



CRACCUM

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THE
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AUCKLAND
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

STUDENT WORK DAY THE LIGHTER SIDE

On Saturday, April 14, the Committee for Student Relief held its annual work day. If there was a great number of absentees from this combined effort it was not the fault of those on the committee, who, many days ahead, stationed themselves at all the available vantage points around the college. Regardless of personal risk, they persisted in bombarding any harmless-looking passer-by with complaint, entreaties and threats, until the hapless individual was cajoled into offering his services for the great day.

So, determined to do their best, the stalwarts of A.U.C. sallied forth into the morning mists, wondering at their unaccustomed glimpse of Mother Nature so early in the day.

There is nothing more surprising than the various employers who deem it wise to entrust their gardens to the tender mercies of those versed in the ways of scholarship.

First, we have those who seem to make no provision for the sex of their employee, and hence, when some particularly charming example of University womanhood, in no wise endowed with the muscles of Balu Didrickson, presents herself, she finds that a day of cutting hedges, digging ditches and repairing the drainage system really holds no future for the fairer sex.

Then, again, there are those householders who expect their workmen to toil on a 70-degree hillside with very little chance of escaping a sticky end on the rocks a hundred feet below. We are informed that those students who were engaged on such hazardous tasks have made a recommendation to their employers, whereby any future mountain climbers on their property may be equipped with safety picks and security ropes.

But on occasions our students come into their own. They fall in with families whose sons may even be Rhodes Scholars, or at the least graduates of one of our venerable institutions. Here the wily "relief" worker, if he or she is so disposed, may while away many a supposed working hour in heated discussions on the university way of life or on the good old university tolerance to all classes. In the interests of a more efficient capitalist system, we hope this was not the rule, but after all, the amount collected for Student Relief is the thing.

We must end this little discourse with an admonition to those who failed to turn out in a worthy cause. But next term they will have another opportunity for working.

—T.J.L.

STAFF WANTED

To Freshers and second-year students in all faculties: If you are interested in joining the Publications Committee, come and interview the Editor in Exec. room any time between 1.30 and 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 3. If that time is not convenient, leave a note on the rack or phone 24-144, stating what hours will suit you for an interview.

FORMER STUDENTS

We repeat our request for news of former students of A.U.C. We wish to receive items about students who have recently left this College, as well as about men and women who are serving overseas.

N.Z.U.S.A. MEETING

The following is a brief, unofficial account of the 15th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand University Students' Association held at N.Z.U.S.A. Headquarters, Featherston Street, Wellington, during the Easter Tournament.

Before the actual business, a note on who attends this A.G.M.

Approximately two delegates from each of O.U., C.U.C., V.U.C., M.A.C., C.A.C. and A.U.C. executives attend along with the resident member of each of the colleges, who is normally a student from one of the colleges now resident in Wellington. Each resident member attends the ordinary executive meetings of N.Z.U.S.A. and furnishes his or her college with a report of said meetings throughout the year. A.U.C.'s resident member was Winiata Smiler.

The meeting commenced at 11 a.m. on Friday morning and the usual routine of minutes, etc., came first.

Examination Fees.—It is probably known by students that a test case is being presented by N.Z.U.S.A. with regard to the raising of examination fees. This is known as the Lagan v. Senate fixture, and is scheduled to be heard in June. The hold-up of proceedings was due to a previous engagement of N.Z.U.S.A.'s lawyer on another important case.

"Rostrum," the annual N.Z.U.S.A. publication, will be edited and published by Victoria this year.

Joynt Scroll to be in Otago along with Winter Tournament for 1945.

Winter Tournament, open to all students of the colleges who have attended two-thirds of their lectures up to the end of the third term, is to be held in Otago, suggested sports to include Men's and Women's Hockey, Men's Basketball, Golf, Ski-ing, Table Tennis, Fencing and Harriers. The Drinking Horn has been generously donated by V.U.C. for this Tournament.

Medical Scheme at Victoria.—This is a compulsory medical examination of every student along with an X-ray. All delegates agreed that this was a valuable scheme, not only to the individual student who could receive immediate advice of a possible malady, but also as an example to the country as a whole. A small charge is paid along with the Stud. Ass. fee.

Letter of thanks to Director of Manpower for co-operation with the student bodies over the manpower of students during the summer vacation.

Entrance to Medical School.—Mention was made of a proposal put forward by Mr. Armour re the entrance examination. Mr. Armour proposed that one exam. for the whole of New Zealand be introduced, this exam. being therefore on a competitive basis. After discussion, the difficulties of different professors and lecturers appeared to make this proposal unwieldy.

Capitation Fees, that is fees paid by each of the Colleges to N.Z.U.S.A. each year, to remain at the usual figure of £2 per 50 students.

Rehabilitation Bursaries.—It was brought to the notice of the meeting that certain students who were eligible after the expiration of 12 months for bursaries have had them cancelled on grounds of short service. The meeting authorised the Secretary to write to the Minister of Rehabilitation requesting a statement of policy, for discussion by the Colleges. Similar

cancellations have occurred at A.U.C., so that we await a reply from the Minister with interest.

Whilst on the matter of rehab. students, V.U.C. informed the meeting that they had inaugurated a refresher course, commencing before the beginning of the first term, when returned servicemen are coached by senior students in preparation of the following year. A.U.C. have a similar scheme in operation, but intend extending it next year.

This ends a very sketchy summary of points of interest to A.U.C., brought up at the A.G.M. However, one further point which impressed the A.U.C. delegate at the meeting was the complete and accurate knowledge all delegates possessed of N.Z.U.S.A. business. Obviously the majority of delegates had attended previous A.G.M.'s and, although time for preparation was so short, the fulness of the agenda indicated that the college Executives were on the job. Special recognition should be made of the work of the President of N.Z.U.S.A., Mr. I. B. C. Taylor, for his difficult and onerous job under wartime difficulties owing to the loss of his Secretary early in November. Any faults A.U.C. has had to find with N.Z.U.S.A. are traceable, not to inefficiency, but to the fact that one man has had to do all the work.

KEITH L. PIPER,

President Stud. Assn.,
A.U.C. Delegate.

PENAL REFORM

The attention of students has probably been drawn to the recent controversy concerning penal reform. The New Zealand Howard League for Penal Reform is holding a public meeting on Wednesday, May 16, in the Town Hall Concert Chamber. The meeting will be addressed by speakers representative of all sections of the community, who will protest against the pernicious punishments meted out in our prisons. All students are urged to attend.

ERRATUM

We apologise to Mr. Airey for the omission of a phrase at the end of the first paragraph in his article "Two Books on Empire," printed in our last issue. The sentence should read: "Barnes . . . writes primarily to debunk optimism and complacency among British people about conditions in the dependencies, and makes a damaging comparison with what has been achieved in the rapid economic, political and cultural development of formerly subject backward peoples IN THE SOVIET UNION."

EMPIRE EVANGELIST REV. LIONEL FLETCHER

Representatives of Craccum who interviewed the Rev. Lionel B. Fletcher towards the end of his mission in Auckland enjoyed their assignment. A small man with a hearty laugh, Mr. Fletcher carries his 68 years well. By birth an Australian, he has spent a considerable portion of his active career in New Zealand and is remembered in Auckland for his notable ministry in the Beresford Street Congregational Church.

Finding that he was World vice-President of the Christian Endeavour Union, Craccum's delegates asked: "Mr. Fletcher, in the countries you have visited, what have you found to be the attitude of University Students to the Christian Faith?"

Mr. Fletcher admitted a certain antagonism to Christian teaching in some academic circles. This, however, was countered by a strong and positive witness in many colleges. "There is," he said, "a healthy trend among students to stand for what they believe." He could see no more hopeful sign for the future of the Church than this. There was a pressing need for well-educated young men to bear testimony to the fact that Evangelical Christianity was by no means opposed to true learning. The educated were potential church leaders. Mr. Fletcher said that it cheered him much to see virile Christian students on the offensive and substituting a positive evangelism for an apologetic defence.

All types of youth movements, Mr. Fletcher continued, were growing in strength. This was gratifying in view of the grave moral breakdown which he sensed in Australia on his return to that country. "Young men and women with decided Christian principles," he said, "are now of more value than ever." There was a wrecked world for young life to rebuild. "I love the youth of to-day," he concluded, "and they can do it."

The question followed: "Do you think your evangelistic message is able to meet the needs of to-day?"

"Real Christianity," was the reply, "collapses without it." Mr. Fletcher admitted the need for variety in approach and presentation, but considered that the central truths were absolutely essential. Any uncompromising stand provoked opposition, but Christ had promised nothing else, and no virile Christian work has ever given way under persecution. "The strength of a movement is not in its numbers but in the conviction of its members."

Mr. Fletcher expressed his belief that the church should take a more active part in improving social conditions, and his faith in the efficacy of evangelical Christianity to do so. He instanced Wesley and 18th century England. A new world needs new men.

Questioned about his present mission, Mr. Fletcher considered from evidence then available that it had been amply justified. He claimed a record of clear and lasting benefit from such campaigns abroad.

Craccum's representatives were impressed by Mr. Fletcher's personality and the certainty of his convictions. He appeared to be a man with something useful to say and the ability to say it.

INFORMATION

We have been asked to give information about the Executive, the Men's House Committee, Varsity Blues and Blazers.

THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive is a body of 13 students elected by the financial members of Students' Association, the elections taking place at the beginning of August each year. Its main functions are to protect the students' interests and to operate the Student Block.

The Executive is responsible for the care of the Locker and Common Rooms and also employs Mrs. Odd to manage the Cafeteria.

The members of Exec. can be recognised by their knowing look and also by their badges which are ordinary Varsity badges surrounded by laurel leaves. If you want any information, stop an Exec. member and ask—that's the penalty for being on Exec.

MEN'S HOUSE COMMITTEE

This is a committee consisting of 5 elected and 4 co-opted members. The elections take place immediately following the Exec. elections. The Chairman is appointed by Exec. and the job of the committee is to see that everything is in order in the Common Rooms, to provide lockers for students and to look after the morale of the students (?). Members of this committee are willing to help wherever possible. They will assist in hakas, songs (of all types) imbibing Varsity Spirit (not on the premises though), and telling stories relating to all manner of things. The radio in the M.H.C. Room is for your use—if you want it on, find an M.H.C. member and tell him. Unfortunately, due to the inability of students to refrain from projecting heavy bodies, bags and books around the Common Room it was found necessary to instal the radio in the House Committee Room instead of the Common Room. It will be seen that the piano had to withstand the full force of last year's attack. Any future attacks on any furniture will be met with severe reprisals—so take a tip and take care.

VARSITY BLUES

A local "blue" is awarded to any student who excels in his or her sport. The actual conditions in the different sports vary, but in most cases the standard required is that of the Auckland Provincial Teams. For example, to obtain a Football Blue, a man must be up to the standard of the Auckland Team, or nearly so. Each club nominates players whose names appear before the Blues Committee. This committee consists of the immediate past president of the Executive, the President and Secretary of Executive, the Club Captain of each affiliated club, and one of the Tournament Delegates. Blues are awarded at the discretion of this committee. The award of an Auckland Blue entitles the winner to wear a "Blues" Scarf.

For representing the College throughout a season in the senior team a Representative Blazer is awarded. This is an ordinary Varsity blazer with the White braid removed, the Varsity badge of the pocket enclosed in laurel leaves, and the letter representing the sport placed immediately below this. To qualify, a student must play 60 per cent of the games during the season, and show a general interest in his team. Members of teams selected to represent the College at Tournament are also entitled to wear Rep. Blazers.

The ordinary Varsity blazers are available to all members of the Stud. Assn., but it is necessary to obtain an order from the Secretary. At the present time there are some blazers at Varsity that do not conform to the regulations and are therefore unofficial.

The New Zealand Varsity Blue is controlled by the N.Z.U.S.A. and is awarded to members of teams selected to represent the N.Z. Universities. For example, a N.Z. Hockey Blue is awarded to those students

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PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

In 1933 Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected President of the United States and remained in this office until his death.

He soon made his policy evident, showing as he did so, the dogged determination, enthusiasm and tenacity which have always characterised him. His New Deal legislation, established at a time when U.S.A. was suffering from the greatest slump of her history, entailed a complete revision of economic thought and roused world-wide interest in America's new President and his policy. As happens with any new venture, President Roosevelt met with determined opposition, chiefly from the opponents of Capitalism, for the New Deal scheme in its entirety implies Capitalism; but though he had sometimes to oppose the Senate itself, the President persisted, and it may be truthfully said that through his clear vision and refusal to admit failure, he saved America from financial ruin.

In his foreign policy President Roosevelt did not follow the usual isolationism of most of his American colleagues. Always he advocated close co-operation with Great Britain, and though at the beginning of the war he announced that, for the present, the United States would remain neutral, he added significantly that no American would remain neutral in thought.

With the death of President Roosevelt, not only the United States of America, but the world, has lost a great leader of democracy. He represented for his people their ideal of freedom, and he spoke the thoughts of more than one hundred million Americans when he said in 1941: "Democracy is not dying! . . . We know it . . . for it is the most humane, the most advanced, and, in the end, the most unquarable of all forms of human society."

PROFESSOR LANCASTER

Last week the College suffered the loss of one of the oldest remaining members of its staff in the death of Associate Professor Thomas Leonard Lancaster, M.Sc., F.L.S., head of the Department of Botany. The sympathy of the student body has been conveyed to Professor Lancaster's widow and daughter; and in every circle in which he worked in the city and the University his loss will be heavily felt.

An authority of repute on New Zealand field botany and horticulture, especially on alpine flora, Professor Lancaster did his greatest work for botany as head of the Department which since 1913 he had seen grow from a single room shared with Zoology to one of the best-equipped for its size in any University. In 1930 he represented New Zealand at the International Botanic Congress held in Cambridge, and in 1939 received the signal honour of election to the Linnaean Society.

Of Professor Lancaster himself, what will be longest remembered is the patience and modesty that went with his gifts of scholarship. No man could have had greater respect from his students.

Students of recent years must all have been aware of the great handicap in health under which the Professor carried on. But he never failed in the work of his Department, and his graduates, students and friends will remember him as he was: a devoted scholar and teacher, and a gentleman.

REVUE

As preparatory work for Revue was not begun over the long vacation, it has been found impossible to hold Revue this year.

A man of great common sense and good taste—meaning thereby a man without originality or moral courage.—Shaw.

selected to play for a N.Z.U. team, which usually plays one of the major provinces. N.Z. Blues are also awarded to Championship winners at Easter Tournament. The N.Z. Blues Blazer is black with white braid round the edges, and with a special N.Z.U. pocket.

Blues are only awarded to members of College Clubs and can on no account be awarded to persons belonging to outside clubs. So join a Varsity Club.

POEM

In the same year
I said to my love (who is living),
Dear, we shall never be that verb
Perched on the sole Arabian Tree
Not having learnt in our green age
to forget
The sins that flow between the
hands and feet
(Here the tree weeps gum tears
Which are also real: I tell you
These things are real)
So I forced a parting
Scrubbing my few dingy words to
brightness.

Ern Malley,

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(Note; key to this poem, in four volumes, is classified under 820.14 in the Reference Department of the Public Library).

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S MEMOIRS

For reasons of State, the publication of 'My Life and Times' by Queen Elizabeth of England, was delayed until February, 1945. Since 1595 the manuscript has lain in a locked safe in the Tower of London.

At last scholars need bicker no more. In her own words we have Elizabeth's interpretation of the manifold major events of her reign. Definitely and finally, with astonishing frankness, she reveals herself as the most eminent and least scrupulous of the Machiavellians. Her major love outside herself was England, and she worked for England only to further her personal prestige.

Old mysteries, like that of Mary, Queen of Scots, are clarified. "Mary," says Elizabeth, "was beautiful. She had three husbands and a son; her followers loved her for herself and hoped for no personal gain. Mine admire not my person but my money-bags." The course of history many times has been changed by the envy of a woman for a more attractive rival. Who shall dare say that, whatever Elizabeth's motives, her ends were unjustified?

The Queen had nothing but admiration and respect for the newly formed and progressive Church of England, for which she claims to have written several prayers. She regrets, however, that as a clerical as well as a temporal sovereign, she had to do her drinking in private.

Personal traits of the Queen are well known; to these she adds a few illuminating confessions. "Every night," she admits, "for thirty years, before I retired I rubbed my bald head with an oil reputed without truth to expedite growth." How typical this is of the great Queen's consistency in the teeth of difficulties! Just as she could stretch England's meagre finances like elastic to embrace the world she coveted, she exhibited in her private life remarkable determination and tenacity.

Allow me to quote from the chapter headed "My true relations with Leicester." "The world in its usual curious fashion will reserve its comment for my personal affairs rather than for my policy, which I assert is far more deserving of explanation and apology. However, for the information of my peoples—whom I believe will one day cover the world—I give a detailed and unreserved account of this romantic and exciting interlude in a life otherwise devoted to the public weal. I first met him many years ago, when we were both young"—here ten pages of the manuscript are missing; it resumes on page 381—"so that was that," and then goes on to Chapter XV.

This book is a valuable addition to the historical data of a disturbed and provocative period. We hope, without much faith, that writers will learn from the great Elizabeth's warning to finish the routine and more humdrum clarification of treaties and leave, for a change, the old and intriguing game of guesses about personalities; however, we expect that this valuable document will be ignored or possibly even stolen and destroyed, as the last word has been said about Elizabeth, long hence, in the standard University text-books, and too much confusion would result from any attempt to change the traditional interpretation.

ARCHITECTS' PICNIC

It was either that some of us were unaware that a given load, the Architects, could be supported equally as efficiently by the ferry boat as by a small dinghy at Oneroa, or that some were so enthusiastic about physics that they were making researches in the principle of Archimedes. In any case, it was apparent that the gain in weight sank the dinghy—slinging no mud, of course! Some found carting clothes uphill quite a burden. In the afternoon an honest game of rounder-baseball was played. Yes, it was a wonderful picnic. Even the dashing photographer was there. Who else was dashing? We all came home very sunburnt, with red noses, and all.

OPEN FORUM

"BIG MAN McCARTHY"

Sir,—In your last issue you published a very concentrated piece of downright nonsensical, cynical, destructive criticism. I am disgusted with and surprised at Mr. McCarthy. I suppose he is forty round the chest, and with biceps so that when his shirt sleeves are rolled, the bulges are seen through his coat; or does he by any chance always appear in his shirt sleeves in winter, exposing a hairy torso? (The secret is, however, four woollen singlets.) It is such as he who destroys 'Varsity spirit. Why, cold water can be poured on almost anything if one wants to be so cynical. I suppose he says of freshers, "Bumptious young blighters," or perhaps he tells them, "Children should be seen and not heard." It is a pity that all the freshers don't get together and repeat an act of a few years ago by dousing him in Albert Park pond.

—HARLAN C. THOMPSON.

[Miss McCarthy is scared of Mr. Thompson, and hereby publicly appeals for protection from him.—Ed.]

SLACKERS ON WORK DAY

Sir,—Three disgusted students would like to draw attention to those slackers who could have, and would not, volunteer for students' work day.

It makes us regurgitate when we observe the self-satisfied, complacent attitude of the majority of these people. It is an attitude only too frequently met within this college, both with respect to support of such efforts and enthusiasm for college activities. Particularly we would deplore the response of the male members of this community whose delicate health doubtless renders them free from the obligations of manual service. We feel that the old school tie spirit obviously displayed at Eden Park on this day could have been sacrificed in the cause of those less fortunate students who are suffering in Europe.

It is to be hoped that they may feel as ashamed of themselves as we do for them, and that the public who were willing to employ these masculine oddities have not lost interest in the Student Relief Cause through their default. M.L., M.M., M.L.

A CRITIC CRITICISED

Sir,—The time has come for your film critic to be pensioned off and comfortably housed in a cosy, little padded cell. Said critic claims that one of the bright spots in the film "Going My Way" was the song from which the film gets its name. Now how could anyone in his right senses suggest that a hopeless effort like that be anything else but an unattractive, dull sequence in an otherwise highly entertaining film? If your critic cares to instigate enquiries on the popularity of this song, aforementioned critic may perceive a glimmering of the fact that he, or she, is in a very small minority.

He, or she, also, evidently objected to Barry Fitzgerald's representation of the old priest. Mr. Editor, where did you get the idea that this person was capable of judging acting? Fitzgerald gave an excellent interpretation of the role.

To add to your (I now hesitate to say it) "critic's" many crimes, he, or she, is also biased. It appears that whichever film his, or her, favourite actor or actress appears in, cannot help being good. Vide, criticism of "The Uninvited," viz. Ray Milland. If we must put up with this individual's criticism let it at least be unbiased and sensible. D. D. GRAHAM.

Sir,—May I lend my voice to the present criticism of the standard of Craccum. Perhaps I would not go so far as to say that Craccum stinks, as some gentlemen (?) have, but to my mind it is certainly on the turn. First, the attitude of your film critic is hard to understand. His method of donating merit by the use of animals lacks originality and is surely cribbed from G.M.'s "little man" of "Listener" fame. For his criticism of "Going My Way" he should have been on his way long ago. He refers to Barry Fitz-

gerald as giving the impression of having just strayed from the nearest old man's home and of Bing Crosby as being the worst cast player of the year. Yet Miss C. A. Lejeune, the Dramatic Art critic of the London "Observer," who is regarded as an outstanding contemporary critic, says in effect that the film is as good as, if not better than, any shown in London in 1944, and that Barry Fitzgerald's portrayal of the muddling old priest is really first-class. Bing Crosby's acting, she said, was better than average. Perhaps Craccum's critic is a prophet having no honour in his own land. C. W. SALMON.

Sir,—We wish to put on record a protest concerning the current film reviews in Craccum. We find them trite, unilluminating, and even possibly misleading in a number of instances.

We refer in particular to the rather discouraging reception accorded the film "Going My Way." Having seen the film in question, we found much with which to differ from your critic. Furthermore, certain alternative reviews at our disposal clashed fundamentally with that of Craccum.

Curiously enough, even in our dislikes of the picture we are at odds. The reference is to the song "Going My Way," of which the "N.Z. Herald" declared, "the least said the better." The praise for this piece was quite uncalled for.

Fitzgerald's performance as Father Fitzgibbon, which your correspondent characterised as senile, is declared by the American news magazine "Time," May 1st, 1944, to be "the finest, funniest, and most touching portrayal of old age that has yet come to the screen."

That Crosby's performance is homely we find entirely praiseworthy; there are too many slick, sophisticated productions abroad to-day. But then to declare, "This too slick crooner fully deserves the Academy Award for the Worst Cast Player of the Year" would show that the bestowers of the Academy Award must themselves be at fault, for having bestowed it upon the picture in question. "Time" puts it admirably that Crosby's acting is hardly acting at all, but the unaffected (of slick) exploitation of an amiable personality.

Concerning the sentence "the result is offensive to anyone possessing the slightest degree of good taste," we can but bow our heads. At least we bow in good company.

Apart from the gratuitous insult, "this sloppy melodrama," which is just what it is not, the remainder of the review left untouched is, we think, passable.

A short time ago advice was proffered not to follow in G.M.'s path too closely. This has been taken too literally, in view of the amount which your correspondent has yet to learn.

So persevere, and as long as the account is readable, we promise to follow it with interest, if not approbation. MARGARET CLARK, DAVID CLARK.

NOT AMUSED

Sir,—It was with no small measure of annoyance that we read two write-ups in your last issue—to wit, the Exec. meetings and "Ernestine."

In regard to the former. We have never before read such childish drivel, on a subject which should be predominantly serious. Such articles tend to make the Exec. a ludicrous body, whereas an intelligent write-up would maintain the dignity which it rightfully deserves.

Under "Ernestine" we had at least hoped to find some of the humour and brightness of "Aunt Alice." Instead we found a rather veiled allusion in the coupling of two names which was pointless in the extreme to the vast majority of students.

Would it be too much to ask then that these two write-ups, respectively, have the key words "Intelligence" and "Humour with Clarity"?

W. E. HARVEY, P. M. ALLINGHAM.

PRAISE AND REPROACH

Sir,—I enjoyed reading Craccum recently, and it is good to see there are vigorous minds at work on other things beside those prescribed in the Calendar.

Craccum helps University Students to realise that they are a class of people and members of a unit of society. It is of such units that a democracy is made and every self-governing body in a society is a defence against increasing totalitarianism and stateism.

Our University must be a rock about which the currents of politics can swirl, and a vantage point and a rallying point where accumulated learning and experience can equip men and women with a sane outlook in a slightly mad world. It is in the sense of an accumulation of learning and experience that tradition means progress.

Having given praise where it is due, I would now reproach and comment.

I found in the issue I read, that of March 21, that the name of the Son of God is used to punctuate the relation of a tale, a tale which would perhaps lose much of its attraction (I use the word in its pure sense) by the omission of the name and swear-words that splatter throughout.

With culture comes a fineness of appreciation, a fragility of taste, that needs no stark colloquialism to force an idea into the mind.

Again, I found at the foot or near-foot of a page a joke designed to bring by its crudity and suggestiveness a knowing and merry quirk to the drooped mouth corners of the most jaded and swot depressed student in the Auckland University College.

To him who remarks that I have a dirty mind, I assert that I have, but the older I become the less anyone else knows it.

In this virile pagan age, virile for its achievements, pagan for its amorality, you see around you much divorce, abortion and sexual sordidness, so do you not, our editor, add to the rife disrespect of that which is our mutual admiration, and love the family and motherhood, which depend upon this sacred sex instinct.

And, lastly, I read on the same page an attack on the Roman Catholic condemnation of the taking of half Poland by Russia.

In the first place such an essay in international polemics seems to me to have as little place in Craccum as would a double-columned impeachment of Mrs. Odd for cutting the butter too small have had in the "Herald."

In the second place, the article is a gauntlet flung at me as a Catholic. If I were to hear the article apart line by line, idea by idea, it would content nothing but my vanity. Instead, I would seek to graciously return the gauntlet, handing it back in saying this much, that the Catholic bishops were inspired by something much higher than an inflexible anti-Soviet prejudice. DESMOND PIGGIN.

(More letters on page 6).

mentioned. It is hoped that readers will forward further suggestions to Exec.

This matter being satisfactorily settled, various members, deviating slightly from the agenda, commented on the fact that books left around were liable to become part of the unexplorable furniture. A discussion was held on Tournament expense, and after 4½ hours the meeting broke up at 11 p.m. M.H., D.McC.

FORMIDABLE AGENDA EXEC. AGAIN

We wish to point out that our reporting of Exec. meetings does not cover all the matters discussed. The promulgation of the minutes serves that purpose, and we give something of the more personal side.

Business: Formidable agenda ranging from elections to drinking facilities (non-intoxicating).

Mr. Piper and Mr. Mackie conducted a little conversation in suitably hushed terms on R.S.A. bursaries or cancellation of same, which Mr. Mackie decided to investigate. Mr. Piper was heard to ask a presumably rhetorical question: "What would happen to this College if Exec. resigned for a week?"

Miss Keane reported that Revue would have to be held early in the second term, if at all, and that she had come to the conclusion that a man was needed to run it. Mr. Morton was heard to agree. Much derisive mirth and many wise-cracks followed. Mr. Piper voiced his intention, now extinct, to write a Revue entitled "Omlet." Miss Keane confessed her inability to walk into the men's common room with any degree of composure.

Mr. Piper reported that he had taken a taxi to the N.Z.U.S.A. meeting, where he had been greeted with the remark, "The A.U.C. delegate, I presume?" which was followed by a hushed silence, as delegates reflected on A.U.C.'s protest against the time of the meeting. It had been decided to hold Winter Tournament and Joynt Scroll in Otago, and much had been said about hostels. The N.Z.U.S.A. delegates had expressed "quite amicable satisfaction to the manpower authorities in their co-operation with the students in vacation work." V.U.C. is conducting refresher courses in law, etc., and the example might be followed at A.U.C.

Election Dates

One of the matters discussed was the half-annual general meeting. Exec. considered itself fully justified in not holding a meeting, equally because of lack of business and their interpretation of records in the light of past events. Mr. Mackie suggested somewhat wearily that Exec. members be provided with a copy of the constitution which they might use at the meetings. Miss Stanton: "We'd better have a special meeting on Constitution." Mr. Morton re-framed a further motion of Miss Stanton's, which she disowned, after which he disagreed with it.

The meeting then came by devious means to the matter of election dates. Mr. Mackie and Mr. Pattison wanted more than the usual three days between the closing of nominations and elections. It was decided to have seven days to give vacillating voters time to steel themselves. The Exec. elections will be held on August 1, the president and secretary to be elected one week earlier.

Mr. Burns, a seasoned returning officer, was re-appointed to the task. Here followed an edifying period of reminiscences.

The more convivial members voted for a coffee evening to introduce the new Exec. Everyone was convivial.

Mr. Piper soliloquised on College blazers.

In a constructive mood, Exec. decided to try to persuade the College Council to allow a Stud. Ass. representative to attend meetings, presumably to convince an uninterested Council that students are not only interested but even interesting.

Suggestions for Tamaki

The next item on the agenda was Tamaki. In an excess of constructive zeal Exec. plonked for a men's common room, a women's common room, a common common room, a gym., (Miss Stanton: "Special room for fencing"), an Exec. room, a publications room, a house committee room, committee rooms, hot and cold water, reading rooms, a stationery shop, a bar (unqualified), a theatre, a cafeteria, an additional storey with possibilities, a swimming pool. (Mr. Burns: "Two swimming pools"—"Three—one a common one.") No lecture rooms were



TERMS FOR GERMANY

We asked Professor Fitt, Professor Sewell, Mr. Rodwell and Dr. West "What is to be done with Germany after the war?" We print their replies.

PROFESSOR FITT:

I shall content myself with some aspects of the problem of Germany's re-education. She must acquire a new mind, a new attitude to life and to her neighbours. Many people, I imagine, have not realised that as soon as Germany is completely beaten the way is well prepared for drastic changes. Defeat a bully, force him down to his knees and he is prepared to listen to you. Prepared, that is, for the moment, and we must take full advantage of that moment. After total defeat, the greatest of her long military history, Germany, with her belief that might is right, will be more ready than some believe for our political, economic and educational procedures.

Nevertheless, her complete re-education will be a very slow process, requiring at least 50 years of preparation under Allied direction. This will work partly through the schools and universities. Such a direction of their universities will not be new, for they have never been free politically, having had to avoid in their discussions and findings anything inimical to the State. We shall have to supervise their libraries, all publications (news-papers, books, etc.), radio, meetings, festivals, the work of the church, and, in fact, of every education agency.

The chief object of all this should be not propaganda but the requirement of free access to all points of view. We should avoid dictatorship and all Gestapo methods. The aim should be to seek the truth in all things. In the schools, history will be supported by documents which reveal all sides of the problem. Let some of them have Hitler's signature (as they must) and do not deny access to "Mein Kampf," but have as well other blueprints to life.

In adult education, one special task must be attempted, and this will consist in carrying back the war philosophies of Hitler, Bernhardt and the rest to their sources in the Hegelian philosophy. Young Germans should learn that the philosopher of the totalitarian state indicated that humanity does not reach its highest satisfaction in politics and in war, but rather in the free realms of art, religion and science.

In short, we must see to it that the German nation becomes a really free nation; free to seek the truth and to express itself, capable of governing itself in a manner which recognises the liberty of each citizen, and of conducting itself as a nation in the free commonwealth of nations.

MR. RODWELL:

The peace terms imposed upon Germany must be moderate. To say this does not imply that they must be lenient, but simply that they must be capable of full enforcement. Nothing will so rapidly lead to another conflict as the whittling down of terms that were in fact impracticable. The need for moderation is not based on any underestimate of the German Government's guilt; responsibility for this war lies squarely upon them, while the revelations now being made of conditions which prevailed in concentration camps call for the severest punishment of those responsible. How far a distinction can be drawn between the members of the Nazi party organisations and the German people as a whole it is difficult, if not impossible, to estimate.

In a short article it is impossible to do more than give a list of bare terms—supporting argument is out of the question. "Moderate" terms implies complete disarmament, and, to ensure this, occupation for a considerable period will be necessary. Large-scale transfers of territory from Germany to neighbouring countries

would be inadvisable as this would involve large transfers of population to avoid serious minority problems. In spite of Germany's own example during the war, mass transfers of population are highly unsatisfactory to all concerned. Germany must be required to help in the reconstruction of devastated countries, and large money reparations must be avoided. But Germany may have to be helped to reconstruct her own economy, partly to enable the Germans themselves to live and partly to enable them to carry out this work of reconstruction elsewhere.

PROFESSOR SEWELL:

It seems clear that the treatment of post-war Germany will be at first chiefly concerned with the merely mechanical problems of housing and feeding millions of starving and homeless refugees. And because this will be the first problem—transcending all political considerations such as "punishment," "re-education," etc.—it is hazardous to suggest what could or should come next. In the process of treatment the solution of this basic problem will generate all kinds of minor organisations, local collaborations and re-fashionings, even revolutions, of political forms, that what emerges after may make all our blueprints look slightly silly.

At best, then, the present moment allows only the most tentative comment: perhaps little more than a statement of certain considerations which will bear upon later decisions. I set down here, a little desultorily, one or two scattered ideas on the matter.

Much has been said of the re-education of Germany's youth. I am a little sceptical of the proposals so far made. I cannot believe that education supervised by occupying powers will do other than breed resentment and resistance. Nor can I believe that this re-education will be properly done by men and women who (through no fault of their own) left Germany because of the Nazi regime. Let me put the matter bluntly. Can we suppose that the beating Germany has received will make German parents—and German children—hospitable to teaching by Jews and Communists, however liberal and wise these may be? Re-education, surely, can only come from within and must develop *pari passu* with the making of a new social self-respect and new political forms. We talk too much as though we can extirpate the Nazi outlook, leave a vacuum, and then proceed to pour in a saner and gentler vision. It seems to me, rather, that the catharsis in Germany must find a different, a more organic process. And this would seem to argue that, whether we like it or not, re-education will only be possible if Germany herself is allowed some kind of continuity of being.

I think the United Nations could permit some kind of continuity. It would not be making a "soft peace" to leave in Germany same area—perhaps mainly agricultural and least infected by Nazi ideas—without general occupation: an area in which some Germans could exercise and rehearse new political forms, which they would develop for themselves and out of which might arise—or is the hope too much?—a renewed Germany, fit to take its place in the councils of nations. It might well be that in some such area, however small, we should begin by allowing Germans themselves to find out of ruin and chaos their own way to economic and political rehabilitation. The effect of this would be to give a political and geographical basis for a new self-respect.

DR. WEST:

The temptation to apply the principle of general and indiscriminate expiation to a defeated Germany is very great. For two reasons, the reshapers of post-war Europe must discountenance it. First, because a Carthaginian victory has never yet wrought good. Secondly, because the surviving Germans could never be made to atone fully and in kind for the unspeakable brutalities they have committed. Rather should the reconstruction of Europe be based on the hope that a sick people, poisoned by evil teaching, may be restored to health, ultimately to return to a place in the community of nations.

On the other hand, Germany's crimes cannot be lightheartedly forgiven. The offender cannot be admitted into fellowship, until conclusive proofs of a change in heart and mind are offered. Meantime, stern restraints must be imposed, for to do otherwise would be to invite a third World War. The form and extent of these compulsions should be threefold:—

First, the permanent demilitarisation of Germany. The "Master Race" must be reduced to a military impotency so complete that not even the most fanatical may nurse the hope of another plunge into world conquest. This will be the most insistent and important responsibility of the victors.

Secondly, the arraignment of war criminals. The conscience of humanity demands this, as the expression of its repudiation of monstrous crime; and common justice calls for the punishment of those guilty of deliberate barbarity.

The third necessity is that the German people be compelled to help rebuild a Europe that German war lust has laid in ruins. They sweated and sacrificed for ten years to prepare for war. They should equally sweat and sacrifice to repair the devastation caused by the inhumanities of that war.

German megalomania must be cured. Can any remedy be more effective than military occupation of their country? A mere change of text-books will not restore their sanity. The only system of education that promises regeneration is to face the Germans with unyielding facts. The fact of defeat, the fact that they are not a superior race, the fact that their boasted invincibility is a lie. Military occupation of Germany is essential. The presence of troops from the occupied countries will have a humiliating, therefore salutary, effect on the *Herrenvolk*.

One cannot wholly like the proposed division of Germany into three military zones, administered by Russia, Great Britain and the United States respectively. After the last war, similar divided authority, resulting in wrangles and laxity, admirably served the turn of the German General Staff. A joint administration seems preferable, a united military command, empowered to establish uniform rules and regulations. This would obviate the conflicts and confusions inherent in three independent administrations.

It will be wise and necessary to demand reparations of Germany. The occupied countries, looted and despoiled, wait to be rebuilt. Their hungry inhabitants clamour to be clothed, fed and housed. Justice demands that the staggering cost be borne by Germany. Not by a Germany whose industries are destroyed, whose mines are closed, whose land has been reduced to a purely agricultural state. But by a Germany whose highly-specialised industries have been thrown into high gear to produce goods for devastated Europe. German industry will have to be harnessed to the European plough.

Finally, post-war planners should ride hard on German finance. All future borrowing by Germany should be very carefully examined before authorisation, and every precaution

WORLD YOUTH COUNCIL

The World Youth Council has planned a World Youth Conference for August. A pamphlet was sent to us about this, but it has mysteriously vanished out of Exec. Room. We have contacted some schools and youth organisations in the city: all were ignorant or uninterested.

We print below an account of the international Youth Conference held in 1942, as reported in the English "Student News."

In November, 1942, an international youth conference was held in London, and was attended by young people of 29 different countries. Here the World Youth Council was formed, and a call to action was made to the youth of the democratic world.

The object of the Council was to act as a link between the youth movements of the United Nations and their supporters, and to help develop friendly co-operation and understanding between young people. Its methods are educational, and it forms a clearing-house for information about young people of different countries, providing them with contact through periodicals, bulletins, the Press, radio, international conferences and the exchange of delegates.

Among the delegates to the Council are those from the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia.

An organisation such as this is certain to meet with the approval of young people throughout the Allied countries. Too long have we felt that the world of the future is being moulded by men of the past. The youth of the land, while doing its fair share toward the war effort, has had little or no say in the direction of things. Too often have we been forced to listen to the dictation of venerable greybeards, whose only claim to authority is their years. It is time the young people the world over united to form a new and better world, really fit for heroes to live in.

STUDENT RELIEF

So far we have raised only £110 1s 7d of our goal, but remember that if each student saves 10s during the year A.U.C. will raise nearly £800.

Here's how you might save 10s. To you it means being deprived of a little pleasure; to a student in China it means health; to a student in liberated Europe it means hope for the future:—

	s.	d.
One visit to the cinema, say ..	2	3
Two milk shakes	1	0
One morning or afternoon visit to the caf. each week for a term	4	0
One packet of cigarettes	0	9
Attendance at one coffee evening	1	0
Three single section tram rides	0	6
One beer	0	6
	10	0

Deny yourself these things and you will provide enough soy-bean milk to keep a Chinese student threatened with tuberculosis in reasonable health for three months; or supply the stationery used by a Yugoslav or Greek student in six months.

Five pounds will supply fuel for a month for a kerosene pressure lamp around which forty Chinese students can study.

Sixty pounds will make it possible for a liberated student to attend a College in England or America.

Five hundred pounds will operate for a year one student centre in China, with facilities for bathing, recreation and self-help. —M.H.J.

taken against its improper use. One does not easily forget that, between 1924 and 1930, by international and private loans, Germany received more than five billion dollars. Every cent of this was used in the preparation of war.

The fundamentals outlined above ensure that justice will be done. They are uncoloured by hate or revenge. If redemption is the German will, they leave the way open.

CANTERBURY COLLEGE

SEEN THROUGH AUCKLAND EYES

Tournament has come again, run its course and passed into history. Students from the four main colleges in N.Z. have met, competed against, fraternised with and, we hope, understood one another. Fellowship has been created and has given some meaning to the symbolic term "University of New Zealand." The University year of 1945, in spite of its manifold difficulties in other directions has received a thrilling impetus. Tournament, hitherto for most of us a novelty, has been revived. In spite of all obstacles—floods, money, railways, billets and isolationism—it has actually taken place. It is a vital part of our University once again.

Tournament can give the local student much but by no means everything necessary for an understanding of his fellows from other colleges. A.U.C. certainly saw V.U.C., but at a time when it was upside down with the Tournament invasion. For the bulk of Auckland students, Canterbury, Otago and even Victoria remain unknown quantities. Standards of comparison are therefore non-existent.

The sudden transition from the relative academic ease of a full-time arts student in Auckland to the physical reality of Air Force life in Christchurch was for me somewhat alleviated by the opportunity to nose around Canterbury College and learn a few things. Naturally, at first, I found myself a bit of a stranger. The outlook changed considerably, however, when I met some well-known Aucklanders. Mary McMillan, Tom Naylor, Ian Wilson and some others are all enjoying themselves in the novel position of freshers once again.

And so, after six weeks of intermittent attendance at C.U.C., it is interesting to reflect on the relative merits of the Canterbury and Auckland Colleges—particularly when it is done from the dispassionate distance and unsympathetic surroundings of a Southland Air Force harvest camp. Many of my judgments of "Canty" may be superficial—six weeks is not long—and they are recorded with an arts student's natural bias! On the credit side of C.U.C.'s account is the nature and disposition of the buildings

and the site upon which they are built. They have been constructed with some eye to design and plan, and the splendid quadrangles of grass lawns form a pleasant contrast with the cramped spaces at A.U.C. Yet while the aspect from the outside is so good, the inside of things is not quite so pleasant. The rooms and corridors have an appearance of age and wear. There is none of the freshness of the Auckland arts building. Many of the rooms are dingy and cold, and the desks look as if irresponsible fourth-formers have got to work on them.

There is a college feeling and spirit at "Canty" which we often proclaim is lacking in Auckland. Certainly a different atmosphere pervades the place—a more profound academic air, perhaps! Yet at C.U.C. it has degenerated somewhat into the formation of hard and fast cliques—those detestable creations A.U.C. always imagines it has in its midst. A generalisation in comparing the two staffs is impossible. It seems fair to add, however, that the lecturers I have met have shown extreme consideration and polite interest in a stray mobilised student from the north.

In the Christchurch College, clubs and societies seem to flourish with equal abandon and along similar lines. There is even a Tramping Club which tramps. The complete absence of a college cricket club, however, knocked me cold for a moment. I don't know how the place keeps going without it! On the other hand, the syllabus of the Music Club is a document to marvel at. Dr. Griffiths has drawn up a whole year's prospectus of lecture demonstrations, recitals and concerts for the three terms. Details are already published. The performances take place every Tuesday night, Thursday at lunch time, and once a month on Saturday nights. Records are used sparingly. Local artists are used widely, and their number seems to indicate that Christchurch possesses more active musicians than Auckland and is itself a much more musically-minded city. The programmes are always well attended by both students and public.

The C.U.C. Exec. is indeed a high and mighty body—hides itself behind locked doors, can only be seen at certain times and forbids anyone, on pain of ex-communication, to disturb it at other hours. It seems more conscious of its terrific importance than the A.U.C. Exec. "Canty" likewise shelters behind artificial barriers, and its activities seem shrouded in darkness and mystery.

What remains is very much in favour of Auckland. First, the A.U.C. caf., surprisingly enough, you may think, is streets ahead of its gloomy C.U.C. equivalent, where the meals are poor and niggardly and the atmosphere uninviting. Move up one, Mrs. Odd. Secondly, the Canterbury hall looks like the possession of an indifferent secondary school. Its door badly needs a painting, and its interior is unattractive and bare. It has a poor situation in the building, no balcony, and seems hardly the best place for successful dances. Lastly, the library is perhaps the worst feature of C.U.C.—cold, cheerless, miserably small and cramped. Again, however, the music section is far larger than that in Auckland and there are enough miniature scores to sink a ship.

And that, gentlemen, is all my evidence. Judge as you will. I myself think it leaves the two colleges about equal from the above points of view. Science, engineering, law and other departments remain a closed book to me. Yet there is one thing which seems to put A.U.C. easily in first place—the vigour, verve, vitality and efficiency of Marin Segedin and the Auckland haka party at Tournament. They were terrific.

Akarana!

—K.R.B.

THE POLISH QUESTION

A REPLY TO J.E.M.

Your little J.E.M. needs some severe cutting. This delightful piece of impertinent falsehood and political propaganda begins by visualising a day when the dictators of Soviet Russia will use their strength to demand "dishonourable and intolerable" decisions from the democracies. Why it does not realise that this day is here with the rape of Poland, I cannot imagine. Probably it springs from the usual wishful "Stalin-can't-do-wrong" ideas that usually emanate from fluffy-headed Pinks.

Your columnist further has the audacity deliberately to pervert the truth by stating that only one-third of the population of East Poland is Polish. This may be so now, since Russian censorship is watertight. God only knows what the Russians and Germans have managed to do between them to the poor citizens of democratic Poland. "Events simply happened" that Britain could no longer allow Hitler's aggression, and therefore guaranteed Poland, your J.E.M. airily states. And, apparently "events simply happened" that Russia determined to aid Hitler's aggression, grab what she wanted of Poland and Europe, and work hand in glove with her totalitarian neighbour until thieves fell out.

Let us never forget that Stalin's excuses for wanton attacks on Finland, Estonia, Lithuania and Poland were exactly the same as Hitler's for the rape of Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland—namely, security against attacks from totalitarian power wielded by imperialistic despots.

Your contributor, like Hitler and Stalin, objects to the protests of disinterested clerics. The Church has always been the bulwark against totalitarian power, and never is it more needed than in the present sad moment when, apparently, Stalin is to get what he always wanted in Europe, although to do it millions of lives have been lost. But what are millions to a ruler of 200,000,000 people? Vive the dictatorship of the proletariat—it pays the best dividends on the face of things.

—PRIVATE R.

[“Your little J.E.M.” (he presumes the adjective to apply rather to his mental calibre than to stature in feet and inches) finds himself in a novel role as a fluffy-headed Pink and a Communist Propagandist. Whatever may be his politics, they are not—he thinks—Soviet or anti-clerical; though it may be better to be one or both of these things than to be angry and prejudiced.—J.E.M.]

* * *

The worst sin toward our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them: that's the essence of humanity.—Shaw.

* * *

The greatest of faults is to be conscious of none.—Carlyle.

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ROOSEVELT

A POLITICAL ESTIMATE

President Roosevelt was one of the few American politicians who can honestly be said to have put the interests of his people before those of his family or his supporters. American politics, to an impartial critic, are the reverse of democratic: dominated by financial and industrial magnates and trusts, supported by intimidation, bribery and sometimes violence, with lucrative sinecures for the lucky political speculator, they would deter the most energetic of men. But Roosevelt, in spite of the opposition of the most unscrupulous racketeers, instituted many vital reforms.

When he was elected in 1932, America was experiencing the worst depression it had ever known. The capitalist system, with its profit-seeking motive, relies for its vigour entirely on expansion, either within the boundaries of the countries or in those where investment of profit is possible. American industry thrived during the last war and during the great expansion of the 'twenties. When it could expand no further the capitalist machine turned the full circle and broke down completely; there were over 12 million unemployed; and those who had jobs were wholly at the mercy of their employers—there were no strong unions, and strikes were crushed with inhuman severity. Hoover, the Republican President, adopted a timid conservatism and in all labour disputes supported Big Business, which was trying desperately to retain its profits.

The New Deal

Roosevelt brought in the New Deal; he introduced public works, subsidies for agriculture, labour camps and security against unemployment. By the outbreak of war the number of unemployed had been reduced to eight million, and those in industry were backed by powerful unions. Within the rigid framework of capitalism in its most vicious form he achieved all that energy and real feeling for the suffering of the common people could achieve. But beyond that he would not, or could not, go. As it was, he was only able to have his measures passed by utilising the support of conflicting groups, in the face of fanatical opposition, and blocked on many occasions by the Supreme Court.

In his foreign policy, too, he was on the side of liberalism, and acted always with impartiality and honesty. He was opposed to Fascism, and had America not been forced into the conflict, he might have brought her in on the Allied side. Here, too, especially in his Lend-Lease measures, he found strong opposition.

Opposition to Capitalists

It is in the nature of Big Business to put profit before humanity and power before honesty. American capitalists, with billions of dollars invested in Fascist Spain, Nazi armaments and Italian industry, were not concerned with ideals of freedom. To them “freedom” has a variety of meanings. The “best business” for them was to sell to all-comers, for cash—it did not matter to them if a few Americans might be killed by American bombs, or that American shells were landing among British troops in Belgium. They were isolationist, trading on the cosmopolitan nature of the population, and the disillusionment of the average citizen as far as foreign politics were concerned.

And the Future?

Roosevelt opposed this attitude before the entrance of Japan into the war, and since the active participation of America by his liberal attitude and his energy as a spokesman he has created a favourable impression the world over. It seems that in the peace conference of this war, as of the last, the dictates of three or four men, who ostensibly represent the majority of their countrymen, will form the basis of the future world order. If this is allowed to persist, the peace councils have lost a man whose moderation, integrity and strength of character will be hard to replace.

—R.M.



BY THE WAY....

The only notice board for “Lost and Found” notices is the one directly beneath the entrance lobby, near the stairs leading down from the library.

Congratulations to the enterprising student who escaped from the Caf. and pinned his 1s 6d bill rakishly on the hall notice board.

Contributions to “Rostrum” must be put in the Craccum box before June 10. General articles, short stories, poems and sketches are all wanted.

Judith Child is editing this year's “Kiwi.” Contributions must be in by August 1. Write or draw something over the first term vacation.

At a Craccum meeting recently mention was made of the lectures, two to the men and two to the women, currently being given on “Sex and Health.”

“Is anyone,” asked the Editor hopefully, “likely to be going to all four?”

Felicitations to Aileen Stanton and Alan Odell on their engagement.

SOME RECENT FILMS

"COLONEL BLIMP"



The "Blimp" of the film is not Low's Blimp; when one realises this there is no difficulty in understanding the theme. Basically, it is a whimsical and subtle justification of those British virtues which are the special butt of foreigners and cartoonists. The regular army officer is taken to be the embodiment of such qualities and his determination to keep them even in the middle of war with an unscrupulous foe looks like pig-headedness to the unsympathetic. Clive Candy, slow-witted, brave, conservative and straight-forward, until the end of his days and in spite of all opposition retains his belief that the fair player wins the fight. For the duration of the film at least one feels that something precious and important is disappearing from amongst our national characteristics.

Roger Livesey gives an excellent performance as "Blimp." The versatile Deborah Kerr plays the woman who reappears throughout his life as the personification of his exalted idea of feminine perfection. The German Army officer, whose part is skilfully interpreted by Anton Walbrook, represents much of the charm, courage and passionate love of home inherent in the Germany of the generation before our own.

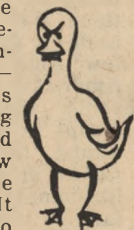
"THE HAIRY APE"



How many of you looked forward to "The Hairy Ape"? This is a film we expected to be good, but the small advertisements in the paper and the place where it was screened combined to make many of us put off going until too late. Hollywood, slowly, but yet more quickly than the popular Press, has at last ceased under-estimating human intelligence and is making pictures dealing with controversial and tangled issues. "The Hairy Ape," played by William Bendix, is a slow-witted boss stoker on a dirty old ship travelling between Lisbon and New York. "Who makes the ship go? ME!" he calls, again and again, and no one dare deny him. He lives by his brawn, and his God is the ship—until a rich and beautiful vamp, whose loveliness strikes him dumb, calls him a hairy ape. From that day on he knows no peace until he proves to his own satisfaction that he is a man after all. Apart from its aesthetic considerations, the film makes one think deeply that men ought never to be forgiven for treating other men like animals.

"THE DESERT SONG"

"The Desert Song," we thought, would be a re-make of the film we enjoyed so much years ago—only the magnificent songs were the same. The long list of script-writers and others before the show started were a hint of the hotch-potch to come. It seems that there was no integration of ideas; someone would think of a line, someone else would put it in, and the result was the worst piece of script-writing in years. The modernisation of the story was unnecessary. We have had so very much of this war that in a musical comedy we prefer another theme. For Dennis Morgan, one of the most promising of the young actors, we express our deep sympathy. He is versatile enough to have saved the film form a speedy extinction in second-rate theatres; his sunny presence, the music, galloping horses, the French inn-keeper, the street scenes and the desert at twilight are all we remember of a picture we are endeavouring speedily to forget.



—D. McC.

"MADAME CURIE"



Greer Garson seems to have been elected Hollywood's Perfect Wife. She has been Mrs. Miniver, Mrs. Chips and is now Madame Curie. Walter Pidgeon qualified as the Perfect Husband. In this film Madame Curie appears more convincingly as wife than as scientist, and Monsieur Curie seems a little shadowy and uncertain. But the long story of the search for radium is told clearly and simply and the length is never wearisome, as the length of the "Song of Bernadette" sometimes was. The scenes of the engagement and marriage were rather coy, but the scenes of Pierre's death balanced them with sincere feeling. This is an excellent narrative film, the fascinating story of radium.

—J.S.

CHURCH COMPLAINTS

Sir,—A few weeks ago an article appeared in the "Herald" in which a certain church denounced dancing as "immoral and degrading." However, the pure-minded prelates unbent sufficiently to qualify their condemnation with the remark that "dances in which contact is not made," such as folk-dances, could be indulged in, without risk to the immortal soul, or the fleshly garment thereof. What a charming picture! Fresh lads and lasses, hand-in-hand, pirouetting gracefully about the garland-decked Maypole, to the stirring strains of Harry James and his Music Makers! Or would the good churchmen prefer something a little more sober? A rhythmic beating of the hands, to the accompaniment of a well-manipulated clashing of skulls, in a "dim, religious light," with a background, perhaps, of hep-cats and zoot-suiters gnashing their teeth?

The Church is complaining, too, probably more from a sense of neglect than anything else, about the opening of cinemas on Sundays. Sunday has been set aside as a day of rest and relaxation from the week's work. Undoubtedly the Church has more opportunities for winning the erring into the paths of righteousness than the American-spawned movies, but it seems a little malicious to victimise the theatres because it has not the insight to take advantage of those opportunities. The desire for entertainment is stronger than that for edification. Should service people on their leave sit around and contemplate their past sins? Such a course would be conducive not to repentance, but to suicide.

Finally, the Church wishes to close bars on V-Day, on different grounds, of course, from those of some over-worked barman who wanted a holiday. How is it to be celebrated? With a soft drink in one hand and a balloon in the other, raising patriotic but strictly non-alcoholic hurrahs? There is a large section of the population who makes any occasion an excuse for celebration. They should need no excuse on this occasion, and if they wish to express their joy by toasting each other, why should the envious ecclesiastics show their teeth?

WHISKEY.

DB LAGER
The Great Favourite
from the **WAITEMATA MODEL BREWERY**

OPEN FORUM

Correspondents are requested to limit letters to 300 words.

CONCERNING SOAKERS

Sir,—May I put forward a suggestion for the formation of a new club for our alma mater.

I would like to see the institution of the "Soakers' Circle" for our more manly members with their cast-iron constitutions and fine, upstanding moral principles. This would enable these gallant gourmards to imbibe ad nauseam without waiting for a tournament to get them away from their familiar surroundings and those who honour and respect them.

If these morons wish to pollute our society with their licentious habits let them pursue their activities in some private bar room where they can resort to their primitive instincts without dragging the name of our worthy college down to the synonymic levels of their fermented three per cent.

Things have certainly progressed if this spineless section in our midst which has to be sated with spirituous liquors at any and every available opportunity, represents the modern youth.

DISGUSTED.

BOARD FOR STUDENTS

Sir,—In the issue of Craccum dated March 21 "J.E.B." has expressed some very strong sentiments in connection with board for students.

One must agree with him that country students have found it extremely difficult to obtain board, and that although this position has obtained for some years, no concrete action has been taken by the College Council to overcome this problem by providing a Student Hostel.

Had his article been confined to these facts it would have met with general approval, but when he dealt with the response by Church organisations to assist in obtaining billets he either took the opportunity to make a deliberate and malicious attack on the Bishop of Auckland or was so intent upon writing in a vindictive mood that he failed to weigh his words or check his facts.

In the course of his article, in speaking of the Bishop, "J.E.B." says: "We feel that however much a person in his position may personally dislike students," a statement which can be capable of no other interpretation than that the Bishop has a personal dislike for students. If this were a fact then no offence could be taken. But it is obvious that "J.E.B." does not know the Bishop, and in directing a personal attack upon a prominent man is using the freedom of Press enjoyed by the official student publication of the College to make untrue and unwarranted allegations.

An official student journal should be one publication that should give a lead in reporting the unbiassed truth; it should not be the means of allowing students to have published untrue and vindictive statements that can cause only harm and disunity.

From my own personal acquaintance with the Bishop I say that he is one person who is wholeheartedly in support of University education and that he personally has been the means of making possible a University education for many students of Auckland College. To say that he dislikes students is a direct contradiction of fact. Further, I can also state that the Bishop has long been active in endeavouring to obtain board for students.

I trust that these few lines will help to correct the inaccurate statements expressed by "J.E.B."

K. J. MACKIE.

[Mr. Mackie has dutifully defended his bishop. However, we do not feel at liberty to publish the exact wording of a telephone conversation.—Ed.]

* * *

Our political experiment of democracy, the last refuge of cheap misgovernment.—Shaw.

SCIENCE STUDENTS

Sir,—We read with interest a letter in your last issue by Mr. G. H. Walsham. Although we agree with his views on Craccum, we resent the implication that the Science students in general are "assisted and sheltered until they have completed their degree, and expect even then to be allowed to proceed unhindered on their self-centred little way." His general remarks on the attitude of a number of the Science students to the war effort were also entirely uncalled for.

The following data concerning advanced Science students (Stage III, and Honours) may, however, induce your correspondent to change his views on the subject. Men students only are included.

Ex overseas service	10
Ex home defence	8
Recently mobilised	16
Unfit for overseas service	14
Under age for overseas service	19

Making a total of 67 out of 71 students. The remaining five students are held on appeal by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Director of National Service.

In view of the above evidence, we think it only right that Mr. Walsham should retract his statements in the next issue of Craccum. If he wishes, he may check up on the above data on application to the Editor of Craccum.

ADVANCED SCIENCE STUDENTS.

Sir,—To dogmatise as Mr. Walsham did in the last issue of Craccum concerning the students of the Science Faculty can only invoke comment and make obvious one thing, i.e., he is entirely ignorant of the whole situation.

Has Mr. Walsham investigated the complete history of every person who is a member of the accused faculty, asking whether that person has seen either service in N.Z. or abroad, or whether he is yet of military age, or whether he is fit for military service; and, should he conform with any of the latter conditions, whether he is studying at the college with the sanction of the Manpower? These are fundamental questions and ones which he should investigate before proceeding to make false accusations and ridiculous assumptions.

The answers to each of the above are quite straight forward and in every case contradict Mr. Walsham's accusations. Obviously there are people in the Faculty who have seen service both abroad and at home and who are now proceeding with a course of study to fit themselves for vital positions both during the war and in the post-war world. With regard to those who are under age, surely they are entitled to have a professional training behind them when the chances are offering and to which they are able to fall back when they, in turn, become ex-servicemen? Then, again, there are those who are medically unfit for the Services, and no matter how much they want to serve in this capacity, physical disabilities have prevented them. Hence they can assist the country's war efforts only if they are professionally trained. Their presence at the college becomes obvious. Everyone knows, including Mr. Walsham, we hope, that there is a rigid body of people in the Manpower Department who dictates our every movement. We, like everyone else, cannot do as we please and "continue unhindered in our self-centred little ways."

Hence we must be classified "bona fide" students with a definite purpose in view.

We can only consider Mr. Walsham's indictment as an insult and make strong suggestions that he make the necessary apologies. Finally, we deplore Mr. Walsham's complete lack of every dry humour.

Stage III, Honours Students.

SCIENCE FACULTY.

Grades II. and III., under age.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE ALTERNATIVE ATOM SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

On Monday, April 16, Mr. Bruce Morton talked to a rather small but select audience on "The Alternative Atom," in which he presented an entirely radical picture of the atom. Unfortunately time did not permit him to adequately cover the ground, but in the enthusiastic discussion which followed during supper, the audience cleared up many points for themselves.

On Tuesday, April 10, an excursion was held to the Auckland Gas Works, which gives a good insight into large-scale chemical engineering. The interest and enthusiasm shown by members of the gas works staff, especially the chemist, Mr. Stansfield, did much to make the afternoon both instructive and profitable.

The Society expresses deep regret at the passing of its president, Prof. T. L. Lancaster. He had always shown keen interest, and his willing help and co-operation contributed largely to its successful running. Professor Lancaster's death leaves a void in Scientific circles which will be difficult to fill.

LIFE IN TAHITI MOD. LANGS. CLUB

On Thursday, April 12, this club was fortunate in being addressed by M. Etienne Micard. His subject, "Impressions de la vie a Tahiti," was one on which he showed himself eminently qualified to speak.

M. Micard gave information on a variety of topics, from vegetation to femininity. He disillusioned the male members in respect to the paradise depicted on the posters. He divided the island's inhabitants into three categories—those afflicted mentally, morally and melancholically—"mad, bad and sad." These complaints were contagious and it was difficult to get away from Tahiti unaffected. M. Micard mentioned the tendency of those with the first-mentioned affliction to insist on all-comers joining their activities. Fortunately, he had been able to resist their influence and ultimately leave Tahiti perfectly normal.

All speeches in a foreign language are extremely valuable to a modern languages club, and the applause accorded M. Micard showed that the ample audience fully realised this.

EARTH AND FIRE FIELD CLUB

To date we have held our A.G.M., a film evening, two trips to Swanson hut, and a lecture.

The lecture—"Earth and Fire"—was delivered by our student chairman, Mr. Brothers. It was both enjoyable and educational; those present now know, among other things, the difference between stalagmites and stalactites—the tites fall down and the mites grow up.

Doctor Briggs will be giving his presidential address early next term, so look out for notices about time, place and subject.

May camp will be held in the Hunuas—probably in the first week (more definite arrangements will be posted on the Biology notice board). Everyone is welcome, and you don't have to be a natural science student to enjoy a holiday with Field Club. If you are interested in the "ologies," F.C. offers unrivalled opportunities for studying "life in the wild." Botanists who walk with the shadow of "40 specimens labelled and pressed" over them should be equally interested.

PUBLIC SPEAKING DEBATING CLUB

On Monday, March 19, Mr. L. K. Munro, editor of the N.Z. Herald, gave an address on public speaking to the Debating Club. Mr. Rodwell was in the chair.

Mr. Munro classified public speak-

ing under four headings—debating, oratory, public addresses and broadcasting. Speaking of oratory, Mr. Munro warned us particularly against becoming ridiculous when speaking. English audiences did not, he maintained, appreciate heroics, nor did they admire "gush" on the part of a speaker.

Mr. Munro then gave us some rules for public speaking—which, he said, were frequently ignored. The first rule was to speak distinctly. It was surprising how few people spoke really clearly, Mr. Munro said.

The second point applied particularly to New Zealanders. This was the avoidance of a nasal accent.

Thirdly, Mr. Munro warned us against using either affectations, such as the Oxford accent, or vulgarisms, as for example the habit of speaking as the man-in-the-street. "A well-educated colonial," Mr. Munro said, "should have no need of these devices."

Mr. Munro next passed to the common fault of dropping the voice at the end of sentences or phrases. It was a good idea, he said, occasionally to stress the end of a word or sentence, for emphasis.

Short, simple sentences and words of Anglo-Saxon origin had been found to be the most effective by public speakers to-day, Mr. Munro said, rather than long involved sentences containing words of Latin derivation. Mr. Munro considered an easy manner to be a great asset in public speaking. Very often this would have to be cultivated, but the result would be worth the trouble taken.

Finally, Mr. Munro told us that to be a public speaker would entail much hard work and much practice, but that given these, with ambition and the ability to play with language a public speaker might achieve great things.

WHY WAR? EVANGELICAL UNION

At a Sunday Tea on April 15, Mr. R. A. Laidlaw, recently returned after five years among the Armed Forces in England and Europe, spoke on the subject "Why War?"

Many explanations of the phenomenon of war have been offered and many cures for it suggested. Kings and princes, the aristocrat, the capitalist and the munitions maker have all variously been selected as scapegoats. Education has been thought to be the desired panacea for the evil of war—and yet we have seen the most brilliant inventions of peace become the most horrible weapons of war. Men have sought to promote goodwill between the nations, but their efforts, like the Tower of Babel, have failed because they were attempts to accomplish this solely by human means.

"No, it is not because man is silly, that there is war, but because he is

sinful." The fault lies in the hearts of the individuals who in the composite make up the nation. Internal strife in the hearts of men is expressed in external strife between nations. But, and importantly, this sin is not necessarily gross immorality, but rather pride, arrogance and selfishness, qualities which are characteristic of men to-day.

To the question: "Which is the greatest commandment?" Christ's answer was twofold: "Love thy God" and then "Love thy neighbour." But the second cannot be accomplished without the first. Man is primarily out of harmony with God, and because of this is out of harmony with his fellow man.

The solution is to be found in the Person of Jesus Christ. Having accepted His sacrifice and fulfilled the first of these commandments, internal strife ceases in the heart of a man. Then can the spirit of goodwill and brotherhood, for which the League of Nations strove, be realised between man, and when there are sufficient individuals who have accepted this sacrifice, war will cease.

Our next Sunday Tea will be held in the Women's Common Room at 4.30 p.m. on June 15.

IRISH COMEDY DRAMATIC CLUB

On Thursday evening, April 19, Dramatic Club made a belated debut for 1945 with the Irish playwright Sean O'Faolain's three-act comedy "She Had To Do Something." It all went to prove that the not-so-nice people are the most exciting—in a play. In an atmosphere of Irish fog, French audacity and Russian naivete the characters revealed themselves in wave after wave of daring wit and repartee. The climax left one slightly frustrated, or, less likely, thinking.

Barbara Bell, as the excitable Frenchwoman, Maxine Arnold, was sufficiently French and sufficiently temperamental to dominate the whole play with an energetic foreign vivacity so repugnant to Irish minds. The Canon, David Dunningham, was particularly outraged, and, with his subtle changes of tone, kept a nice balance between piety and worldly cunning, prompted, of course, by higher motives. In a slow drawl, Marshall Hobson as Mr. Arnold, suitably conveyed his laissez-faire attitude to the whole thing.

The other characters were good, it seemed, in relation to their enjoyment of their roles. Richard Savage was touchingly happy as leader of the rabble. John Chilwell, on the other hand, as Mr. Moran the poet-clerk, seemed embarrassed, and his interpretation suffered accordingly.

FRESHER CONTEST DEBATING CLUB

Even after the majority of the Freshers had emphatically declined the all too briefly accessible pleasure of speaking in the Freshers' Contest, twelve potential debaters walked more or less less confidently on to the stage. Compared with the last two years the average of the speeches was surprisingly high. Most of the speakers appeared quite at home on the stage if not in the gowns. Most of them had made some attempt to copy the would-be cynical attitude of their elders if not their betters, but a very impractical youthful idealism obviously still exerts a strong influence on their ideas of 'Varsity 1950. As Freshers they were distinguished by an almost universal earnest sincerity, total lack of humour, in many cases by slovenly pronunciation and bad grammar, and in the majority by a lack of comprehension concerning the magnitude of the task of dislodging 'Varsity 1945 from its accustomed rut. This latter will no doubt dawn on them as they become older; when the other faults have been corrected, many of them should make excellent debaters.

Mr. Dunfort placed the first three speakers as follows:—

1. Mr. Mervyn Hancock.
2. Mr. Gillespie.
3. Mr. Laing.

We thought some others also deserved credit. Miss Latta, who perhaps would be more at home in Dramatic Club. Her voice and delivery were very good.

John Hooker, who gave one of the most vigorous speeches of the evening.

R. Hane, with Mr. Wren, the only speaker who amused us.

On the whole we had quite a good evening, and with these speakers added to their number Debating Club should have quite a happy year.

June Savage as Julie and Peter Robinson as Dr. Beasley were somewhat disappointing, due perhaps to their being miscast. Miss Savage was out of her element as a sophisticated young modern and lacked lightness of touch. Lynette Cox and Charles Hoffman, as the Russian dancers, complete with Russian accent and artless gaiety, were excellent.

The audience, who were not noticeably Puritan, applauded with gusto. Gay Garland and Shirley Grant, as producers, are to be congratulated on a good evening's entertainment.

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might have
meant
a blonde —

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SPORTS

BASKETBALL CLUB

At the annual general meeting the following officers were elected for the coming season:—

Club Captain: Shirley Marcroft.

Vice-Captain: Mira Parsons.

Secretary: Dorothy Wilshire.

Committee: Betty Macdonald, Fay Roberts, Jeannette Whitehead, Joan Hastings (Fresher member).

A tribute was paid to the work and leadership of the retiring Club Captain, Val Wyatt, who was elected an honorary life member of the Club.

Mention was made of the fact that the A.U.C. team at Tournament lacked the polish and combination of a winning team, chiefly through lack of anyone to practice against. It is to be hoped that in future years Freshers will show their loyalty to the Club by seeing that this does not happen again.

Freshers were welcomed and urged not to think that our standard might be too high—note our score against Otago! The first practice was promising, although there must be something very wrong with 'Varsity spirit if, out of so many hundred girls, we can barely make up three basketball teams.

We also suggest that a few "Akaranas" and blue and yellow caps at Windmill courts might do wonders to a drooping team. Come and cheer us on!

Play for 'Varsity!

MEN'S HOCKEY CLUB

The following officers were elected at the annual general meeting:—President, S. G. White; club captain, D. Jones; secretary, T. Thorp (temporary); committee, J. Beard, A. Evans, B. Kennedy, A. Moorhead, R. Thomas.

It is the intention of the Club to enter a team in each of the three top grades this season. As we are still short of a few players, any male capable of holding a hockey stick who is keen on running up and down grassy paddocks may be sure of a hearty welcome.

Last season V.U.C. were able to enter six teams in the local competitions. As Auckland students display approximately half the desire of their fellow students down South to take part in extra-curricular affairs, we should be able to fill up three teams. We must deplore the complete lack of sportsmanship and good breeding shown by 'Varsity students who, finding themselves unable to qualify for our senior team, depart to clubs of apparently lower calibre in the hope of going up a grade. The club is trying to eliminate any possible grounds for excuse by playing during the season only those members who are eligible for Tournament.

Hockey is a game which should appeal to all intelligent persons, offering as it does in its fast movement and varied patterns unlimited possibilities for clean or dirty play. All games finish well before the pubs close. Any persons looking for good sport and an opportunity to be of use to the College should leave letters addressed to the SECRETARY or CLUB CAPTAIN in the letter rack, stating phone number if possible. They will be promptly answered, with a criticism of the grammar attached if requested.

RADIO DRAMA LITERARY CLUB

On Wednesday, April 18, "Radio Drama" was the subject of a speech by Mr. John Gundry. The speaker treated all aspects of the subject with a practical object, namely, of instructing the audience in the elements of writing a radio play. He demonstrated clearly his familiarity with this form of expression in which he has achieved considerable success. The reason for this was apparent from the criticism he made of current radio dramas, and from his exposition of the essentials of what he rightly termed an art.

Professor Sewell drew some interesting parallels detectable in Shakespeare's problem and those of the cinema director and the radio dramatist.

WIRELESS WAVES

12M HIT PARADE

A new session worthy of notice is the "Hit Parade" from 12M on Monday evenings. This was originally designed as a request session, and it compares very favourably with the 12B Session at noon on Sundays. The announcer from 12M carries on the programme with the minimum of comment, and thereby enables several more records to be played than would be possible if he rather fancied himself as a personal orator. I cannot help feeling that the 12B "request session" would be a greater success if the announcer realised that people request records and not his own peculiar brand of verbosity.

ONE WAY AND ANOTHER

I can no longer restrain an objection to the 12B feature "One Way and Another." The idea of suggesting a few words and then getting someone to build a story around them is an old one and an interesting one, but the presenters have reduced the feature to absurdity. The authors make no attempt to establish a reasonable connection between the elements of the story. As long as they

CRACCUM STAFF

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Copy for the next issue of Craccum will close on Tuesday, May 29, at 6 p.m. MSS. may be left in the Craccum box (on Exec. room door), or posted to the Editor. MSS. need not be typewritten, but must be legibly written, on one side of the paper only. If MSS. are typewritten, double spacing must be used. All MSS. must bear the name of the writer; a nom-de-plume may be added for publication purposes.

The opinions expressed in articles and reviews are not necessarily those of the editorial staff.

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PROFESSOR KEYS' BROADCAST

The difference between seeing and hearing a lecturer was manifested by the talk of Professor Keys in the "Winter Course" series from 1YA. His subject was "Music and Musicians in Literature." Usually the Professor is a very entertaining speaker; his expressive gestures and ingenious ad-libbing keep the hearer constantly amused. But over the air these little mannerisms are, of course, absent, and so, though his matter was well collected and very interesting, he seemed hesitant and ill at ease.



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