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CRACCUM

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MANPOWER & THE STUDENT

Mr. H. L. Bockett, Director of National Service, recently addressed the N.Z.U.S.A. on the subject of the obligations of university students for wartime service. We print some extracts from this rather lengthy statement.

The obligations of university students for war-time service are two-fold. There is the liability under the National Service Emergency Regulations, 1940, of male students for service in the Armed Forces, and there is also the liability under the Industrial Manpower Emergency Regulations, 1944, of all persons, male or female, and irrespective of age, for direction to work of national importance.

GENERAL POLICY

It may be well first to refer to the general policy of the National Service Department in regard to postponement of service in the Armed Forces of students. War Cabinet has directed that in respect of male University students pursuing a full-time course of study in medicine, dentistry, science, engineering, architecture or agriculture who by reason of age and medical grading have a present liability for mobilisation in the Armed Forces, postponement of such service may be granted on appeal (made if necessary by the Director of National Service). No such postponement shall be continued unless the student pursues his studies diligently and effectively, nor shall any such postponement be granted or continued unless the Director of National Service is satisfied that it is in the National interest to maintain the minimum number of students in any particular course estimated to be necessary to meet the urgent requirements of the Armed Forces and of essential industry.

Law and Commerce students will not be permitted to take courses as full-time students except in cases of most exceptional merits.

Postponements of service granted to students approved by the Director of National Service, are subject to periodical review and there is no undertaking that postponements will be renewed year by year even though a student's academic performance may have been entirely satisfactory. Owing to changed circumstances it may not be possible in the public interest to continue postponements already granted. In these circumstances students would be well advised to make the best progress possible in each year so that if studies are necessarily interrupted by service in the Forces students will have covered at least a material portion of their studies.

Only in exceptional cases and unless there is good reason therefore can students who have completed their degree course be approved to pursue studies for some other degree. Further approval for proceeding to a Master's degree will be favourably viewed only in respect of students who have shown very special merit.

In view of the critical manpower situation during the 1943-44 summer vacation and of the urgent need for labour in various industries, particularly during March, which was the most critical month for seasonal activities, it became necessary to utilise the services of students through various industrial avenues and further to request the University of New Zealand to postpone the opening date of the first term for one

month. As a result over 4,000 students were brought under direction and I should like to express to those concerned my deep appreciation of their splendid service and co-operation. The nature of the work undertaken covered seasonal requirements of high priority, including farming, orchards, vegetable growing, freezing works, dairy factories, engineering, wool store, medical, scientific, hospital, domestic, commerce, Government and other work of national importance.

EARLY START NEXT YEAR

As yet it is rather early for me to be able to indicate the extent to which students will have to be called upon during the approaching summer, but the indications are that it will be possible to avoid making any request for an extension of the University vacation. I would say quite definitely, however, that there will be a need for assistance from students in various avenues of work of national importance and that, apart from an extension of holidays for the purpose, much the same measures can be expected to apply this summer as applied last summer.

I would make a particular request to students, first of all to give the Manpower Officers the maximum of co-operation and to bear in mind the difficulties which those officers themselves are confronted with; and secondly, if they have any cause for complaint, to make it known fully and specifically to the Manpower Officer without delay. You may rest assured that Manpower officers will do their utmost to avoid valid causes of complaint, or, where such unavoidably arise, to remove them quickly.

The types of work to which students will be directed are likely to be much the same as last summer, preference being given to open-air work to the greatest extent that the urgency of national needs will permit. Students can also expect a reasonable break between finishing their examinations and commencing holiday work and a further short break between finishing that work and resuming classes. Students are called up for this vacation work, however, only because of the urgency of the national need. It is a call to National Service and a duty in the same sense as any other national service. I stress this point because, while we shall do as much as possible to meet the circumstances of students and to safeguard their reasonable welfare, I would not like any student to be under the false impression that the obligation required of him is one that can be mollified to his or her convenience without regard to the national interest, or that his or her duty is in any sense a lesser duty than similar ones necessarily imposed on other citizens. But over all, and particularly in the light of your fine response last summer, I do not anticipate that any such attitude will be found, and I certainly feel assured that whatever call it may be necessary to make for students' help will be answered fully and willingly.

PACIFIC DIARY

We print below some extracts from a letter sent to the Editor by L. A. C. Cogan, a student of A.U.C. who is at present serving with the Air Force at Guadalcanal.

Have had a trip into the jungle on each of the last two Sundays. Unfortunately the first was spoilt by our getting caught in a tropical thunderstorm, and we were forced to spend so long sheltering in a native hut that it soon became too late to attempt to reach our destination. Although we saw a little native life here and there—some people were sheltering with us—we had no choice but to come back home. We tried again last Sunday: the Administration Officer, a couple of Aircrew Warrant Officers, my sergeant, and little me, L.A.C. We picked up our American friends down the road a wee way. They are members of the V-mail Photographic Unit and naturally have cameras and film to burn, including movies, too; so, armed with cigarettes, tobacco, underclothing, matches, gum, "cookies," and "Dollairs," off we set forth from the "quad" at seven o'clock, and drove and drove until we could drive no farther—to the banks of the Great Grey Greasy Baranda River. Out we swarmed and into the river, boots off, pants off, to wade across; then on the other side the native boys met us, but none felt like "You show us Mind-ing, we give you cig'rets."

Jungle and Villagers.

Well, some of the lads knew the way, so, nothing loath, we launched off into the jungle; single file through trails where not so long ago men lurked waiting to kill. It was damp, smelly, dark; a mass of twisted tree roots and vines underfoot, birds, bugs, spiders and all sorts and kinds of creepy-crawly things—things you can't see, things that you just hear. We went over little streams on the craziest of rickety log bridges, through little villages, where a few mangy dogs and tiny naked brown children run out to greet the "white visitors," where all the women run to lock themselves in the dingy huts at the approach of strangers. You must be gentle with these people; offend them and they'll have nothing to do with you. It's the hardest thing in the world to get a snap of a "Mary": the surest way is to conceal yourself along the trail, and, like as not, in a while down will come a "Mary," nothing but a grass skirt on, probably balancing a big basket on her head as she walks briskly along, with a picaninny trailing around somewhere. Then come some of the hideous old men of the village with their betelnut; they bite off a piece of the nut, dip a long stick into a tube containing lime, stuff that in the mouth, and finally add a handful of leaves. Ghastly. Little kiddies of three or four hang round for "cig'rets."

Hymns and "Dollairs."

We reached our destination by late morning, and I was very interested to notice that the populace was then in church. Naturally we were not able to go within the low grass building, but I stood outside to listen to the rapid speech of the native missionary, who, I was later amazed to find, was a strikingly handsome youth of fifteen or so, Stephen by name. Inside they were singing their hymns in the highest of wailing voices and joining in prayer with a confused murmur of sound. A few pagans loafed around the

village, but for the most part it appeared that everyone poured out of that dim, low hut into the light of day. The youngsters were clad in their Sunday best—gay little print skirts, and silver dollars and necklaces around their necks.

Then the trading started in earnest; but they're too damn' civilised here: all they want is "Dollair, dollair!" Apparently they have all the stocks they want in the way of "smokes," clothes, and tinned foods to last them until the next time some fool thinks of starting a war in these parts. It must be money. They have nothing but the inevitable war-club to give us. And aren't the clubs rough: mass production, I think, for the "poor ignorant white man."

I saw a club that I had my heart set on, and called over the vendor, a bright young blood of some seven winters. "How much you want for war club?"

"Three dollair or three cartons of cig'rets."

"Up you, brother. I give you one carton cig'rets, two packets tobac, matches, razor blades. You sell?"

Dubious manner indicates that it isn't really his and that he's working on a commission basis. So off he runs to ask his next-of-kin or managing director, and returns to say, "He no take. No sell."

But he did stick around long enough to pester me into giving him—yes, gratis—a packet of blades.

That Touch of Civilisation

We chatted to the chief awhile, and admired the pin-ups of Betty Grable and Dorothy Lamour inside the huts, the cutting of the British fleet, and the notice in native which, we were assured, told us to keep our city clean—it was a clean village, too. A few more cig'rets brought to light a volunteer to shin up a tree for a few choice "paw paw," which really, did disappear quickly.

Then, with many forced grins and waves, we took our leave of these dear, innocent children of Wall Street, to go in search of some of their less financially-minded brethren. I thought I might get away with a little something by showing coins instead of the more common notes. So out I hauled two dime pieces and two nickels, thinking "this will baffle him." But quick as a flash the little nigger said contemptuously, "Let me see. Three dime. No good. Two dollars me want." Vale, vale, vale, Rothschild.

VALE

I wish to thank all those whose co-operation throughout the year has made "Craccum" not only possible, but readable, in particular my staff.

To Ken Bain and Ivan Pattison, co-editors, of "Craccum," 1945, I wish every success.

And, to all readers of the paper, I wish good luck in their examinations, happy vacations and a good year in 1945.

T.W.

Logan Pearsall Smith: "There are two things to aim at in life: first, to get what you want; and, after that, to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind get the second."

VACATION WORK

At a special interview with Mr. C. G. Ellis, Auckland District Manpower Officer, we received some information concerning the work to which A.U.C. students are likely to be directed during the coming vacation. Mr. Ellis expressed his appreciation of the cheerful, competent job done by students last year and their willing assistance throughout a difficult season. Out of many hundreds of students directed, only three complained to the Manpower Office in Auckland. This itself speaks for the successful manner in which the scheme was carried out both by students and by the Manpower authorities.

It is gratifying to hear appreciative comments of our efforts. We must attempt to earn this appreciation again. This year Manpower demands are not so rigid. To answer them with a spirit of co-operation is the least we can do.

Students should acquaint themselves with the following facts and avoid unnecessary questioning of local officials, who will have enough to worry about.

(1) There will be no extension of the summer vacation this year. The first University term will therefore commence as usual early in March.

(2) All students doing thesis research and all senior students required for special laboratory work will be exempt from direction. The Dean of the Faculty concerned must recommend such exemption.

(3) No dairy factory work will be required of male students under 21 years, unless it is unavoidable. No female students will be sent to dairy factories.

(4) After the Degree examinations there will be a break of two weeks before the commencement of work.

(5) Female students may be sent to hospitals for ward and kitchen work. In such cases the duration of employment will be one month and no further direction will take place.

(6) The following are the main classes of work to which students will be sent:

Men: Wool stores, freezing works, farms, orchards, vegetable gardens.

Women: Farms, vegetable gardens, hospitals, domestic work on farms, other suitable employment of reasonable priority.

(7) Students will be interviewed as last year by Manpower officials at the University and Training Colleges.

WHAT? WHERE? WHY?

These are words that demand an answer. Here it is.

CARNIVAL — PROCESSION — REVUE

For many years Carnival has been a major student activity. This year Carnival just was not. 1945 is going to see Carnival in all its glory, a Carnival unsurpassed in beauty, wit and fun. But its success depends upon the effort put into it over the Christmas vacation and the early weeks of the first term.

Carnival takes up the last week of the first term and includes a Procession through Queen Street and a Revue of four to five nights' duration.

Your Committee has been appointed and we want Suggestions. You who have criticised this past year—trot out those suggestions. Our most urgent need is a script for Revue.

Write a Revue over the Christmas Vac.—Write a Revue that will live in history as the most brilliant achievement of your life!!

NOW GET CRACKIN'—WRITE FOR CARNIVAL.

TIT BITS

Thrice armed is he who hath his quarrel just,
And six times he who gets his bribe in fust.

I said she looked a million, and I meant every day of it.

No one who keeps kicking you in the pants can ever get ahead of you.

"Ah me!" exclaimed the henpecked man,
"When all is said and done,
Tis better to have loved and lost,
Than to have loved and won."

A canner exceedingly canny,
One morning remarked to his granny,
"A canner can can
Anything that he can,
But a canner can't can a can, can he?"

The hardest thing about your leisure is to stop other people from using it.

PROF. RUTHERFORD REPLIES

We print below Prof. Rutherford's reply to the student criticism of his report.

I think it was Trotsky who said that "the objective tone is not permissible in history." It is equally inappropriate in discussing public questions, where what matters chiefly is accurate relevant facts and straightforward thinking. In the recent comments on my report, there have been some misapprehensions, and a few odd twists of thought. May I clarify one or two points of fact? I shall leave your readers to do their own thinking.

1. My report did not mention progress in the second term, because it was made at the end of the first term, and was based exclusively upon first term marks. For the fact that it was not published till August, or, indeed, for the fact that it was published at all, I am not responsible.

2. What I wrote was not a deliberate "attack" upon Stage I students, but a purely factual report on marks and standards made to the Professorial Board at the Boards' request. I thought it was necessary to speak the plain truth. This is a habit that gets me into a lot of trouble, but I am utterly unregenerate about it.

3. I can understand that Stage I students should find my report severe, even that some should consider it "excessive"; but I cannot conceive how it could be "unexpected," as I had spent at least an hour and a half in making the same report to the class, with profuse illustrations and with even more severe comments than those I forwarded officially to the Board. In calling attention to illiteracy, I was desperately serious—"pleasing jocundity" does not do justice to my mood. That the class should laugh at muddled sentences and barbarous mis-spellings is perhaps natural, but I hope they will learn to take their pleasures seriously.

4. It should be unnecessary, but perhaps I should add that, to the best of my ability, I have endeavoured to offer constructive criticism—both to the class, by going through the paper in detail and indicating how it should be handled, and to the Board, by suggesting remedies for the situation.

SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD

I think that I shall never see
A billboard lovely as a tree.
Perhaps, unless the billboards fall,
I'll never see a tree at all.

—Ogden Nash.

The fish, when he's exposed to air,
Can show no trace of savoir-faire,
But in the sea regains his balance
And exploits all his many talents.
The chastest of the vertebrates,
He never even sees his mates,
But when they're finished, he appears
And O.k.'s all their bright ideas.

—Ogden Nash.

Salvador Dali: "I do not paint a portrait to look like the subject. Rather does the person grow to look like the portrait."

Marc Connolly: "Even bein' Gawd ain't a bed of roses."

Success Story—A certain chief we know says he started from scratch. Now he itches all over.

A CHALLENGE FROM MASON

R. A. K. Mason, the poet and author, addressed the Literary Club at its Annual General Meeting. Before a gathering of about fifty members, he spoke on "Some Immediate Literary Questions." The presentation of his subject was stimulating and a keen discussion followed.

The first point he made was one about which he felt very strongly—the lack of turbulence in student activities. He had throughout a tone of sincere concern about our quiet acceptance of so many things; and wherever we looked for the more definite application to ourselves in what he said, this point seemed the tenour of it all—the lack of turbulence.

Those who decry "the necessity for writers to have a social conscience" were very foolish. For literature and the other arts are, he said, part of the general social process. It is imperative to be aware that we do have a social conscience: if New Zealanders have "a habit of setting out to reform the world," they are to be praised, not censured. He believed New Zealand was approaching a period of national maturity. Its adolescence was passing, and a greater interest in the work of our more direct pioneers was highly desirable. Sir George Grey had made a sound beginning and, in more recent years, Satchell, Cowan, and Jane Mander had carried on in that tradition.

Mr. Mason stressed the two main national influences on New Zealand thought. First, the Maori Wars—we forgot their importance and the profound effect they had. Secondly, the depression. In the early thirties New Zealand found itself abreast of the times. In Auckland "Phoenix," originally a literary magazine, tended to devote itself to social questions; in Wellington, the Victoria College journal, which began as a social and political organ, became in time more like a literary magazine.

He spoke warmly of the strong internationalism which existed in the years of depression. There was good team work then among the students. But what was the effect of this war? Had we been at all turbulent since 1939? We had none of the Croat's passion for his country and none of the Maori's craving for revenge.

In concluding, Mr. Mason pointed out a more immediate social influence—the influx of Allied forces. As happens whenever a weaker civilisation has come in contact with a stronger (not a better) one, we had been influenced by the worst elements. What was the effect of this on our literature?

After Mr. Mason's address, we came away feeling ashamed of students, ashamed of the gathering that had come to see a poet in the flesh. For we, all of us, have done little that is vital. During the war years, many of us have been talking and writing about little more than petty social scandal; even those who aim a little higher too often devote themselves to sport or to club activities, both of which necessarily have a purely coincidental and superficial relation to society as a whole.

It is time this college snapped out of its unthinking stupor and its adolescent selfishness.

R.I.F.P.

Daniel Webster: "God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are always ready to guard and defend it."

Charles Dickens: "Probably every new and eagerly expected garment ever put on since clothes came in, fell a trifle short of the wearer's expectations."

CLUB SECS.

All Club Secretaries are requested to hand in to "Craccum" a write-up of their Club for insertion in the first issue next year. The success of your Club in 1945 will depend upon its early advertisement. This is in your interests!

DON'T FORGET!

Note: Write-ups are NOT to exceed 150 words and should include aims, general activities of the club concerned and a list of its executive members.



KIWI, 1944

This "Kiwi" seems to me less bad than it has been in the past few years, almost, one might say, better. The proportion of prose to verse is more rationally preserved, so that the magazine has a more immediate appeal and interest for the vulgar mind. The articles are a healthy feature, especially that on George Lydon, of whom I had never heard, "Juries and Justice," and "Religion and Reason." These things are interesting to read on their own merits and not merely as every student's duty.

Unfortunately the execution, in both poems and short stories, falls so far short of the idea that it draws irritated attention to itself and so detracts from the pleasure of sincere feeling. The irregularity of much of the verse is expressive only of carelessness in expression. "In Noumea the pins are moved about" is scarcely an auspicious opening to a poem. It is not convincing in sound, apart from the irresistible impulse to read "pines." In so far as the verse can be called metrical the metres are angular and unattractive. I humbly submit that it is impossible to read smoothly, as it deserves, such a poem as "The Encounter." The rime-scheme appears merely fortuitous because it is incompatible with the beat of the words. Other poems present the reader with the impossible combination of free verse and rime—or perhaps the verse is intended to be metrical. Such poems are not sufficiently "things made." They are moods cut off in slices and flung to the reader before any attempt has been made to mould them into a significant form. T. C. W. especially, seems to stop work on her verse when it is only half-way completed. The result is, except perhaps in "At a Lecture on War Poetry," that, in spite of energetic anger, her work is less effective than some slighter pieces. If poetry deals in passing moods its language must make them permanent.

The exceptions to the rule of bad writing are immediately distinguished by their clearer outlines and higher polish. "Death on the Assumption" is remarkable for its objective treatment. It can stand by itself. "Midnight Rain" is pleasantly and appropriately hazy in sound. (But why "cacophonous" voices?) Perhaps it is in "Lorelei" and the poem about the swan that words are most self-consciously and most successfully arranged. In such a line as

"Watched her lips move dreaming, call me on"

the words are set in a pattern, not merely flung on to the paper. "More Fools than Wise" has a sensitive but firm management of assonance. "The Fountain" gives an impression of three-dimensional solidity, and the laughter comes from deep inside it.

Of the prose, all the articles are more interesting than the short stories. The idea of "The Woman Hater" is good, but the speeches of the American are much more convincing than those of the girl. A whole article devoted to a plea for a national theatre would have been acceptable, but the one on University Drama, mainly a criticism of the aims of Dramatic Club, should have been published in "Craccum."

On the whole, then, I think writers have been quick to scorn the "meretricious ornaments" of language, and have thereby forfeited the advantage of being read more than once. But perhaps after all "Kiwi" is really a "better" bird. Next year we may look for something absolutely good.

J.M.C.

George Payne Rainsford James: "Age is the most terrible misfortune that can happen to any man; other evils will mend; this is every day getting worse."

THE MOON GOES DOWN AND STAYS THERE!

"The Moon is Down" represents Hollywood in one of its rare grown-up moods," writes the film critic of the "N.Z. Listener." I can only reply that Hollywood must then be prematurely old, for it is a strange combination of wisdom and lack of it that is the peculiar characteristic of "The Moon is Down." The wisdom was possibly Steinbeck's; the lack of it is certainly Hollywood's.

The basis of both film and book is the interplay and contrast of character, as evidenced in the minds of victors and vanquished in occupied Norway. The subject is something more than the everlasting theme of the goody versus the baddy perked up with a wartime flavour of the indomitable Commando opposing the unimaginative Nazi with a few martyr-minded neutrals thrown in to gild the lily. No, there is a real attempt to get behind all this conventional ballyhoo into something far more deeply human and insensibly tragic. At least in the film, this attempt appears to fail. Why?

First, because the essential study of character contrast is almost solely dependent upon dialogue and upon effect of action rather than action itself. Here it is the work of Steinbeck which lays the faulty foundation, for the dialogue of the film, although of such paramount importance, is yet peculiarly unsuccessful and inept! It ranges from the jingoistic mouthings of the German captain and the subtly insinuating murmurings of the perplexed Colonel Lanser, to the soul-revealing utterances of the doctor and the tired bewilderment of the mayor. All this, however, to me it seems merely conventional propaganda with a new twist.

Secondly, the film is quite remarkable for its prolific complement of elementary production blunders. The most conspicuous were the German captain with his reiterated guttural "attitood of the people" and the appalling (even for Hollywood!) stagey outdoor scenes. One in particular, of snow-laden trees, gave the appearance of a broken-down Spanish galleon somewhat out of its usual environment. It was also rather interesting to hear harsh-voiced German officers romantically ordering Norwegian hostages to "Right Face."

Thirdly, for sheer vulgarity and lack of tasteful restraint, the background music defies adequate description. From the opening sequence to the final deification of undying patriotism at the close of the film, Max Steiner or another of his breed rained solidly upon the ears. I hesitate to suggest that the value of background music is frequently its absence.

Finally the acting: Cedric Hardwicke is the usual competent Cedric Hardwicke, and Henry Travers as the mayor of Selvik shows sensibility and depth of interpretation in his role. The little quisling, too, does his bit admirably. His very success was our compelling urge to wring his greasy neck. On the other hand, the girl (Doris Bowden) is poor. Her acting is stony and unimpressive, and, especially in her scene with the homesick German lieutenant, leaves one perplexed and yet certain that even she herself did not understand what emotions she was supposed to register.

Good Moments: (1) The mayor's slip on the way to the community scaffold and his thanks to the German soldier who aided him. A sublime moment this, at which the audience saw fit to laugh. (2) Colonel Lanser's delicious remark to his captain: "What makes you think you are more clever than they?"

K.R.B.

THE NEW EDUCATION

AN INTERVIEW

We were ushered into the presence of the Eminent Authority on the New Education. His study was furnished in New Taste. We began by remarking on the lucidity of the reports: already published; but we explained that there were just one or two, or perhaps three, points on which we were not quite enlightened.

We mentioned first the teaching of foreign languages. Did he think such subjects were a waste of time? "Yes," he said. "Yes." He was a man of few words. Did he then hope to see the complete abolition of such unentertaining subjects. "Yes," he said. (He was a man of few words.)

"Quite," we said. We had once received a consolation prize for Latin, so we were rather sorry, but naturally we had no intention of standing in the Path of Progress. The Eminent Authority himself had possessed a Certain Insight which enabled him to follow a better course of instruction.

"What about religious teaching?" we asked (alas!) hopefully. "What are your views?" There was silence for a moment—you could have heard a rolling-pin drop. The Authority looked at us, Eminent. We should have realised then, but with a careless abandon we repeated our question. As soon as we had done this, we emitted an inward gasp. Had we committed a faux pas? What could we do? We tried to remember what we had read about such occasions in our "Journalism with Effortless Ease" (revised edition, 3/9).

"Of course, that would take a long time to answer fully," we hurriedly effused. He nodded. "We must not attempt to influence the child." We agreed—we must not attempt to influence the child.

We asked a few questions about the origin of the New Education.

"Well," he replied, "actually, we are following in the footsteps of"—he lowered his voice—"a certain Allied country."

"Quite," we replied. He was a man of few words, but we saw that he was really moved. "Go on," we urged breathlessly. "Go on."

"The child must discover everything for himself. The ideal is to have a completely informal syllabus. Think of the enjoyment the child will find in going to school! Freedom to follow pleasant pursuits in his own way." We thought of the teacher, too, but, of course, we knew no sacrifice was too great to pave the way for the coming generation.

"Ah, the child, the child!" he enthused. We basked in the reflected glow of this Eminence, but we suddenly remembered another interview we had scheduled for that afternoon.

The Authority bade us farewell, and as we walked down the hall we heard his New Enlightened Tones—

"All the world's a school
All the men and women merely
scholars . . ."



EXECUTIVE MEETING

25th SEPTEMBER

The Students' Association Executive have now held their final meeting of the year, and a copy of the minutes has been posted up in the Students' Block. The following are the principal items of business discussed:

Easter Tournament at Auckland, 1945. Next year's revived Inter-University Tournament is to take place in Auckland, and Tournament Committee has been set up with the two Sports delegates, W. Wilkins and D. Grace, at its head. It was proposed that provision be made for the inclusion of those contestants who by reason of war conditions have been debarred from Tournament since it was last held in 1941.

The Grants Committee has now met, and grants have been approved to a majority of clubs. In view of the difficulties attending applications this year, it was resolved that clubs which have not yet asked for their grant be still allowed to approach the committee. There was a strong expression of opinion that Grants Committee should continue to sit promptly and regularly in all future years.

Mr Mackie, Chairman of Carnival Committee, was empowered to select the personnel of his committee for ratification by Executive. If all goes well, Carnival is to be revived in 1945, and we hope that Procession and Revue will be held prior to graduation ceremony.

Provision was made for repairs to the men's letter rack; and it was decided that the Transport Board be asked to provide a tram-shelter for users of the Symonds Street stop during winter. It was recommended to the Professorial Board that a suitable room be provided in the Arts Block for approved students living in lodgings, who desire to study during the week-ends.

Concern was expressed at the increasing prevalence of gambling in the Common Rooms, and members were instructed to enforce strictly the college rule against this form of amusement.

KIWI

Professor Sewell did not judge any contribution to "Kiwi" to be worthy of an award.

WILLIE'S WONDERLAND

Praise to:

Willie Haresnape and Joan Sweetman on their engagement.

Kicks to:

The bourgeoisie who patronise engagement columns.

CRACCUM, 1945

Copy for the first issue will close on February 15th, 1945. If you want a good "Craccum" next year, get busy over the vacation.

Remember!! Write on one side of the paper only. Sign your name, and add a nom-de-plume if you so wish.

If a certain person does not cease molesting Blondie, action will be taken.

HAVE YOU bought your "Kiwi" yet? It is still on sale at the Librarian's desk.

OVERHEARD AT EXEC. MEETING

Re the alleged mis-use of Caf. . .
Who?
Loud laughter.

OPEN FORUM

"KIWI"

Madam,—

The other day, to show that I had some interest in the A.U.C., I bought a KIWI and I must say I was terribly disappointed. Is KIWI supposed to be our annual magazine? Perhaps it is, but actually it is the magazine of only a small section of the A.U.C., namely, budding authors. For a good magazine you must have all sections represented. Where, for instance, is the most important part of University life—Sport. You complain about the apathy of the students, but I don't blame them, when all they can get in their annual magazine is a half-baked attempt at literature. If instead, you planned KIWI after the style of all school magazines, and made the greater part of it consist of the annual reports of all clubs, sporting and cultural, I think you would be doing everybody a lot of good, for as well as increasing the sale of KIWI you would have a permanent record of 'Varsity activities.

Hoping that this suggestion will be looked into.

"SPORT."

"UNIVERSITY DRAMA."

Madam,—

It is a great pity that the Publications Committee have spoilt a progressive year of good work by consistently falling down on their criticisms of the drama, both in and out of this College, and by allowing their critic, R.A.S., to exhibit his "taste" for the fourth time this year in their otherwise excellent "Kiwi." R.A.S. has condescended to tell the hard-working Dramatic Club that competent observers—and apparently he thinks he is such a one—have discovered in English universities that most students are members of the Dramatic Club solely for what they can get out of it! Wherever else R.A.S. in his wide experience of college life may have found this utilitarian deduction pertinent, it is not so here; the plays we have read and performed this year could not have given anyone any help in the study of Shakespeare and the Elizabethans.

Your R.A.S. then proceeds to accuse most of our members of frustrating "with their silly antics" the efforts of the better actors among us, and of developing "very quickly into the worst kind of exhibitionists." This is apparently his opinion of the work of the crowds in "No Man Stands Apart"—but then R.A.S. was prejudiced from the start against that play, because the unfortunate author incurred his (R.A.S.'s) professional censure by presuming to give a reading of his play to the college! When R.A.S. has been here a little longer he may realise that the Dramatic Club uses its readings as a means of interesting the students of this college in drama—of presenting them with as many different plays in a year as we can manage with limited time and materials. Your R.A.S. proceeds further to indulge in a hair-brained scheme of establishing a chair of Drama in the College! The uselessness of this scheme (except to the Professor) is rather obvious when one considers that we have only a puny N.Z. drama to be chaired and that the new theatre in N.Z., as in America, will come from within the living theatre. It may, however, be assisted in its experiments by College Drama.

R.A.S. then suggests a new plan for Dramatic Club to create "good critical audiences"; this has some signs of commonsense in it, but why didn't R.A.S. do the decent thing and come to our A.G.M., which is the proper place to offer suggestions? Instead

of this open course, he published after our A.G.M. his one good idea wrapped in a bundle of precocious abuse and second-hand suggestions, and spread across the pages of our annual magazine.

Were you so very short of good, clean, honest material?

R. T. ROBERTSON.

"CRACCUM."

Madam,—

I think this year's "Craccum" committee should be complimented on their success in placing the newspaper well in the public eye. They set out at the beginning of their year with the intention of making Craccum a very provocative and live "mag." This they certainly did, but were their methods the best that could have been chosen? For they have published throughout the year at least one critical article per issue which was intended to "wake up" the college, but which generally annoyed those criticised by its gratuitous slurs and insults. Last year's committee created sensation after sensation so that each "fresh" issue of CRACCUM was eagerly snapped up; next year's committee would do well to avoid this policy by striking out a line to maintain the interest and the public that CRACCUM now has. With all best wishes for your year.

R. T. ROBERTSON.

FRESHERS' COUNCIL

Madam,—

The Freshers' Council will have noticed that at this time the majority of organisations are presenting accounts of their achievements during the year. The rumour that another is to be constituted next year prompts me to wonder if those whom the council represents are to be favoured with an account of its proceedings. Though it was to die a fortnight after its constitution, it appears to have continued to linger on its deathbed, presumably preparatory to confession. In my opinion this is overdue, and I would urge that the council dispel the accounts of its ineptitude and incapacity by publishing a full report of its activity or lack of it.

M.J.

ALMA MATER

Dear Madam,—

It appears to me that, instead of swearing at students in outspoken letters in CRACCUM it may be more effective to attack the problem of student apathy from a different angle.

On enrolling as a Fresher in this College, one is forced to join the Students' Association as part of the paper work attendant upon entering the University. One merely regrets the loss of the 25/- in my opinion the student should be made to feel an integral part of a Club, by means of a serious and impressive initiation ceremony, preferably with an air of something akin to mystery about it, to give the Fresher the impression that he is being honoured and privileged to become a member of a "real Club."

To those who may be amused at the "air of mystery" mentioned above, I would point out that a large percentage of eminent citizens belong to so-called "secret societies" (which are powerful organisations all over the world, including N.Z.) whose ritual (supposedly ancient) depends largely on an air of mystery.

In America, the student fraternities are designated by Greek letters (e.g., the Sigma Kappa) and are Clubs to which graduates, in later life, are proud to belong. We superior New Zealanders, of course, have far too much common sense to inaugurate any such system—and student apathy stays.

I was deeply impressed, recently, by a radio programme of Alma Mater

songs of the various Universities of America—songs such as "Cheer, cheer for Old Notre Dame" which are known throughout the world. We have no College song. May I suggest that CRACCUM run a competition (with, if possible, a suitable prize) for the writing of a College song? Functions of the type similar to the "Sing-Song" held in 1943 (but not primarily for the purpose of imbibing liquor) should be organised. All such events foster that elusive esprit de corps so sadly lacking in this College.

PETER W. TAYLOR.

MORE HISTORY HOLOCAUST

Madam,—

"Professor Rutherford has rudely shocked his Stage I students," says History III. History III's remarks have certainly rudely shocked me. Let me deal with one or two points that History III makes, or tries to make, for I cannot but feel the truth of the sub-leader which says "The Stage III student seems to be working off a little private grudge against the Professor."

History III goes straight to the heart of the problem when he points out that "these students were beginning to accommodate themselves to the educational methods of the University." But more credit to the Professor for bringing home to us the fact that "pupils have not been taught at school how to read accurately and profitably." Knowledge gained at the secondary school is very much of the "spoon-fed" variety. The student is told everything; he does nothing for himself. Professor Rutherford is justified in his remarks if our University students are only "beginning to accommodate themselves to the educational methods of the University," and this at the end of the first term.

History III describes the Professor's report as a "diatribe." Did History III really find the report boringly long? From his remarks, no. Then why does he call the report a diatribe? He further says that those who agree with the Professor's remarks are belabouring our well-tryed system of secondary education, "not realising . . . that their iconoclastic activities . . . etc." If History III thinks that those who find fault with our present system are iconoclasts, then I would say, "So what!" Let us be sure that we do not make idols of our "systems" because they have been "well-tryed." Healthy criticism is what is wanted if we are to advance, and the Professor has given healthy criticism.

Finally, Madam, History III suggests "that the Professor . . . offer constructive criticism to his students." I, too, have taken Stage I with Professor Rutherford and I have always found the Professor most meticulous in his criticisms. I have still to find a member of the staff who goes to greater pains in offering advice. I have still to find another member of the staff who goes to the length of discussing with the class the answers to essay subjects and examination questions. I am not quite so foolish that I despise the suggestions of Professor Rutherford.

ANOTHER HISTORY III.

A QUESTION OF GRAMMAR

Madam,—

In the last issue of CRACCUM there appeared an article by me over the name "History Honours" which, by the way, was not what I wrote at the bottom of the manuscript. In your editorial you said, "The opinions submitted by the Honours student, surprisingly, were not even expressed in correct English, and the article required a great deal of re-editing."

That is, you accused me of using bad English, and said that my grammar and/or syntax required correction. May I take the liberty of examining your alterations?

Five sentences in all were deleted. Two of these constituted a short introduction. Of the other three one was an essential part of my opinion. I do not deny you the privilege of deleting portions of a contribution for the sake of brevity—that is part of an editor's work. Possibly all of these were justifiable alterations. However it is not with them that I am concerned, because they do not form part of the charge of bad English.

Five alterations were made which indicated disagreement with my use of the English language. I wrote, "That can not be said of all the 'improvements' in this country. Nor can it be said with any certainty of the new curriculum for the secondary schools, particularly in regard to those pupils intending to enter University." You chose to make it one sentence by placing a comma after "country." That is a matter of style, and, after all, the article was mine. You substituted "this" for "that," and "with" for "in" in the phrase "in regard to." What rules or conventions of usage did I disobey? Again you substituted "about" for "of" in the phrase "uncertainty of the quality of the training in his school." I suggest there is room for disagreement here, in which case the change was pedantic. Worst of all, Madam, you deprived a clause of its verb and a sentence of its meaning. I wrote, "That would seem to be the case when students who, far from being able to make their meaning clear, cannot even construct a simple English sentence, have been admitted to the University." The clause I refer to is, "when students . . . have been admitted to the University." By deleting the last six words you rendered the sentence incomplete. That is exactly what Prof. Rutherford objected to—the inability of students to construct a simple English sentence. Thus not one example of your "great deal of editing" was justifiable on the grounds of bad usage.

Madam, I consider that the above examination does not bear out your charge that I possess a "lamentable lack of command" over my own language. On the contrary, I think it shows that you exceeded your prerogative of editing, and, in doing so, exposed yourself to a similar charge in addition to one of bad taste.

PETER E. DEMPSEY.

[As Mr. Dempsey has unfortunately retained the controversial M.S., my comments upon his letter are not as full as I should wish. I should first like to quote from Fowlers' "The King's English": "It is often impossible to convince a writer that the preposition he has used is a wrong one, because there is no reason in the nature of things, in logic, or in the principles of universal grammar, why that preposition should not give the desired meaning as clearly as the one we tell him he should have used." In the cases in which Mr. Dempsey accuses me of pedantry, I can only reply that my corrections involved points of idiom. As far as actual bad grammar and syntax are concerned, if my memory serves, Mr. Dempsey made only one bad blunder, but even one is too many from an Honours student in a short, elementary letter of this type. In conclusion I should like to assure Mr. Dempsey that in my editorial I attacked, not himself as a person, but as a representative of an educational system which can allow a student to reach his final university year without being able to write a letter which requires no editing, at least in points of language.—T.W.]

(Continued on page 5)

Are We Going To Be Beastly Or Not ?

A SUMMARY

The very phrasing of this question shows a wrong attitude towards the treatment of Germany after the war. It is wrong to imagine that the Germans will either be punished as a whole or treated with sympathy as a whole. "Don't let's be beastly to the Germans" successfully satirizes the unthinking sentimentalists who utter those same words, but it is not a question of whether or not we are going to be beastly. We cannot state merely that we are going to exact punishment. We must be more explicit.

The question is a fairly live one with the public; it has been much debated in the columns of some English journals. Yet it seems that nobody has risen above the expressed opinions to make a statement in which both supporters and opponents of Vansittartism have recognised true wisdom. Nobody has put forward proposals containing evident merit.

Principles and Aims

It is clear that retribution in some form must be imposed on the Germans. But a host of questions arise—what should the punishment be? Should everyone be punished? If not, whom should we punish? Should we impose a general indemnity, and punish the leaders more severely? Our first consideration is to find the principles and aims in accordance with which we are to formulate our proposals. Most people will agree that they can be stated briefly and simply: we desire

(1) To punish those responsible for atrocities and initial acts of aggression;

(2) To prevent further outbreaks of hostilities between nations.

Before we exact any penalties it will be imperative to list all casualties, all major devastation, and atrocities; and to point out that Britain dropped pamphlets of warning and advice at the very outbreak of war.

Result of a Former Attempt

After World War I, an indemnity was imposed upon the people of the Reich. It was huge. The Germans knew this and felt it bitterly. Yet that indemnity was never paid—we gained no material advantage whatsoever. The sole "gain" was hatred towards the Britishers who had demanded so much.

Here is an extract telling how an English writer found Cologne in 1924. "When night came to end that melancholy Sunday the Hohenstrasse was filled with a moving crowd, steadily walking and talking, but never laughing, like a troupe of shades newly released from some Teutonic inferno. The cloud of depression upon the city seemed heavier even than in the daytime.... No lights illumined the opaque darkness of byways and alleys. The atmosphere in which these oppressed men and women moved so quietly was the apprehensive, unilluminated atmosphere of London during the war. . . . Along the Embankment passed a little company of girls from the League of Youth, marching and singing; they glanced at us with that half defensive malevolence which we had learned to expect, as though they were sure of being insulted and had made up their minds to get in the insult first."

Treatment of the civilian population is the more difficult problem. We know that Hitler has had the brutal types of soldier selected for special training in the art of mass-slaughter. When the time comes to deal with these wretches, there must be no softness because we are intoxicated with peace. But what of the civilian population?

Let Us Educate—the British

Many of us to-day talk vaguely about "educating" the Germans. Others indignantly exclaim that Britain and her Allies are themselves poorly fitted to undertake the re-education of another country. They refer to the existing muddle and corruption in our own countries. Their warning is timely. It is clear that the victorious nation has to perform the duty of purging the aggressors of the sadistic doctrines instilled by the Nazi Party. We hope to do this by "teaching them history from the right perspective." Yet surely we must modify the perspective of our own people. History, as it is taught in history books, is a very biased account, often consisting of patriotic propaganda and always ending on a note of proud nationalism. So the victors must teach themselves before, or at least while they set about teaching the vanquished.

Effect of the Punishment

If there is to be a general indemnity it must be paid in labour, or in supplying food for the millions who are now starving in Europe. The disarmament must be complete. And after many years, the Germans realise how enormous is the suffering they have caused, as the instrument rather than the agent, if we undertake to give them a saner outlook on life, and reveal the causes of war—even then we shall have to remember constantly the Germans, their welfare, and their outlook, before we have carried out punishment that is not merely negative, but positive in its effect.

PHYSICS STUDENTS

The author of "Pacific Diary" is also responsible for this enlightening comment:

"So the poor Physics Students are overcrowded, are they? Send 'em over here, there's plenty of room in the Pacific isles of paradise for them. Strange the interest that has been taken in the sciences since the war started. Overcrowded! I'd be damn well pleased to sit on the Tower if I could get within cooee of the College once again!"

Tramping Club Coffee Evening

Friday
Oct. 27
8 p.m.

ON THE ART OF DOING NOTHING

In contrast with the Romans who, 2,000 years ago were demonstrating their superiority by Doing Something all the time, the British nation has now cultivated and perfected the Art of Doing Nothing.

The greatest advantage of the Art of Doing Nothing is that it can take a thousand different forms, none of which calls for any effort whatsoever. The definition of this unique Art is "Complete Relaxation of the Physical Frame, accompanied by a Drift of the Mental Faculties." This state may be accomplished (1) vertically (rare); (2) at a right angle (frequent); (3) horizontally (best—but opportunities scarce).

The most notable instance of the first case occur in the Slow Fox-trot. True, this is accompanied by some slight movement, but not of a strenuous nature, as the limbs may be spread about in any direction with no aim or purpose. No mental effort is required even if conversation is called for. The Art may also be practised with some degree of success in a tram-car at 5 p.m. The rhythmic swaying of the strap tends to produce a "drowsy numbness of the sense"; and if the car is crowded enough, no physical effort is needed to remain vertical.

The second is the most common position for indulgence in the Art, as it is easiest thus to be Doing Nothing while appearing to be Doing Something. The ideal spot for the practice is a secluded corner of the Library, far removed from the Vigilant Eye, and from such of one's fellows as happen to be studiously following art—the Roman idea—i.e., Doing Something. Here, at certain hours, a little light liquid refreshment may pass unobserved.

In the lecture room two methods are possible. You may either relax ostentatiously—stretch forth the limbs, and rest the head on the desk. This is pleasant, but may antagonise the Lecturer. Or, if you prefer, cultivate a certain set of the features and concentrated stare, which gives the impression of intense mental activity and alertness, while cloaking a mental void. (This is not really difficult to acquire). The Caf, too, affords excellent opportunities under the paralysing effect of Caf. coffee. You can pass hours in this delightful way for 4d.

The horizontal is the only true, perfect and entirely satisfactory position for Doing Nothing. Unfortunately, opportunities are rare, and mostly confined to those of the professorial ilk, who possess privacy and a large desk. (N.B. Should there elapse some time between your knock at a study door and the opening thereof, be indulgent.) For the student, almost the only occasion available is in the vicinity of one's own room at home, well out of sight of the family, as one is liable to be asked to Do Something. Lie flat on the floor, with arms and legs spread unsystematically around you, and fix your gaze on the ceiling. The idle speculation on what you could do had you the aptitudes of a fly, will conduce to a pleasant sensation of aimlessness.

I trust the British Public will take to heart the tremendous importance of the Art of Doing Nothing, or the strain and anxiety of modern life may lead us to Decline and Fall as the Romans did.

M.B.

Carl Schurz: "Ideals are like stars; you will not succeed in touching them with your hands. But like the seafaring man on the desert of waters, you will choose them as your guides, and following them you will reach your destiny."

OPEN FORUM (Continued from page 4)

S.C.M. CRITICISED

Madam,—

During the past year or two I have watched with considerable interest the activities of various clubs in this college.

There is only one, however, that seems to me to be missing the mark and calls for a bit of hot criticism—I refer to the S.C.M.

I have always understood the task of the S.C.M. to be "the evangelization of the world in the present generation," but from what I've heard and seen and proved to be true, it represents everything else but that. I am quite sure that if it is going to be a living force in this college—as it is not at present—it must get back to this aim. I have failed to see among its members or adherents anything that would indicate their desire to evangelize even a section of the college let alone the whole world. In fact another religious movement has taken up the challenge and is doing a wonderful piece of work.

Yes, there's no doubt that the S.C.M. has gone to seed in A.U.C. and its high time it was replanted. John R. Mott would turn in his grave if he knew the state of things here. It's all very well to be interested in "science and religion," etc., but is that its primary task? Let's hope that it's attending to its task a little better in the other centres.

P.G.

"KIWI"

Madam,—

I note that in your esteemed journal "Kiwi" just received, the quip on page 41 attached to senior scholars, is ascribed to Isaiah. Actually it was a remark which Job made to his comforters, (Job 12.2.)

Always check your references.

Yours in Sorrow,
H. G. Forder.

The long-awaited Blondie Stokes' baby has at last put in an appearance. Well made New Zealand! Congratulations to Aunt Blondie!

A.U.C. goes into recess but "Craccum" doesn't. Copy closes Feb. 15th, 1945.

THE UNIVERSITY COACHING COLLEGE 22 FERRY BLDGS., AUCKLAND

The College specialises in Personal Tuition (Day and Evening Classes) for University Entrance and Degree Subjects. Coaching by Correspondence is also given for University Entrance, and certain University Subjects.

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Clubs And Societies

DRAMATIC CLUB'S A.G.M.

Yes, it was an A.G.M.—though the atmosphere was as far removed from the usual formality as could be imagined. "The Truth about Shakespeare" was given with as much éclat as the Dramatic Club, plus the props. cupboard, could produce. Keith Piper, as Shakespeare, presided with character verse over a somewhat motley collection of characters. Bob Robertson was a magnificent ruffian in gold and purple crepe paper, and carried out his drunk scene, with the noble assistance of brother Kate, as in the manner born. Juliet (Richard Savage to wit), was coyly feminine in white satin and curling pins, and his/her youthful slenderness was effectively contrasted with the rotundity (not wholly natural, to reassure the audience) of Nurse Peter Robinson. John Chilwell as Romeo proved dashing in black tights and top hat, and Gay Garland as La Fitch, a somewhat tarnished combination of Mae West and Veronica Lake, gave a new side-light on English tavern hostesses in general. Ivan Pattison played the supercilious Bacon to the life, if not to the clothes, while Barbara Bell as Lady B. was suitably regal, with gas-mask attached. The period perhaps was rather uncertain, but at least full use was made of the opportunities for humour.

The annual report and balance sheet was presented. As a result of "No Man Stands Apart," Dramatic Clubs will be able to give over £50 to Student Relief. New officers were elected as following:—**President**, Prof. Sewell; **Student Chairman**, June Savage; **Secretary**, Bob Robertson; **Committee**, Kath. Olds, Gay Garland, Ivan Pattison, Malcolm Wallace; **Treasurer**, Peter Robinson.

S.C.M.

At the Annual General Meeting, held on 5th September, the following executive was elected for 1944-45:—

President: Ken Mackie.

Vice-President: Malcolm Johnston

Secretary: Lyn O'Donnell.

Treasurer: John Collins.

Committee: Nancy Laird, Gwilym Jones, Hugh Aimer, Peter Robinson, David Andrew.

Sunday, 24th, saw the last tea for this year. Several senior pupils from secondary schools, prospective members of S.C.M. for 1945, were present. The speaker was Rev. N. D. MacDiarmid, B.A., M.B.E. As an old S.C.M'er, he came with the challenge that the Movement is failing in its original purpose—the providing of men and women for the missions. Drawing his illustrations from his own intimate knowledge of conditions in many missionary fields, he showed how "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," and "Come over and help us," apply to-day as never before. According to our custom, we visited as a body Knox Presbyterian Church, Parnell, where the sermon was preached by Noel Williams, a member of the retiring executive.

THINGS TO COME

Immediately after degree, the usual S.C.M. camp will be held. Exact time and place are still to be decided, but watch the notice-board for details.

For the first time in several years, S.C.M. Summer Conference is to be held in Auckland, at Dilworth School, from 28th December to 6th January. The subject under discussion will be "The Basis of Peace." Further information can be obtained from any committee member.

Every student is invited to take part in both these functions, and can be assured of a warm welcome.

JOYNT SCROLL EFFECT

"Craccum" didn't tell you anything about it in the last issue, but A.U.C. did send a team to the annual inter-college debating contest during the August holidays. We came second, an improvement on last year's result—which all goes to show what women can do! We thoroughly enjoyed our three days' stay at Lincoln. C.A.C. has a name for hospitality and kindness shown to the debating invasion, has added to that reputation.

We should like to thank particularly, Matron, who fed us well and let us sleep in, and Jim Taylor. We feel that we made more than one friend during our stay, and our memories of Lincoln will be happy ones. In short—Thanks, C.A.C., for a splendid time. May A.U.C. entertain you in similar fashion next time Joynt Scroll is held here.

M.McM.

DICTA DICENDA

The British are good at paying taxes, but detest drill. The French do not mind drill, but avoid taxes.

—Winston Churchill

If the French husband were sometimes fobbed off with the supper which the English husband gets, there would be trouble.

—Harold Nicholson.

Does anybody really believe that people are argued into religious faith?

—Leslie Weatherhead.

The exhaustion of the passions is the beginning of wisdom.

—James Hilton.

Satire is a glass wherein beholders do generally discover every face but their own.

—Jonathan Swift.

Any teacher that says he or she is not interested in politics ought at once to be kicked out of the profession.

—R. Muir.

Everything can be a symbol of something else, if we choose to take it as such.

—Ibid.

APRES LA GUERRE

"I hear that the Germans are surrendering in hundreds. Why let them surrender? I'd shoot the lot."

"Only men like our own? They're Germans—No, stand them up against a wall."

"Why not? They started it."

"Yes, perhaps one might have if we'd lost last time, but look at the things they've done . . . atrocities . . . Jews . . ."

"Oh, well, they shouldn't have let Hitler in—should have tried democracy longer . . . no excuse for taking Hitler."

"No, they've got to be taught a lesson this time . . . Show them that war doesn't pay . . . a damn good purge . . . march to Berlin."

"The only way to get peace: God! how we want peace."

"You remember Christ's plea on the Cross—'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.'"

"Can the Allied nations welcome Germany into the family of Nations as one that set fire to the world in ignorance. The idea is preposterous. Far from being ignorant, Germany is arrogant . . . This time there must be no mistake made. Her cities must witness the march of the Allies and Berlin must be temporarily occupied."

And these people want peace!

Yet to them Germany is nothing but a nation of criminals, each one filled with a desire for war and terrorism and dominance of the world. There are no mothers weeping over sons dead, no young women deprived of full and happy lives, no young men hating the whole trade of war, wanting only peace and honour, and the same chance of progress for themselves and their country as others take for granted. No children growing up to be influenced by the happiness or unhappiness of those about them towards acceptance of or discontent with things as they are.

In short, there are no human beings with the ideals and aspirations common to us all. Only a nation of criminals fit to be shot and crushed and embittered—taught their lesson this time—that there may be another war to destroy our sons as this war has destroyed our brothers.

AFTER-DEGREE BALL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

8 p.m. — 2 a.m.

Tickets at Door 8/6 Double
From Library, up to Nov. 3 7/6 "

WINTER SPORTS

Success of Varsity in All Fields

FOOTBALL

Winners of the Auckland Senior Rugby Championship — Gallaher Shield.

Jubilee Trophy

Varsity was able to withstand a stiff challenge from Ponsonby on Saturday when we played a drawn game, 3 all, and thus retain the Jubilee Trophy.

Seconds—Runners-up in Junior B Section.

Third Grade Intermediate—Third in the Peter Mackie Trophy.

ATHLETIC CLUB.

Room 22 was packed to the door; at least the front desk had its full complement at the A.G.M. of the Athletic Club. The club feels that with this support it should have an excellent season.

Well there were six staunch supporters in attendance and amid much applause all were elected to temporary executive positions.

The club intends to hold its weekly meetings in conjunction with the Old Grammarians' Club, the first of which is on Wednesday, 18th October, at 5.45 p.m., at the Auckland Grammar School.

A gentle reminder to our athletes that unless they are members of the University Club they cannot represent A.U.C. at Tournament. Tournament is being held next year so make a point of running for the club during the coming season and ensure your place in A.U.C. Tournament Team.

HOCKEY.

The Senior men's team was runner-up to Somerville in both the Senior Competition and the knock-out.

The women's Senior team was runner-up in their series.

BASKETBALL.

Finished Third.

George Bernard Shaw: "The whole strength of England lies in the fact that the enormous majority of English people are snobs."

Heywood Brown: "The ability to make love frivolously is the chief characteristic which distinguishes human beings from the beasts."

It is better to be silent and thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt.

BASKETBALL

Both Blues and Whites can look back on a most enjoyable and successful season. Rain, of course, could not harm them and they distinctly remember three fine Saturdays. It was disappointing to find that as in the previous year there were enough girls for only two full teams. Joyce Mayhue from Otago with Val Wyatt and fresher Dorothy—were selected for the Auckland Reps. Congratulations, girls! Hilda Thompson was responsible for some fine shooting.

The Whites? No one knew who would arrive or how late, to represent Varsity in the Senior B grade. Consequently the team, whoever it comprised, viewed many startling results with perfect calm and sometimes managed to win when playing short or in a high wind.

We humbly suggest that members of this team dismount from bicycles, borrow belts, etc., a little before the bell is rung. We feel that opponents' bewildered state and referees' rage were pathetic and avoidable. Thanks to Mrs. Lewis for her continued interest and help, and also to the two male hockey players who were present one Saturday!

TENNIS CLUB

At the A.G.M. of the Club held on Tuesday, the 26th September, the following officers were elected:

President: Mr. Rodwell.

Club Captain: Charlie Wright.

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Graham Holland.

Committee: Misses "Piglet" Stokes, Viv Fenton, Pam Montague. Messrs. Hugh Monckton, Ross Collins.

The meeting resolved to open this year on two courts, leaving two till later in the season, as next year's tournament may have to be played on our own courts. Unfortunately we couldn't hold the annual Freshers' Tournament this year because of the late start, but we hope to remedy that early in the coming season.

With the almost certain prospect of tournament next year and a number of new balls still in hand from last season, we feel that a good season's play is assured. The opening day will be held about the middle of November (watch the notice boards) and we hope that many of last year's players and all freshers interested in tennis will attend.

EASTER TOURNAMENT

War, women and weather permitting, 1945 will see a revival of what is under ordinary peacetime conditions, one of the main factors in Varsity life—Tournament.

The New Zealand Inter-University College Tournament, to give it its official name is, constitutionally, an annual affair held in rotation at Christchurch, Auckland, Dunedin and Wellington. Representatives from each of the Colleges affiliated to the New Zealand University compete in Athletics, Lawn Tennis, Boxing, Shooting, Basketball, Swimming and Rowing.

For the proposed 1945 Tournament it has been decided to obtain the opinion of the various Universities as to the desirability of having Cricket, Fencing and Table Tennis added to the list of Tournament Sports.

Subject to minor disqualifications, the eligibility of any student to compete in Tournament requires that the student will have been a graduate or an undergraduate of an affiliated College in the academic year immediately preceding the date of the Tournament.

Special cases, as, for example, those of students who have been in the Services, are considered and adjudged by the New Zealand University Tournament Committee.

It is proposed to hold the 1945 competitions in our own fair city from Good Friday to Easter Tuesday, the functions closing with a grand finale in Tournament Ball.

If we are to be hosts we must do our job properly, and it is not too soon to start thinking about what YOU are going to do.

Very few of the present students were engaged in the last Tournament (1941), but what we are lacking in personal experience we will find as a guide in the Tradition of Tournament, which is something we must live up to.

For success Tournament demands one thing—real Varsity spirit! So let us go to it. Do your bit. Start thinking Tournament and start talking Tournament NOW!

SPORTING STOP PRESS

Holland is moaning about the lack of publicity to the Metro-College success in the Auckland Soccer Championship. Consider the situation remedied, Graham!

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A SOUTHERN CRITIC

We did receive another opinion on Craccum. It came from one D. A. Spence, one of last year's A.U.C. Freshers, who is now down at Otago University. We hear he has made a number of fruitless efforts to make print in "Critic," so this little article should compensate him in some measure. Note the sustained urbanity tempered by a ferocity born of earlier frustration.

"I write under grave emotional stress. Your Craccum thing revolts me. Mentally I vomit at the thought of it. If you are interested in why it nauseates me.

(1) "It appears to be written by self-conscious, only partially literate, introverts.

(2) "The reporting is dull, personal and below the umbilical whenever it gets a chance.

(3) "The only interesting article--and almost the only topical one--is written by a professor.

(4) "There is no literary page, which a Varsity rag needs, but instead a lot of woolly inexactitudes about "outside affairs."

"As to whether it is getting worse or not--the write-ups for the Studio Stampede last year might have been a bit breezy, but this year's effort sounded like Veterans' night at the Old Settlers' Hall. Even Critic is a good deal better than your literary excrescence. Our arts faculty is not much bigger than yours, but it fills a whole literary page comparatively well every fortnight. The reports of meetings are usually done after the style of the Parliamentary reports in Punch, so they're at least readable. But, of course, you can't get bricks from straw--I suppose everyone at A.U.C. is so busy reading blue books and things about Outside Affairs that none has time to make the wretched rag readable. Selah!

"So much for your worthless effort. Please do not dismiss this as vicious

UNE NUIT D'ALERTE UNE NUIT D'ALERTE UNE NUIT D'ALERTE UNE NUIT D'ALERTE

(Petite piece comique, en costume et avec des effets sceriques)
avec.

Le Professeur Keys (en pyjama)
comme Ernest, le mari gouverne par femme.
et.

Le Docteur West (en pyjama)
comme M. Baluchet--parachutiste ou non?

Cette piece sera presentee, jeudi le 5 Octobre dans la salle commune des femmes, a 8 heures du soir.

Aussi--reunion generale annuelle
Souper apres

Gratis.

abuse, it is a considered and temperate criticism."

In contrast to this view we should like to print the opinion of Prof. Eccles, Professor of Physiology, in Otago University. He said that Craccum compares more than favourably with both of the Cambridge University "rags": they were largely devoted to social chit-chat, whereas Craccum gave the opinions of students on deeper issues.

EDUCATION REFORMS

It is quite obvious that some re-organisation of our educational system is necessary. While I would question the many confident assertions that the university is supplying the country with leaders, there is no doubt that it is supplying the teachers of the near future. The issues of the new scheme are very hazily comprehended, if, indeed, they arouse any interest at all. A fuller grasp of the matter by the large number of students who intend to teach would save much wasteful and perhaps blind antagonism in the future. By all means criticise, but let the criticism be constructive.

The matter has become a set quip, often heard in lecture-rooms. It might be a good joke inter pares when both parties have a full grip of the arguments. The rest of the world, however, looks foremost to the university for instruction and it seems grossly unfair and harmful that it should receive the impression that the matter is viewed in only one way and made a joke of. Pure prejudice is likely to be created which, in such a community of future teachers, will be detrimental to progress.

The quip has arisen out of a very wholesome fear of a slackening of educational standards. We all have that, but we cannot help wondering if shifting the emphasis from languages to the sciences, social studies, and those which point to a vocation, will have this effect. It is not a question of abolishing the subjects which are claimed to be more of a mental discipline, but only of restricting them to the people who intend to follow a more academic life. The aim is to make the school leaving age higher, and it is unfair that people for some years, should be forced to take subjects which will be useless to them, which give them no insight into the social set-up, and which often, through complete lack of interest,

THEY SAY . . .

When battles are fought the privates will fight them.

If must be that Goering eats so much that he can have room for medals.

Dear Doctor: "I am a lady forty years old. I have been married to eight different men in seven different countries. Please tell me what I have to look forward to.--Anxious.

Dear Anxious: I'm not sure about what you have to look forward to, but lady, you sure have a hell of a lot to look back on.

Love is a game in which a woman wins every time save the first.

Gracie Fields: I have teeth that were made by some mechanic, and I wear glasses, and my legs--ee, lad! I'm darn glad I earn my money with my throat.

fail to supply the much-vaunted mental discipline.

We must make the knowledge to be gained more useful; it must raise the standard of appreciation of the arts, and give some insight into the meaning of society--without which the advent of Fascism and future wars cannot be prevented. We must remember that in the new curriculum these subjects would be allotted much more time and therefore their scope would be widened. Their standard will rely in the beginning less on the text-book than on the scientific interest and personality of the specialist. There is far more ground for individual enterprise, and once a standard of excellence is set there would be no difficulty in maintaining it.

We cannot afford to be cynical in a time like this and we will never improve things except by our own keenness and efforts. Our education and choice of future has placed the responsibility on us, the future teachers of the country.

D.A.

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