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# CRACCUM

THE  
JOURNAL  
OF  
AUCKLAND  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE

Vol. 19, No. 11—Price Threepence.

Friday, Oct. 5, 1945.

## REVUE 1946

Next year we are resolved to hold a Review. The portfolio-holder is a very determined woman, and already has things under control. Mr. Charles Zambucka, of previous Revue fame, has promised to write and produce the Revue. In the traditional manner of Revues, Mr. Z. will present us with an outline of the first act early in April, and while said act is in rehearsal, Mr. Z.'s heat-oppressed brain will produce the second. This, we are assured, is the way to ensure spontaneity.

### Cast:

If you (poor soul) bear any resemblance to Shirley Temple, Professor Fitt, or the atomic bomb; if you sing and/or shake like Kate Smith or Carmen Miranda; if you are yearning to execute the "Dance of the Hours" (à la Disney or otherwise); if you desire to display your rhythmic undulations swathed strategically in butter muslin (the quantity will not affect your coupons); if you fondly imagine your legs are as lovely as lissom Lamour's—Mr. Denny will be interested; or if you have the simian appeal of Johnny Weissmuller; if your moustache bristles as enchantingly as Errol Flynn's; if you can breathe bewitching blandishments like Boyer—Miss Bell will be interested.

### Procession:

After due meditation and a suitable number of wherebys and heretofores, the City Council, with commendable cautions, has decided to hold a peace celebration in November (Christmas will be held as usual); and in addition to cordially inviting the Exec. to a children's party, the Council has asked the co-operation of students in a procession. Student processions have been forbidden over the past few years, owing to a regrettable incident which occurred in John Court's in the course of the last procession. However, we hope that our participation in the peace celebrations will prejudice the Council in our favour when we apply to hold a Revue procession next year. We hope, we hope. Mr. Rayner says he blushes to think what is going in that procession.

If you have any bright ideas, take them to a member of Revue Committee.

Chairman: B. M. Bell.  
House Manager: R. Denney.  
Producer: C. Zambucka.  
Advertising: J. A. Nathan.  
Secretary: J. Blennerhassett.  
Business Manager: P. Robinson.  
Costumes: T. Stokes.  
Procession: J. Rayner.

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## MEMORANDUM CLUB SECRETARIES

The practice of printing a College Handbook is to be resumed, and for this, write-ups of Clubs will be necessary. Would Secretaries hand in a general outline of their Club's future programme for the encouragement especially of next year's freshers, together with a list of Club Officers for 1946, to the Chairman, Publications Committee, c/o Executive Room, by Friday, October 5?

\* \* \*

## APOLOGY

We apologise to Miss Nora Bayly for having omitted her name from the list of the Women's House Committee published in our last issue.

## EXEC. MEETING

Exec. seated itself around the table at 6.30 on September 10, the night of the Staff play-reading. Mr. Morton for some reason had gravitated to the other side of the table, taking his seat next to Miss Garland. This upsets another tradition, but does not necessarily (as Mr. Morton pointed out) establish a precedent. Various members having promised to resign or merely walk out if the meeting did not finish by 8 p.m., Mr. Piper promised to do his best.

The correspondence revealed that the council is asking the Prof. Board's opinion on Student Representation on the Council. Mr. Piper wondered if "the Registrar would write to Exec. asking its opinion," not to mention the caretaker and Mrs. Odd. Exec. had also received a letter from the Town Clerk asking its support in celebrations "fittingly to celebrate the signing of peace"—V. J. Day, if you remember it. There is apparently to be a parade and sporting events—and to cap all, a children's party, in which Mr. Jones and Mr. Morton displayed uncalled-for interest. The President and Secretary are to attend the preliminary meetings, so it will undoubtedly be a good show.

The N.Z.A.A.A. had written protesting at some length that they "only wished to safeguard the interests of athletes." One very active member thought Exec. might "just deplore the attitude of the A.A.A." Finally, the Secretary was instructed to reply "in a suitable vein." The Secretary, obviously a Law Student, said "he had a wizard letter all jacked up."

At this stage some one saw fit to advise that Craccum be made available to the public. Mr. Piper thought the station would be an excellent place, as the travelling public buys anything. He would know, of course.

Mr. Morton read the Inter-College correspondence in a slightly husky voice. The lady clerical assistant may have made work easier, but can't really be brought to the meetings, so things are still rather difficult. Mr. Beard was moved to pity, and made a praiseworthy and much-needed attempt to brighten the meeting by moving that "some sort of mimeograph be purchased for use of Mr. Morton in reading the introduction to his letters." He trusted that "the committee as a whole would co-operate in the matter," but other members of our promising new Exec. were either already asleep, absent or too apathetic to open their mouths, much less second the motion.

By now Exec. was getting down to the agenda—Item 5 Blues. We were informed that "Blues Committee sat last year but had nothing to sit on." Mr. Piper was of the opinion that this must have been "frightfully uncomfortable." On this occasion Exec. truly distinguished itself. It descended just to compare itself with Oxford, then, finding this totally inadequate, switched over to the University of London. The calmly complacent way in which these names were handed round the table was rather astonishing to a Press which perhaps suffers from an inferiority complex.

So we came by devious means to "Tamaki." This is always good for an hour's discussion. If anything is ever done about it, it will probably be an anti-climax. Mr. Piper volunteered to read Dr. Anshutz's letter and pointed out that "we couldn't get

a physical education in the present block," but did not become specific. However, Mr. Piper was determined to be far-sighted ("for what will posterity think of us if we don't") and announced prophetically that in fifty years Tamaki would be a University City. Exec. members took this very well, but the Press, being of necessity perhaps slightly more interested in proceedings, thought "Oh, yeah?" Finally Exec. decided it really should let Council know its opinion in the matter.

Mr. Haresnape was of the opinion that we should have a chapel—"if the religion is a good one, and I think Christianity is one of the best." Mr. Haresnape had spent about eight hours cleaning out Exec. room. This, of course, is excellent training. In the course of these operations he had found half the agenda, which, with characteristic modesty, he labelled "Item 7, old picture frames." Actually the "old picture frames" consisted of:

- (a) One arm of chair.
- (b) Pair of broken-down shoes which Mr. H. had modestly wrapped in a small piece of paper.
- (c) Several picture frames of various sizes.
- (d) Several odd lengths of timber.

The outstanding question now was, "What shall I do with them?" Mr. Haresnape announced that he "refused to walk down Victoria Street to say 'Hi, lkey, what'll you give me for the junk?'" He rather effectively flourished one or two pieces of timber under the noses of Exec., who, on awakening, merely pointed out that, following precedent, "we are not within our rights to destroy them." Miss Montague could see no reason why they "should not be legally destroyed," and very practically suggested giving them to the M.H.C. Mr. Piper was horrified by the suggestion. "It might establish a precedent, and before we know where we are we'll have the men burning the furniture." So he suggested "Put 'em back where you found 'em." Mr. Beard emerged from the silence into which he had been plunged (meditating no doubt, on man-hours or Dunedin) to announce "If you do that he'll only bring them up again at the next meeting."

Mr. Denny, who is endeavouring to add "atmosphere" to the M.C.R. and had not noticed the size of the frames, suggested polishing them and using them to frame photos of football teams to decorate the walls. Immediately Mr. Beard and Mr. Jones, in rather injured tones, wanted to know why they couldn't hang photos of hockey teams "and polish them too." The way Mr. Beard and Mr. Jones defend hockey and hockey players in these meetings has to be seen to be believed. At this stage someone tactfully moved Exec. on to the next item—Ratification of Standing Committees. The personnel of M.H.C. was discussed at some length. Exec. was rather rocked to find an R.S.M. among the number. As Mr. Piper pointed out, "it's not a good type." Mr. Piper's omniscience is more than astonishing.

The Revue and Publications Committees caused some discussion. Mr. Beard, for some obscure reason, was heard to remark, "We must bear in mind the continuity of these things." Discussion became more or less private and tended to get out of control.

## ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY 1946

Page 140 of the College Calendar states that regular practice for players of orchestral instruments is provided by the University Orchestral Society. But those students who play orchestral instruments will have noticed that the society has not lived up to its prospectus. This has become a matter for observation by so many that a determined and serious effort is being made to set the society on its feet again so that it can begin actively in 1946. A personal canvassing campaign has been undertaken, but the committee would not like to risk overlooking any person interested. If, therefore, you play an orchestral instrument and have not been approached, please write a note to the Secretary (Orchestral Society, c/o Auckland University College), stating the instrument you play.

If you play a fiddle,  
An oboe or a drum,  
A trumpet or a trombone,  
We want you to come.  
First term next year  
Starts anew  
Orchestral Society  
For people like you.  
For every person  
Who wants to make  
Musical noises  
For music's sake.  
So if you play the 'cello,  
The horn or bassoon,  
If you find pleasure  
In making a tune—  
Bring along your instrument,  
Don't be shy,  
You can't tell what you  
Can do till you try.  
It may be a symphony,  
Don't aim low,  
Or accompanying cantatas,  
Time will show.  
So if you play a piccolo,  
Clarinet or gong,  
Any instrument you like,  
Bring it along.  
[A flute would suit.—Ed.]

Miss Garland and Miss Bell, at opposite ends of the table, were fighting over possession of Mr. Rayner, who was being tossed back and forth between Procession and Publicity. Mr. Piper was making the usual puns; Mr. Haresnape was meditating aloud on married life; Mr. Morton's cold, unfortunately, kept him quiet, but Miss Garland, on his right, was making up for the loss (?); Miss Laidlaw was using her eyes (on which Mr. Piper had earlier commented) to some purpose; Mr. Laing was rather strangely fairly quiet, and the Press went on stubbing out cigarettes on the billy Mr. Haresnape had thoughtfully provided.

As this report may or may not have indicated, there was during the evening much talk of publicising the College. As the meeting showed some signs of closing, Mr. Laing was moved to make a beautifully constructed impromptu (?) speech which kept Exec. until 8.20. At this hour they broke up the meeting to go to supper or the play reading. Much had perhaps been accomplished, but it had been accomplished in an astonishingly dull, business-like and humourless manner. The redeeming feature of the last Exec. was its humour; of this one it will probably be the brevity and boredom of the meetings.



## STUDENT RELIEF 1945

The Student Relief Committee for 1945, originally consisting of representatives from the various college clubs, has been considerably modified this year to include some who are not delegates from particular clubs, but merely interested in the activities. The present committee are:

Chairman: Mr. Rodwell.  
Secretary: J. Sargent.  
Treasurer: M. Brand.  
Representative of Exec.: L. Laidlaw.

Committee: N. Bayly, W. Baker, B. Bell, J. Harwood, M. Lamb, M. Robinson, P. Conlon, L. Izod, J. Nathan and J. Rutherford.

The committee owes its thanks to the energy and resourcefulness of its chairman, Mr. Rodwell, and to the activity of Prof. Keys, who has looked after the social side.

The objective for 1945 was £750. So far we have realised £492/17/-, with little chance of totalling more than £500 by the end of the year. In 1943 A.U.C. raised £380, in 1944 £552. Last year the figures for the other colleges were: C.U.C. £730, O.U. £600, and V.U.C. £672/-.

It may be of interest to students to learn the most lucrative sources of our income; most of them are aware of the methods.

Work days.	£	s.	d.
April 14	97	6	6
July 21	78	11	0
Appeal to Graduates	98	12	4
Appeal to Schools	38	8	6
Club Donations:			
Modern Languages Club	36	18	2
Music and Dramatic Clubs	14	6	8
Literary Club	4	0	0
Architects' Society	3	18	0
Play Reading (Prof. Sewell)	3	7	6
Debating Club	1	8	8
Student Collectors	8	6	10
W.E.A. Dramatic Club	22	10	0

The Work Days were successful, although the greater number of women available than men made it impossible to satisfy many employers, who wanted male students. Our thanks go to Mr. Thompson and Mr. Blaiklock for their work in fitting students to jobs, and their tact in dealing with the few employers whose students hadn't turned up.

The response of Graduates was gratifying; we are hoping that this source will yield more yet.

The Clubs who contributed to the fund are to be congratulated, the effort of the Modern Languages Club being particularly magnificent.

Returns from the weekly collections have not been overwhelming, but this is due perhaps rather to the human frailty of some collectors than to the contributors.

Our activities this year seem to have been more widely known outside 'Varsity, and substantial donations have come from people not connected with the College.

Last year N.Z. raised £2600. This year it has every possibility of reaching the £3000 mark.

Activities of the W.S.S. during the war:—

The visiting of secretaries to prison camps in Germany.

Books and instruments were sent to prisoners of all nations, and students in occupied countries.

Where the W.S.S. officials could not make personal contacts, they worked through local national committees like the Entr'aide Universitaire in France and the twenty-five local committees in China.

W.S.S. have concentrated mainly on financial aid, books, clothing, blankets, medical supplies, and temporary recreation centres where possible. A successful project has been the maintenance by W.S.S. of a "Maison d'accueil" in the Savoy Mountains, for the convalescence of students.

In China the National Committee of Student Relief, sponsored by the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A., and the W.S.S. are both working to help students. Despite the Ministry of Education regulations for Student

# Craccum

Editor: J. A. NATHAN

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## STUDENT REPRESENTATION

In our issue of June 28 we published a report concerning student representation on the College Council. Since that date no reference has been made to the matter in our columns, for during this period the council had referred the question to a sub-committee for consideration. Students will have read in the Press that, acting on the recommendation of the committee, the Council is unable to see its way to granting the request of the students. It was stated that the motion was rejected by five votes to four, two members abstaining.

Most students cannot but be puzzled at the decision; for it would seem that the voting of five to four could in no circumstances have come about. From the account, it is clear that Professor Davis and the Hon. B. Martin favoured the innovation. Mr. Cocker also spoke for representation, and no one will doubt that he backed up his words, if for no other reason than that he represents the graduates. For naturally all the representatives of ex-students would vote for student representation; so the votes of Messrs. Munro and Robb must also have been cast in favour. About Mr. Munro there can certainly be no question; his celebrated leaders on democracy, youth, and the new world—not to mention the views he has expressed as President of the Auckland Grammar School Old Boys—leave no doubt as to where he stands. One can only conclude that the report of his words was an extract divorced from its context. The sympathy of Professor Fitt towards students is so marked as to be almost embarrassing. He is reported as having told the Executive at the beginning of this year that as an educationalist he realised that times had changed, and that student problems must be attacked differently from those of his day. In his address he emphasised the difficulties of achieving co-operation between staff and students; but it was clear that if any step towards this end was possible, Professor Fitt would be foremost in the vanguard of progress and reform. But this is superfluous, for Professor Fitt represents the Professorial Board, which had voted by a majority in favour of student representation. It also appeared that Mr. A. H. Johnstone, K.C., suggested that representation should be refused because topics might come up in the discussion of which the presence of a student might be embarrassing. This, too, is strange. Mr. Johnstone is an extremely able lawyer, and we are unwilling to believe that he had not noticed in the letter of application that the student member only asked to sit in on all discussions relevant to student affairs. No request to be present at all meetings was advanced, and it was clear that the student member expected to work on the Canterbury system, that is, absent himself if the Chairman should consider it desirable. Hesitating between the three divergent precedents in the south, perhaps Mr. Johnstone judiciously abstained. The student representative did not even ask for a vote, though Mr. Fowlds must have inclined to the view that the students are almost as much a part of the University as the City Council, and are equally deserving of a voice if not a vote. Incidentally, in discussion of new staff appointments, the students are probably as interested and concerned as even the other professors on the Council. We have no clue as to how Messrs. Ford, Morris and Rae voted. Their record would suggest that not one of these gentlemen would have voted against a request in accordance of that axiom of democracy—no control without representation.

By such a puzzling enigma students may well be perplexed. At present, further comment is futile, for the matter cannot come before the Council again for six months. Let us not rush into print to complain that the Council clearly imputed irresponsibility to the elected president of the Students' Association. Let us not vulgarly proclaim that the only difference between omnipotence and omniscience, between might and right, is in the spelling. We should congratulate the Council, and feel with relief that a crisis has been safely passed. The danger that a student without a vote and absent at discretion might out-vote the Council has been averted. Let us not seek to investigate further the mathematics of voting: if out of eleven, six supporters could not make a majority, perhaps, when the full Council meets, four will constitute a majority out of fourteen.

Relief, it is estimated that 20% of science students, 40% of agricultural students, and 60% of arts, law and commerce students are not provided for. The most pressing needs are winter clothing and bedding.

With the end of the war, there has been no miraculous return to the status quo. The dislocation of social and economic life make it impossible for Governments to undertake immediate reconstruction of educational

facilities. No doubt the Governments of Europe are considering, and will eventually complete, the reorganisation of education; but the immediate problem of keeping the students alive to share in that reconstruction, and of enabling them to work on their own or in groups, is the task of the W.S.S.

Next year A.U.C. hopes to raise a larger sum, with the co-operation of the students and the public.

## PLAY-READING STUDENT RELIEF

On Monday, September 10, Professor Sewell produced a play-reading in the College Hall for the benefit of Student Relief.

The first extract was the Trial Scene from "Henry VIII" (Shakespeare). Although individual players were good, the whole atmosphere was limp, and the audience displayed no general concern about the issue of the trial. Shirley Grant was a tragically dignified Katherine of Aragon, while David Dunningham gave a fine, if too spiritual interpretation of Wolsey. Henry VIII. featured by Dr. West, was adequately described by a member of the audience as "dynamite."

In the Trial Scene from Shaw's "St. Joan," the tension was most successfully maintained right through. Professor Sewell, the Inquisitor, in his hoarse but valiant denunciation of heretics, contributed to the atmosphere of strained controversy.

Associate Professor Ardern made an adequate Bishop of Beauvais, really very kind, and not, as he firmly stated "under diabolical influence." Professor Keys, the Canon de Courcelles, and Mr. John Gordon, the Chaplain de Stogumber, paired well in their lively opposition to everyone and everything. Mr. Gordon was particularly magnificent in his state of repentance at the end of the scene. Dr. Birkinshaw, as the Promoter, d'Estivet, followed impressively Shaw's instructions—"well-mannered, but vulpine beneath his veneer." David Dunningham gave his customary inimitable rendering of spiritual advisor, as Brother Ladvenu.

June Savage, as Joan, introduced into the trial a nice earthy naturalness, in excellent contrast to the tedious and conventional piety of her accusers. Dr. West made a suitably brutal Earl of Warwick, and finished off the scene on a note of high speculation.

The scene from Coward's "Private Lives" the "froth" of the evening was handled with much snappy sophistication by Mr. Gordon and Miss Dulcie Dunningham.

The financial side of the evening was not so exhilarating, £3/7/6 was added to the Student Relief Fund.

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## APPEAL FOR BOOKS

The Federation of University Women, in conjunction with the wives of the College staff, is managing a stall in the Town Hall early in November in support of the establishment of a chair in Gynaecology and Obstetrics in Auckland. For this stall, gifts of books would be greatly appreciated, and it was felt that students might be able to help in this direction. This is not an opportunity to dispose of the unreadable accumulation of years, but gifts of suitable books would be very welcome, especially editions such as the Penguin series. These may be left in Professor Fitt's room or letter-box before Friday, October 26.

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## BOARD FOR STUDENTS

Great difficulty was experienced by students endeavouring to find board at the beginning of this year. To try to ease the position it has been suggested that students who will not be returning next year should hand in their boarding addresses to the office if such would be available for future unfortunate homeless. Any helpful suggestions in this direction would be welcomed, as without the provision of any kind of student hostel the problem of suitable board is extremely acute.

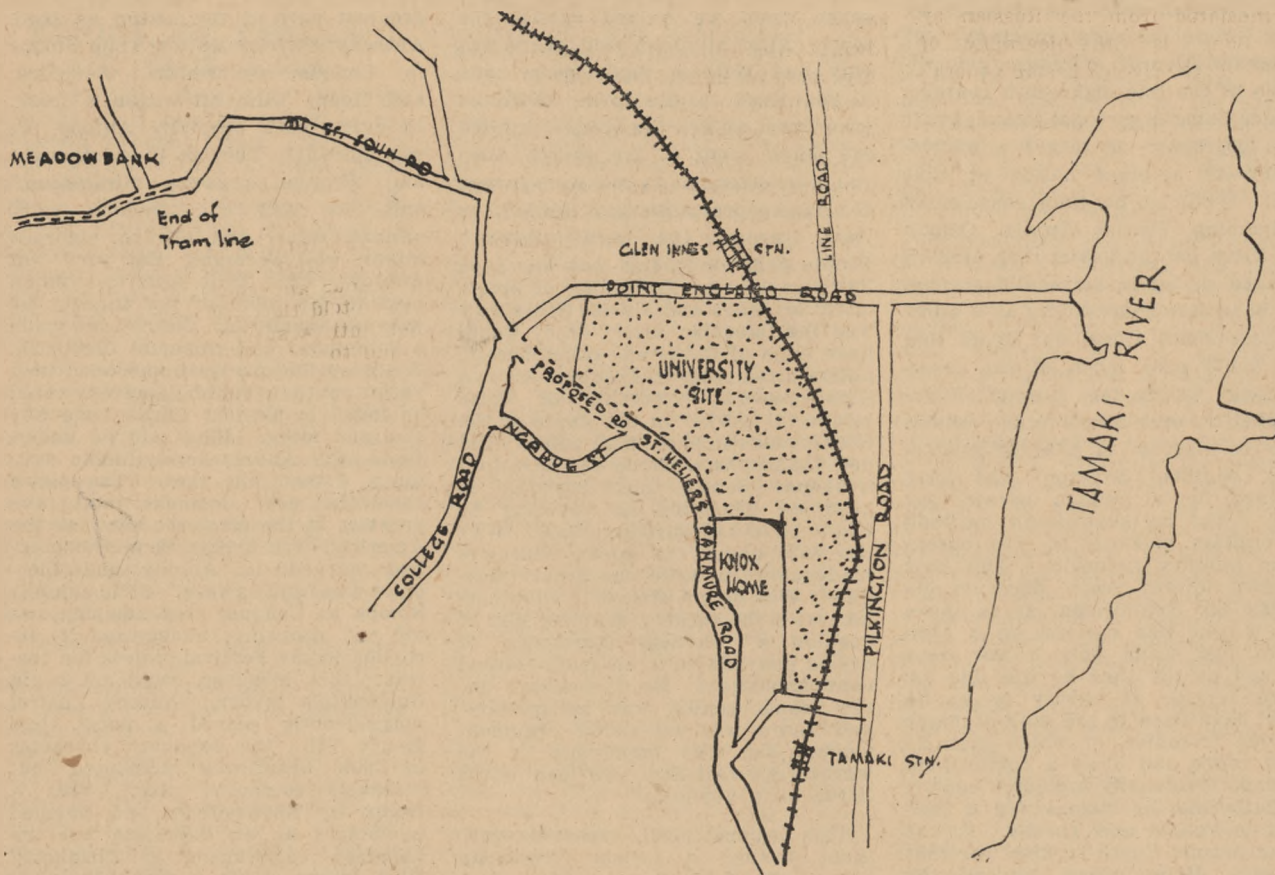
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## PLEASE NOTE

The fact that "Rostrum" Possibly Will be produced At A.U.C. Should spur you on To heights sublime Vacation work In prose or rhyme.



# TAMAKI



## WHERE WE ARE NOW

In the beginning was the Act, which said: "Whereas the land described in the schedule hereto is part of the land set apart for the purposes of a Government House at Auckland, but is not now required for those purposes: and whereas it is desired to transfer the said land to the governing body of the A.U.C. as a site for a college . . ." Consol. Stats., 1919.

On the 12th March, 1923, the Act was made fact and the College as it now stands was opened to students. Needless to say, quite a lot of building went on in the years between. Since then additions have been made; a smart Biology Block and a pile of jam tins painted red, euphemistically styled the Engineering Block. Despite these additions, however, the present amount of space is still not in conformity with a law of science which says that no two bodies may occupy a given amount of space at the same time. More recently the problem has become increasingly difficult because it has been necessary to cram many more than two adolescent bodies into the space normally occupied by one. During the war years the inconvenience was suffered, though not always in silence. All complaints were quietened with promises of TAMAKI. And so it was wondered—What is this Tamaki? The first official intimation to the student body generally, appeared in the Calendar of 1945 as a short sentence: "In 1944 the Council acquired an area of 120 acres at Tamaki for the future needs of the College."

Thus, among those more interested in University problems, the thought of Tamaki became something of a glorious vision. It might have been better had it remained so. For now that war is absent and promises may develop into plans, there is a possibility (pessimism calls it a probability) that these visionaries may be somewhat disillusioned.

## WHERE WE SHALL BE

At present the actual site at Tamaki is in a state in which more can be felt with the feet than seen with the eye. The prospect is pleasant, the air is bracing, and with a little judicious bull-dozing the area could be made exceedingly attractive. Rugger fans in particular will be entranced in that

it provides ample acreage for scrumming, etc. Being generally of a one-dimensional nature, the laying-out of sporting facilities will be the task most easily accomplished, and will therefore be commenced shortly. Academic structures will appear slowly and singly; the order of their appearance will be dictated by the urgency of their need. Priority will be given to plans for an Engineering Block, a Science Block and an Architectural Block. Other faculties will get recognition only when these immediately urgent requirements have been met.

## SOME OPPOSITION

"Human nature being what it is," there has been some opposition to the migration. There are some who maintain that we should consolidate our present position: attempt an overflow into Government House grounds, or even Albert Park. Such tactics would meet with stern disapproval by the Auckland City Council and probably by the majority of public-spirited citizens. Also, a very large area would need to be appropriated before adequate sporting facilities could be provided. One lecturer has pointed out the problem of the part-time student in regard to Tamaki. He says that, although fast growing, the suburb is still comparatively a "backblocks" area. It is a good distance from the centre of the city, and part-time students would spend a lot of time travelling to and from lectures. It may also become necessary for the lecturers to move their residence nearer to the seat of their operations, thus causing them no little inconvenience and expense. This view has been countered by the point made in the report of the Students' Association, where it says: "... the opinion of my Executive is that the scheme is to be modelled on a project for students of 50 years hence, when the population of Auckland may be two to three million and the Tamaki site only ten minutes from the centre of the metropolis. . ."

If you have bothered to notice, the recommendation of the Association is posted on the notice-board outside the Men's Common Room. It is a very sound piece of work. The Executive (in particular its President, who spent considerable time and energy on preparation of the elaborated plan) is to

be congratulated on the serious manner in which they have approached the Tamaki question. It is to be hoped that the Professorial Board will give this statement of student opinion the attention it fully deserves.

## IN THE MEANTIME

As you may have gathered from the first part of this article, the position is still unsatisfactory. Lecture rooms are still crowded. This is definitely not good for the bodies of the students or the minds of the lecturers. The standard of University education will be affected, and because of demobilisation the position will be aggravated. In the Architectural faculty it is rumoured that admission to the School will be restricted, returned servicemen to have priority. To counter this there is a move afoot to provide temporary accommodation in the grounds of the Old Grammar School in Symonds Street. But, as yet, no official statement has been made as to the alleviation of space problems in the other departments. An Education student suggests that perhaps the University could be split, to provide lectures for part-time students at night and for full-timers during the day. This would entail an increase of staff, but that has been desperately needed for a long time. This would seem to be the only practical method to ensure the adequate provision of a sound University training. Its alternative is the restriction of many students to the University, a practice which would involve controversial issues which cannot be considered here.

Above you see a plan of Tamaki. You may wish ardently for its facilities now, you may live to see its complete materialisation, but at the present rate of progress you will certainly not study in it. That privilege will be reserved for the next generation. I sincerely hope they appreciate it.

—R.A.S.

If I were founding a university I would found first a smoking room; then when I had a little more money in hand I would found a dormitory; then after that, or more probably with it, a decent reading room and library. After that, if I still had more money that I couldn't use, I would hire a professor and get some text-books.—Stephen Leacock.

## ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION

We reprint below a letter to "Pelican," the Western Australia University Guild Journal.

Dear Sir,—On the motion of Mr. M. Lane, the University Labour Club, on April 26 condemned the practice of artificial insemination, called on the Federal Government to legislate against its introduction into Australia, and stigmatised the practice as "uncivilised, unethical, immoral, dangerous, and . . . degrading to the women of Australia."

Motion is to go to the Metropolitan Council of the A.L.P. It was passed by one vote, the acting-Chairman of the meeting not casting either of his two votes.

Apart from the constitutional issues (which it is open for the Club executive to investigate) this motion was put only after a number of members had left the meeting under the impression that election of officers was the only important business to be discussed.

"Immoral." Again, according to whom? Apparently artificial insemination is considered by some to be synonymous with adultery, but surely the essence of adultery is the alienation of the affections of one of the parties to the marriage, and who would contend that a test tube could do this?

"Dangerous." This, again, is an unwarranted assumption, and could only be accepted if it were the considered opinion of a majority of the medical profession. It is a ground on which we could just as logically call for legislation prohibiting anaesthesia or the crossing of Hay Street at lunch time.

And, finally, "degrading to the women of Australia." In the name of sweet reason, how could this be? Because it is treating them like animals? Then women should have neither food nor shelter provided for them. Because it is "unnatural?" Then women should be born, live, eat, sleep, conceive and give birth in fields and caves, like our pre-historic ancestors. Because it breaks the so-called "laws of God?" At the most it would only be an exception to the "laws of God," by providing a few women with children without the necessity of being "violated," for which there is at least one celebrated theological precedent.

To sum up the opposition to this ridiculous motion. Artificial insemination, like many other medical practices, is a powerful weapon which if wisely utilised with adequate safeguards can promote the health and happiness of some unfortunate people who might not otherwise be able to have children. There seems to be no danger that it could ever "degrade the women of Australia," because it hardly needs a Gallup poll to establish the fact that the vast majority of women will keep on preferring the old-fashioned way.

However, let us examine the assumptions underlying the motion, some of which are meaningless, and others completely unwarranted.

First, the word "uncivilised." This is patently ridiculous. Artificial insemination is a development of modern medical science. It has been tested by observing its results, firstly on animals and of latter years on human beings in other parts of the world. It is most definitely a product of civilisation, the same as blood transfusion, endocrinology, and drinking water out of taps instead of muddy pools.

"Unethical." This word means "opposed to the sense of rightness implicit in a group of conscience." Mr. Lane is perfectly justified in using the word in relation to a special group of which he happens to be a member, but he should define that group explicitly, and not attempt to project its ethical standards on to other groups to whom these standards are foreign.



# BOOK REVIEWS

## RUSSIAN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

"Before the Storm," by Ivanicha Maiskii, once Russian Ambassador in London, is the translated recollections of his childhood in Czarist Russia. Written during his office in London, and during the blitz period, it was more especially for British and American consumption. Unfortunately, in this respect the author rather fails in his method of presentation of such an autobiography to a conservative (not politically) nation such as the British Empire. Naturally very much pro-Bolshevik, Maiskii has gone to extreme ends to ridicule and make fun of the Czarist regime of his time. It almost appears as if an O.G.P.U. officer had been standing over him saying, "Remember one good thing for the Czar or Royalty and—" If one disregards this so very apparent limitation, it makes very interesting reading, both for the history student and the general reader.

Born in the late 1880's, Ivanicha Maiskii was the only son of Mikhail Maiskii, who was at nine an orphan who by sheer determination took a degree, first in natural science, and later in medicine, becoming a Junior Medical Officer in the Czarist Army. In this capacity Mikhail and his son were in close contact with both the officers and men of the Regular Army, giving Maiskii first-hand knowledge of their privations, sufferings and psychology. It is with talking to these men that Ivan Maiskii first formed his Revolutionary ideas.

Naturally such recollections of childhood contain many references to schooldays, and "Before the Storm" is no exception. Speaking of his high school at Omsk, he comments on the teaching of history as being mainly composed of spicey stories and the history of kings. His history teacher, he says, was well up in the spicey stories, but not in the kings! An interesting account of the High School system of those days is given. Absolutely no freedom of expression and little freedom of person were allowed. Even after school hours the students were not allowed out of the doors after nine in the evening, and were usually forbidden to attend the theatre or operas. Great stress was laid on the teaching and learning of the classics, with the almost total exclusion of the sciences. Several groups of students were formed with reactionary tendencies to remedy the matter, and finally, after closing down most of the senior schools and expelling hundreds of students, the authorities gave in, and the sciences were placed on an equal footing with the classics.

Maiskii's early life, like that of every child, was not without its amorous incidents, most in the form of his cousin Birdie, who was probably an even more determined child than Ivanicha, and who certainly heaped coals on his fires of imagination. The other was in the shape of an orphan girl who lived with a brute of an aunt—Maiskii wanted to liquidate her (in the best Communist fashion, no doubt!), and who finally left Russia to live in England. It is strange that both these friends unconsciously were the cause of Ivan Maiskii's revolutionary ideas.

Throughout the autobiography it is clear that Maiskii was no ordinary boy, but had considerable literary and poetic talent—his literary talent is apparent throughout—in fact, the first chapter—"First Impression" is strikingly written, as is the whole book, although some credit must go to the translator, Gerard Shelley, who has translated a naturally flowery language easily and idiomatically.

"Before the Storm," published by Hutchinson in 1943, is available from the general reading fund of the College Library.

## "ALEXANDER SUVOROV"

"Alexander Suvorov," by K. Osipov and translated from the Russian by Edith Bone, is the biography of Alexander Suvorov, a Russian generalissimo of the late eighteenth century. Besides being a personal biography, it is a biography—or rather a hystriography—of a great nation at that time. While at no time consciously condemning Tsarist Russia, Osipov says more for the Soviet than Maiskii intended saying in his autobiography. The book is worth reading as a story of those times alone, but to do this one would miss much of the entertainment which the life of Field-Marshal Suvorov offers to the reader. Born in Moscow in 1730 of middle-class parents, Suvorov was first destined for a civilian career, but later, when he showed an aptitude for military matters, he was posted to an infantry regiment. This cost Suvorov several years' delay in obtaining his commission, as in those days a son was entered on a regimental list when only a few days old, and by the time he was due for active service at twenty or so he would have risen to the rank of major or even brigadier, at which rank he could retire and draw a comfortable pension. Personally promoted colonel by Catherine, he commanded a regiment in Poland and Turkey. It was in the Second Russo-Turkish war that Suvorov distinguished himself by capturing the supposedly impregnable fortress of Ismail—a large Turkish stronghold on the Danube. When Catherine died and Paul came to the Russian throne, Suvorov suffered a partial setback by being dismissed from the service by Paul, who had been bullied into this move by jealous fellow officers. For some years he lived on his estate near the Finnish border until, in 1799, only a year before his death, he was given command of the combined Russian and Austrian armies in Italy.

The Italian campaign, although brilliantly conducted, was marred by political and diplomatic intrigues between the two Allies. Late in 1799 Suvorov was finally given the subordinate command of the armies in Switzerland. The Italian command was quickly seized by a doddering old fool of an Austrian Field-marshal who was supposedly in the pay of the French. Before Suvorov left Italy he had the chance to see his "Science of Victory" ideals put into use. These now famous regulations are even today the basis for Red Army training, and although covering many pages of the Field Regulations, can be summarised in four phrases: Destroy the enemies' main force; victory depends on speed and suddenness of attack; relevant things only should be taught in training; treat the civilian population with consideration.

As in Italy, Suvorov found inefficiency and intrigue among his regiments. One of the most outstanding feats in Suvorov's long military career was his retreat over the Rinnenkopf and Rosstock range, in which he saved 15,000 of his 20,000 troops from almost certain death by the French forces. This retreat, I think, rather puts Hannibal's now classic march over the Alps to shame. Hannibal had elephants and rough tracks, whereas Suvorov had only a few horses, next to no food, and little more than sheep tracks to guide him. Shortly after his return to Russia in early 1800 Suvorov died of wounds received from past campaigns.

Throughout his life Alexander Suvorov showed deliberate eccentricities which often appeared as insanity, and it is typical of Suvorov that these were only put on, and, as Ryumin puts it, "the great Russian hero played the fool to enjoy more independence." Perhaps it was this stubborn foolishness and lack of

# SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

## STRATFORD-ON-AVON, 1945

We forgave Stratford its trade sense when we walked outside the town. After all, John said, there was only one William Shakespeare, and if you lived in the town where he once lived, walked the streets, strolled the paths, went to the church, then you were slow not to call your garage the Shakespeare Service Station, or your tearoom the Bard's Retreat. People paid for it, and that was good business, as was the selling of broadcloth, or cakes and ale 400 years ago. And the Baconian theory—they would have none of it "or any other heretic notion attempting to disprove our own Shakespeare's authorship of those wonderful works" in the words of the Shakespeare-steeped local editor. Did not Shakespeare attend the Stratford Grammar School, there gaining as good an education as anything he might have had anywhere else? Why the talk about the poet's educative inadequacy to write the great tragedies? Was he not always in close contact with the theatre, enabling him to acquire a practical knowledge of drama unavailable to his more learned contemporaries? No, it wouldn't do; the man's genius was indisputable, and there was no sound argument against the true authorship of the works. No real Stratford man would listen to it, anyhow.

This jealous, loyal, expected sentiment toward a former townsman showed itself in several ways, opportunist and commercial. But, as I say, we forgave all when we walked outside the town. Here, in Warwick, the "Heart of England," was Shakespeare's country. Jointly resisting a colonial bias toward romanticising the 16th century landscape, John and I nevertheless wandered over buttercup-strewn fields, musing that in this minute intensity of ordered hedges, lanes, trees and fields, and the little river gliding underneath its willow and poplar banks, was the pastoral fund from which Shakespeare drew so much. These were his "acres of rye," "green cornfields" and "darling buds of May." It was May during our visit, and John agreed guardedly that the countryside certainly was pretty: "good dairy land, but a bit wet for the best sheep."

Why, we asked in a critical colonial way, does everybody say "jam factory" and spit philosophically when mentioning the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre? We concluded that the English intelligentsia responsible for such works as the Memorial Theatre was so outnumbered by the noisy, conservative ignoramia, that it was rather wonderful such fine buildings as this had been built at all. It would have been an aesthetic hypocrisy to put up a Tudoresque or period sham in the hope of retaining the "Shakespeare atmosphere," and surely the Memorial Theatre, as a good example of modern theatrical design, proves its efficiency as a technically advanced and superior playhouse. Remarked John justly: "For 1932 it is a great piece of architecture."

We disregarded the Theatre World criticism that Iago practised mischief rather than worked villainy between Othello and Desdemona. I thought that Anthony Eustrel's Iago was a

courtliness that prejudiced Suvorov in the eyes of his superiors, for throughout his career he was treated with contempt, suspicion and jealousy. Even Paul showed his pettiness by refusing to be present at the funeral of the greatest of all Russian generals.

But all this makes this biography even better reading.

"Alexander Suvorov," by the Russian historian Osipov, is available from the general reading fund of the College Library.

—C.W.S.

complete devil. Eustrel bore the greatest part of the acting as Iago, Anthony, Charles Marlow (She Stoops to Conquer—Goldsmith), Benedick, and Henry VIII., all within a week. In every part, specially Antony, he was splendid; Theatre World thought his "Protean prowess miraculous," and "his full and flashing eyes, vibrant voice, and always vigorous attack well becoming the part" (of Antony). The little American nurse next to me told me she thought he was just wonderful. Claire Luce made a voluptuous and colourful Cleopatra. We were told the part had been held vacant until a suitable actress could be found to play it; Claire Luce was she, and more. John said he understood why Antony threw Rome over for a woman like that. The play's spectacle and romance was the greatest of the plays we saw; as the American-born British Council hostess had warned us, Antony and Cleopatra was "quite a dose." Although She Stoops to Conquer was amusing, we did not altogether understand its inclusion in the Festival, unless for contrast; this, however, could not be in Goldsmith's favour. Antony Eustrel magnificently played a noisy, bull Henry VIII., the dominant character of this beautifully presented but strangely composed play. Was it begun by Shakespeare and finished by others as an elaborate but unbalanced compliment to Elizabeth? Who knows. We thought Hero an unfortunate and unnecessary martyr, poor girl, in meekly marrying Claudio after what he'd done to her and all, but otherwise Much Ado About Nothing was an entertaining piece.

In the opening after-coffee morning discussion at the British Council Chambers, a note was read from Bernard Shaw, apologising for his absence from the Festival this year. "You are 10 years too late," it read. "At the present I am tidying up my life for my extinction." Led chiefly by joint B.B.C. architect P. P. Eckersley, author of "Power Behind the Microphone," we pulled to pieces the prejudices for or against altering the traditional, simple stage presentation of Shakespeare. Each play had to be considered individually, we concluded, and the advantages of radio and filming, even technicolour cartooning, could be used legitimately and successfully in specific cases. Philosophising broadly, we concluded, after deploring modern individual specialisation, that the ideal human type for the care of world peace and the progress of civilisation was that of the Whole Man, an individual of complete and non-specialised education. This hypothesis was advanced by dynamic and stimulating Mr. Eckersley, the most fluid and expressive Englishman I have met, and with an omnivorous appetite for knowledge.

Returning to 11th century Alveston Manor after the final coffee evening, John and I strolled for the last time over the wide front lawn, where was believed to have been given the first performance of Midsummer Night's Dream, and turned into our little crooked staircase and timbered room ready for the London morning train.

—R. Rockel.

Some of the most original and valuable contributions made to philosophy in this century have been due to men who began life as mathematicians or mathematical physicists—A. N. Whitehead, Bertrand Russell, J. H. Jeans, A. S. Eddington and N. Jeffries. This is natural enough, for it is no longer possible to philosophise about space, time and matter without understanding quantum mechanics and relativity. It is certain that the typical occupier of a university chair of philosophy will in the future be an ex-mathematician.—E.T.W.



# OPEN FORUM

Although Craccum will not appear for some four months, the Editor will be pleased to receive letters on matters concerning the College which arise in this period. Their publication will serve as a link between the university years, as will comment on matters brought forward in this current issue. Letters should be signed as a guarantee of good faith.

## CHAPEL AND COUNCIL

Sir,—  
As a member of the Students' Association I have found others who agree that the building of a University chapel would be an unsound and insincere act.

To-day when emotionalism passes for religion among the majority of church-goers, a university should not encourage decadent trends by having a chapel which could, at the best, promote only vague ideals. And if the chapel were an Anglican one we should be guilty of attempting to hoodwink the public: the prevalent spirit is one of agnosticism. Is our College Council justified in recommending the erection of a chapel because 'people think it would be "nice" to have one?

In this question some interest can be expected on the part of the Auckland Court of Convocation. Graduates, as a body, have a right to demand from their elected representatives an explanation for some recent prejudicial and unenlightened decisions.

—R. I. F. Pattison

## EGGS

Sir,—  
Can anyone tell me why the Caf. does not serve eggs? Delicious morsels, which can be "downed" at any time of the day or night in Queen St. restaurants, they are apparently taboo among the learned. I like them, and so do others, and I'm sure the Health Department would agree with us.

This is not to condemn that perennial and "pleasing combination" braised steak (coupon please!) and apple pie which, I am sure, will be enshrined on the stomachs of all present-day students in later life, but why not steak and eggs?

—Peter Corbett.

[The answer to your interesting question can most probably be elicited from the person who ate the last egg. A manual of dietetics doubtless will have reference to an odd system of nutrition, in its prime about forty years ago, which held that to line the stomach with steak and eggs was as detrimental as sipping strychnine in a Turkish bath.—Ed.]

## TAMAKI

Sir,—  
Much has been said of the merits and demerits of the Tamaki site for the new University College. All that can be said in favour of this position is well outweighed by its disadvantages, especially if part of the institution is to remain housed in the present buildings. I will not stop to point out the obvious shortcomings, because these have been hammered out time and again.

Would it not be better for us to sit tight and just take a look over our back fence, as it were? What do we see—a large section of land unused except for an occasional visit by our esteemed Governor-General. Surely the University could acquire this land. It would not be impossible, if the Auckland public backed us up; even a Labour Government could be forced to a decision to sell. There are many situations eminently more suited for their purpose than this one.

—A. J. McDowall.

## APPRECIATION

Sir,—  
Craccum under a new staff showed good taste. Firstly, no stale film reviews; secondly, the bumping-off of Ernestine; and, finally, the publication of the first poly-directional modern poem "synthesis," which shows great literary courage on the part of the Editor. I feel sure it was fully up to the standard of the verse in *Rostrum*, 1945, and it had great advantage over that verse in its advanced symphonic power.

It was also a step forward in the expression of scientific verse and scientific nephistry; which may, we hope, under suitable encouragement, eventually outdo the romantation style of modern poetry.

Let us have more of it.

—Eltots Ira.

## YOU NEVER CAN TELL

Sir,—  
I cannot agree with your critic's remarks concerning Roy Snow as Mr. Valentine in "You Never Can Tell." I do not imply that Mr. Snow's performance was brilliantly exceptional, but do maintain that he showed a subtlety, and appreciation of his character far in advance of the remainder of the cast.

In his use of the word "expostulate" your critic is extending Mr. Snow a compliment which, by the tone of his full criticism, I do not think he intended. Expostulate means to reason earnestly (but kindly) with a person on some impropriety of conduct representing the wrong he has done or intends, and urging him to make redress or desist. What could be more correct in the scene with Dolly and Philip Clandon; with Mrs. Clandon; with Crampton; and to a less extent, with Gloria?

Also, your critic seems keen to stress the fact of Mr. Hobson's being producer. If I were Mr. Hobson I would wish he had been a little more discreet. The production was, to say the least, "rather patchy."

—A.F.

[Failure to sign letters renders them liable to be thrown away. While this course has not been necessary, your second sentence has been deleted by reason of its inaccuracy—doubtless rhetorical.—Ed.]

## STUDENT REPRESENTATION

Sir,—  
**"VOICE OF STUDENTS"  
"UNIVERSITY COUNCIL"  
"REPRESENTATION  
DECLINED"**

With this heading the "N.Z. Herald" of September 18 reports the decision of the College Council to decline to admit the students of this College to representation on the Council. The students' request was declined by five votes to four.

We are indebted to the "N.Z. Herald" for reporting the views of six of the Council members. How the other three members voted we are not informed, but we can, I think, hazard a safe guess. Of those reported, Mr. A. H. Johnstone, K.C., thinks it not proper for students to discuss and deliberate on some matters, such as staff appointments, which come before the Council. If there is one matter in which students are vitally interested, that matter is staff appointments. Students have views on appointments, certainly, and I feel sure some of the staff know those views, but, as the president, Mr. W. H. Cocker, pointed out, the Professorial Board, which was most affected by the matters mentioned by Mr. Johnstone, saw no objection to a student representative being present

and voting on such matters. Mr. Johnstone's argument falls to the ground.

Mr. L. K. Munro, editor of the "N.Z. Herald," thinks that no useful purpose would be served by having a student representative, as there was adequate provision for referring matters to the students where necessary. By "adequate provision," no doubt Mr. Munro refers to the present position whereby letters are passed between the Council and the Students' Executive. It is to be pointed out that this system is inadequate to deal expeditiously with any matter requiring student opinion. Would it not be better, both from the Council's position when information is required, and from the students' position when information is requested, to have a representative on the Council? Mr. Munro thinks not. Mr. Munro is the person who prompts such "glowing" editorials about "Democracy," "representation," "rights of the community." To quote Mr. Munro's closing sentence of the editorial of September 12, on the recent bus strike, "The community will know what to think of such weakness," i.e., the weakness of the Government in failing to act against the strike leaders. In our case "the students will know what to think of such weakness," i.e., the weakness of Mr. Munro in refusing representation. Mr. Munro's practice belies his theory.

The Hon. B. Martin, M.L.C., Professor A. G. Davis and Mr. W. H. Cocker have a perspicacity of mind lacking in these other gentlemen. They are of opinion that much is to be gained by admitting the students to representation. It is not too much of a truism to state that members of Council would be out of a "job" were it not for the students. As far as the students are concerned, Council members will be out of a "job" if they adhere to their decision of non-representation.

We are not told much about Professor Fitt's statements—"The board's recommendation was not unanimous" is the sum total of Professor Fitt's reported remarks. But it is sufficient to give us an insight into that gentleman's opinion. Professor Fitt is against representation. Whether or not the Professorial Board made a unanimous decision in favour of a student representative being granted full membership on the Council, it is surely the place of the representative of the Professorial Board to support the majority decision of the body he represents. It is to reduce the whole matter to a farce if, after a decision is made by the Board, the Board's official representative votes against the decision of the body represented. It is hard to understand Professor Fitt's case. As a member of last year's students' Executive, I, with the other members of the Executive, was appealed to by Professor Fitt for greater co-operation between students and Professorial Board, and ultimately between Students and the Council. With sweetly honeyed words "co-operation" was to be the order of the day. As in Mr. Munro's case, Professor Fitt's actions belie his theory, and his spoken word.

The Students' Executive has asked for representation on the College Council. At Victoria and Canterbury student representation has been the practice for some considerable years, and now Otago is initiating a similar scheme. It appears that Auckland, if the Council has anything to do with it, will in just another instance lag far behind the other colleges. It is notorious how little interested the community of Auckland is in student and University affairs. It will soon be just as notorious how little interested certain members of Council are in student and University affairs.

—K. J. Mackie.

Sir,—

I understand that Professor Fitt is the representative of the Professorial Board on the College Council. The Press report of the discussion of student representation on the Council proved, therefore, somewhat startling. The recommendation of the Professorial Board was that the student request be granted, but in presenting this decision Professor Fitt chose to weaken its force by informing the Council that it was not unanimous.

Rarely in any meeting is complete unanimity achieved on an important motion, but surely a resolution, once passed, should be regarded as the policy to be pursued in future. I would suggest that the representative entrusted to convey the opinions of his committee to another body should consider it his duty to support the ruling of the majority with an attitude unprejudiced by any personal view. In this respect the Chairman of the Professorial Board appears to have shown a regrettable lapse.

—G.G.

Sir,—

By a majority of one vote, Auckland University College Council has declined the request of Students' Association for a representative on the Council. The Professorial Board had recommended that a representative be admitted to full voting rights; while the Education Committee of the Council had made an adverse report. In the final vote, Professor Davis ranged himself behind the students, but the Chairman of the Professorial Board, Professor Fitt, voted against representation, and by his action effectively blocked the proposal which would otherwise have passed.

As a member of Stud. Ass. Executive voicing a personal opinion, I would say that the student body is deeply disappointed at what it feels to be an unjust and short-sighted decision. One encouraging result does, however, emerge, namely, the support of the majority of the Professorial Board which was prepared to concede more than was originally asked, and favoured student representation with full voting rights. Such sympathetic support is of great significance, and should more than compensate for the opposition of a lay section of the Council, and the indifference of the District Court of Convocation.

We are frankly at a loss, however, to understand the action of the Chairman of the Professorial Board. Professor Fitt is admittedly a member of the Council, with the right to speak and vote according to his personal opinions. But he is also obliged to voice impartially the feelings of his Board; and in this instance he seems to have gone out of his way to throw cold water upon what a majority of the Board viewed with sympathy.

Now, it is fair to say that, over the past two years, the major plank in Professor Fitt's policy, publicly and privately reiterated, was to foster Student-Staff co-operation and closer relations between Stud. Ass. and its governing bodies. Students may be pardoned for asking whether this recent action is a typical sample of Professor Fitt's co-operation; and from measuring Professor Fitt's future assurances against his action on this occasion.

There are two sorts of Student-Staff co-operation. The first is the mutual confidence and esteem which exists between the great majority of the staff and their own students. The other is that unilateral type of co-operation which would make use of the authority of officers of Students' Association to bolster up the actions of a sort of closed hierarchy. The Students' Executive was not elected to take part in this kind of co-operation, and its method does not appeal to them.



# KIWI, 1945

## A REVIEW

It is in a way unfortunate for recent "Kiwis" that the same magazine just over ten years ago featured the work of a remarkably-gifted group of writers. Although the journal has from time to time since then published some excellent work in prose and in poetry, it has never reached the general standard of excellence of such issues as that of 1931, which printed work by Allen Curnow, R. A. K. Mason, John Mulgan, J. W. Bennett, D. H. Munro, and others. It is not fair to judge the quality of recent "Kiwis" by what was, after all, an unusual patch. At the same time, even judged by the average "Kiwi" standard, which is not remarkably high, as represented by issues from, say, 1935-1939, the publications of 1940 and after have been more than usually weak.

This cannot be said of the 1945 "Kiwi." If it is not, broadly speaking, as good as many issues of previous years, it is certainly superior to immediately preceding numbers. A great deal of criticism can be levelled at individual contributions, but this number shows, in my view, the signs of emergence from the doldrums, and the general impression, if not startling, is at least not at all bad.

I do not sympathise with those who criticise the work in "Kiwi" on the ground that it is immature. This seems to me to be underlining the obvious. Even in its best literary days there were those marks of lack of poise, of adolescent bravado, of brashness, of supercilious superiority which are characteristic of undergraduate work the world over. There will always be exceptions in which taste allied to a coherent philosophy will produce acute criticism or a serious contribution to a discussion, but in general, in my view, "Kiwi" material should be judged not by its "literary" value nor by its maturity, but by its comparative maturity and by the extent to which it reflects the tentative nature of the student mind.

The most balanced piece of writing in the current issue is the Editorial. It is a little too self-conscious, perhaps, and rather bent-backed under a load of clichés, but it says honestly and directly many things about "the student mind" which badly need saying. In fact, the whole thing is so disarming that it forestalls the most serious criticisms which may be made of the material it introduces, and disposes the reader to accept with wider tolerance. It is one of the few "Kiwi" editorials I have read which does something besides filling up two pages of the paper.

The verse, I thought, was pretty bad. (Has there ever been a time, however, of recent years, when this could not be said?) There are some pieces in the 1945 "Kiwi" which would be out of place in a girls' high school magazine. When the verse section of a university journal lacks a just proportion of light or satirical verse, it seems to me to indicate a lack of health, and to suggest that everybody is taking themselves a shade too seriously. As the editorial aptly says, "Consciousness of our own superior gifts, both intellectual and moral, is implied in most of what we write. It is the only recognisable emotion animating our attempts at verse composition."

For this reason the slightly as-tringent and ironical flavour of "Clement's" two verses "To An Undergrad" and "Admiration From a Distance" appealed to me, while "Homo Sapiens," although it did not quite come off, seemed to me worth doing. In most of the other verses, the epithets were banal and the thought pedestrian. "Girl With a Violin" seemed to me to be the least displeasing. I would have liked, for all its inevitable extravagances, some really "modern" verse as a relief from the pale Georgian hue of what was printed.

The prose is decidedly better. I liked the story "Alien Sun." The idea was good, and for the most part well handled, with just the right amount of emphasis on the main theme and of restraint in the climax. Symbolism and "signposts" were used judiciously within the brief limits of the episode, and the early introduction of significant details was sound. I winced only once, and that at the

hackneyed slickness of "But it was not until he recognised the brief fur coat that he vomited." Otherwise "Alien Sun" was a very competent piece of work.

"A Morning Fog" puzzled me. Perhaps I missed the point. Was it intended to be an atmospheric sketch, akin to Tchekov, or was there some subtle psychological or sociological significance which eluded me? In any case, I did not find it sufficiently interesting to worry over.

But "Walt Disney and Fantasia" did for a while have me completely baffled. Was it a clever piece of irony, as infuriatingly mock-serious as Butler's "The Fair Haven" and subtly burlesquing certain modern critics, or was it a rather silly piece of uncritical description? At first I inclined hopefully to the former view, for, I argued, what university student could say seriously of that mixture of imagination and vulgarity, of appalling bad taste and delicate fancy, of crude horse-play and poetic sense—Walt Disney's "Fantasia"—that it represents "the greatest form of art in the world to-day," that, as a result of "Fantasia," "no longer are we dependent on our sense of perception to interpret the basic impulses of flowers and trees, nor need we have recourse to reason to interpret the behaviour of birds and animals. We share life with them directly?"

To be sure, Jean Charlot, with his Gallic tongue firmly in his cheek, raves over the "functional beauty" of the Seven Dwarfs and the "plastic significance" of Snow White, but Charlot is riding a hobby-horse, and besides, what else can you expect from a Frenchman? However, the absence of any suspicion of irony in W.R.H.'s article makes me finally convinced that it is meant quite seriously, and I retreat, too dazed to argue with what seems to me to be wholly misplaced enthusiasm.

"The Rebirth of Man" makes a courageous attempt to discuss a problem already minutely covered in Newman's "Grammar of Assent." The effort was worth while, I feel, but it adds nothing of value to the discussion and indeed seems to fumble the question rather badly.

The idea of "In Suburbia" was good, as the subject is topical, relevant and socially important. But the handling seemed to me to be flawed by a possibly quite unconscious snobbery. Is the implication that good, great and worthy souls cannot flourish in Dominion Road? To the eyes of a contemporary, the carpenters' shop in Nazareth may have seemed "squalid" and "ugly" and the birth-place of Lincoln certainly spoke of "small lives, restricted by mediocrity, lack of money, of education, of ambition, and tied by domestic responsibility." "In Suburbia" is just too patronising to have value as a social study. At the same time it does convey something of a real sense of the lack of grace and beauty in modern living.

Because Soroyan leaves out inverted commas so as to increase the cuteness of his stories, I don't think that is

a valid reason for W.D. to do the same with "The Frigid." Still, of its kind, it is pleasing. I dislike the American style of radish-top sentences. It is so easy to slip into baby-talk, and W.D. doesn't quite avoid this. All the same, the people in his little sketch are alive and the social observation is accurate.

"Masterpiece" is a top-heavy piece, an uneasy compromise between narrative and atmospheric sketch. The romantic improbability of the theme as presented is emphasised when it is compared with "Alien Sun" and "The Frigid." The main flaw structurally is that the theme is not introduced until half-way through the story, and thus before it is made at all real or properly developed, the climax is on us. Much more delicate handling is required to make such a fragile idea convincing.

The most formidable piece of prose is "Essay—On a Subject Not Prescribed." Although I believe that J.A.N.'s thesis is wrong-headed, I think that this type of contribution should appear more often. A good article of this kind is considerably more difficult to write than the usual "Kiwi" short story, and helps to make the journal less like a popular magazine. I found the "Essay" readable, despite a rather gluey style, but extremely tendentious—as I suppose it was intended to be. Not that this is a fault, of course. But when the premises on which the arguments are built are themselves so questionable, the defect becomes a basic one.

The three points on which the article is founded seem to me to be these: (1) Oscar Wilde was a man of integrity in his views on art and life, whatever the merits of those views. (2) Oscar Wilde's moral views were held to represent a retrogression only because he was in a minority, and morals are a matter solely of majority opinion. (3) Every unorthodox viewpoint, because it is unorthodox, represents "an advance in human progress."

Dear, dear! Each one of these points which the reader of the article is asked to accept, without demonstration, without argument, as axioms in a discussion of the nature of morals and virtue, are extremely debatable and capable of protracted discussion. A reading of Bremond, du Bos, and other French critics of Wilde, who are free from the hysteria of Harris and Douglas, would reveal to J.A.N. what a poor stick is Wilde to beat the Victorians with, and might also clear up his obvious misunderstanding as to what "decadent" means in literature. Controversial articles are welcome in university papers, but surely it is not asking too much that their writers should define their terms and establish their premises before embarking on an assault on orthodox views. However, "Kiwi" would be poorer this year without this defence of the second-rate.

A final word of approbation to those who selected the quotations this year. This traditional feature of "Kiwi" is always good reading, and I was particularly pleased to see this time so many quotations not dredged from past issues, as well as some appropriately-attributed fakes.

—J. C. Reid.

A man of genius makes no mistakes. His errors are volitional and are the portals of discovery.—James Joyce.



(Continued from Open Forum)

The Students' Executive will, so far as it is permitted, loyally support the Council for the common good of the University. The majority of the Professorial Board has shown itself deserving of student goodwill; and while freely extending this goodwill, Stud. Ass. will continue to fight for what it considers not as a privilege, but as its just and natural right.

—J.E.M.

### ENGLISH POLITICS

Sir,—

It is an ungrateful task to resurrect Mr. Churchill and his party from the abyss of ignominious defeat into which they have irrecoverably hurtled, and no doubt it would be better to leave him chewing over his cigar and his memoirs, and his party dozing in their natural habitat, the back benches, but your correspondents make that impossible.

As "P.O.C." so profoundly says, parties who ignore progression are asking for a violent progression elsewhere—which was precisely the fate of the Conservatives. The British electors, judging with gratifying accuracy that "practical commonsense government," gave it its richly-merited reward for its years of inefficiency and reaction. "P.O.C." chivalrously imputes patriotism to Mr. Churchill's party jugglings, and concern for the common weal to his action in the intervention in Russia—which is all very naive and touching. As for the first, he placed Party before Country, and Mr. Churchill before Party, the natural action of a politician with an ambition for office; as for the second, the ostensible reason was the repudiation by the revolutionaries of their national debt, and his ethical justification for such a wanton expenditure of lives and money was, no doubt, a kindred anxiety for the injured "investors" and a nice sense of horror at such a blatant manifestation of the democratic spirit. "P.O.C." might do well to note that the intervention did not occur until after the Great War and continued for some years. Another point for "P.O.C.'s" edification, concerning Mr. Churchill's calling Russia "that great nation." Although I confess myself incapable of fully recapitulating the evolution of his thought, I am sure he would have given "P.O.C." more satisfaction by calling it "that large nation." As your correspondent may know, Russia does cover rather a large area.

For "Anti" to say that Mr. Churchill "made the victory," seems to me a gross insult to all those of all nations who strove so long to defeat the enemy. Can eloquent words stop bombs from falling, or a grim and determined look keep back bullets? Had there been no Mr. Churchill, would those who put forward such a magnificent effort in the air and on the sea during the Battle of Britain have refused to obey orders and laid down their arms?

Finally, as for "H.R.H.'s" arid stricture against "extreme socialisation," I wonder if he could give any concrete example of this distressing condition in New Zealand?—I fear not. It is obvious he prefers the good old method, which will "save the country from going to the dogs, by Gad!"—dog bite dog, too bad for you, George, I'm all right—or private enterprise.

—R. Miller.

To death alone it is due that life is not a punishment, that, erect beneath the frowns of fortune, I can preserve my mind unshaken and master of itself. I have one to whom I can appeal. I see before me the crosses of many forms . . . I see the rack and the scourge, and the instruments of torture adapted to every limb and to every nerve; but I also see Death. She stands beyond my savage enemies, beyond my haughty fellow-countrymen. Slavery loses its bitterness, when by a step I can pass to liberty. Against all the injuries of life, I have the refuge of death.—Seneca.



# CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

## ETHICS OF BEDLAM LIT. CLUB A.G.M.

On Friday, September 21, the Literary Club held its A.G.M. in the Women's Common Room, Lieut. J. C. Reid electrified the fourteen members present with an account of the "Ethics of Bedlam." For the first few minutes Literary Club, nourished on the conventional fare of "good" poets, solemnly weighed the elements of truth in his startling declaration. Then they decided it was funny. It was, very!

Lieut. Reid read extracts from various comic poets, like Lear, Carroll, Barrington and Chesterton, interspersed with revolutionary statements. When the spirit has need of elbow-room, when men seek the vitality, pathos, beauty, tenderness and passion of life, they should go, not to the "piffle" of Hopkins, or the jargon of Shakespeare but to the sublime fantasy and the mature philosophy of the comic poets.

"Lunatic-fringe" verse, maintains Lieut. Reid, is the "divine afflatus in the bowels of the comic poet." Humorous poetry runs the whole gamut of human emotions.

These tremendous considerations were enlivened by such pithy comments as "The mythology of 'Beach-comber' (J. B. Morton) is as significant as that of Ancient Greece"; "Swinburne was a louse"; "William Blake and Lewis Carroll are both surrealists, but there seems to be no doubt that Carroll is the greater." Lieut. Reid finished amid a 14 power storm of acclamation. He left almost at once, showing no desire, strangely enough, to stay to the A.G.M. He was promptly elected President. Other officers were:—

Vice-Presidents: Professor Sewell, Associate Professor Ardern.  
Chairman: J. A. Nathan.  
Secretary: Valda Bennett.  
Committee: Barbara Bell, Gay Garland, Betty O'Dowd, Maureen Ross-Smith, Margaret Brand.

## CLASSICAL SOCIETY A.G.M.

At the annual general meeting the following officers were elected for 1946:—

President: David Dunningham.  
Secretary: Janet Harwood.  
Committee: Valda Bennett, Peter Gamlen, Ian Kemp.

## MODERN LANGUAGES' CLUB A.G.M.

The annual general meeting of the Modern Languages' Club was held in the Women's Common Room on Wednesday, September 19. Miss Bell was in the chair, and the retiring committee were ranged behind her. Mr. Loney was interested to discover that he was a member of this body. The chairman swiftly disposed of the minutes of the last general meeting, and Miss Craig was soon heard to plunge into the annual report. Reading from this well-prepared document with ease, clarity and apparent assurance, Miss Craig informed the meeting that the year had seen the production of three plays and that two speakers had addressed the club. She rapidly passed to the financial statement, which demonstrated a sound position.

After the mike had been handed back to Miss Bell, the election ensued. A delightful speech in support of the candidature of Professor Keys for the presidency was enunciated by Miss Bell: "— those against carried." A strong body of Vice-Presidents were elected as follows:—Dr. A. W. West, M. le Comte Etienne Micard (Vicomte Cisterni), Associate Professor P. S. Ardern, E. M. Blaiklock, Esq., and Miss J. M. Child. Miss Bell, the retiring student chairman, was enthusiastically and unanimously re-elected. The secretariat was committed to Mr. Izod, and the following committee was elected, representing first, second and third-year students: Miss Garland, Mr. Nathan, Miss Ramsden. The elections over, Doctors Keys and West were allowed in, and the evening programme commenced.

"Manu Militari" was the title of a one-act play, presented with Mr. Conlon as the militaris manus. This he displayed in an attractively tailored uniform with cap to match, with a veil of pink tulle inside it; he made an excellent Brigadiar. Dr. Keys slipped happily into the role of an anti-mother-in-law husband, spitting well-chosen vituperation at Miss Garland. A capacity to appear repulsive is not granted to everyone, and Miss Garland must resolve to do without this attribute. Her umbrella in this case endowed her with adequate acerbity. Miss Hartley, torn in affection between Dr. Keys and Miss Garland, showed convincing distress, and gracefully compromised by embracing Mr. Conlon. Dr. West was not altogether well cast as the kindly old family friend, but a capacity to speak French is nine points of a French play. Miss Bigelow made her debut before the Modern Languages' Club as Rose, an immodest domestic. The play was good, and full credit is due to the performers, particularly to Mr. Conlon.

Miss Bell thanked the outgoing committee and closed the meeting. The thanks of the Modern Languages Club are due to Professor Keys and Dr. West. The time and trouble they devoted did much to ensure the successful year. Some £33 were donated to Student Relief, being the proceeds of "Le Voyage de M. Perrichon."

## I.R.C. A.G.M.

The I.R.C. annual general meeting was conducted with considerable success, the majority of the audience being in no mood to object to anything and waiting only for their supper.

It was decided that vacation meetings be held and that the officers should be the following:—

President: W. T. G. Airey, Esq.  
Student Chairman: Miss O'Dowd.  
Sec.-Treasurer: Mr. Brookfield.  
Committee: Misses Bell and Baker, Messrs. McKenzie, Tompkins, Rayner and Nathan.

## DEBATING CLUB A.G.M.

At 8 p.m. on September 17th, Mr. and Mrs. Rodwell were present in the W.C.R. At 8.5 p.m. Mr. O'Connell arrived. As his presentation was not till the end of the meeting, he was a trifle early. Towards 8.10 Committee Members who had been consuming supper, sidled in and grabbed a seat, trying to look as if they'd been there for hours. Later, about twenty others, more or less, arrived. Among these was Mr. Rayner who was beguiled into coming and will probably be eternally sorry.

Business was conducted in orderly if uninspired fashion. Mr. Wren was present, but did not interrupt proceedings.

Mr. Rodwell disagreed with the report. As chairman he distinctly remembered voting for the Staff in the Staff and Students' Debate, and was sure the Staff had won. Mr. Rodwell has a long memory (see any student who has been doing Economics I. for a number of years), but this time was wrong. Sad!

Mr. Wren, in a moment of optimism, trustingly moved that the financial statement be taken as read. The Secretary was obviously relieved.

## ELECTIONS

Mr. Rodwell was re-elected President (with acclamation). Mr. Morton

made his neat little speech. We suggest this speech be framed and handed to Mr. Rodwell. Some difficulty was experienced in the choice of Vice-Presidents. After careful consideration of all the quantities and qualities necessary in a Vice-President, Prof. Davis, Mr. Luxford and Mr. Munro were selected.

The committee had carefully cooked the election of chairman and secretary—as all sensible clubs do. These went then according to plan. The election of a committee was somewhat more difficult, but a surprising amount of talent was revealed in the most unexpected places. Mr. Hooker, exuding youthful sincerity, exhorted the audience to pay special attention to the women, especially the science women. As there were only four women in the audience, and only one of those a science woman who was neither nominated or thanked, we regret to say that the audience—mainly architects—was not disposed to give as much attention to science women as Mr. Hooker. The number of nominations had now reached twelve. Action then ensued. (See list following for results.) Our first thought was, "The committee meetings should be interesting."

Mrs. Rodwell then presented the trophies. Miss Laidlaw hadn't turned up to receive hers. Mr. Rodwell trusted she wasn't ill.

The usual eulogies were indulged in. Two long-standing if not hard-working committee members were noticeably absent among those thanked. However they bear no grudge.

This apparently was the end of the meeting, but the audience showed no signs of moving until the Secretary remembered to announce there would be no supper, and blamed this on Mrs. Odd. That was truly the end.

## Committee for Year

President: Mr. Rodwell  
Chairman: L. Laing  
Sec.-Treasurer: J. R. Hooker  
Committee: Misses M. McNicol, L. Laidlaw, Messrs. M. Wren, D. Norwood, F. M. Brookfield, J. Rayner.

## S.C.M. A.G.M.

The A.G.M. of S.C.M. was held on September 7, when the following executive committee was elected:—

President: Peter Gamlen.  
Vice-President and Secretary: Malcolm Johnston.

Treasurer: Sid. Hawkins.  
Committee: Marion McKenzie, Maureen Ross-Smith, Mary Gamlen, David Andrew, Sefton Campbell, Owen Robinson, John Brokenshire.

A vote of thanks to the retiring President, Ken Mackie, and the Committee was passed.

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Peter Gamlen gave a short talk on the Youth Conference to be held at John McGlashan College, Dunedin, from December 28 to January 4. The study theme, planned by the Rev. Mr. Germain, is the Church.

For the remainder of the term the only regular S.C.M. meeting will be the Tuesday afternoon devotionals at St. Paul's Cathedral, Symonds Street.

The final dates and place for After-Degree Camp have still to be arranged, but in any case it will be held near the sea and, after all exams. are over. Forget those papers you think you didn't pass, leave the arsenic and razor blade, and come to Camp.

## MATHEMATICAL SOC. QUANTUM STATISTICS

The Mathematical Society held its last meeting for 1945 on Friday evening, September 14. Mr. D. A. Wynyard spoke on "Quantum Statistics." His aim was to introduce the audience to the Bose-Einstein and the Fermi-Dirac statistics and show their relationship to the older and less satisfactory Boltzmann statistics. Owing to the necessity for the lecturer to draw upon various branches of Theoretical Physics unfamiliar to most of his audience and lack of time to explain minor steps in the argument, his proofs seemed sketchy. However, at the end of the lecture the general method and the results obtained were quite clear, and the lecture certainly contained a considerable amount of interesting information. The brightest part of the evening was (as is usually the case) Prof. Forder's remarks at the end. For the information of those people who heard Mr. Wynyard lecture to Sci. Soc. in 1942, his delivery, though still not perfect, has improved enormously.

The worst cliques are those which consist of one man.—G. B. Shaw.

"Was he a church member?"  
"Well, no, not exactly; but he was what you might call a well-wisher."  
—Alice Hegan Rice.

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# CLASSICAL CORNER

## ITURBI IN THE GROOVE

Jose Iturbi has become something of an oddity. He has recently appeared in a number of typical M.G.M. musical extravaganzas either to give some elevation to what is normally stereotyped entertainment or to prove that the "classical" musician is not such a bad chap after all, nor the stiff-neck he is supposed to be. I don't know which, but I suspect the latter. As a result we have seen Mr. Iturbi cavorting with Judy Garland in "Thousands Cheer" and playing boogie-woogie for the edification of the multitudes—mechanically correct boogie-woogie, but otherwise unemotional and cold stuff. The novelty of hearing a world-renowned pianist "going hot" rather obscured this fact. Or perhaps the connoisseurs just ignored it. I suspected Iturbi of being a bit of a charlatan after that effort—not at all because he played jazz, but because he was so obviously striving to achieve a degree of "popular" appeal—and a fan mail, I suppose. But altogether his efforts were a bit sickening.

Why Iturbi needs to do this sort of thing I cannot imagine. His pocket-book must already be bulging from his recordings and concert performances in the States. His latest effort for Hollywood is a little less ostentatious, however. He has done the back-scene playing of the piano music in Columbia's distorted hash-up of Chopin's life.

Albert Coates seems to be another who has succumbed to the influence of the great American dollar. He has been handling M.G.M.'s Succulent Strings. But although Gracie Allen's "Concerto for Index Finger" is certainly a good joke, I'm sure "Two Girls and a Sailor" would have been just as refreshing a tonic without Messrs. Coates and Iturbi. It is time the screen gave us something really worthwhile from such men.

## CONTRAST

Quite by chance the other Saturday evening I twisted round the dial and came across a performance of Mozart's E Flat Symphony on the Australian national programme. The orchestra turned out to be the Melbourne Symphony, and the conductor one Joseph Holt. The whole thing was played with such assurance, team work and whole-hearted exuberance that criticism of the few ragged bits seemed for once a bit pointless and unfair. The sweetness of an unexpected pleasure was full compensation.

A few days later Andersen Tyrer and the N.B.S. Orchestra embarked on a more ambitious project than is their wont. They attempted Beethoven's 8th Symphony, with rather dire results to Ludwig. It seems useless to try to disregard the faults in this sort of thing. The almost complete lack of tolerable listening doesn't give much option. Some people will doubtless argue that it is better to attempt too much than too little. But, in the case of music, anyway, it is infinitely preferable to attempt less and do it well, than too much and do it indifferently. The N.B.S. Light Orchestra has been progressing very well as such. It should continue so in public, until we have a combination that can do justice to larger works. When, too, the lack of good wood-winds is so acute that the Brahms Horn Trio has to be played with the horn part transposed for viola, then the local performance of symphonic works only serves to emphasise the fact.

## SCHOENBERG'S REVENGE

The following paragraph appearing in "Time" late last year is a succinct comment on the new music of Arnold Schoenberg. "If dissonances could kill—and be beamed 3500 miles—the halls of Berchtesgaden would ring with Adolf Hitler's death yells. Last

week the Albert Einstein of music, sad-eyed composer Arnold Schoenberg, took artistic revenge on the man who, in 1933, swept him and his cryptic music from the concert halls of the Third Reich. The revenge: a recitation based on the booming rhetoric of Byron's "Ode to Napoleon Bonaparte," with string orchestra accompaniment by the New York Philharmonic. Composer Schoenberg's music, as usual, sounded to the uninitiated as if the Philharmonic were methodically playing the "Chicken Reel," a Bach Toccata and "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean" all at once and in different keys. Nobody doubted that Hitler richly deserved it."

## LATEST ON RECORD

It is indeed a welcome sight to see the London Philharmonic listed as back again on new record labels. With Sir Thomas Beecham again in charge during his all too brief visit to England, the orchestra set the ball rolling with Schubert's hitherto unrecorded Sixth Symphony, which I mentioned previously. This was their first recording since 1940. They have followed with Haydn's Symphony No. 97 in C and Mozart's well-known Serenade for Strings "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" K. 525. The performance of the latter work was accorded a most enthusiastic review by the English "Gramophone" magazine. Comparisons with other interpretations, however, were studiously avoided. The Beecham version will be more than interesting, because it is mainly through his looking-glass that most of us out here know our Mozart. We have heard, I think, four other recordings of the "Little Night Music."

That by John Barbiroli's chamber orchestra is now off the catalogue and is rather poor stuff. Felix Weingartner's with the London Symphony is good enough, but well below the standard set by the remaining two. It is a toss-up in my own mind between the recordings of Furtwangler with the Berlin and Bruno Walter with the Vienna Philharmonic. They are both brilliantly done, with the Walter perhaps winning the race by a neck. So much the better, if Beecham's work here is some of his finest. He has stiffer opposition than usual.

Other noteworthy new issues include Mozart's colourful little B flat piano concerto K. 450, three Decca records by Kathleen Long and the Boyd Neel Orchestra, and Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius" with Sargent, the Liverpool Philharmonic and soloists. This huge undertaking was sponsored by the British CEMA in similar manner to Walton's "Belshazzar's Feast." Reginald Kell has at last recorded the Mozart Clarinet Quintet, in company with the Philharmonic String Quartet. The tone of Benny Goodman's clarinet in his performance of the work has never appealed to me overmuch. The liquid beauty of Kell's work in the Clarinet Concerto leaves nothing to be desired. I hope he is as successful again.

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## PETE'S PARADISE

After intimating that such representation would be favourably received, the College Council vetoed Exec's request for a student to attend Council meetings; thus A.U.C. still remains the only college without such representation.

Professor Fitt, on making his customary welcome to freshers, went to great lengths to assure them that he had the interests of all students at heart, and nothing would give him greater pleasure than to co-operate with them to the fullest extent. It may be that he exemplifies a split personality.

However, our thanks must be extended the four members who voted in our favour.

Incidentally, after reading the minutes of a recent M.H.C. meeting, John Morton expressed himself as being unable to differentiate between a pick-up room and common common-room.

And talking of M.H.C., its room has recently been suffering from an inundation of females of doubtful intent. Do they really go there on business, or to listen to the radio, or do they, as Johnny Rayner suggests, actually go there just to see him? Still, this comparative lack of shyness on the part of the women concerned augurs well for the success of a common common-room.

It doesn't say much for the Third opens, if Hockey rep. Dave Jones could score the only try the side obtained in a recent Rugby match against Training College.

A regrettable incident at the Debating Club's A.G.M. was that supper, so conspicuously advertised, was not supplied owing to Mrs. Odd's lack of co-operation. I understood that Stud. Assn. employed her to run the Caf. as they saw fit, and to take her orders from them. Instead, she seems to have set a petty dictatorship in which the penalty for anyone who is rash enough to argue with her is short change. If she does not comply with Stud. Ass. wishes, why not get someone who will?

While I'm on the subject of the Caf., it occurs to me that many of the cases of chronic stomach and kidney troubles which strike down stalwart A.U.C. students at a distressingly early age, may be due in no small way to the diet of stale rolls and lukewarm water, polluted with sufficient coffee essence to make it appear slightly opaque, in which they habitually indulge twice a day. A little variety in the food at morning and afternoon tea would be gratefully and personally acknowledged—by me, for one.

Another point from which the reader may draw his own conclusions

## CRACCUM STAFF

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

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Letters should, generally speaking, be restricted to three hundred words.

## COMPUTATIONS

It has been computed that the average science student during the year walks forty miles between the science block and the caf., where he sits for eighteen days, spends ten guineas, and consumes fifty-two and a half gallons of tea or coffee.

When paying your Stud. Ass. fee next year you may be interested to know that your twenty-five shillings was spent in 1945 as follows:—

	s.	d.
Sports	9	0
Other Societies and Clubs	11	
Publications	11	
House Committees	4	
Provisional for Renewals	2	6
General Expenses (including N.Z.U.S.A. Levy)	5	1
Not spent	6	3

The only thing we have to fear is fear, itself.—F. D. Roosevelt.

The more things a man is ashamed of, the more respectable he is.—G. B. Shaw.

is that mince, for which one must surrender coupons to the local butcher, is freely given twice a day to those unfortunates who have left their ration books at home. I know that horseflesh is not controlled, but

Catullus  
might have  
meant  
a blonde —

But nowadays

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# SPORTS

## WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The Club has had a very enjoyable season, even if final results were not all we had hoped for. This seems to be mainly due to the fact that at the beginning of the season we lost matches while working up a combination and getting back into our stride. The only remedy is a keen and early start on practices and some coaching or talks to set us out on the right road. This is what we will aim for next year, as a talk by one of the umpires made us realise that we had heard it a little too late this season.

The senior competition was quite interesting and we had some good matches, but unfortunately did not succeed in defeating either of the leading teams—but we had them worried for a time. We played Technical in the Knock-out, after a long spell due to the Tournaments, and we were well and truly out.

The most exciting part of this season was, of course, the Dunedin Tournament. Considering the tiring trip down and then playing three of the hardest matches, the team were well satisfied with results—won 3, drew 1, lost 1. The drawn match against Canterbury was perhaps the fastest and most exciting we have ever played. We found the standard of hockey very high—it's taken very seriously by most of the Universities—perhaps we are a little lax in that respect. However, our team caught something of the Southern spirit and gave a far better exhibition than ever at Melville Park. A wonderful combination appeared amongst the forwards, and everyone could be absolutely relied on to do the right thing. Result—four "Blues." Congrats to Joan, Lue, Eleanor and Margaret, also Sheila, who was an Auckland rep. for the season.

The Intermediates show plenty of promising players, and have worked up into a fine team, although their successes began a little too late in the competition. The seven-a-side and the Knock-out show they've got it in them. They are getting some useful experience, too, for the leading Int. teams have set a good standard and it has made the competitions much more interesting.

We hope there will be the same keenness and enthusiasm next year. Keep in mind—Tournament will be in Auckland.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PROMISE SHOWN

Last Saturday the Blues team played their last match for this season against Middlemore. In the first round these two teams drew after a hard-fought game, so a good match was expected, and the spectators were not disappointed. The Blues took a while to settle down; and Middlemore, with their star forward fresh from N.Z. Tournament honours, piled up a big score. Shirley Teasdale, from the Whites team, played a sterling game in the defence third, and, together with Fay Roberts and Peggy Goldsmith, broke up Middlemore's forward combination several times. But towards the end of the first half 'Varsity rallied, and when the ball came down to our forward third the Middlemore defence had a hard job to prevent a score. Rae Philpotts played a steady game. This Fresher shows promise of great things next season, now that she has gained experience in Senior Grade. In the second half the Blues fought hard—Betty McDonald doing some good work in the centre, and Peggy Goldsmith now making it more difficult for Middlemore's back forward to gain possession of the ball. The play was fast and furious, and with little to choose between the two teams, the Blues were unlucky to go down to Middlemore at the finish. The Blues have gained third or fourth position in the Senior Competition—quite worthy when one considers the number of times they have played short. The younger players in the Blues should

form the nucleus of a good, fast team for 1946, and we are confident of earning some measure of success in next year's competition.

In Senior Reserve Grade the Whites have recently had several successes, and the play of some of these girls is very encouraging. Flora McDonald plays a fast attacking game, and combines well with the Club captain, Shirley Marcroft. The forwards have a quick, clever combination. Nice work, girls!

The Colts in Senior B Grade have been unfortunate in losing most of their players. The keener girls in the Colts deserve a better chance in a more reliable team.

Although we have not succeeded in bringing any Cups to 'Varsity this season, "the prospects are most promising," and the Blues particularly have consistently played good, fast basketball. We all feel that for the 'Varsity Basketball Club "things are on the move," and that with the co-operation of Freshers joining next year we will not only redeem our reputation at Easter Tournament, but also will put 'Varsity teams "on top" in the Auckland competitions. Did we hear rumours of a forthcoming match against the Men's Basketball Team? What happened, gentlemen? Not scared, surely?

## GALLAHER SHIELD IS NOT RETAINED

Successive losses to Whenuapai and Marist robbed the first fifteen of any chance of retaining the Gallaher Shield, won last year for club Rugby supremacy. The team this season, while playing brightly, did not reach the same standard as the 1944 side, and it was scarcely anticipated that it would retain the Shield. With two games to play at the time of writing, the team is five points behind Ponsonby, and thus eliminated from the possible winners.

The Whenuapai match, a ragged encounter, was lost 3—12 after the teams had been level at half-time, while against Marist the fifteen went under 17—22. Marist held a points lead all the way, the smallest margin separating the teams at any time being two points. In contrast to the previous week's match, this game was of a high standard, with the respective backs attacking in turn.

Towards the end of the season the grounds have been particularly hard, and while this leads to open play it is hard on the footballers, many of whom are sorely bruised at the moment.

Dave Grace has been the outstanding member of the team, running with great determination on the left wing. He retained his position in the Auckland senior reps. (trounced in Wellington 20—8). In that game 'Varsity's centre, Bruce Sinel, came on as emergency in the early stages, and it was not the fault of Grace and Sinel that the Aucklanders did so poorly.

## SOCCER

### CATCHES ON IN ITS FIRST YEAR

For an organisation in its first year, the Soccer Club did well in the Auckland Football Association's senior second division competition this season. The one team fielded lost too many matches to retain its early high position on the championship ladder, but the beginnings were sound. Two teams will probably be fielded next year with the aid of some students who did not join up this year.

The team made a good end to the season with successive wins over North Shore and Training College. Its failure for several weeks previously could be attributed in part to injuries.

Winter Tournament was a great Soccer success, all the games being won. Peter Iles, who was outstanding in Dunedin, subsequently won a place as goal-keeper in the Auckland senior representative team, again being in excellent form.

## TOURNAMENT BASKETBALL

Tournament saw five teams competing for the Basketball Cup—Auckland, Otago, Canterbury, Victoria and Massey.

Our team consisted of G. Campbell (captain), T. McCoy, M. Hancock, M. Smith, N. Inkster, B. Stratford.

The first round was against Victoria, whose individual players shaped well, but they lacked co-ordination, a defect which cost them this match.

There was very little between the two teams in the first half, but they could not penetrate our zone defence, whereas their lack of any set defence made their basket an easy target. This match resulted in a substantial win for A.U.C., 42—14.

We had a bye in the second round. In the third round we met Canterbury, the winners of the competition. This match was the most keenly-contested one of the whole tournament, and was remarkable in the extremely small score. Right up to the last whistle it could have been anyone's game, but C.U.C. gained a well-deserved victory, 12—9.

In the fourth round we met Massey, who were labouring under the difficulty of several inexperienced players. This match resulted in our second win. Massey fell to all the other competitors, but it was hard to recognise the team in the final round as the five stragglers who had taken the field in the first match!

The last round was against O.U. We went on to the field a little too sure of victory and so lacked the extra bit of vim which might have won us the match. So we lost, 26—12.

This final defeat left the competition with Canterbury as undoubted victors, and three colleges in second place. By adding the points for and against, we were virtually second, being nearly twenty points ahead of the next team.

This being the first year of Men's Basketball, saw the first N.Z.U. blues in the sport.

Graeme Campbell was captain of the N.Z.U. team, and won for A.U.C. the first and most senior N.Z.U. Blue.

Congratulations are due to him and to Otago and Canterbury, who received the other two blues.

Canterbury won the Cup this year, but with a few more members to increase the standard of the team, we will bring it home to Auckland next Winter Tournament.

## CRICKET CLUB WANTS PLAYERS

Excuses last season by members of the Cricket Club that the week-night practices weren't worth attending on account of the poor Blandford Park practice pitch won't be valid in the coming season. The wicket at Blandford Park was poor, but for this season the pitch in the 'Varsity grounds has been renewed and should be one of the best in Auckland. Practices are under way now, the season being expected (at the time of writing) to open on October 27.

'Varsity will need the aid of a true practice wicket to make a good showing in senior club matches this season. Most of the other clubs have been strengthened a good deal by returned servicemen, while the 'Varsity Club has not been so lucky in this respect. Last year 'Varsity had a keen senior eleven which won the fielding trophy. The senior B and second grade teams were doing well until service calls and the holidays affected them. They were poorly off for players at one time towards the end of the season. The summer vacation always affects 'Varsity more than other clubs (excluding Training College) but the requirements of the manpower and the forces won't be an additional burden this season.

Some clubs state: "You don't have to be an expert to play for us." That is true of the Cricket Club, for not many cricketers would claim to be experts. Anyone who is keen to play should go along to one of the practices.

The Cricket Club's annual meeting

## FILM REVIEW

### "FRENCHMAN'S CREEK"

"Frenchman's Creek" is undoubtedly the lousiest picture we ever saw. Admittedly we were prejudiced against Joan Fontaine from the start, because she let down what is politely called "The honour of the Service" by reclining on a haystack with an unknown quantity and a bottle of whisky. In this picture Joan Fontaine continues her psychic connection with Daphne du Maurier and makes her usual assertion that she has "done nothing to be ashamed of," although all the facts and the sullied mind of your critic are against it. With much waving of arms in the manner of the stars of the silent screen, Joan makes her unenlightened way through a singularly uninspired story. To escape from worse than death in the arms of a Restoration scoundrel vaguely reminiscent of Charles II, she flees to the country and the villainous embrace of a nut-brown pirate with a young bush on his mahogany face and ditto adorning his disgusting chest. He sends her out in a brilliant white shirt and a red hat to lure an English noble into a dinghy so that they can steal his wig. Bullets pop all around. Joan is seasick, misses death by an inch, and the pirate laughs madly. Then she goes home to her husband for a space. He looks dashing in brown and white, with a pooch exactly to match, even to the bored, unintelligent face, tucked under his beribboned arm. Basil Rathbone walks up and downstairs displaying emerald green garters. It is all very terrible. —D.McC.

## WOMAN

### THRU' THE EYES OF A CHEMIST

Occurrence—Found in all parts of world, both in free and combined states.

Nature—Occurs in symmetrically shaped forms, although amorphous shapes have been discovered at A.U.C. Surface often covered with coloured pigments.

Activity—Rather unpredictable, often flatly refusing to take part in various reactions, but very malleable if properly squeezed. Has great affinity for gold, diamonds, furs, and other costly articles. Can consume great amounts of food materials at expense of males, and activity is greatly increased by judicious amounts of alcohol.

Handling—If too critically examined may explode spontaneously, but if properly prepared merely glows. Very dangerous in inexperienced hands.

A bad book is just as much a labour to write as a good one; it comes as sincerely from the author's soul.

—Aldous Huxley.

\* \* \*

Life is just one damned thing after another.

—F. W. O'Malley.

was fairly well attended, the election of officers resulting:—

President: Mr. James Thompson.

Vice-Presidents: Professors J. H. Bartrum, P. W. Burbidge, C. R. Knight, J. Rutherford, Messrs. W. R. Fee, W. Lange, H. B. Speight, A. K. Turner, Dr. E. F. Fowler, Lieut.-Col. W. M. Smeaton.

Club Captain: G. H. Walsham.

Secretary: H. R. Thompson.

Treasurer: A. F. Bell.

Hon. Auditor: D. R. Garrard.

Selector: W. N. Snedden.

Delegates to A.C.A.: A. F. Bell and W. G. Drummond.

Committee: W. H. Cooper, W. G. Drummond, W. J. D. Minogue, W. Sidnam, W. N. Snedden.

Messrs. A. M. Matheson (Auckland, North Island and New Zealand representative and for many years 'Varsity club captain) and Professors P. W. Burbidge and J. A. Bartrum were elected life members in recognition of their services to the club. There are now five life members, the others being Messrs. W. H. Graham and D. R. Garrard, both former Auckland representatives and 'Varsity playing members for many years.



## VOLCANO INFORMATION TRAMPING CLUB

On Thursday, September 20, A.U.C.T.C. acted as hosts to their fellow-trampers from the city, and the Women's Common Room—and later the Caf.—was filled to overflowing. The subject for the evening was that of volcanoes and volcanic action—brought home to roost by the violence of Ruapehu this winter.

To start at the end and work backwards—the evening concluded with shots of Ruapehu taken in August by 'Varsity trampers, showing the crater filled with a dirty mass of lava and rubble, the glacier covered with sticky black ash, and a huge mountain of smoke (of unspecified height) towering over all. A 16mm. colour film, shown by a member of the R.S.C., doubly emphasised the might of the disturbance and the extent of the damage.

Yet this was a mere chicken compared with Tarawera or, to go overseas, Krakatoa, Mount Pelee, Vesuvius, or the latest baby of the geologists—Paracutin, in Mexico. The previous film (a sound film of the 35mm. variety) told us all about these and showed enough smoke and fire to awe the stoutest heart and gave enough diagrams to convince the most sceptical. It also mentioned a Utopia such as made the smokers present simply writhe!

And last, or, rather, first—on the programme was a talk by Mr. E. H. Searle, well delivered, instructive and amply illustrated by slides, on what makes a volcano blow. A weakening of the surface crust through movement and strain would allow the sub-stratum of semi-liquid molten rock, highly charged with compressed gases, to well up into the fault and perhaps breach the surface and plop out like boiling porridge overflowing a shallow billy—the quiet type of eruption being the result. An accumulation of gasses immediately below the "plug" of an older vent might lead, however, to a violently destructive "blow-out," when the top of the mountain could disappear—not into thin air as we had fondly supposed—but into the hole left beneath it by the outrushing material. The formation of cones and domes and monoliths and scoria and volcanic bombs were all touched upon; but we were most impressed by the old gentleman's classification of volcanoes into those which lead straight to hell and those which do not.

The evening, sponsored by the newly-formed Association of Mountain Clubs, augured well for the success of that body, although one might say it took an eruption—or a Tramping Club—to shake the University from its precedent of barely obtaining a quorum!

The A.U.C.T.C. year divides itself quite naturally into two portions, and the first, corresponding to the academic year, is drawing to a close. The tramping activity has been successful and extensive and has maintained the standard set in previous years.

Several important developments have taken place during this year. One has been the formation of a central organisation of the Tramping and Ski Clubs in Auckland, and the A.U.C.T.C. is taking an active part in the deliberations and work of the Auckland Associated Mountain Clubs.

Another development has been the welcome endorsement by the Exec. of the Club's policy regarding the purchase of Club equipment for use by members. But perhaps the most gratifying feature has been the steady flow of new members; the availability of a limited number of packs and other gear for hire should do much to encourage this trend.

The second part of the year will start with the After-Degree Camp, the major event of the year which heralds the Summer Programme. Perhaps the best tramping is done during the summer, when students free from the worry of lectures and examinations can afford more time for tramping. Throughout last summer the Club was out each week-end, and the same policy will be adopted this year. Early in December a circular with details of the programme will be sent to all "Footprinters"; and others wishing to take part can sign a list which will be posted on the notice board.

## SERMON ON THE MOUNT E.U.

During the mid-term break, 90-100 'Varsity and Training College students crowded Salisbury House, Blockhouse Bay, for the annual House Party of the Auckland Evangelical Unions.

The main speaker for the week-end was Mr. J. O. Sanders, principal of the Bible Training Institute, who gave a series of addresses based on the Sermon on the Mount. Christ's teaching is very rich and very far-reaching, and Mr. Sanders drew out to the full many of the personal implications and applications of it. The old law of the Ten Commandments has not been superseded, but it has been enriched and made more exacting. The new law which has emerged from it searches not only a man's actions, but also the motives which underly those actions. The old law condemned murder, but Christ condemned also the anger, the pride and the selfishness which incite it, and which are present to some extent in the hearts of all men. The old law condemned unchastity, but Christ condemned also impurity of mind and heart.

Study of such a passage of Scripture impresses one with the unique moral excellence of Christian ethics. The man who attains to such standards will indeed be fitted for citizenship in the perfect society. But it is the claim of the Christian religion that no man can of himself attain to the standards. It is only through an unconditional surrender of the whole of one's being to Christ that the power to live up to the Sermon on the Mount can be realised.

"You go and find her husband's name, and other similar facks,"  
Said the King to the executioner,  
"and measure his neck for an ax;  
For the turtle doves is singing sweet,  
Oh, what the hell, it's Spring!  
And, just for the sake of argyment,  
I'll show 'em who is King."

(From David and Bathsheba)  
—D. R. P. Marquis.

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And Noah he often said to his wife when he sat down to dine,  
"I don't care where the water goes, if it doesn't get in the wine."  
—G. K. Chesterton.

Some day I'll pass by the Great Gates of Gold,  
And see a man pass thro' unquestioned and bold.  
"A saint?" I'll ask, and old Peter'll reply:  
"No, he carries a pass—he's a newspaper guy."  
—E. M. Robinson.

"He who does not wish to fight in this world, where permanent struggle is the law of life, has not the right to exist."—A. Hitler.

"For Britain the fate of Carthage is reserved."—Berliner Borsen-Zeitung.

The common stock of intellectual enjoyment should not be difficult of access because of the economic position of him who would approach it.—Jane Adams.

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