts, based on our observations, convinces us that the differentiation is based, not upon the relative value of the services performed, but simply upon sex. Such differentiation is, therefore, unjust and irksome. It seems to us that, at some of the tasks, though not all, we are more efficient; at many we are equal; at some we are less efficient.

Your petitioners therefore pray that an investigation be made so that the facts may be ascertained. Equal pay for equal work appears to us to be the only just method of payment? And we ask for payment on that basis.

We would point out that many of us are working under "direction" and we have not any of the rights of free contract. This seems to us to be an additional reason why just treatment be accorded.

We would also point out that this is not primarily a request for increased pay. It is primarily a request for just treatment.

COPY OF LETTER

Received from the Minister of Minister of Agriculture in Reply to Petition

Dear Madam,—

I have to acknowledge receipt of the Petition signed by you and 18 other employees who were employed on the (Hamilton) vegetable project by my Department.

In reply to the petition, I would advise that the terms of employment were in accordance with the Services Vegetable Production Workers' Agreement, 1943, which agreement covers workers employed in the Department's various vegetable schemes.

The main point raised in your petition is that, generally speaking, female labour is as efficient as male labour, and you indicate that in your opinion on certain work at this project female labour was more efficient than male labour. With this viewpoint, I cannot agree, for while it is admitted that in a few of the small tasks female labour might be more efficient, generally speaking, the work which calls for sustained effort is more efficiently carried out by male labour. That this is an acknowledged fact is proven by the differential rates of payment awarded to the two sexes in practically every occupation or profession. I would further add that in these tasks where it is felt that female labour might prove as efficient as male labour, every endeavour is made to introduce piece work, so that the worker gains that reward to which he or she is justly entitled.

Yours faithfully,

B. ROBERTS.
 Minister of Agriculture.

(A further letter was also sent, in reply, to the Minister of Agriculture.)

Behold the hippopotamus!
 We laugh at how he looks to us,
 And yet, in moments dark and grim,
 I wonder how we look to him.
 Peace, peace, thou hippopotamus!
 We really look all right to us,
 And you, no doubt, delight the eye,
 Of other hippopotami.

OGDEN NASH.

NEXT ISSUE OF CRACCUM:
 MAY 10.

COPY CLOSES:
 MAY 2.

SPORTS CLUBS**ATHLETIC CLUB**
Inter-Fac. Sports

Black Thursday! But were our spirits dampened? No!! In fact the poor conditions created a really happy atmosphere and things went off remarkably well.

The executive committee of the club wish to thank those members of the staff who so notably turned out to act as officials, and Jim and Pete for their work with the amplifier. Mr. Revington also deserves mention, for his generosity in bartering his records for their work with the amplifier. Mr. gentleman! We are also grateful to those hardy athletes and the "engineers," who willingly competed under such circumstances. Thank you, women, for that exhibition of real sportsmanship.

Jumpers and hurdlers were unable to show their prowess, but the fine showing of the sprinters, distance runners and walkers made up for any lack in this respect. In fact, the competition in all events was good and resulted in some quite good times.

Double honours went to Geoff. Roberts when he won both the 100yds. and 220yds. championship. Geoff also won the Staff Cup (still missing), for the highest aggregate of championship points.

Other winners in open events were P. Horne, 440yds.; G. Dragicovich, 880yds.; W. Erceg, 3 miles; and D. Culac in the shot put.

Freshers' events were well contested, and in both the 100yds. and the 880yds. some fine form was shown. The club expects the support of all you Freshers next season, so keep it in mind. The winners were: Collinson in the 100yds., and Sinclair in the 880yds.

Miss Penman scored a double in the ladies' events, winning the 50yds. and the 100yds.

Novelty events were quite as successful as in the past, and it was only through lack of women that the mixed three-legged race was poorly contested. Miss Averill and Brothers scored a very convincing win. Unfortunately one prim young maiden was dropped in the mud by her sparing partner, and it is not certain whether her enthusiasm was dampened or not—no complaints have come to hand yet. The engineers once more featured in the walking race, with N. Rykers winning the event for them. It was a pity more spectators were not present to cheer them as they took the field clad in dungarees with humorous notices plastered on their backs. Out of the motley crowd competing in the mufti race, Ian Reid, also winner of the 100yds. handicap, managed to slide home.

ON THE WHOLE A GOOD SHOW.

BASKETBALL CLUB

The Annual General Meeting of this club was held on Wednesday, 5th April, and the following officers were elected:—

Club Captain: Val Wyatt.
Vice-Captain: Hilda Thompson.
Secretary and Treasurer: Shirley Marcroft.

Committee: Jeanette Whitehead, Lois Echlin, Nora Whitehead and Pam Price (Fresher member).

It was decided that regular practices should be held, commencing Saturday, April 15th, at 8 a.m., on the college court. All intending players are requested to make an effort to attend, as association games begin on May 6, and teams must be chosen before then.

Watch the notice boards for further information.

BASKETBALL PLAYERS:
SUPPORT VARSITY TEAMS.**HARRIER CLUB**

MEN! If you want recreation and healthy exercise, if you want to tone your system up for a strenuous summer in 1945; if you want to be lithe and fit for football or even tramping; if, in short, you want to be a HARRIER roll along to the first run of the season which will be advertised soon.

There are three packs—fast, medium and slow, so you can be sure of company. Moreover, the runs are generally concluded with afternoon

tea, so you can be sure of food.

What more could you want? We thought so. Having convinced you, we would now like to mention that we want a team of six harriers to send to Otago to compete in the Harrier Tournament to be held there in August. Well, boys, let us see you out in your gaudiest shorts and singlets decorating the highways and byways of the city in an endeavour to get fit!

BOXING CLUB

A brief outline on the club's activities appeared in the last issue of Craccum. Here is something more definite!

COACHES AND COACHING

The club is very fortunate in having roused the interest of Messrs. Donovan and Smith—two very capable coaches. Of course, you will all be pleased to hear that your chemi-lecturer, Jack Holmes, takes an active interest in the club. Jack holds a N.Z.U. Blue for BOXING, so don't get too fresh with him.

The coaching is free and the club has access to equipment. There are club meetings every Monday evening in the Ping Pong Room, and for extra training the Fire Brigade Gymnasium is open to University students.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The date for the meeting has not yet been finalised, but keep your eyes on the notice board as it will be held in the near future.

FOOTBALL

With winter settling in on us, the pigskin has come into its own once more and the Football Club is well under way.

The Annual General Meeting was held on March 30th, and the fact that over sixty members and intending members were in attendance promised well for the season's activities.

The following officers were elected for the present season:—

President: Professor J. A. Bartrum.
Club Captain: Mr. L. S. Drake.
Secretary: D. T. Grace.
Treasurer: J. W. Wilkins.
Auditor: Mr. W. G. Boswell.
Executive Committee: R. S. W. Skinner, F. C. Nettleton, E. D. Revington, I. A. Reid, P. Sinclair, R. T. Hellaby, Dr. R. Jones.

Among the club's new members are six former students of Otago University, all of whom have represented the Otago Province at Rugby.

The Senior Competition matches will begin on Saturday, April 29th. All other grades will play a preliminary match on that day and commence their competition games the following Saturday.

The prospects for all our teams this season are most encouraging. Training is in full swing, and the players have shown that they are really keen to uphold the University's reputation on the Rugby field. But there is a little extra something we need that must come from non-players, and that is support!!

We give our haka before our matches. We want barrackers to give it during the matches.

So how about it, non-players (and that includes women as well as men)? Catch hold of that real 'Varsity spirit; pin on your blue and white ribbons; oil your throats; and come along and give your teams some real support.

AKARANA!!

Leader: Akarana! (Rally round).
Leader: Akarana!
All: Hei!
Leader: Akarana!
All: Hei!
Leader: Ringa Pakia! Pakia pakia kia rita.
All: Eh rita nei hoki!
Leader: Wae wae takahia! Takahia takahia kia kino.
All: Eh kino nei hoki!
Leader: Ringaringa I torona kei waho mau tonu tau ka tau!
All: Hei!
Leader: Tau ka tau!
All: Hei!
Leader: Tau ka tau ki Akarana Whangaia mai ra!
All: Nge nge nge tu!
Leader: Whangaia mai ra!
All: Nge nge nge ara tu, ara ta, ara, tau!

FRESHERS' BALL

A few points of interest concerning the Ball. Financially it was a success (unusual). The crowd was a max, over 430 being present. As for the Freshers, 56 out of about 150 women were present and 112 out of 300 men. We wish to thank all those who forfeited some of their time and energy to help in the preparation and clearing up and also the second and third-year students who came along and showed the 1944 Freshers that they were really welcome and consequently paid our expenses.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE.**HEARD AT SAME**

He: Say, kid, what about a dance?
She: I'm afraid I don't dance with children!

He: Sorry. I didn't notice your condition.

FRESHERS' WELCOME

On Thursday, April 6th, the combined House Committees extended the hand of friendship to Freshers. The welcome, which took the form of an ordinary Coffee Evening, was preceded by a twenty-minute "pep talk" to the men and women Freshers by their respective chairmen of house Committees, Ken. Mackie and Barbara Levien.

Men Freshers were introduced to the College Haka, ably led by Dale Revington. Say, girls, what do you think of the haka when it is performed by about 75 men? Gives you a thrill, doesn't it?

Students, have you Hoki-tokied? If not, why not? This dance (if you can call it such!) was introduced by Wally Wilkins, and the entire company was to be seen cavorting around the floor to the tune of Hoki Toki.

The welcome was a great success. Freshers were given an insight into one aspect of College social life, not to mention an introduction to other students.

"FOOTPRINTS"

Tramping Club activities have extended in yet another direction with the appearance of their magazine, "FOOTPRINTS." The publication is the result of popular demand and the success of a series of newsletters which the club published during the summer vacation. Its attractive and appropriate cover design and 14 pages of lightly written articles make up a very bright first issue. A novel and useful feature is a map of the Waitakere Ranges printed on the back cover.

FRESHERS' HIKE, 1944

Enthusiastic is what Freshers are, whether tramping or eating. Our first day tramp to Muriwai did not produce any new records, but the standard was uniformly high. As America's Poet Laureate has said:

Mairzee Dotes and dozee dotes,
But Fresherezee denny thing,
When there's no watermelon left.
It was a grand sight to see such capable melon munchers making the pips pop. Cecil says we were still wet behind the ears at lecture days later.

Most everybody fell for the falls. Derek, greatly daring, fell through the falls so that the height of dropping water could be calculated. Bob (Wake 'em up) Crawley says the time taken by a trampler in full kit to fall through the falls gives data for a basis of argument, but Rum wouldn't even write it down in his black book.

The large field (45 starters) promises well for future tramps. There was a shortage of hair-nets among the ladies, but as Noah said to Shem when he asked for more lettuce leaves for the new guinea pigs, "you can't think of everything."

Leader: Akarana ka riri katahi karua!

All: Homai o kupu o toa kia wete wetea kia tuki tukia!

Leader: Akarana!

All: Hi!

Leader: Akarana!

All: Hei!

Leader: Akarana!

All: Hi! hei! ha!!

STUDENT CONVENTION

Half-way through last year Arthur Lowe called together about a dozen students to whom he expounded an idea about establishing some sort of organisation in which students could discuss questions of the day and formulate some conclusions based on an impartial investigation of the facts by University students. Out of his idea grew the Student Convention which met last year and proved a popular innovation. The Liquor Laws and Party Politics were the two subjects discussed, and great interest was aroused. Student Convention was not without its faults, but the Provisional Committee (the Convention being not yet formally constituted), has learnt a lot from the two meetings of last year, and is determined to put on a better show this year.

A few details of the first 1944 meeting are known as follows:

The date is probably Wednesday, May 3rd.

The leaders of the discussion will be visitors from the Army, the W.E.A., the Young Anglican Movement, the Downtown Club, and the Young People's Movement. They will be giving their own opinion of how the Auckland University student should behave in Society.

Their criticism will be short and trenchant we hope, so bring along your legs to stand on.

Read all Student Convention notices, and listen to all the gossip about it, and be there.

STAFF DEBATE

From a large number of written and verbal criticisms submitted to Craccum reporters on the subject of the Staff v. Students' Debate, the following Fresher remarks have been selected:

"A brilliant display of professorial futility" (Junior National School).

"The chairman was kinda cute."

"Did the Prof, really mean what he said about being easier and easier and easier . . . ?"

"I liked the impish humour of that goo-goo fellow in the zoot-suit."

"A pity the staff had to include some one who was a little mental on the subject of tomatoes."

"I don't care what anyone says—I think it was only her sweet nature that made her speak in favour of the Profs."

"Fancy! he said you only needed to spend ten minutes on a French prose—and I spent hours!"

"It was hardly ladylike of Miss Honnor to pay such pointed attention to the professor's trousers!"

It is obvious from the above remarks that student opinion was immensely stimulated by the debate and that new trains of thought have been developed which may have far-reaching effects. **BISCUIT.**

HONGI'S A.G.M.

Enthusiasm was the key note at the Annual General Meeting of the Hongi Club held on Tuesday, 5th April. The future policy of the club was discussed and the opinion of the meeting was that the club should endeavour as always to foster a "college spirit" in the coming year.

The office bearers for 1944-45 are:—

Patron: S. C. Gascoigne.
President: P. Newlands.
Vice-President: N. Kirton.
Secretary-Treasurer: K. W. Greville.
Committee: N. Potter, D. Revington, M. Ellis.

Membership to the club is elective. Those who wish to join the fraternity should contact the secretary through any present members or through the letter rack.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB

Follow the crowd to I.R.C.'s first meeting, to be held in the Women's Common Room, on Thursday, 27th April, at 8 p.m., when Prof. (ex-Capt.) Rutherford will give a talk on the war in the Pacific. Come along and hear what is going on in the Islands, and think up some posers for the discussion afterwards.

Don't forget—27th April, 8 p.m., in Women's Common Room.

HONGI MANIFESTO

At a time when the Hongi Club is very much in the Public eye, an explanation of the ideals which lie behind the club might be welcomed by students. Of course, on the other hand, it might not, but for better or for worse, here it is. Hongi was the bravest of the Ngapuhi warriors who were reported to be the most resourceful and valiant of the Maori tribes. Hence the name of the club indicates that it is at least ambitious. A club formed to endeavour to awaken the student body from the lethargy into which it has fallen, must needs be ambitious.

The Hongi Club stands for a four-square policy of action, comradeship, study and guts. It is a definite contribution to student life, in that it is the only institution at Varsity which attempts to bring men of each faculty together on a common social footing. It is in short, a fraternity, the bonds of which we hope to make strong and enduring. Those who think the club is a gang of hooligans are both woefully misinformed and childishly ignorant of the true state of affairs.

The first object of the club is to assist in all student activities, and every Hongi is expected to participate in any activity upon which the Hongi Executive decides to embark. A Hongi rag or stunt at every public student function has been traditional, and the absence of such is always remarked upon. Some there are, we know, who believe that such rags are unnecessary and serve no useful purpose. But it is by these means that the Hongis endeavour to express student enthusiasm and pride in its college. The club believes that by these means public interest in the college is aroused, and in a community that prefers a Civic Theatre to a Civic Square and knows little or nothing of Varsity life and ideals, this, to say the least, is not easy. But the club at least is sincere in its efforts.

Secondly, the club is a fraternity. Hongis are expected to be loyal to their club, their college, and their fellows. During their active period of membership, Hongis build up friendships which last for all time, and the spirit of co-operation which is built up in undergraduate days will endure beyond the walls of the University. While Hongis are expected to be "good mixers," and to enjoy fully the good fellowship of the club, they are not expected to do anything which is contrary to their principles. We do not think any the less of a chap because he prefers not to drink. Rather we admire a fan who can be in with the boys and have the courage of his convictions where drink is concerned. On the other hand Hongis are expected to conduct themselves like men. Drunkenness and ill-advised behaviour are strongly discouraged. The Hongi should be able "to take" it in every sense of the word.

Hongis realise, contrary to general belief, the place of study in student life and careful allowance for members' work is made in planning our activities. It has often been said that Hongi's lack intellect. A perusal of our rolls will, however, reveal some of the names of the best scholars to pass through the Varsity. But we believe also that the hackneyed old saying, "All work and no play . . ." is very true. Men who were active members of the club have, without exception, gone on to make their mark in the world. For culture and sport the club does not make provision. It is not our task. But we are always prepared to co-operate with clubs and societies.

The Hongi Club, like a sea voyage, brings out the best in a man. We are not all leaders, but we can all contribute something to our fellows. The feeling of fellowship in the club gives a chap the confidence so painfully lacking in so many of our students. Chaps don't know themselves till they know one another. Many fail to realise that there is more to be got out of Varsity education than a mere degree and a few letters after their name.

We have set forth an ideal at which

INTIMATE LEAVES

FROM THE DIARY OF MONICA SLAKE, FILM STAR

Done Into English By Anon

Dearest Diary,—

Such an exciting week! To start it all, I had a few letters from Peter Dempsey, who lives in some part of New Zealand. He said it was against his principle to write—but such manly letters! It is a marvellous help to have typed replies of every kind to send to my fans. I think I shall reply with No. 31 K—a sympathetic understanding one. He didn't enclose any money for a photo, but I decided to be generous and sent him a five-cent copy absolutely free.

On Wednesday, who should arrive at my quiet little retreat in New York, but Walter Kasshe (I suppose it should be Mr. Kasshe, dear Diary, but I feel we have known each other for so long). It seems that he holds

Looking up, I saw what appeared to be a rather tattered standard lamp swaying at one side of the window. It came forward. Walter Kasshe! "I bring you this—," he said, proffering a small parcel . . .

"Thank you," I whispered humbly. "—from Peter Dempsey," he finished (what a disappointment!) "And now . . . good-bye." The sun was clouded over and wind played lightly in his hair as he turned to go.

"Good-bye." Dum, dum, dum, di. dum. Dum, dum, dum. (Chopin's funeral was appropriately wafted over the air). We parted. I turned and was just catching the lift up to my bedroom, when Walter came rushing up with an eager, anxious expression on his face. He looked at me earnestly, appealingly. What did he want? It was too late to stop the lift, and as I shot upwards, I saw him wave excitedly. I got out on the next floor and waved back. "Come up 'n' see me," I



Government positions of various kinds in New Zealand. When he came I was literally in the middle of a foam bath. I have cut down foam baths to five a day, because we must all do our little bit, mustn't we? Well, the maid dashed up with his little card which had "Kindly return owing to paper shortage" printed in one corner.

And I thought, "Well, why not give him something to write home about?" So I quickly slipped on my flimsiest of flimsy wraps and glided downstairs. But there was nobody around! What a disappointment! I should have to keep on being repressed—he had not even waited during the hour and a half in which I had hurriedly put on a tiny spot of make-up. And as I stood there, sadly alone, tears welled in my eyes and softly fell across my cheeks. My make-up was ruined again!

CARNIVAL

During the last two years the traditional activities associated with Graduation Day have been seriously curtailed. Various excuses have been offered, such as the war, etc. The war is a good excuse, and the Carnival Committee of 1944 were prepared to use it again this year. A sudden burst of energy on the part of one of our institutions, viz., Piglet, however, was responsible for Revue's resurrection. We have Revue with us again.

There will be two ballets, and three short one-act plays, the last of these being UTOPIANA, a musical comedy with original songs and music, local topicality and plenty of humour if it strikes you that way.

Rehearsals are in full swing now, but if you wish to be in the fun there is plenty of room for another member of the chorus or of the ballet. If you have some talent of any description we will find you a part as a hero or heroine.

Come along to the Ping Pong Room any evening at 8 o'clock.

destructive and unsympathetic critics might scornfully laugh. Nevertheless it is the ideal we have set the Hongi Club, and we are convinced that ours is a definite contribution to student life.

By order of HONGI.
PERC NEWLAND, President.
KEN GREVILLE, Secretary.

INSOMNIA

I envy those who flaunt their faith,
The aesthete and the devotee,
For I have seen the destruction
Of the cities of the plain,
And God's great purpose in
The flies above the slain.
(Art and religion, what are these
But plugs to block out doubt, quiet
The questing mind when action
ceases?)

I envy those fools who know their place
Hedge their paradise with machine-guns,
Have what they want—for you and I
Seek and ye shall find
That nothing satisfies,
A moment may be a moment,
To-morrow the doubts will rise.
Is action the only creed? Which
prevents

The mind from preying on itself;
Will hold the intellect on the rails,
Of certainty and fact, until
That last dark tunnel swallows all.

GENK.

Sign in an American girls' school—
"If you are in need of a mistress, ring
the bell."

* * *

According to J. S. Mill, the most accurate test of the progress of civilisation is the progress of the power of co-operation.

PRAISE TO . . .

Frank Sinatra, who in spite of all the screaming, is a mighty fine groaner . . .

Upton Sinclair, for his "World's End" series. . . .

The Oslo bookshop, forced to remove the sign, "learn English before the Tommies come," substituted, "learn German before our friends leave . . ."

Charles Boyer, who people don't seem to realise is an excellent actor. . .

Mr. Algie, for kicks he gave Medical School . . .

M.G.M. for "Random Harvest."

KICKS TO . . .

The City Council for their proposed civic centre; when they overlook McKenzie's thesis in favour of their own concrete hybrid, it gives the whole business a funny smell . . .

The day-time radio serials from 12B; such things as "Big Sister" and "Linda's First Love"—One of the worst aspects about them is that they run for years. . . .

The Government for trying to switch the blame for the present electricity shortage. . . .

The little done to stamp out V.D. in this country. Some of our laws don't help either. . . .

The constant repetition of the same news over the radio all day long. . . .

Radio stations for not getting together and comparing programmes so that it is possible to get music at any time. I think that most people prefer music to a soap opera or a gardening talk. . . .

WILLIE.

COMMON ROOM

Rain	on	the tennis courts
windows	as opaque	as rose quartz
with	the dust	of years
Cigarette butts	on	the floor
matches	paper	an apple core
yellow lamps	drip	tears
Red-headed	women	pass
Look into	the murk	one laughs
men talking	about	gears
Jam session	on	the air
Advertisement	for	beer
Outside	the rain	clears
		BRUNUS.

The ant has made himself illustrious,
Through constant industry
industrious.

So what?
Would you be calm and placid,
If you were full of
Formic acid?

* * *

The surrealist poets are good in so far as they are not surrealist.

—T. S. Eliot.

THE GREAT FAVOURITE

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NO MAN STANDS APART

Professor Sewell read his Pageants well. I am sure he was sincere. No man (except a complete hypocrite) could have read with such feeling, any thing which he consciously knew to be phoney! I admire that sincerity. Yet paradoxically enough the writing was self-conscious. It was written with a consciousness of the extent to which legitimate emotive devices could be used.

The mechanical structure of the play was so perfect that (like a Thomas Hardy novel) it sometimes creaked. In the plan of the play I can see a little arrow pointing—insert humour here to relax the tension; humour which was not very original. "The steak's fer yer farther, you 'ave sardines"—in England that joke has "got whiskers on it." It still gets a laugh, but it's cheap. The whole play was bristling with emotive devices and clichés. The sight of Darby and Joan in the air raid shelter would be enough to produce a sympathetic "aah!" without the added stimulus of Darby shaking Jack by the hand and croaking gratitude to one of the few who did so much. The allegorical quotations, too, only tended to play on emotions. Also I do not think Jack had earned his place in Poet's Corner. In the land where good men go I think he would have been

drafted to the Nelson, Drake and Duke of Wellington fraternity quarters. N.B. Here Vanzetti's speech has been used before in the American satire "The Male Animal." Chamberlain's immortal uttering of Britain's declaration of war made a fine dramatic drawing-room scene in a British propaganda film early in the war.

The influence of Shakespeare was apparent throughout. The method used was a strange reversal of Shakespeare's technique. Professor Sewell interpreted 20th century historical facts in Elizabethan stage terms. Like Shakespeare he gets his characters on and off the stage skilfully. e.g., When Bill Smith tells Jane to run after Mrs. Smith with the sal volatile after she has gone to comfort Mrs. Robinson. Exit Jane. I also had the impression that the play was written after an avid study of the Russian Theatre and its methods of production: the use of platforms, spot-lighting for concentrated character study and symbolic action on another level, seemed to be a result of that study.

I am not sure whether the announcer was the equivalent of a Greek chorus, the symbol of a Shakespeare method of bringing a character out of the play to comment periodically upon the action, or just Professor Sewell himself making pertinent remarks from his exalted position as a University Professor. The last seems to be the most acceptable when the play is considered as a whole. For it is not much more than a brilliant piece of reportage from an outsider 1200 miles away who has obtained his material from a careful study of B.B.C. news bulletins, newspaper clippings and propaganda films.

This view is borne out by a technical defect. Chamberlain's declaration of war was heard in New Zealand on a Monday. It was delivered in England on Sunday. Jack Smith heard it, and in a burst of justifiable patriotism he grabbed his hat, kissed his mother goodbye and dashed out to join the

Air Force. That would not have been possible, for there were no recruiting offices open on that Sunday morning. Fact was sacrificed for dramatic effect.

The fund and weights of the material was rather apt to over-strain the medium. "No Man Stands Apart" would make an excellent novel or a film. Its canvas and scope are rather too broad for concentrated play form. The author is reporting a trivial experience arising out of unique circumstances. If it is an expression of his expressed idea that "Prose is adapted to the person or persons to which it is addressed," then with last Thursday's audience of "rabbits" he succeeded. But some of us who appreciate good drama would prefer to be educated rather than entertained by such an author. The Noel Cowards and Philip Gibbs are doing that sort of thing adequately enough. Noel Coward used the same plan in "Cavalcade." If he had had a University education he could have included academic quotations too.

My total impression was (without being disrespectful) Professor Sewell's brain having a vomit. R.A.S.

PERSONAL

Sweetheart—Same time, same day, same place, same way—Your same Darling.

For Adoption—Baby elephant, fair complexion, three months, from good home. All enquiries confidential.—Write 142.

The Time is Nigh—What are YOU going to do about it?

126—897, 654. 321 X—O—621.

If Jonathan S. Jones, who left his wife and family in Taupiri twenty-seven years ago, rings 96-656, he will learn something to his disadvantage.

Would lady in raincoat who waved to gentleman standing outside P.O. with letter in one hand and stamp in the other last Tuesday, please meet him at same time on Friday fortnight.

Lucy—Foosey, toosey, woosey—Goosey.

THE EDITOR REGRETS

Entries from Freshers for our "First Impressions" competition have been very disappointing (three in number) and we do not feel that the standard of any of the entries received warranted either the prize-money or publication. We should, however, like to thank the three entrants for the initiative and interest they showed.

* * *

One is always alone in suffering; the fact is depressing when one happens to be the sufferer, but it makes pleasure possible for the rest of the world.

—Aldous Huxley.

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