



Revue Photographs by Bettina

CRACCUM

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REVUE RUNS EXTENDED SEASON

SUCCESSFUL POST- WAR REVIVAL

We print two independent reviews.

To say that Revue 1946 was a great success is hardly an overstatement: why, it even made some of the citizens of Auckland laugh. Only those who have played before an Auckland audience can realise what a stupendous achievement it is to entice a titter from those who have an honoured tradition of silence in theatres. In spite of the small size of the Concert Chamber, it was most satisfactory that the season was extended and the show played throughout to full houses. The greatest credit is due to Chas. Zambucka, author and producer, for bringing such an entertaining show before the footlights after a lapse of several years. The dialogue was bright and, believe it or not, devoid of obscenity. This latter stipulation paid a dividend, believe it or not again. The play contained a great deal of subtle wit, so subtle indeed that many of the lines were lost on the players themselves, who spoke them with obvious lack of comprehension and misplaced emphasis. This was a fault which could easily have been remedied. The plot was interesting and not altogether inconsistent, though the last scene was sufficiently complicated as to baffle any uninitiated spectator. Craccum temporarily removes its hat in honour of Mr. Zambucka, obviously the chief gremlin in "This Slaphappy Brewed."

The make-up, stage settings and wardrobe were of a high standard. Ian Smith was excellently made up to resemble P. Fraser, the bakehouse scene was very skilful stagecraft, and Miss Williams was not over-clad. All this reflects credit on those responsible.

The leading roles were played with a high and level standard of efficiency. The bun or bucket must go to Ivan Hodder, Vern Rout and the cat in the U.N.O. scene, all of whom played their parts with comprehension, expression, perfect diction and general dramatic skill, which was evident whenever they appeared. Mr. Rout's fight to the death augurs well for world peace, and Mr. Hodder's characterisation of a father's tender solicitude for his son will not soon be forgotten by many who were deeply moved. Ray Parkes gave a highly-finished satire on our good Allies, some of which was obviously lost on his audience. Very few were seen to smile at his delightful display of useless reverence when Gifkins was being burned up. The latter was adequate as the Flea; Mr. Gifkins has the great gift of being able to stand still on the stage, but this was hardly enough. His part gave scope for caricature which was not exploited. Miss Evans gave a very good rendering throughout; perhaps being an arts student was a help in portraying this role, but it is difficult to escape the conclusion that by her lack of affection and generally natural behaviour Miss Evans made an excellent heroine. Had Miss Williams confined her attention to appearing only, no one could have complained. But she actually walked and talked, and half an hour after came on in a different costume. Which all goes to show why French juries seldom convict an attractive woman. Miss Williams did not have all the devices of Hollywood beauties to help her (false teeth, and keeping the camera focussed on one favoured spot), and in spite of this few will not agree that she stood up to the test. In spite of the shortness of his role, Mr. Clouston may be elevated to the level of the principals. His brief skit on the Communists was most polished. In addition he showed an admirable coolness and had no objection to strangling or assaulting his family when the gun failed to fire. Local talent is usually fairly depressing, but it is difficult to speak too highly of these, who did not need to avail themselves of their amateur status as excuse.



Ballerinas.

Among the lesser roles, praise is due to Ian Smith as Peter Frazer, who performed with astounding verism similitude in the later nights. Praise also to Lindsay Rea as an old woman, G. H. Lee as a barman, M. C. Scott as a detective, Dick Patterson as Mr. Grimycove, and Ian Reid as Hamlet.

The ballet succeeded on every occasion in bringing the house down. The appeal of the ballerinas lifting their skirts was too much for the citizens of Auckland. The ballet is to be congratulated on the work they put in, to such effect that they were able to go through the motions on the last night in spite of being obviously the worse for what did not appear to be staleness.

The orchestra was appalling, but this was not Mr. Whitehead's fault. The bass drum sounded like Mr. Semple's tank and the flute didn't on many occasions.

—J.N.

* * *

The first performance of "This Slaphappy Brewed" was preceded by a few ill-chosen words by a well-known anonymous voice, in which sundry unfamiliar persons were pointed out to a not-very-interested audience, and the inevitable pun did little to bridge an uncomfortable hiatus. Fortunately the revue itself, if somewhat patchy, proceeded in a smoother and more entertaining fashion. Van Hodder and Snow Rout as Silas and Eusebius O'Toole deserve special applause for the gusto with which they carried on their Machiavellian machinations. O'Toole pere slunk on and off stage with impressively sinister glee, underlined by an effective musical accompaniment reminiscent of the grandfather theme in "Peter and the Wolf," and sustained his diabolical character until the sticky end. Laurie Evans embodied the dumb-but-youthfully-innocent heroine so beloved by the Old Time Theatre with refreshing zeal, especially fetching in her cerulean gym tunic ensemble. In contrast with Eusebius of the synthetic tennis ball muscles, Ray Parkes as Superman Mountain-Molehill with his

American crash helmet, neat tights and jeep, personified all that is bound to thrill the fluttering female heart. Some of his burlesque failed unaccountably to stimulate the first-night audience to appreciation—his rapture at the prospect of owning a perspex heart "With Mother written on it!" his self-conscious posture before dashing into action were wasted on the chilly air. Alan Gifkins carried out the indeterminate role of Jonas Flea as convincingly as was possible, and Yvonne Williams as Gypsy Rose Svelte was as luscious as one could wish, although she marred the devastating effect of her mauve ballet frock and her swing version of Ophelia's song by a slight nervousness, due probably to the unresponsiveness of the audience. This was unfortunate, as the success of such a number depends on a sympathetic audience, and in other respects Gypsy Rose acted her part extremely well, without self-consciousness or shyness.



Silas (Hodder) and Eusebius (Rout) O'Toole



Family Group (Gifkins, Miss Williams, Parkes.)

GRADUATION CEREMONY

Capping seemed a popular event for Aucklanders this year, for after 7.15 p.m. the Town Hall filled rapidly and members of the House Committees spent a nerve-racking hour sifting ticket-holders from the vast masses who had apparently come just for the ride. We were glad to see them all, however—could it possibly mean that citizens of Auckland have at last realised the—to us—important fact that within the precincts of their noble town a University really does exist?

Capping was boring. We enjoyed watching the processions into the hall, for the hundred and forty odd graduates looked impressive in that regalia so uncommon at A.U.C.—caps and gowns. We were touched also to see representatives of the College staff—why don't they all come, by the way? Having sung Gaudeamus with enthusiasm, at the same time admiring Professor Hollinrake's black and red ensemble, we sat down and relaxed.

Mr. Cocker, President of the College, spoke first. We were interested to hear that Dr. Blaiklock and Dr. Cumberland have gained their degrees of Doctor of Literature and Doctor of Science respectively. These degrees are awarded only for original contributions of special excellence, and A.U.C. students offer their congratulations to these two members of the staff.

Sir Patrick Duff began his speech by offering his congratulations to the graduates. He pointed out that there is a tendency in modern times to think too much of politics and sciences with a consequent lack of moral sense on the part of all citizens. We have not enough tolerance or charity, and no community can be happy unless its members acquire these virtues and have a sense of duty towards one another. Sir Patrick emphasised the need for a sense of religion in our daily lives. Unless we believe in the fatherhood of God we are not likely to be able to believe in the brotherhood of man.

Professor Fitt passionately exhorted us to pay tribute to the fifteen professors in different parts of the world who are A.U.C. graduates. We were also overjoyed to learn that there are at least twenty-seven other eminent men scattered about the earth who owe their higher education to A.U.C. Professor Fitt emphasised the serious shortage of staff at our College. He said that a member of the lecturing staff in New Zealand frequently has as much to do as eight staff members of any English university. So next time we don't get back our essays until we've forgotten what we have written, we shall exercise a little tolerance and charity.

Mr. Piper's speech we considered the best in virtue of its being the shortest. He mentioned the formation of two distinct groups at 'Varsity this year; the Freshers and the returned servicemen. We were impressed by his perception, for we had noticed it too.

The big moment during the whole ceremony was the conferring of the degree of Bachelor of Music on Mr. J. H. E. Papesch. Mr. Papesch is completely blind and has been so during the whole of his University course.

Apart from the excitement afforded by Mr. Papesch, capping struck us as being dull to a degree. With 2800 students enrolled at the College this year, surely some attempt could have been made to carry off this ceremony in the traditional manner. It must be admitted that the Town Hall is not nearly big enough for an event of this sort—it would have been difficult to squeeze more people in this year without the aid of a shoe horn—but quite a large percentage of those present were students. Perhaps it was the sight of such an array of academic brilliance which reduced them to a state of complete inertia, making active participation in our annual graduation economy impossible.

Craccum

Editor: J. A. NATHAN

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A STORM PASSES

Even to a casual observer, the political condition of the Students' Association at the end of last term contained the seeds of an unpleasant crisis. To date we have purposely refrained in our columns from reference to or discussion of rehabilitation, because it is a subject which lends itself more to practice than to theory. Also, its problems in the College are of a specialised character; better described by the word "reintegration."

Last year the war was not over by the time of the elections at the end of the winter term, so a large proportion of the ex-servicemen taking lectures this year were not then demobilised. Thus they found themselves obliged to submit to direction by personnel in whose election they had not taken part. Remarks about irresponsible adolescents did not conduce to good feeling. Many must have studied the situation with concern. Would the ex-servicemen be satisfied to wait till the elections? Would the executive officers of the Students' Association be so nervous of concerted action by the ex-servicemen as to yield hastily to any pressure from that quarter?

In his speech at the Graduation Ceremony, Mr. Piper drew attention to the fact that at other universities there was no separate society for ex-servicemen, but that they took their places as individuals in the student bodies. Certainly it appeared that there were weaknesses in having an Ex-Services' Society. This tended at once to emphasise (among the ex-servicemen) a supposed community of interest not shared by the other students. There appeared signs that the policy of this society was to hold aloof from college affairs, and wait till, as a result of their non-participation, the existing controlling bodies appeared incompetent. At this juncture they would point out that the activity with which they were dissatisfied was being inefficiently handled, and demand to share in its control. This occurred in the case of the Men's House Committee, looked as if it might have happened in the case of Revue, while Craccum heard complaints and took note that, in spite of repeated requests, no representative of the Ex-Services' Society had joined its staff to cover those activities in which ordinary students could not take part. It appeared on the surface that "Piper, Morton, Garland and Co." had given in precipitately to pressure over the M.H.C.

Those who remember last year's election will realise that these developments might have led to calamitous results. When the Training College students, in an endeavour to secure representation on Exec., nominated a block of candidates, the other students reacted with such vigour that not one T.C. candidate was elected. If the other students felt that the ex-servicemen, who are a minority, were pushing them around, the danger might arise of no ex-servicemen being elected at the next election. From every point of view this would be disastrous, particularly as it would begin a vicious circle and would be evidence that we had failed in rehabilitation.

The situation was not helped by the R.S.A.'s attempt to use the Ex-Services' Society to force the Council to yield over the employment of Mr. Laird. It was quite likely that the ex-servicemen would feel obliged to support the R.S.A., and this would have further estranged them from the student body.

Since our last issue, everything has brightened considerably. The Ex-Services' Society has decided in favour of no discrimination against conscientious objectors with regard to university posts. This step is very much to their credit, a significant example of placing principles before one's immediate material interests.

Secondly, Revue has further united all the students, and it may not be an exaggeration to claim that it has proved the solution of the problems set out above. The highest congratulation is due to those who have combined to produce an excellent Revue after the lapse of several years. This is our best advertisement to the public of Auckland, as is shown by the crowded houses. While other colleges squabble over the vulgar excesses of their carnival weeks, Mr. Zambucka deserves very great credit for keeping his audiences amused without a single recourse to those topics apparently either irresistible or indispensable in the south. For welding all students into one team at this critical time, the Chairman of the Carnival Committee deserves our gratitude; he has probably done more than the most acute psychologist to solve one of the most difficult of our post-war problems. United we stand, to coin a phrase; let us now go forward together and take the question of student representation down off the shelf.

MEN'S HOUSE COMMITTEE

To clear up certain misunderstandings which exist among students, including former members of M.H.C., here is a short statement of the facts of the situation.

1. Last year the Exec., after some hesitation, departed from the practice of former years and decided that M.H.C. should be constituted of some elected and some appointed members, instead of being appointed wholly by Exec.

2. The new committee set to work with enthusiasm and displayed considerable energy in planning a programme of refurbishing the Men's Common Room, and also setting up a Common Common Room. For these purposes it obtained specific grants from Exec., and the carpentry and upholstering work was carried out during the holidays.

3. The first signs of dissatisfaction came at an Exec. meeting in February, when the Chairman of M.H.C. reported progress and asked for further grants to cover expenses which had already been incurred but for which no detailed statement was provided. He was thereupon subjected to very lengthy and severe criticism of the running of M.H.C. and in particular the failure to get the co-operation of all members and the committee's extreme readiness to spend student money without authority, relying on an indemnity from Exec. It was said to do this rather than undertake any minor jobs itself or with the help of other students. The chairman, in fact, expressed the opinion that his committee would refuse to do any manual work in the Common Room.

4. After the beginning of the term it appeared that this was not true of all the committee members; three or four of them did, in fact, do a great deal of useful work. But the dissatisfaction of Exec. increased, because although what was done was well done, it was the work not of the committee as an organisation, but of a few individuals. Since there was a complete lack of co-operation among committee members, it is not surprising that they exercised no effective control over students in the Common Room. They were heard to complain that their suggestions (that people should help in the Caf., for example) were received with derision.

5. At the combined meeting of the Exec. and the Ex-Services Society, members of the latter organisation were asked for their views on various matters affecting students. Their complaints about M.H.C. were for the most part echoes of those which had already been expressed by Exec.

6. Finally it was decided to ask all remaining members to resign (four had already done so). The reason was that while Exec. was most appreciative of the efforts of certain members, it felt that the only effective course would be to reconstitute the committee entirely, and co-opt some of the former members, so that there would be no link with the atmosphere of poor organisation and general unreliability of the previous committee.

KIWI

"Kiwi," the annual journal of the Students' Association, will be published at the end of the term. In the past such names as Allen Curnow, A. R. D. Fairburn, John Mulgan, James Bertrand and D. H. Monro have been prominent among the list of contributors, so Kiwi has a high standard to maintain.

Short stories, essays, verse (serious or light), sketches, photographs, wood or lino cuts are urgently needed, and guinea prizes are offered for the best contributions in four sections.

Copy should be placed in Craccum box, marked "Editor, Kiwi." If you have any ideas, see David Spence (Editor), John Nathan, Gay Garland, Margaret Brand or Ray Parkes. The last day for copy is July 5, so go to it and exploit that latent literary flair.

UNIVERSITY PROBLEMS A SURVEY

ANALYSIS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Since the Chancellor rocked the public in January with the information that its University is third rate, much has been said and written for and against his contention. Nothing constructive, however, has yet been put forward by the student body, so we advance here a scheme for making the faculties of arts and science a little less ineffectual than they are at present.

As it is constituted, the University of New Zealand turns out graduates without even a semblance of university education. Consequently its graduates, and particularly arts graduates, fail to take the place in the community of leaders of thought and opinion which should be their due. This is the outcome of a vicious circle: third-rate graduates, alike ignorant of and unfitted for their responsibility as representatives of a broader culture and habit of thinking, make no impression on the community; in its turn the community becomes apathetic, accepting mediocrity without question.

This problem of establishing high ideals of university education is significant in all the colonial universities, which have not yet assumed the place universities traditionally occupy in the Old World, as centres of thought and research. Thus an arts education here is looked on by most people as a pointless waste of time, rather than as a broadening process which should help to set modern problems in their proper perspective. This cannot have been the view of the pioneers of learning who founded the South Island colleges nearly eighty years ago, but their high ideals have flagged so that liberal education has deteriorated to a farcical extent, and the public looks to the university simply for technical schools of medicine, engineering and the like, regarding the arts faculty as nothing better than an adjunct to the training colleges (as is shown by the drift from languages and classics to education, geography and other spurious subjects).

Professor Gordon, in an article published in *Craccum*, discussed the difficulties of overcrowding, understaffing and insufficient finances. On the figures he quotes there are approximately 8000 university students in New Zealand, compared with 40,000 in the whole of the British Isles, i.e., five times as many New Zealand students as British per head of population. Is it surprising, then, that our academic standards are shocking and our degrees a laughing stock overseas? Yet the powers that be seem to think, if they think at all, that the five or six hundred degrees a year of the immediate pre-war years argued a high standard of education. The case is quite the reverse: entrance standard is amazingly low and deteriorates even further now that the core of English, mathematics and a foreign language is abolished; and pass degree standard is quite ludicrous—so low, in fact, that papers set for intelligent schoolboys at Oxford and Cambridge entrance scholarship exams are much harder than those set at Stage III for final degree candidates in New Zealand. Admittedly this is not the case in some of the professional schools, where our degrees compare favourably with those overseas, and it is hardly fair to those one or two departments where research work of very high quality which is being carried on infuses some life into the teaching, and into the outlook of students who are brought into contact with the spirit of research.

The Chancellor in his address to the Senate in January dealt very fully with the inestimable value to a university of research carried on within its walls. One reason he gave for the virtual non-existence of research in almost every department of this university was that under-financed, small staffs cannot cope together with research and with the present hordes of students.

From the point of view of the university, it would better to be without the hordes of students than without research. This is probably also true as far as the majority of students are concerned. Of the 500 graduates a year, perhaps one or two contrive to be educated in the real sense, and that is despite, and not because of, the university. Surely it would be better to raise academic standards sufficiently at least to

halve the rolls, and restrict University to those who have the capacity to benefit by it, and to be useful to the community by virtue of their higher education. This, after all, is not unprincipled Fascism. The majority of the students who enrol as Freshers leave not only without degrees, but totally unaffected and uninfluenced by 'Varsity life. Why then should they be encouraged to come at all?

Liberal education, according to Cardinal Newman, demands two things, of which in New Zealand the first has been rejected and the second ignored. Firstly, fairly rigorous academic standards imposing a mental discipline; and, secondly, contact outside the lecture room with the outlooks, philosophies and interests of fellow students. This second requirement is best achieved by living in a university community, and taking part in the formal and informal occasions of the university and of the student body. It calls first and foremost for residential colleges.

Only in Otago is there any sort of university atmosphere, where there is a large number of students in the colleges, and where the university occupies an established and recognised place in the town. Setting aside the debatable question of whether medicine is inherently more broadening than arts, one can say definitely that Dunedin medical students have more opportunities of acquiring a real university background than most students from the northern colleges. (A cynic might point out, however, that the principal beneficiaries in this case are the publicans of Dunedin.)

Centralisation of the faculties of arts and science is the most practical approach to the problem of raising academic standards by improved teaching. Consequential changes would have to be made in law, commerce, medicine and other courses dependent on arts and science in the early stages, but this would be justified by the improved teaching facilities. Instead of each course being taken in four different centres, it could be taken in one place, but with four times the opportunity for specialist teaching. The advantage of this would be felt most at Stage III and Honours, where it is very desirable that a student should be able to come in contact with specialists in each branch of his subject. Many people

HEARTSTRAIN IN THE LIBRARY

When CRACCUM called to interview the new librarian, Mr. F. A. Sandall, he replied to our questions as set out below. We claim to have been one of the few to see Mr. Sandall, and take this opportunity of welcoming him to the College. Those who have seen him from a distance working industriously must wonder whether this is not a new and welcome application of the celebrated slogan "No speaking, please." Nor is the library noticeably noisier.

What do you think of the library?

It'll take me five years to get to know it—a little. I'm lucky in coming to a well-cared-for library. The machinery is well made and in good working order. The trouble is, it is really severely overtaxed. It's like asking a normal human heart to pump blood for three men. There are signs of great strain, though I hope a breakdown is not imminent. Skilled graduate assistants dissipate their energies in simple routines, which is uneconomical and to the detriment of vitally important professional work.

What are you going to do about it?

Study the whole situation pretty carefully for some months. Every person in the College can help in this. It's not too early to start thinking about a new building 15 or 20 years beforehand. Any changes we make here now must be so "right" that they form part of the developing pattern. Mistakes in library procedure have a horrid habit of revealing themselves after five or ten years and causing you to retrace painfully many steps. At present it looks as if more books and more staff will be first needs. I forbear from quoting figures of two other N.Z. university colleges—because comparisons are . . . you know!

Probable future development?

Perhaps we shouldn't be too worried about the present overloading. It's a physical problem and can be solved practically. You might say that service = load over books plus staff, plus space, plus equipment. Our idea, however of what a library should do needs defining. In America, partly because of the system of "Assigned reading," the library is regarded as a teaching department of the college, the intellectual heart of the university from which the life blood of fresh ideas is pumped to all other departments. To the English, thinking more in terms of residential universities, the library is more the educational and cultural heart. See the difference? The States, active and dynamic, the English perhaps more far-seeing—who knows? We probably represent a compromise with a leaning to American practice.

All agree, I think, on certain essentials.

Which are?

To help people to learn and to encourage them to read. A college about one-tenth the size of A.U.C. would set out to do this. With us things are a bit more complex and we must meet study needs of students, by the College. If some of that seems a bit too general, it is because we

feel our department should be a liaison officer for every college activity, formal or informal. And we teaching needs of the staff, needs of research workers, as well as encouraging reading as a lifetime habit, helping "extension" activities and extra-mural students, co-operating with adult education work and with other libraries to the mutual strengthening of educational facilities throughout the whole region served believe that broad experience produces tolerance in individuals—the starting point for international tolerance. Specialisation without a general cultural background can be dangerous. The Axis knew it. How big a part of Nazism was deliberate specialised indoctrination?

Such are the functions of a university library. By the way, this College seems almost to be of the stature, if not of the dignity and status of a university. So we had better plan for a full-blown university while we are about it.

Apart from the Library, how do you like the College?

I like the building, but I had some difficulty in timing my lunch hour so as to get a salad at the Caf.

Craccum thinks that, judging by present conditions, when the third term comes it will be equally difficult to get a seat in the library as in the Caf.

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BIRTHS

O'HARA—On May 4, at Auckland, to Mr. and Mrs. Scarface O'Hara, a little fascist. Thanks to person unknown.

* * *

PERSONAL

C.B.V.B.—Once bitten twice shy?—Flea.

FIFI.—Do not say I look like Mrs. Roosevelt.—Y.W.

I WISH to assure my many friends and relatives that I am not the Cheese mentioned in the University College Revue Book as playing the viola.—A. Cholmondley Cheese.

IF WE receive any further letters informing us that we do not need any disguise to look like the front and back ends of a goat respectively, we shall appeal to the S.P.C.A. for legal aid and advice.—I. Hodder and V. Rout.

* * *

FOR SALE

BLOOD.—We sell beautiful blood. Apply at the back door after 9 p.m. (Appt. to St. J's Blood Scheme.)—Silas O'Toole & Son.

The Debating Club.—If it could only find a buyer.

contend that the root of New Zealand University's weakness lies in its decentralisation. In contrast, New South Wales, with a much larger population than New Zealand, had until recently only one University, of considerable standing, at Sydney.

The scheme we put forward then (expecting little favour) is that the faculties of arts and science should be brought together on a strictly full-time basis in one centre, say, Christchurch; that residential colleges be established to accommodate the greater proportion of the students; that the staff retain its present size, allowing more research and specialist teaching, but that academic standards be raised throughout, and

particularly at entrance—this might reduce student numbers. To make full-time study possible to good enough students, the Department of Education should make a more rational distribution of largesse than the present £20 a year to all-comers. Most important, staff salaries and conditions should be raised to a level sufficient to attract more first-rate men to New Zealand, and to enable them to work without "geographical disadvantage." Such a drastic reform might in time produce a university whose graduates would give back to the community something better than the bread and butter materialism of to-day.

—D.S.

THE CHOSEN AGAIN

SKETCHES OF EXECUTIVE LIFE

On the 10th evening of July the Executive of the Students' Association foregathered to consider the customary mass of agenda—from Field Club teacups to Army huts and an international conference. The meeting was marked by the gay abandon with which it withdrew into, and emerged from, committee, unannounced, with a touching confidence in the intuition of the press.

Two Army huts were apparently causing some friction between the Council and Exec. Their erection on the proposed site would entail (a) the cutting down of the Big Gum Tree and (b) the exclusion of light from the zoology block. Members of both bodies had discussed it. Mr. Johnston said the tree was dead, and a bad tree, the Public Works man that it was a dangerous tree. Mr. Piper was ready to guarantee it a perfectly sound and healthy tree, which would in no way endanger a hut beneath it. He held that the intended action was a conspiracy against "a beautiful exhibition of Nature's work." Mr. Morton felt very strongly that the army huts were "a skilful move against the zoology de-Messrs. Rutherford and Haresnape was carried—that Exec. urges the parliament." Finally, a motion by shifting of one hut up on the plateau. It was decided to ask the Conservator of Parks to look at the tree, Mr. Jones rather acidly suggesting that some expert advice was advisable.

The N.Z.U.S.A. representative at the Students' International Congress at Prague, Robert Hirst, sent a mass of material and proposals for the consideration of Exec. Members were agreeable to the annual payment of fees, 10/- a 1000 students, to the international assembly, but felt that it knew too little about education in India and China, to decide on a grant of a penny per head to students there. The meeting approved of the criterion of entrance to a university—"no discrimination of colour, race or sex," and the "non-limitation of students." One felt, however, that there was no reality of contact between this and the outside body, heightened, no doubt, by the vagueness of the proposals themselves.

The Chancellor's new Five Year Plan for the University may sound inviting, but is not generally understood. Mr. Jones asked what it was. Even Mr. Morton had to admit imperfect knowledge, but ventured the suggestion that it would take five years. Mr. Jones, morosely: "Sounds like an LL.B. course."

The composition of the Exec. was in a state of flux. An attempt to stabilise the situation met with some measure of success, despite each member's reluctance to deprive another of certain weighty portfolios. Mr. Jones, after sterling work as secretary, resigned. This portfolio is a burdensome one, made more so recently, by the increase in the numbers of the College. Again, the continuity between successive years, which is desirable for this position, is impossible because of the frequent changes of student secretaries. Exec. as a body realises that the new conditions demand some readjustment to the present system. Mr. Morton, despite his dexterity in letter-writing, refuses to take over the secretaryship, yet holds it's not fair on a woman. Finally, Miss Garland and Mr. Morton are established as joint interim secretaries by a motion which is almost a Coercion Act.

Mr. Haresnape hands over the Portfolio of Registrar of Societies to Miss Bell, with every expression of relief, and makes a general offer of Social Committee as well. Mr. Rutherford quietly appropriates Student Relief, Mr. Denny's resignation is accepted, and Mr. J. Nathan, Editor of

Craccum, is co-opted for Publications. Mr. Jones tries again to resign from Exec., but they have a limpet grip on him. He refuses Legal Portfolio on the grounds of ignorance of law. Mr. Piper offers him the position of Lady Vice-President. Mr. Jones, eagerly: "Can I have free access to the Women's Common Room?" He wants the remark suppressed, but Exec. democratically uphold the freedom of the Press. Finally, Mr. Morton moves the co-option of Mr. Jones on to Exec. as Secretary of Winter Tournament, Mr. Jones dissenting. The motion is left over.

* * *

The meeting of May 2 opened auspiciously, with Mr. Morton in the chair, and members clearly in the mood for action. There has been no reply from the College Council about the army huts and gum tree!

On a plea from Debating Club for a permanent space on a notice-board, Mr. Beard suggested that posters, instead of garnishing all parts of the College in picturesque confusion, should be concentrated on one long pinex notice-board running along the cloisters towards the Caf. Miss Garland was to make enquiries from the Registrar.

Mr. Morton then read the circular embodying proposals for "mutual contact" and "lasting co-operation" between students and staff. It was to be cyclostyled and sent to professors individually.

Miss Garland moved that some definite day be fixed for meetings. Although Mr. Rutherford confessed himself quite happy with the present system, the general feeling was that a regular night, at weekly instead of fortnightly intervals, would probably increase efficiency. The question of the difficulty for all members to attend every meeting was raised. Mr. Morton soothed all uneasiness; if there was occasionally a specific inconvenience in attending a meeting there would be no inflexible obligation to be there. Tuesday, at 7 p.m., is the chosen day and hour.

Mr. Hooton proposed that the table tennis room should be divided in two by a floor to ceiling partition, one half to retain two tables, the other half to become the Common Common Room. Messrs. Beard, Laurence and Morton thought, and said, that the cultural advantages of a social room would not compensate for the restriction to the activities of table tennis enthusiasts. Mr. Piper now entered and, deftly arranging his gown, explained that the table tennis club rarely used the room officially. He had no doubts that the introduction of a social room would provide more recreation for students than just four tables. Mr. Hooton still held the division practicable—it was his motion. Mr. Beard spoke with sudden illumination. The issue as he saw it was that they were short of accommodation. He suggested another army hut. There was no laughter.

Was it just sheer escapism from a difficult situation, or a sub-conscious conviction of its fittingness that made Exec. embrace Mr. Nathan's proposal that the W.C.R. should be open to both sexes? Mr. Morton asked what the women's reaction would be. Miss Montague, who could speak only for herself, said she was quite indifferent. Mr. Nathan found it hard to believe that the women could be averse to the prospect. Exec. dabbled in the novelty of the idea. Mr. Beard suggested that the M.C.R., too, should be thrown open, a measure, Mr. Laurence thought, which would probably make it tidier. The care of both rooms should be entrusted to a joint sub-committee of W.H.C. and M.H.C., and the thing was done.

This motion illustrated the advantages of collective application to a problem. No one came to the meeting with the clear intention of effecting a radical change—you could see the scheme growing there. It bears out the suggestion that revolutions can be accomplished with remarkably little fuss.

Mr. Piper introduced the urgent problem of the inadequacy of lighting in lecture rooms, with many technical asides on fluorescence and incandescence. Since last May a Sydney firm has been working on six experimental shades. They should be a really handsome piece of work, when they are finished, yet in the meantime we yearn for more light. Mr. Piper moved that the College Council be written to and urged to do something immediately.

It is apparent that Exec (with the exception of Mr. Beard) favours a return to the tradition of begowned graduates, in the belief that the gown will breathe an academic calm over all. In advocating that the Association should make themselves proprietors of gowns (when the material is available), Mr. Nathan pointed out that students wearing them now merely looked eccentric. Mr. Morton deprecated this remark as "unjustified." He went on to claim that his gown was of a very good cotton poplin, and rose to display its texture and lines to admiring members. Mr. Morton, we think, would make a most beguiling soft goods salesman. He thought that gowns would prove a little weighty in the summer time; Mr. Nathan found the remedy in the "suitable adjustment to one's underwear."

Mr. Beard had two grievances, the closing of the coffee evenings at 10 instead of 10.30, and the refusal of Mrs. Odd to allow the architects to use the urns for their coffee evening. Placated on both points, he had yet another. "Buns!" he said with peculiar venom. Mr. Laurence told him about the price tribunal, the cost of labour, and how more varied fare would involve a loss in the running of the Caf.—how all factory restaurants but one ran at a loss. He admitted, however, that the introduction of sandwiches, Cost Price 3d, Selling Price 1 1/2d, would allow a slight margin of profit. Mr. Piper agreed to approach Mrs. Odd.

Owing to the possibility that Exec. might be questioned as to its opinion on the appointment of Mr. J. Laird to the Philosophy Department, Mr. Nathan asked if members would "formulate an attitude." Mr. Morton immediately produced one, namely, that Exec. agrees with the decision of the College Council, in the circumstances, to retain the services of Mr. Laird. It holds no brief for the opinions held by conscientious objectors, but considers no purpose can be achieved by retaliatory measures in this case.

Exec., with the exception of Mr. Laurence, was unanimous, actively or passively, in its opinion on this particular case, though, as a body, not inclined to commit itself to a statement of first principles on the general rights of conscientious objectors.

Mr. Morton now read and explained to the one or two still mentally active the delegate's report from the N.Z.U.S.A., and commented on the anomaly of the relation between N.Z.U.S.A. and the Tournament Committee, the former having amended the latter's constitution without its knowledge. The report was ratified except for the last clause, and the meeting closed on a general yawn.

The straying attention of most members at the end of this exhausting agenda proves the wisdom of the decision for more frequent and shorter meetings.

ON THE BEAT

Below is the first of a series of thumbnail examinations of some well (and some not so well) known piano exponents. All, however, are well worth listening to, and for this reason we include recorded examples of their work available in this country.

PIANO MAN

Bill "Count" Basie was born in Red Bank, New Jersey, in 1906, and while still a youngster organised a band of neighbourhood kids with the same musical ideas as himself. He doubled drums and piano, his chief rival on the former being Sonny Greer. In 1936 Basie came to prominence, and played engagements in Chicago and New York. His piano style, which is most intriguing to listen to, consists of the bare essentials in treble and bass. Numerous rests are an important part of his melodic effect, and percussive attacks break the silences, much like the brass in modern dance bands. Off-beat melodies and meticulous phrasing contribute to his renowned "jump" lilt. His favourite effect is to play a tinkly treble which rides on his slick, lifting rhythm section; Fred Green (g); Walter Page (b); Jo Jones (dms). Listen to Basie on almost any of his band's records; but more particularly on Dupree Blues/Red Wagon.

PLATTER PATTERN

In a heavy fog near Vaughan, Miss., a train sped round a curve at 70 m.p.h., when another train suddenly appeared right ahead on the same line. The engineer of the first train was John Luther "Casey" Jones, and round his heroism of sticking to his post to apply the brakes when he could have jumped out was built a song which is now traditional in American Folk Music. The tune, which was originally composed by "Wash" Saunders, Casey's Negro engine wiper, is well known (with different words and in a different rhythm) as Steamboat Bill. A recently released record of "Casey Jones" features the original words sung by Wingie Manone. Also on the session were Leon "Chu" Berry (ten), William "Buster" Bailey (clt), T. Lanoue (p), Zeb Julian (g), Jules Cassard (b), William "Cozy" Cole (dms). It was recorded as far back as April 26, 1939. The vocal, in Wingie's giddy voice, sounds quite authentic. Casey must have had a great love for his job, for we are told that, just after the crash, he still wanted to ride the Atchison, Topka and Santa Fe lines. However, when Mrs. Jones heard that Casey was dying, she merely remarked to the children, "You got another poppa on the Salt Lake Line!" The side includes a fine half-chorus sax solo by the late great "Chu" Berry. The personnel on the other side would not be far different from the above. Wingie takes the vocal on this side, "The Mosquito Song" also, and throws in some remarks for good measure. Both sides give the impression of musicians enjoying themselves in a free-and-easy atmosphere; from this standpoint alone, the disc is a good buy. —"Offbeat."

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TOURNAMENT WAS BRIGHT

The seventy A.U.C. students found Canta most hospitable and enjoyed all the varied functions which had been arranged. Apart from the basketball tie for the shield, our teams ran a good third in most sports. A fine spirit prevailed and the cups were keenly contested. Hori, once more reincarnated, met his usual fate after the official hakas.

The delegates to N.Z.U.S.A., Keith Piper and John Morton, found the meetings most satisfactory and likely to produce good results. For the first time intercollege meetings were held for "Rostrum," ensuring that the magazine will be an interesting one this year.

Tournament was bright—and all from A.U.C. greatly appreciated the organising work done by our delegates, Jim Beard and Cedric Mann.

THE WOMEN WIN

The A.U.C. basketball team which competed in the Inter-University Tournament at Christchurch, brought back the only trophy to go to Auckland this year—the basketball shield, for which Auckland, Otago and Canterbury tied.

In their first match Auckland beat Otago by 19 goals to 15 in a very fast, close and exciting game, characterised by quick, clean passing and accurate shooting. Auckland then beat Victoria by 22—6, the score being a good indication of the game. The match against Canterbury which Auckland lost 6—15 proved disappointing. The Auckland girls seemed to lack the stamina of their Canterbury opponents, and the match was scrappy and without the bright combination of the former ones.

Throughout all their matches the Auckland girls gave an impression of gameness and good sportsmanship, and handled the ball cleanly and well.

The Auckland goal combination was considered by many onlookers to be the best third of any University team. Excellent combination, fast field work, unselfish play and accurate shooting by all three players soon piled up the score when the ball came their way. Playing on the line, Janet Harwood and Helen Clark got the ball well to Ray Phillpotts, the back goaler, who has a natural flair for this difficult position.

Dot Wilshire, the captain, an Auckland rep. for the past two years and by far the most experienced player in the team, held things together by her usual sound and clever play. Flora McDonald is a young player of great promise who thoroughly deserved her N.Z.U. Blue. Verna Prestige was included in the N.Z.U. team.

The defence third was perhaps not as strong all round as the others, but played energetically and consistently all through. Both Fay Roberts and Nancy Martin played steadily and at times stood out, but the outstanding player here was Peggy Goldsmith. An Auckland representative last year, she played at this Tournament with no practice at all beforehand, yet she outshone the defenders of every other team, and won her N.Z.U. Blue. She is a very fast and nimble player, and her interceptions under the goal, when most defenders give up, are remarkable.

This team, with the experience gained at Tournament, should prove very formidable in the Auckland Association's competition this season.

HIGH ATHLETIC STANDARD

A very high standard of performance was witnessed at the N.Z. University athletic championships, in many events the standards being better than the winning performances at the National Championships in March. Outstanding Auckland performers were A. R. P. Eustace, N.Z. 120yds and 220yds hurdles champion, who shared with Gray and Mara of Otago the ladies' cup for the most

points scored at the meeting, and J. M. Holland, who ran the fastest 440yds hurdles (56secs) seen in N.Z. for many years. Five A.U.C. representatives, all of whom have been recommended for N.Z.U. Blues, were successful in collecting titles. They were:—

A. R. P. Eustace: 1st 220yds hurdles (in record time, 25 2-5s); 1st 120yds hurdles; 2nd 100yds flat.

J. M. Holland: 1st 440yds hurdles; 2nd 220yds hurdles.

C. M. Kay: 1st hop, step and jump; 3rd high jump.

D. P. Culav: 1st shot putt.

J. P. Neesham: 1st broad jump.

In spite of what seemed a very strong team, the Aucklanders were well out of the running for the Athletic Shield, having to give way to both Otago and Canterbury. It was noticeable that whereas our team relied on a few stars, Otago gained the bulk of their points through having a good solid team, all likely place-getters, to support their stars. This is what Auckland must concentrate on next season if we are to succeed, particularly in the flat events (in which this year we gained one second placing only in seven events). Fortunately, with the Athletic Club progressing as it is, this goal is now well in sight.

This year saw the introduction of women's events in the Tournament athletic programme, and our last-minute team, although very new to the sport, managed to hold their own with all the colleges except Canterbury, who won every event. As with the men, hurdling was our strong point, Janet Harwood and Verna Prestidge finishing second and third behind the N.Z. champion, Miss Gourley of C.U.C., the event being won in N.Z. record time.

Some detailed results are:—

100 Yards.—Plunkett, C.U.C., 1; Eustace, A.U.C., 2; Batten, C.U.C., 3. Time, 10 1-5.

440 Yards.—Gray, O.U., 1; Munden, V.U.C., 2; Jones, A.U.C., 3. Time, 51.

120 Yards Hurdles.—Eustace, A.U.C., 1; Tailby, O.U., 2; Bradwell, C.U.C., 3. Time, 16.

220 Hurdles.—Eustace, A.U.C., 1; Holland, A.U.C., 2; Drummond, V.U.C., 3. Time, 25 2-5 (record).

440 Yards.—Holland, A.U.C., 1; Bogle, V.U.C., and Gordon, O.U., 2. Time, 56.

High Jump.—Borland, C.U.C., 1; Mara, O.U., 2; Kay, A.U.C., 3. Height,

6ft (record to both Borland and Mara).

Broad Jump.—Neesham, A.U.C., 1; Wood, A.U.C., 2; Guy, O.U., 3. Distance, 20ft 11½in.

Hop, Step and Jump.—Kay, A.U.C., 1; Shenkin, O.U., 2; Kennedy, C.U.C., 3. Distance, 45ft 2in.

Putting the Shot.—Culav, A.U.C., 1; Mara, O.U., 2; O'Connor, O.U., 3. Distance, 39ft 1in.

Throwing the Hammer.—McKenzie, C.U.C., 1; O'Connor, O.U., 2; Culav, A.U.C., 3. Distance, 98ft 2in.

Mile Medley Relay.—O.U. 1, C.U.C. 2, A.U.C. 3. Time, 3:41 4-5.

Men's Athletic Shield Points.—O.U. 22½, C.U.C. 16, A.U.C. 15, V.U.C. 3½.

Women's Athletic Shield Points.—C.U.C. 13, V.U.C. 3, O.U. and A.U.C. 1.

CREDITABLE TENNIS

Quite frankly, the A.U.C. team met with more success than its members ever anticipated, A.U.C. having finalists in two events. It was annoying to learn unexpectedly that hard and not grass courts were to be used, but every member of the team played well.

Prue Miller and Nan Shove hotly contested the women's doubles final and were very unlucky to miss the first set after leading 5—1 before their match was shifted to the centre, where the gallery unnerved them. Prue Miller also contested the final of the combines with Keith Piper, and played particularly well. The match went to three sets, but Piper's double faulting was unfortunate.

In the women's singles Joan Winter, suffering from lack of practice, narrowly lost a three-set match and Nan Shove played consistently to win the first round, missing in the second. McKenzie and Wright in the men's singles both played well and were unlucky to strike tough opposition in the first round. These two were again unlucky to meet the eventual finalists at the start. Piper and Holland eliminated the Canta pair in the first round, losing to the eventual winners (6—4, 6—4) in the quarter-finals.

Ella Berridge and Dutch Holland played really good tennis against the winning pair in the first combines round, while the other pair, Prue Miller and Keith Piper went to the finals.

For those playing in the finals the four days' play was definitely drawn out, and it was poor management that

C.U.C. did not make a ruling about some of their members who were playing in the Canterbury Tennis Association's Easter Tournament. Hold-ups occurred too frequently when a 'Varsity player was found to be competing in the other Tournament. This was the obvious reason for a hold-up in our Tournament and meant playing off on the last Wednesday, which should have been unnecessary.

AN IMPROVED CREW

The A.U.C. crew performed very creditably. The race resulted in a win for O.U. by four lengths from C.U.C., with A.U.C. half a length away in third place. V.U.C. was fourth.

A.U.C. led with O.U. for the first half-mile, when the Otago crew, heavier by a two-stone average, pulled away. However, we held second place till 100 yards from home, where C.U.C. beat us for this position.

Nevertheless, the crew has shown a vast improvement on last year's form at Wellington, where they were beaten by twelve lengths. Interest in 'Varsity rowing is definitely on the up-grade, and we entertain high hopes of winning next year's race.

In future years a race will be provided at Tournament for clinker fours, any number of which may be entered by the same college. This will enable a greater number of the club's active members to participate in Tournament. It is intended to have some training "spins" during this coming winter. Those interested should contact J. O'Connor.

Congratulations to J. O'Connor and M. Antonievich for winning N.Z.U. Blues at Christchurch this Easter, the latter for the second year in succession; and warm thanks to Mr. Rolf Porter, the crew's coach.

THIRD IN THE SWIM

Auckland swimmers acquitted themselves well, although successful in gaining only third place for the swimming shield. The most outstanding performer was Joan Hastings, who was successful in winning both the 50yds and 100yds ladies' free-style events. In winning the 50yds Joan broke the existing N.Z.U. record and was followed by her sister Pat, who filled second place. Pat also gained third place in the 100yds backstroke. Her success was highly popular, as

(Continued on page 7)



A.U.C. REPRESENTATIVES IN CHRISTCHURCH.

STUDENTS—THERE & HERE MUSIC AND THE RADIO

By PROFESSOR A. G. DAVIS

It is four years ago this month since I returned to New Zealand after an absence of some fifteen years. Those four years have been years of great variety. The year 1942 saw the College with a handful of students; classes in the Law School which now number sixty and more, comprised one student, occasionally two, rarely more. The year 1946 tells a very different story. The years in between present other pictures.

I hope that I may have seen and experienced enough in those four different years to remove any suggestion that, in writing these few lines, I am rushing in where wiser persons would fear to tread. Almost inevitably one is tempted to make comparisons between A.U.C. as one now sees it and A.U.C. as one remembers it over twenty-five years ago. If one might venture on a broad generalisation, I am tempted to say that in the early 1920's, as compared with the middle 1940's, the lady students at A.U.C.—there were no "girl" students then; girls were female persons attending various schools and seminaries of equal rank set aside for their sex—were prettier than those of to-day. The men students, with certain notable exceptions—I leave it to the reader to fill in my blanks—were much more handsome than their successors. All students worked harder, played harder and, in proportion to their numbers, achieved greater success in examinations than they do to-day. In two things does the comparison weigh in favour of the 1940's: the modern buildings are more fitted to the functions the College is supposed to perform, on the Arts side at any rate; and the staff is immeasurably superior to the staff of twenty-five years ago—especially, again with notable, but unnamed exceptions, the domestic staff.

Laudator Temporis Acti?

Do I hear a cry of: *Laudator temporis acti*? I did not start writing these remarks with the idea of comparing A.U.C. of to-day with A.U.C. a quarter of a century ago, but somehow one falls into the habit. Rather I wanted to compare the student side of A.U.C. with the student side of university institutions in Britain of which I was a member; namely, the London School of Economics and Political Science, University College, Hull and the University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire, which is located at Cardiff. Comparisons are admittedly odious. I write with a full realisation of that fact.

I must resist the temptation to say that I found students at all those institutions better mannered than I find them here. Manners belong to an age or to a century. Perhaps what one means is that acts of courtesy seem to me rarer among students here than in Britain. For example, a member of the staff did not have to fight his way among a mass of students in order to reach his lecture room at the appointed hour, as he does here. Students stepped aside and allowed him free passage. We in New Zealand have grown so used to the idea of equality that it is probably the natural thing that the staff member should take his place in the scrum. But the situation can be looked at from another point of view. If a lecturer with a class of sixty students is delayed for ten minutes, two hours are wasted. If one student is delayed for two minutes, only two minutes are wasted. This is not a plea for respect for the dignity of the staff—presuming that quality to exist. It is a simple matter of economics, presuming that economics can ever be simple.

Another example, rare in my experience, though some of my colleagues have, I believe, somewhat different experiences, is the competition between a lecturer and the members of his class for the right of audience. Of course a lecturer may easily be

deceived. The most silent class I remember had over two hundred students. Throughout the whole of the lecture they silently scribbled. I regretted their silence when I discovered that—almost to a man—they took my remarks down in shorthand, transcribed them and confronted me with them the following week.

What I miss most at A.U.C. as compared with the British institutions is the corporate spirit. In searching for a reason for the lack of this corporate spirit, I find it in the fact that A.U.C. has grown too fast in the matter of mere numbers without, at the same time, having regard to the other and more important things which go to make up a university and without maintaining—if it ever had it—any basic ideal on which the institution was founded.

London School of Economics

The London School of Economics owes its existence to the Webbs. The Fabian tradition continued to permeate the school even when its numbers outgrew what the founders originally intended. Under the dynamic influence of Sir William Beveridge, who was the School's director while I was there, the tradition was kept alive, as I believe it is to-day. If one wasn't at least pink in one's politics when one went to the school, change to that hue was not long in coming. What else could one expect when among the staff were such persons as Professor Harold Laski and Dr. Hugh Dalton? Let me hasten to add that another distinguished member of the staff was, and is, Professor Hayek, author of "The Road to Serfdom," and that the school nourished a healthy Conservative Society. But the tradition of the Webbs was respected by all, and actively cultivated by the vast majority—staff and students alike.

Hull

Hull was different. It was a very small place, with fewer than three hundred students and, when I went there, less than ten years old. But the corporate spirit was a very decided feature of the place. I find the reason for that in the communal life of students and staff. All students, unless they had their homes in Hull, and their numbers were few, lived in hostels; and all of us had our mid-day meal in College. Indeed, I do not think it an exaggeration to say that, at Hull, life centred round the dining hall. Can a university institution flourish when its thoughts are centred on such mundane pleasures as food—and drink? I think so, and I think Hull proves that fact. Every term the governing academic body, the Senate, held a Senate dinner, to which citizens of Hull were invited. The food was excellent. The wine was quite good, even though Hull advertised itself as "Britain's cheapest port." The conversation was stimulating, and the benefits to the College were reflected in the interest which the people of Hull showed, often by financial assistance, in the College.

Cardiff

Cardiff was different again. Here the unifying force was Welsh nationalism. Let any student, perhaps unconsciously, hum a few bars of "Land of My Fathers" and the song would be taken up by those standing round until it swelled to a great crescendo which left no doubt in a stranger's mind that in Cardiff the corporate spirit was very strong. Another feature was the language. I do not know how many of the students spoke Welsh. I should imagine that at least ninety per cent did so. The bond of a second common tongue found them very fast.

The Future

"So what?" in the modern idiom. Shall all the A.U.C. students learn Maori or swell with pride at the strains of "God Defend New Zealand"? Shall they further the hostel

NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

It is timely for a note of protest to be sounded in this column, too, and added to the already pretty full chord of disapproval re-echoing about the country upon the handling of the choice of conductor for the proposed new Symphony Orchestra. The matter is fast assuming the proportions of a first-rate scandal, and if the hint of politics (which alone is sufficient to unite all musicians, usually the most quarrelsome of comrades, into a solid front) continues to develop then we may watch out for some Really Royal fireworks music. Professor Keys' recent letter will receive all the support it merits.

The best statement of the position I have seen actually is in a recent edition of the "Observer." The account is too full to give here, but the main point at issue is the failure to advertise the post of conductor both here and abroad, and the consequent deep suspicion that in fact the choice is made already and perhaps has been cut and dried for some time past. The Prime Minister's statement on this is as vague as Wagner's parentage, and to a musician anxious to further one of his art's most sublime manifestations, infuriating beyond measure and neither right nor honourable. The very possibility of having Dr. Malcolm Sargent here for a limited period (as seems to be the case) and the wonderful impetus that would give to the orchestra should give even the most obtuse of politicians pause in his machinations and make him realise the necessity for widely advertising the position and offering every inducement besides for a good conductor to want to stay.

As for the vexed question of whether some of the players themselves should be imported, perhaps we had best leave it to the discretion of the conductor. Dr. Sargent was certainly in favour of it as far as the wind sections were concerned. Be that as it may, however, it is upon the conductor himself that the orchestra depends in its early stages—and most musicians will agree that no Musical Tyro can fill the bill.

WELCOME HOME, MR. LAURENSEN

Turning from things which leave a nasty taste in one's mouth, it is a welcome aperitif to record the presence of Doug. Laurensen in our midst once more, this time under the auspices of the N.B.S. Listeners will remember him some years ago as the originator ("instigator") some people may call it of 12B's very popular Request Session and his consequent departure for the Middle East, where

idea? Will we ask the College Council to provide—not a cafeteria—but a dining hall and to lay down the beginnings of a cellar? Shall we go back to 1883, find out what ideals—if any—actuated those who founded A.U.C., and take steps to live up to and further those ideals? We need something which will develop the corporate life. At the moment, with our large numbers, housed in inadequate quarters, we can do little, but I must admit that the communal life idea appeals to me.

Over and above all these things we need a directing hand. Successive College Presidents have given of their best, many of them to the neglect of their ordinary affairs. Chairmen of the Professorial Board have struggled to run their own departments and at the same time to supervise the academic life of the College. This is not enough. We need a full-time Principal, which every University institution in Britain has. This demand is given a high place in the Chancellor's plans for reform. The sooner it is fulfilled the sooner will we begin to develop on proper lines.

he could be heard each Sunday in the Armed Forces Service "With the Boys Overseas." Now he is back in Auckland doing the circuit of 1YA, 1YX and 12M, and proving a very favourable addition to the ranks of the N.B.S. His announcing is firm and sure, yet quite avoiding that painful stiffness so characteristic of the worst members of his Auckland colleagues. And it is particularly delightful to hear Italian words given their right pronunciation without the slightest touch of affectation. Unfortunately I have a brickbat concealed in this particular bouquet—because he is excellent in one, Mr. Laurensen should not therefore neglect his other languages entirely. To say Snaybel, de Faller and Saibeelius all in one day is going a trifle far. Please, Mr. Laurensen, do take notice and not spoil your otherwise fine efforts.

PASSION AND MASS

If he had never done anything else, Mr. Stanley Oliver's recent presentation of Bach's great St. Matthew Passion with the Scuola Cantorum of Wellington would justify his place in the world. It just shows what can be done with the right man at the helm. The whole production showed maturity and ripeness, from the choir's velvety singing of the chorales to Thomas West's finely impassioned declamation as the Narrator. The horrifyingly difficult arias seemed to lose three-quarters of their pitfalls, though the obvious presence of the other quarter showed just how necessary a first-class singer is for their adequate performance. Vincent Aspey was an able leader to an orchestra which made only a few bad slips. But the most important thing is that listeners at last had the opportunity of hearing the great Passion in all its glory, and if the performance had been only half as good we should still have been grateful for the enterprise and sheer hard work that must have been behind it all. Just imagine anyone in Auckland even contemplating a rehearsal of the St. Matthew Passion. We can't even put on the "Messiah" here without revealing the Victorian slough of complacency and incompetence in which our Colonel Blimps of music wallow.

1YX, however, did the next best thing some weeks ago when it gave the Bach Mass in B minor spread over two successive Sunday evenings. The recordings were the old ones of course made by the Philharmonic Choir before 1930 under Albert Coates with Elizabeth Schumann, Margaret Balfour, Walter Widdop and Friedrich Schorr as soloists. The latter constitute a magnificent team, and it is a great pity that the choir has to suffer from such poor reproduction.

Oh for a recording by the Bach Cantata Club of London with ideal conditions of balance in choir and orchestra. But that, I suppose, is too much to hope for.

To return to 1YX—I gave the matter some considerable thought beforehand and came to the conclusion that even the N.B.S. wouldn't be able to ruin the dramatic continuity of the work by chopping the movements about or omitting portions or any other of the many humorous pranks in their repertoire. Except, that is, in the great sequence of the Et Incarnatus, Crucifixus and Et Resurrexit. But that, I told myself, is in the middle of the Credo, and should be safe as houses. I should have known better. With fiendish precision, born I suppose of long practice in such technique, the announcer let the wandering strains of the Et Incarnatus die away with a pause whilst the listener gathered his wits about him for the tremendous impact of Bach's setting of the Crucifixion, and blandly, pigling-blandly, stated the work would be finished (why did he omit "off"?) next week. It was barely a case of Temper Preserv'd, Mr. Otway. . . .

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LIBRARY NEW ADDITIONS

- The Life and Times of Johann Sebastian Bach**, by Hendrick Van Loon. 1942. One of the famous Van Loon "Lives."
- The Fear of Freedom**, by Erich Fromm. 1945. Presents an interpretation of the contemporary crisis of civilisation and of its historical background through the Renaissance and modern history, from a psycho-analytic point of view.
- The Musical Companion: a Compendium for all lovers of music**, edited by A. L. Bacharach. 1940.
- The Conspirators**, by Frederick Prokosch. 1943. A novel set in Lisbon in 1940.
- Basic English and Its Uses**, by I. A. Richards. 1943. Discusses the use of a simplified form of English, its history and its teaching.
- When the Wind Blows**, by Frank Sargeson. 1945. Latest novel of the well-known N.Z. author.
- India—A Restatement**, by Sir R. Coupland. 1945. Gives all essential facts about British connection with India, and deals with present situation and problems.

COUPERIN

2YC provided a rare treat recently through the courtesy of the French Information Service when it presented two "Concertos" of Couperin-le-Grand (1668-1733), played by the Maurice Hewlett String Orchestra, with harpsichord—"L'Imperiale" and "L'Apotheose de Lully" (his great predecessor). Francois Couperin is known to us only through a few of his exquisite harpsichord Ordres (from which Wanda Landowska has made some memorable recordings) and the Ecole Normale's performance under Cortot of his "Concerto in the Theatrical Style." It was therefore doubly refreshing to be given two more examples of the great Frenchman's manner and to see wherein he resembled and differed from his contemporaries. Reception was not good when I heard them, and I was obliged to listen to an almost continuous whine from the radio at the same time, rather like a stuck pig obligato, but in spite of it all Couperin prevailed.

The plan of the Concertos seems rather similar to that of the Ordres—a long string of dances with some sort of Overture (not always in the Ordres) in the Lully style. The descriptive titles speak for themselves and show his inveterate habit of giving his movements a programme (though he was by no means alone in, nor the originator of, this among his fellow musicians as most history books seem to imply). But the point which struck me more than anything was the extraordinary resemblance many of the dances had to Purcell's gay movements. This is a rather heretical statement, I fear, since open-air freshness and square-cut rusticity of phrase and rhythm are generally supposed to be a property exclusively English and very particularly Purcellian. It appeared very obvious to me, however, and gave me considerable food for thought. I feel that a great deal too much emphasis is laid on a certain quality belonging to one composer alone, whereas it usually is idiomatic of his period, and his work is merely the best exponent of it. Most people nowadays do recognise that the generality of turns of phrase which are labelled characteristically Mozartean are common stock for any composer in the latter half of the eighteenth century, but I doubt whether they apply the process to any previous period. It seems just as logical to do so, but the difficulty lies in hearing any compositions other than those of the standard composers. It was with a special thrill then that I heard these two masterpieces of Couperin, coupled with a very real regret for the countless forgotten treasures by others of his contemporaries which lie waiting for some sympathetic hand to resuscitate them.

REVUE (CONTINUED)



The Heroine (Miss Evans) and Friend

Any faults in the production were due not to the cast, but to inherent weaknesses in the structure of the plot. The choruses went off with a flourish which would have been more brilliant with a little more help from the orchestra, and the minor characters acted with liveliness and apparent enjoyment. Stage settings were good, and the costumes colourful and effective. The second scene in the pub was one of the brightest, where the three Boozey Old Flooxies not only looked incredibly frightful but swigged and leered with real relish to the pain of the genteel ladies from Remuera. The musical rivalry between the two parties over the unfortunate male catch was effective, but was slowed up by the intervening bars of music which made slightly over-long pauses. This was true also of the operetta in the UNO scene, although not with such damaging effect, with Superman Mountain-Molehill's resonant bass to swing the thing along. The drinking chorus was carried out with characteristic student enthusiasm, with the orchestra coming a bad second in the finish.

The orchestra made itself prominent through its many faults, which, considering it must be one of the major expenses of Revue, seems somewhat more than a pity. It can be understood that a professional orchestra does not have the same

opportunity or incentive to practise as a college body, which makes a strong argument in favour of a student orchestra which could have the necessary collaboration between musicians and cast so noticeably lacking in this revue.

The plot in itself was basically sound and amusing, but suffered from various structural defects. The first scene of the second act, where Scar-Face O'Hara makes himself prominent by his homicidal instincts and his hatred of Fascists, was a weak link between the boisterous pub and bakehouse scenes, and David Clouston's acting, which was convincingly tough, could not redeem the weakness of the script. One of the gravest flaws was the plea for food by the small nations against America. Burlesque at this point became really bitter, and the sudden fall into seriousness, emphasised by the choral speaking, produced a feeling of embarrassment in the audience. The final scene was the most unsatisfactory. The whole effect was ragged, with characters shooting on and off in uncomfortable confusion, and with only one memorable line, "I come to bury Caesar, not to braise him." The device of the double stage was not entirely successful, and the only happy aspect of the whole scene was the neat way in which reconciliation was finally effected.

—G.G.



S-M M. Molehill (Parkes).

* * *

Revue Photographs by Bettina



Frazer and Others at UNO.

TOURNAMENT CONT.

Pat has been a stalwart of swimming at Auckland University for some time now.

As was expected, the diving events newly included in the programme resulted in a win to Owen Jaine in the men's section and Louise Browne the ladies'. Louise Browne was unfortunate in that an injury to her hand caused whilst training prevented her from displaying her best form.

In the ladies' breaststroke Rosemary Watt and Marion McDonald showed promise, but with a particularly fast time recorded by the winner and place-getters in this event, were not successful in making the final.

The men's free-style events were dominated by the Canterbury swimmer Lyall Barry, and the breaststroke by P. Fleischl, of Otago. Mick Shanahan was a close second in the 100yds breaststroke, but lack of form prevented his being placed in the 220yds, although he led during the earlier stages of the distance. Russell Stone swam well in both these events although not placed. Both these swimmers would have performed better had they been fit.

A.U.C. filled third place in the relay, being narrowly beaten for second place by Otago. Pat Hastings and Campbell Craig swam particularly well in this event.

The A.U.C. swimming team consisted of 12 swimmers, that being the maximum number permissible. The experience gained by those swimmers who were not successful in gaining a place should stand them in good stead for future tournaments, and the Auckland University Swimming Club should benefit considerably by the enthusiasm engendered at Tournament.

OTAGO BOXES WELL

Otago boxers took part in the finals of all but one weight and were successful in four, winning the boxing shield by a wide margin. R. Mead, taller and with a longer reach than his opponent, R. Ongley (O.U.), used his left effectively to win the bantam-weight in a fast bout.

Results of the final bouts were:—

Bantam-weight.—R. Mead (A.U.C.), 8st 9½lb, beat R. A. S. Ongley (O.U.), 8st 4lb.

Feather-weight.—J. B. Chambers (O.U.), 9st 1½lb, beat A. W. Young (V.U.C.), 9st 2½lb.

Light-weight.—H. R. Gibson (O.U.), 9st 10lb, beat B. Webb (V.U.C.), 9st 8lb.

Welter-weight.—M. Wishart (V.U.C.), 9st 13lb, beat D. R. Armstrong (O.U.), 10st 3½lb.

Middle-weight.—J. M. Foreman (O.U.), 11st 1½lb, beat G. Smith (A.U.C.), 11st.

Light-heavy-weight.—I. D. McKellar (O.U.), 11st 2½lb, beat A. S. Fraser (C.U.C.), 11st 1½lb.

Heavy-weight.—A. D. McKenzie (C.U.C.), 13st 8lb, beat J. Roberts (V.U.C.), 14st 4lb.

DAMP CONDITIONS

The practices for the Haslam Shield were held at Redcliffs Range on Saturday morning. A light wind was blowing in a cold drizzle from the sea, making conditions rotten.

On the whole the standard was very high. The Otago team gave a display of some excellent shooting to win the Shield. The A.U.C. team did not fare badly, even though the men had not seen the rifles to be used until that morning, and though their probable best shot, I. H. Kawharu, had a "jam" in the rapid practice, missing eight shots.

B. W. Robinson is to be congratulated on scoring second for the day and thereby earning a Blue.

Next year all should have had more practice, and the full Haslam shoot will be conducted.

Total scores: O.U. 647, A.U.C. 585, C.U.C. 597, V.U.C. 506.

INFORMATION ABOUT CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

The problem of the conscientious objector to military service has been brought to our notice again: Perhaps it is not always the best time to discuss a general question when it is suggested by a particular case, but it is only too easy to forget such things once they lose their topical interest. So let us make the best use we can of the present occasion. The first thing we should do is to recognise that the problem is really two problems: that of **CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION** and that of **CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION TO MILITARY SERVICE**. Those who have conducted the public controversy have often failed, either from logical or moral deficiency, to make this quite clear. It is a case, not only of "what you say" but also of "your right to say it," to borrow the terms of Voltaire's dictum. Here at the outset we should make the necessary reservation that such liberty cannot be allowed to prejudice the moral or material security of others.

Who are the conscientious objectors to military service? Most numerous are those who object on religious grounds. Now in this country we believe in religious toleration, and in certain necessary cases even have legal safeguards for it. In other words, if we consider a man's religious convictions upon a matter to be genuine, they are both socially and legally acceptable. Some others have objected to service on purely intellectual grounds, which also we who believe in freedom of thought must concede to be valid. Others again have had political objections to supporting political systems of which they disapproved, or to opposing other States with whom they were in sympathy. And any sort of political coercion is repugnant to us. For our present purpose these three groups are inclusive of all reasonable types of objection. May we not then conclude that conscientious objection as such contradicts neither the letter nor the spirit of our law?

But it is quite obvious that many good and thoughtful citizens did and do take exception to conscientious objection to military service. In the light of what we have just said, it can be neither the reason nor the manner of objection that worries them—it must be the result. They disagree with any refusal to render military service in a time of apparent military necessity. They decide, in the terms of our initial reservation, that such an attitude is prejudicial to their security. It would be easy here, did we not all live in glass houses, to throw stones at "materialism," "self-interest," "justification of the means by the end," etc. It is more serious than that. These people thought it was a case of "kill or be killed." Whether they were right or not we have no means of discovering finally—but they were certainly in deadly earnest. However, we should not imagine that the conscientious objector was necessarily any less in earnest. The religious pacifist may have seen just as grave a threat of enemy attack, but he may just as seriously have believed in the omniscience and omnipotence of his God to preserve righteousness in this world and to honour the righteous either in this world or the next. Whether he was right or not we have no means of discovering finally. And so with other objectors, we must give them credit for having worked out the possible consequences of their attitude; for if the worst came to the worst, materially speaking, they would be no better off than the rest

of us. So the case for every viewpoint was more or less hypothetical, and still is, for the war proved nothing. We could not expect to draw from the shambles of a world war the exact conclusions that we might from a controlled experiment. Then if we do not count the conscientious objector as "not guilty" of actually endangering the security of the public, we must at least allow his verdict as "not proven." We can go no further; much as we may have hoped to arrive at a solution, we must be content with a compromise, in which the genuine upholders of one view refrain from attacking the genuine upholders of the other, and simply agree to differ.

So much for the matter in the abstract. How has it been dealt with practically in New Zealand? The Government admits the validity of genuine conscientious objection, for it includes in the National Service Emergency Regulations provision for appeals against service with the Armed Forces on that ground. All that remains is to establish the sincerity of the objector. Now, on the good authority of our primary school teachers and others, we are assured that British justice regards a man as innocent until he is proved guilty. So we should expect the objector to be regarded as genuine until he is proved otherwise. That is not so: he is required to prove his own sincerity. Obviously there will be cases in which men of independent mind will be able to bring little external evidence to support their appeals, yet against whom, if the situation were reversed, perhaps no evidence of insincerity could be brought. On this same good authority mentioned above, we have it that British justice is such that the chances of an innocent man's wrongful punishment must be avoided even to the extent of allowing some possibly guilty to go free. The regulations seem to take little cognisance of this. Here is the relevant extract from the (amended) National Service Emergency Regulations, 1940:—

Regulation 22A. Appeals by Conscientious Objectors

(1) The following provisions shall apply with respect to the determination on its merits of any appeal on the ground (i.e., conscience) specified in para (e) of clause (1) of Reg. 21 hereof, namely:—

(a) If the Appeal Board is satisfied that the appellant holds a genuine belief that it is wrong to engage in

warfare in any circumstances it shall allow the appeal.

(b) If, in any case to which the last preceding paragraph does not apply, the Appeal Board is satisfied that the appellant holds a genuine belief that it is wrong to perform combatant duties in the Armed Forces, it shall dismiss the appeal subject to the condition that the appellant shall be employed only in non-combatant duties in the Armed Forces.

(c) In any other case the Appeal Board shall dismiss the appeal unconditionally.

A further anomaly becomes evident in para. (c). No consideration is given to those objectors who could not state that they were not prepared to "engage in warfare in any circumstances." This was a matter of some importance to political objectors, for instance, while the Nazi-Soviet Pact was effective, and in other cases of political conviction.

When we pass over the regulations themselves and consider their actual administration the story does not become any more creditable. The fact that one city appeal board up to the end of 1943 allowed 35% of the appeals heard while another city board allowed only 12% in the same period is disturbing. The fact that in England during this same period over 90% of appeals (including re-appeals) were allowed, while 19.6% were allowed in New Zealand, the remainder having no right to re-appeal, is more disturbing. In England imprisonment for defaulters was limited by statute, and in effect rarely exceeded one year. In New Zealand sentences were indeterminate and often exceeded four years. Many instances are recounted by private individuals of undignified and indeed unethical conduct of hearings. Lincoln Efford, in his "Penalties On Conscience," cites several outstanding cases of the unexplained disregard of quite reliable evidence. The unfair and blatantly emotive argument often employed is well known. The appellant is asked whether he would use force to defend his mother and sister if a German soldier were to enter their home and threaten them with death or a worse fate, as the melodramatic phrase goes. If he answers that he would defend them, he is adjudged inconsistent. If he says he would not, he has no honour or decent feeling. If he says that he could not answer for such a remote and special case, he has not the courage of his convictions. The odds are clearly against the man whose case depends on his answer to such a question, as a number of cases have indeed.

By this time we have probably arrived at the conclusion that it is impossible to judge the conscience of an individual, anyway. So it is. But some form of examination was undoubtedly necessary. The fault has been in the failure to provide for earnest and often idealistic men, the usual careful, unbiased and exhaustive investigation that every thief, murderer or drunken motorist may ask of the law.

The purpose of all the foregoing is not to excite sympathy for the con-

ROSTRUM

Make a contribution to "Rostrum," the annual journal of the University of New Zealand. The closing date is June 10.

"Rostrum" wants articles and verse (light and serious), essays, translations, and short stories of New Zealand life.

Contributions to "Rostrum" should be sent to the Editor, R. I. F. Pattison, Auckland University College, or the Secretary, Iris Park, 120 Shackleton Road, Mt. Eden, Auckland.

MODERN LANGUAGES CLUB

LE MEDECIN MALGRE LUI

Delightful comic relief will be provided in this play by Professor Keys and Doctor West competing for the title role. A strong cast will support them in the Modern Languages Club Annual Production. Moliere's "Le Medecin Malgre Lui." This play will be staged in the College Hall on June 27.

scientious objector or for his beliefs; that is quite another matter and does not concern us here. The implication is rather one of far graver and wider significance. Is there not reason to suspect that deliberate and unjust discrimination has been used against a minority group, rendered temporarily defenceless by abnormal popular emotion? We might have hoped that our public conscience was sturdy enough to place principle above temporary expediences, however serious, and to mistrust any signs of hysterical or shallow thinking.

—L.I.

[In their briefest form, the arguments of the R.S.A. in the current controversy may be presumed to be:

(1) Employment involving the spending of public money should not be given to those whose attitude is contrary to public policy.

(2) The education of the younger generations should not be in the hands of such persons.

These arguments, based on expediency, necessarily carry weight if a realistic attitude is to be taken to post-war problems rather than an idealistic one. The contention that military service entitles a man to preferential treatment loses force because of the fact that conscription was adopted; had all servicemen been volunteers the position would be different.—Ed.]

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Mainly About Movies by Astra

WHITHER BRITISH FILMS?

A new name has recently been added to the lengthy list of those which continually make the headlines in this country. It is a name we shall hear more of in the months that lie ahead. This man is no foreign minister, soldier, economist, union boss or even film star. He is, nevertheless, a man to remember, for he is the bestriding colossus of the British motion picture industry. He is Mr. J. Arthur Rank. And it is in the hands of this millionaire Methodist that the future of British films may lie.

.... monopolist?

Many of us believe that we have put before us the fare we desire in the way of film entertainment. In point of fact, however, the motion picture business, like to-day's restaurant menu, threatens to become a case of "that's all there is, take it or leave it." In Great Britain at least this may well come about by reason of the monopoly gained by Mr. Rank's control of producing companies, including Two Cities, Gainsborough and Independent Producers, of nearly all the existing studio space in the United Kingdom and of his ownership of Gaumont-British and Odeon, two of the three largest circuits of cinemas in Great Britain. Rank strongly denies the assertion that his object is complete monopoly of the British film business. He claims only to be interested in developing a native industry that can withstand competition from abroad ("Fallen Cherub, to be weak is miserable.") A worthy and patriotic enough aim when you first consider it. But wait.

.... the malady

British films could do with a tonic. They have been in poor health for a number of years. Few British motion pictures ever get to the screens of countries outside the Empire. A check on the "New York Times" for February of this year disclosed only one British production showing on the major cinema circuit there. Not only is there a need for overhaul in the method of distribution of British films, but more films of sufficient appeal to the great movie-going public of America are urgently required. This is the state of affairs that Mr. Rank has set himself to remedy.

The United Kingdom has "taken it" for a long time in the film business. There, World War I killed the art, and Hollywood attained to a position of unchallenged supremacy in the cinemas of Britain. After 1918 there was a time when only one film was in course of production in the entire country. A long struggle followed upon public demand for a proportion of British pictures and the Quota Act was passed. Shoddy productions became the "quota quickies" of American-financed companies bent on the mere fulfilment of a legal obligation.

"The Private Life of Henry the Eighth," which in the middle of the depression swept both the Commonwealth and America, was the gold rush for British film art.

Came the crash following the investment of huge sums in the new industry and in the mythical American market eagerly awaiting the release of British productions.

After a time the industry stirred again and by 1939 some 150 feature films were being turned out in studios in the United Kingdom. Then came the war. The number of productions dropped, but the quality rose. In documentary Great Britain increased her lead gained in pre-war years, and in features began to provide some measure of opposition to Hollywood—on the Empire market at least.

.... the remedy

It is to this gaining of wider recognition for British films that J. Arthur Rank has pledged himself.

Stupendous productions like "Henry V" and "Caesar and Cleopatra" are by him considered necessary to win approval in the United States.

Rank's intentions seem, however, the production of films that will be "box office" in the United States of America rather than inside the British Empire, and the crashing of the American market at the cost of eliminating smaller but no less attractive British productions.

.... the price

Must we therefore witness the absorption into the Rank Empire of studios that have done so much for the prestige of British film studios like those at Denham, Pinewood and Shepherd's Bush, of production companies such as Two Cities, Gainsborough and Independent Producers, and of almost every cinema of any importance? Must we in particular witness the passing of Crown Film Unit whose efforts throughout the war whilst controlled by the Ministry of Information maintained the high standard set in documentary when it was operated as General Post Office Unit? For it was Crown which gave us "Western Approaches," "Target for To-night," "Ferry Pilot" and "Coastal Command," and boasted such outstanding directors as Henry Watts, Pat Jackson, J. B. Holmes and Humphrey Jennings. In these circumstances, is Mr. Rank's such an altruistic aim after all?

.... the prospect before us

And if some day Mr. Rank should decide to close up shop and retire to teach his Sunday School in the good green acres of Winchester—what then? Would there be a return to the days of "quota quickies," a flooding of cheap American-financed movies and a Hollywood monopoly on all cinema circuits? No Watts, Jackson, Holmes or Jennings, no Crown Film Unit, no Gaumont, no Gainsborough, no escape from the almighty dollar.

And what has all this to do with us in New Zealand? Only this, that we are a people dependent more than we realise on "canned entertainment," a people who, next to the Americans themselves, spend more per head of population on movies than any other nation. With the signing of the Rank-Kerridge Treaty, the omnipotent millionaire Methodist acquires a controlling interest in our lives. In New Zealand there are only two cinema circuits worthy of note, Kerridge Theatres, Ltd., and Amalgamated Theatres, Ltd. Into the former pie the Rank finger has now reached.

"O thou that, with surpassing glory crowned,
Lookest from the sole dominion like the god
Of this new world—at whose sight
all the stars
Hide their diminished heads . . ."

.... Frankie, you're killing me!

Apparently the effect of Sinatra upon schoolgirls and star-struck New Zealand film audiences in general is nowhere near what it is on Young America. I cannot recall having seen worshippers at the shrine of "the Voice" in transports, in cinema aisles, or screaming their agreement that "woman needs man, and man must have his mate."

At any rate it seems significant that the management of St. James' Theatre decreed it fitting for the purpose of receipts that all reference to "Frankie" was suppressed in newspaper advertisements and on posters outside the cinema. And yet the "stills" themselves—printed of course in the U.S.A.—carried the name of Sinatra at the top of the three starring personalities. This is doubtless known in the business as a diplomatic move.

I recall a friend once telling me that behind my mosquito net and in the chequered half-light of the jungle I reminded him of Marlene Dietrich in something from "Kismet." Yet as I remember it, Ronald Colman was the only member of the cast to have his name in advertisements and posters boosting this lavish M.G.M. spectacle that graced Queen Street for just seven days. Here obviously another American favourite who doesn't go over big down under. Come to think, that friend did add that he preferred his "chicks" looking more like 20 than 50. Maybe there's the answer. Case of one man's meat another's box-office poison, I suppose.

"ARSENIC AND OLD LACE"

A decidedly weak potion is this film version of Joseph Kesselring's smashing stage success. Too long at 10,000 feet, the picture is a curious mixture of excellence and banality, containing some episodes which will stay in the memory as being as good as any seen on the screen in recent years, and others that sink as low in originality and appeal as gas in the Auckland containers.

When the dominant characters are "Teddy Roosevelt" ("another look for the Panama Canal") or the lovable old "out-of-this-world" spinster sisters who murder lonely and elderly men out of sheer kindness, "Arsenic and Old Lace" is worthy of Frank Capra. Most of the scenes in which Cary Grant, Raymond Massey and Peter Lorre appear are so trite, so deplorable that you want to laugh outright at them; only that would be laughing in the wrong place of course, so you can take time out to shift position and prepare for Teddy's next entry and proclamation and get in time with the mirth once more.

Mortimer Brewster, as conceived by Kesselring, is the one member of the family not completely "off his rocker," but Hollywoodised Mortimer Brewster in the person of Cary oh-what-big-eyes-you-have Grant behaves in a manner not only more off-centre than anyone else, but what is more annoying in a precociously cocksure manner reminiscent of Mickey Rooney at his worst. Grant's portrayal is a classic of overacting into the bargain.

Raymond Massey is completely wasted. He is Boris Karloff, physically repulsive, nothing more. Peter Lorre is still poor stereotyped Peter Lorre of the downcast, whipped-dog eyes. Like Grant, Jack Carson as a typical Brooklyn cop overacts, but to Carson it seems natural to do so. Priscilla Lane is there to add a touch of local colour to an otherwise drab array of tombstones.

In a film which is uniformly fine stuff an outstanding incident serves only to heighten the general effect. Amidst mediocre scenes one especially good throw into relief only the more strongly the surrounding gloom. So, Edward Everett Horton, in his all-too-rare appearances, cannot raise the film from the depths to which it plunges on the occasion upon which Grant places himself in perfect position for mad brother Jonathan's attack, whilst he (Grant) enacts for Carson's benefit a play he has recently seen. Nor can the charm of Jean Adair and Josephine Hull or the antics of bugle-blowing Teddy atone for the unpardonable development of wild burlesque or the overall lack of light and shade.

Well, dear, sweet Aunts Abigail and Martha on their own admission had put twelve men to eternal rest in the cellar, and Cary Grant, acting for and on behalf of Warner Bros., can claim almost to have put one more to sleep in the sixth row from the back of the Civic Theatre, Auckland.

CONCERTS STUDENT RELIEF

Though negotiations have not been finally completed, it is hoped that a series of day-time concerts by well-known Auckland artists may be organised. The provisional dates and times for these concerts are: Alternate Thursdays, as from June 13, from 1 to 1.30 p.m. A charge of 6d per concert for students will be made for the funds of Student Relief, with a season ticket available at a reduced charge. Several instrumental artists have already expressed willingness to assist, among them Ina Bosworth (violin), Pat Towsey (piano), Lalla Hemus ('Cello), Ken Wilson (clarinet), Owen Jensen (piano) and Lalla Keys (piano); among singers, Dawn Harding, Constance Manning, James Leighton.

Do not miss this opportunity to make duty a pleasure.

GRAMOPHONE RECITALS

Sunday afternoon gramophone recitals will be resumed in the second term, and will run from June 23 to August 4 inclusive from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Programmes will be announced weekly in advance.

EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
1.10 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday, June 4:

1. String Sextet in B major .. Brahms
2. Brandenburg Concerto II in F major .. Bach

Thursday, June 6:

- No. 1 of a series—Modern Symphonists.
- Symphony I .. Elgar

Tuesday, June 11:

1. Quartet in D minor .. Mozart
2. Symphony III in F major .. Brahms

Thursday, June 13:

- Modern Symphonists II.
1. The Lark Ascending .. V. Williams
2. "London" Symphony .. V. Williams

Tuesday, June 18:

1. "Carnaval" Suite .. Schumann
2. Symphony VIII in F major .. Beethoven

Thursday, June 20:

- Modern Symphonists III.
1. The Turtle Dove
- The farmer's song so sweet.

Tuesday, June 25:

1. Fidelio Overture .. Beethoven
2. Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major op. 58 .. Beethoven

Thursday, June 27:

- Modern Symphonists IV.
- Symphony in G minor .. E. J. Moeran

Tuesday, July 2:

1. Violin Concerto in A minor .. Bach
2. Violin Concerto in E minor .. Mendelssohn

Thursday, July 4:

- Modern Symphonists V.
1. Portsmouth Point Overture .. William Walton

Tuesday, July 9:

- Piano Quintet in F minor .. Brahms

Tuesday, July 16:

- "Choral" Symphony IX in D minor .. Beethoven

(This programme will start at 1 p.m.)

Thursday, July 18:

- Modern Symphonists VI.
1. Symphony V in Eb major .. Sibelius

Tuesday, July 23:

1. Symphonie des Psaumes .. Stravinsky
2. Swan of Tuonela .. Sibelius
3. Capriccio Espagnole .. Rimsky Korsakov

Thursday, July 25:

- Modern Symphonists VII.
1. Symphony VII in C major .. Sibelius

Tuesday, July 30:

1. Introduction—Allegro for Harp and Strings .. Ravel
2. This Have I Done .. Holst
- Sing We and Chant It .. }
Now is the Month of Maying .. }
Thomas Morley
- Sweet Honey-sucking Bees .. Wilbye

3. Introduction—Allegro for Strings .. Elgar

ENGINEERING SOCIETY A.G.M.

The A.G.M. was carried over from the third term of last year on account of the pressure of degree examinations. In future it is hoped that the A.G.M. will resume its place in the third term. The following were elected office-bearers for 1946:—

President: H. E. Wallace Esq., M.Sc., B.E.

Vice-Presidents: Professor T. D. J. Leech, N. P. Angus Esq., A.M.I. C.E., N. L. Vickerman Esq., A. Murray Esq.

Student Chairman: S. H. Dawe.

Secretary-Treasurer: W. H. Mansell.

Committee: R. H. Bates (representing third Professional year), T. Bassett (second Prof.), N. L. Rykers (first Prof.), D. Ross (Associate), N. Hart (Intermediate).

Following a discussion concerning Society functions such as the Annual Dinner, Ball and outings, Mr. N. P. Angus, of the Auckland Harbour Board, gave his Vice-Presidential address. Although choosing no fixed subject for his address, Mr. Angus touched on many subjects concerning both the professional engineer and the student. The most important thing to-day, said Mr. Angus, that the young engineer must watch against is the ever-increasing tendency for most graduates—whether in arts, science or engineering—to believe that once they had gained their degree, diploma or Institutional membership their years of research and study had finished. On the contrary, it is in those post-graduate years that new ideas, new developments and processes will appear, Mr. Angus continued, and the chance is that they will escape the notice of the engineer or scientist—except perhaps the bare realisation that they do exist. It is time for the young graduate to come out of the trance of academic learning and realise that the broader his knowledge and outlook the greater will be his gain and the more efficient his work. Closely allied to this broadening of outlook is the young engineer's ability and knowledge to handle the projects given him. More and more, concluded Mr. Angus, must everyone—not only the engineer—realise that academic knowledge alone will not do the job. An adequate knowledge of the "basics" of life was required—of the handling of men, the value of psychology, economics and finance. But, most of all, an adequate knowledge of the three "M's"—men, materials and mechanics—was imperative to the engineer; to anyone the first two—men and materials—is vital.

I.R.C.

PALESTINE AND ZIONISM

On Wednesday, April 3, the I.R.C. meeting held in the Botany Theatre was divided into two parts—the showing of two films on Damascus and Palestine, and a talk by John Nathan. The films were of the "picturesque" scenic type and did not correlate with Mr. Nathan's address. If the films had been dispensed with, an interesting and well-informed talk would not have been marred by racing, cutting and worried glances at the clock. Mr. Nathan examined Palestine from three angles—the British, Jewish and Arab.

The Balfour Declaration (1917), the first recognition of the Zionist claims, rested on two considerations—the first idealistic, the second, dictated by a desire to unite Jews over the world through gratitude, with England and America against Germany. From the ratification of the British Mandate in 1922, British policy, though ostensibly sympathetic to Jews, has, after every Arab rising, attempted to place more limits on Jewish immigration. The 1939 White Paper provided for the immigration of 75,000 Jews to Palestine, but its complete cessation after March, 1945, an action which would leave the Jews in the minority.

Mr. Nathan based the rights of the Jews to Palestine, first on the grounds of the necessity of any people to have a national home, and a government to protect them against the abuses in the countries of the Diaspora. The Zionist Movement, seen in this light, is a national one; one of its major aims is to take the people back to the land, to create a more evenly-balanced occupational structure. Secondly, the progress of Palestine economically and culturally since the establishment of the British Mandate, shows that the Jews are capable of setting up a nation of their own. Its economy was "built up of itself" and is an addition to the pre-existing Arab economy. About 19.3% of the population are engaged in agriculture, and 31% in industry, about the same distribution as in Australia. Despite the 600,000 Jews and the 1,200,000 Arabs, the Jews pay over 70% of the revenue, and their capital from abroad stimulates production and trade. Their cultural progress has not lagged—the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, a national theatre and ballet all prove this.

The Arabs in Palestine are still a feudal race, the power being concentrated in the hands of a few rich landowners who exercise complete control over the peasants. In a state of complete political subjugation, illiterate, ignorant and poor, they are easily swayed to demonstrations against the Jews. The Arabs, though backed to some extent by Britain, because they live in the oil areas, have proved most treacherous during the war. Hitler, they claimed, was the direct descendant of the Prophet—a statement which Mr. Nathan finds very interesting, and the Mufti had been in Mussolini's pocket since 1935. A comparison between the Arabs in Iraq, a simultaneous Mandate, and now independent, and those in the Palestine area reveal that about 80% of the former live below the level of subsistence, their average life span being about 27, while the latter have become much healthier and the population figures have considerably increased. A majority of Jews in Palestine would mean the submergence of the Arabs politically and economically under a Western civilisation, but Mr. Nathan still sees freedom for those who value complete political freedom more than material benefits in Arab States such as Iraq or Saudi Arabia, alternatives which the Jews do not possess.

The setting up "by the banks of Jordan of a Jewish State under the protection of the British Crown," a policy which the Labour Government advocated before they were in power, seems to Mr. Nathan the only action compatible with international justice and the maintenance of British honour.

S.C.M. MAY CAMP

S.C.M.'ers held their camp at Marangi Bay during the first week of the Vac. as usual.

We took as our main study the section from the Report of the Christchurch Conference last year dealing with Christian Order in Relation to Industry, Commerce and the Land. This was too vast a subject to be

CLUBS AND

covered in three or four days by people with limited knowledge and experience like ourselves. However, we did conclude that a planned economy is essential, but that the planning should be as democratic as possible—that is, it should not be left entirely to the so-called experts, but the final authority should rest in the hands of representatives of the people. We also considered such questions as the common ownership of the land, decentralisation of industry, a compulsory labour service, etc. But we felt that, in the words of the Report, "without a new attitude, no new forms of the economic order can resolve the conflicts within our society." And we look to the Church to show that attitude.

The Rev. G. F. McKenzie linked up his Bible Tutorials with our main theme by his able exposition of the book of Deuteronomy, and the prophecy of Amos. He first gave us the historical background, and then related the principles behind the law and prophecy of the primitive Israelites to the conditions of our present-day society—such principles as that God is a moral being and requires moral living from His people; and that the relations between man and man should be governed by justice, mercy and humanity.

Some other highlights of the Camp were the addresses by Principal Jenkins on "Community and Industrial Order," by the Rev. Basil Nottage on "The Effects of Christian Missions on the Life of Natives in the New Hebrides," and by Joan Benton (Gen. Sec. N.Z.S.C.M.) on "World Student Christian Federation."

Our worship together—Sunday evening service, morning prayers and especially Close of Day—led by Poppa (Rev. Naylor) or by Joan Benton, summed up the whole experience of Camp, with its fun, fellowship, work and study, and renew us in our dedication to God's service in the University and in the Community.

Camps such as this constitute the best part of our Movement's activities, where newcomers can begin to feel they really belong. Don't miss our next one!

WEEKLY PROGRAMME:

Study Circles on St. Luke's Gospel. in Room 4: Tuesday, 1-2 p.m.; Wednesday 2-3 p.m.; or Thursday, 8-9 p.m.
Devotionals in Room 4: Monday 1.30 p.m.; Wednesday, 1.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m.; Friday, 1.30 p.m.
Mid-Week Service at St. Paul's Lady Chapel: Thursday, 3.30 p.m. to 3.50 p.m.

COMING EVENTS:

June 23 — World Student Day of Prayer. Service in the College Hall at 5 p.m. (with the co-operation of the Stud. Ass. and members of the Staff).

FIELD CLUB EASTER CAMP

A very successful and enjoyable four days' camp was held this Easter at the 'Varsity Hut, Swanson. We numbered sixteen in all, and were led by Pete Wong and chaperoned (?) by Mrs. Odell. Chores were made pleasant by the melodious strains from a radio, which also warned us what Jupiter Pluvius was going to do to us. Several trips were accomplished, including an aquatrap to the Fairy Falls. No one, not even Joyce, obliged us by falling in. Botanists and zoologists found plenty of scope for their ability (which wasn't always equal to the occasion). Pockets bulged with bottles—full of foul-smelling fungi and little beasts.

Lusty voices, sometimes a little out of tune, made the bush re-echo with Gaudeamus and other less respectable songs. In the evenings we had some wordy battles on various subjects, including the possibility of

a Utopia at A.U.C. Conclusion: Impossible.

We were rained in one day, but were we downhearted? Not at all. We played violent F.C. hockey and football—one player was even winded.

Freshers, you were conspicuous by your absence. If you have any interest in natural science at all, or if you just feel like a good holiday and lots of fun, or if you want to get to know your fellow-students, come along with Field Club. You will be very welcome. There will be weekend trips, day excursions and lectures during second term. We hope a good crowd of you will turn up. If you do, you will not be disappointed.

A STARRY NIGHT

On May 2, in the Botany Lecture Theatre, Mr. E. H. Kerkin delivered an interesting and instructive lecture to A.U.C. Field Club entitled "The Story of a Starry Night." He dealt in a light but practical manner with astronomy, a subject about which little is generally known. A comprehensive account was presented of the principal constellations and the brightest stars in each, together with historical and legendary sidelights.

As usual, the evening concluded with supper (in spite of the gas shortage) and a social gossip in the Physiology lab.

EVANGELIC UNION

"Changed Lives" and the personal reality of the presence of Jesus Christ was the leading theme of the concluding address given by the Rev. R. Hart in the series "Who Is This Jesus?" Drawing illustrations from known personal facts, Mr. Hart showed the implications of such to be plain. Can anyone avoid the challenge of Jesus? No! For people young and old have either been uplifted or deeply enriched when He, the Lord of Life, has firm control over their lives.

Practical evidences of transformed lives could only mean one thing, that this Jesus was more than a man. Is He not then Divine? This could be the only answer. Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and all must face His claims.

A large number of students gathered for a Sunday Tea held on May 5. The Rev. C. Glifford Reay brought the message on "The Risen Christ."

During April a very profitable Saturday evening was spent in fellowship and in discussion. Mr. H. Yolland and Mr. B. T. Smith answered questions on the Christian Faith contributed by students. Much was learned. It was an evening well spent.

Dates to be Remembered:—

Thursday, June 6: First of Series, to be continued throughout 2nd Term.
Sunday, June 9: Sunday Tea.
July 12-15: Mid-Term Break.
House Party at Blockhouse Bay.

HARRIER CLUB

Since the last issue of Craccum the Harrier Club has held its A.G.M. and started out on what appears to be a successful season. At the meeting the following officers were elected:—

President: Mr. J. Hogben.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. L. Barker, W. Harden, G. Millar, J. Christie, M. Segedin, T. Orange.
Club Captain: P. Fraser.
Vice-Captain: J. Christie.
Secretary: Q. Thompson.
Treasurer: H. Maslen.
Committee: B. W. Harden, M. G. Segedin, J. Gummer.

After two unofficial runs over Easter the official opening run was held on May 4 from Mr. J. Hogben's home, when just over thirty runners took part, and it was interesting to note the large number of former members from as far back as 1939.



SOCIETIES

Over the vacation this encouraging attendance has been sustained on runs from St. George's Hall and Mt. Albert Grammar School, so prospects for the coming season of racing appear good.

We shall have our first trial when a team of four will represent us on June 8 in a 17-mile relay race organised by the Calliope Club. On the following Saturday most of the club will be participating in the Pakuranga-Ellerslie Road Race, and then we shall see just how our teams compare with the rest of the Auckland Harriers.

Incidentally there is still more room for runners who are not necessarily champions, so if you are interested see any of the above-mentioned members and get a syllabus.

CATHOLIC CLUB AND S.C.M.

COMBINED LECTURES

These two bodies, who believe that materialism and secularism are the real enemies of religious faith to-day, have jointly sponsored a series of lectures on Christian dogma. We do not pretend to have no differences among ourselves, but we stand together in our affirmation that there is a God who has a purpose for the world.

The title of the series is "Reason and Faith." There will be six lectures. Time for questions and discussion will be allowed.

- i. Reason and Faith.
- ii. The Existence of God.
- iii. Creation.
- iv. Man.
- v. The Moral Law.
- vi. Man and His Destiny.

The lectures are intended to appeal to all students who can reason. We challenge those who deny our position to come along and hear it and state their objections. Everyone is welcome.

The lectures will be given by both Catholics and non-Catholics. We can guarantee that the best men available will be taking them.

LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

"Tut, tut, child!" said the Duchess. "Everything's got a moral if only you can find it."

—"Alice in Wonderland."

Professor A. G. Davis entertained members of the Law Faculty and their friends on Thursday, April 4, with a talk on the first trip he made to England. There were many appreciative chuckles as the professor told of the trials and troubles of a second assistant pantryman, of the pantry floor and the big copper water boiler that never stayed clean, and of the tremendous washing-up he had to do. One couldn't help thinking how lucky Mrs. Davis is to have so well-trained a husband.

After a month in New Zealand coastal waters, including a civic reception "slung" at him in Whakatane, the Port Napier (in which he served) left for England via Cape Horn and Montevideo. Although disappointed in the Uruguayans, he found consolation in the fruit cellar.

Our reporter was rather disappointed when the professor refused to expound further the statement "Widows are wonderful," which he apparently found correct while he was away. However, he insisted that that and all his subsequent adventures were another story, and closed his address with a moral: "If you have a hunch to do something, do it regardless of the consequences."

WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB A.G.M.

The A.G.M. was held on April 8. The Annual Report, consisting of a general account of the past season's activities, was read by the Secretary,

and a statement of the Club's financial position was presented by the Treasurer.

This season, as in the past few years, there are three teams (one senior and two intermediate) entered in the competitions run by the Auckland Ladies' Hockey Association. We feel confident of some good hockey being played, and of the chances of the senior team in the Winter Tournament which is held at Auckland this year.

On the first Monday of the vacation a very valuable coaching talk was given to interested members, and Mrs. Jensen is to be thanked for her much-appreciated and practical interest in the Club.

The new committee for 1946 is:—
President: Mr. J. Hogben.
Vice-Presidents: Misses J. Billington, S. Hogben, Dr. Briggs, Mr. Crawley.

Club Captain: Eleanor Myers.
Secretary: Joan Winter.
Treasurer: Margaret Robinson.
Committee: Haldis Lang, Maureen Lamb, Win Penman, Nancy Wright, Jill Burbidge.

MODERN LANGUAGES CLUB

The Modern Languages Club held its second meeting of the year in the Upper Common Room at 8 p.m. on Monday, April 15. Lionel Izod, presiding in the absence of Barbara Bell, introduced the guest of honour, M. Etienne Micard, to those of us who had not already had the pleasure of his acquaintance. There were about twenty students present, but not as many Freshers as we would like to see. Remember the granting of French terms hangs in the balance—join this cultured club now!

Everyone was rather shy about asking questions "en francais" until Mr. Izod, with a look which seemed to say "Once more into the breach, dear friends," asked M. Micard to tell us something about the French Universities. This developed into a discussion of Latin, and then followed a rendering of several French poems, the title of one translated being "Fond of Flirting!"

From the sublime heights of Parnassus a rapid descent was then made to the arena of politics, M. Micard declaring himself a staunch internationalist. We next listened with respectful awe to a quick battle of words between M. Micard and Miss Riches, who comes from France but has spent some time in Egypt.

While we awaited the arrival of supper (the gas was lower than usual), M. Micard, who is a most versatile gentleman, entertained us at the piano. Informal discussions on varied topics continued during supper and, after a vote of thanks to M. Micard had been passed, the meeting broke up at 9.40 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING EX-SERVICES' SOCIETY

With commendable expedition and judgment the A.U.C. Ex-Services Soc. has deliberated and pronounced its verdict upon a matter both delicate and important. At a general meeting on May 8, especially called for the purpose, a letter from the Auckland branch of the R.S.A. was considered, in which the R.S.A. asked for the society's opinion on the appointment of Mr. J. Laird as Lecturer in Philosophy, in particular, and on the appointment of "Military Defaulters" in general to the College staff.

Though the attendance was smaller than might have been expected of such a numerically strong body, there was no lack of serious and well-informed opinion. In outlining the situation as it then stood, the chairman, Mr. Clouston, pointed out that the previous representations to the College Council had been made on

the personal initiative of two members of the Ex-Services committee which now wished to ascertain the opinion of the society on the matter. Mr. Laird's position was stated briefly. He had refused to allow his church to appeal for him as a theological student and had appealed against military service as a conscientious objector. His appeal was disallowed and he was sent to a detention camp. During his period of detention he served a short time in prison for a breach of camp regulations. Last year his case was reheard before the Revision Authorities, when he was adjudged a genuine conscientious objector and released, subject to manpower direction. At the beginning of this year the College Council was informed of Mr. Laird's qualifications and appointed him to the temporary position of Lecturer in Philosophy.

The meeting received this statement without comment. In the discussion upon the method of Mr. Laird's appointment it was stated that the position had not been advertised and that there was precedent for this procedure in that other temporary lecturers in the past had been appointed in similar fashion. Further, in this case, the College Council, in view of the unforeseen (sic) increase in roll numbers, regarded the situation as one of emergency which justified a hurried addition to the staff.

Several members expressed the view that the time and influence of the R.S.A. might better be confined to the constructive advancement of its members' interests than expended upon publicly attacking conscientious objectors and military defaulters. It was then moved and carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting considers that an individual's political and religious beliefs should not prejudice his appointment to the staff of this College, and that therefore it has no objection to a military defaulter as such being employed and retained on the staff provided that of those applying for the position, he possesses the highest qualifications; and that it dissociates itself from any vindictive or discriminatory action against any conscientious objector or military defaulter."

It was considered that by this statement of principle the R.S.A. was sufficiently answered.

After some discussion and the firm assertion by several speakers that no subsidiary motion should be permitted to cloud the clear issue of principle already laid down, a further motion was put to the vote:

"That the College Council be informed that this society disapproves of appointments being made to the College staff without public advertisement; and that, other considerations being equal, preference should be given to returned servicemen."

This was carried unanimously. The next motion:

"That this meeting objects to the tactics employed by the R.S.A. when canvassing objections to Mr. Laird's appointment," was carried with a few dissentient votes.

Throughout there was an attitude of independent opinion and relevant criticism and evidence that some members had taken considerable pains to be fully informed on the matter. One feels that the decisions have been made in a reasonably healthy atmosphere and that the precedents established follow the serious and enlightened tradition expected of a good University.

TRAMPING CLUB A.G.M.

On March 21 Tramping Club held its annual general meeting, some eighty students showing commendable interest in coming along to participate in the discussions with regard to the proposed alterations in the Constitu-

tion and in the election of the new committee.

A general survey of the Club's activities during the past year was presented in the Annual Report, and details of the Club's income and expenditure were set out in very clear detail. In the past year the Club has finished its major building operations, and both the hut in the Waitakeres and the Glacier hut at National Park are proving popular and useful centres round which much of the tramping can be based. There have been numerous week-end and day trips run throughout the year, and the two large extended camps have been held in the May and Summer Vacation. The attendance at these latter was over seventy. In addition many semi-official trips have been organised by the members themselves. The country covered has included National Park, Great Barrier Island, the Hunuas and the Waitakeres.

The constitution was amended and now includes provision for up to ten vice-presidents.

Mr. Cecil Segedin, the former president, was elected a life member as some small recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Club. He is very largely responsible for the Club being the very vital student force it is to-day, and his election has the wholehearted approval of all the members.

The following are the officers for this coming year:—

President: Mr. Graham Millar.
Vice-Presidents: Dr. Briggs, Mr. Odell, Mr. Rose, Mr. Cumming, Mr. Cassie, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Rumsey, Mr. M. Segedin, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Burns.

Club Captain: Grahame Holland.
Secretary: Rod Williamson.
Committee: Alison Gladding, Audrey Innis, Dave Hooton, Rod Draffin, Bruce Morton.

* * *

PETE'S PARADISE

Mr. Pete wishes to announce that he has not been in paradise lately, but has been having hell with Revue.

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OPEN FORUM

BUCOLIC LAMENT

Sir,—

As students from, if not New Plymouth, at any rate Rangitikei, we should like to protest vehemently against our inclusion by Professor Keys, as reported in your last issue, amongst such unsavoury creatures as lecturers, crooners, club frequenters and botanists. His first accusation we shall pass over in silence, but we must point out that we are fully capable of performing the Palais glide though not particularly addicted to so doing except, as a slimming exercise, in the privacy of our own bedrooms. The College staff, we consider, should welcome any students who, in an effort (alas, vain?) to obtain culture, prefer "Ingenio et labore" or the motto of Victoria College, which we have unfortunately forgotten, thus spoiling the even cadences of this sentence.

We have been deeply insulted and mortified by the aspersions cast upon our dress and character, and we are seriously considering withdrawing our undoubtedly beneficial influence to the green fields and appreciative cattle of Taranaki; when the uncongenial streets of Auckland shall know us no more.

Yours, etc.,
Aglais and Euphrosyne.

SHAME!

Sir,—

Every time I want to tuck my blouse in or do up my suspender I have to make a dash into the telephone booth—the only congenial place of peace left. Every time my eyelashes fall off, or my wig slips, the same story. I can no longer take my teeth out in public.

How much longer must this infuriating state of affairs exist? Is it not enough that those male animals have ripped their own furniture to "smithereens"? Must they cast covetous glances upon the tender, as yet, unslashed upholstery of the women's common room?

Please, Mr. President, dear, dear, members of the Executive—KICK THEM OUT!

Yours, etc.,
Suspended Privileges.

PRICE OF BLAZERS

Sir,—

Could someone please explain the excessively high price of the official A.U.C. Blazer? I see in a recent copy of "Canta" an advertisement by a firm which is also carrying on business in Auckland, for Canterbury College Blazers, priced at 56/-.

Yours, etc.,
J. G. Rawson.

TRUTH ABOUT TRAMPING

Sir,—

Tramping Club, its members say, is an institution (the adjectives "glorious" and "magnificent" are implied). To a certain extent I agree with this statement, but hold that those who are literally tramps number at the most two-thirds of the female members and one-third of the males who regularly appear at tramps and meetings. For these people I have (more or less) every respect. The balance includes those who feel themselves bound to follow the crowd and the few who come out because they have nothing better to do at the time. Neither do I criticise any member of these two classes.

Although the term is often applied the remaining twenty or so males are not morons if only for the reason that they are students of the College, but their imitations are remarkably thorough. The following is an attempt to explain their behaviour, and my apologies are due to students of psychology both for my presuming to trespass upon their reserves and for my avoidance of those psychological terms which, although they are more fitting, might prove offensive to the layman.

The large membership of the club is maintained by the admirable and worthy efforts at organisation of about half a dozen men and women and, an important factor, by the presence of nine or ten ladies of definitely outstanding personality. The boys (for want of a better term "boy" in this context—moron with an I.Q. of approximately 120) consciously believe that they enjoy tramping, and so they do as long as the above-mentioned outstandingly personified females are present. Most of the boys have grown as near as they are ever likely to approach to maturity without adequate opportunities for the expression of the sex factor in their characters, and in Tramping Club they have unconsciously found a satisfactory means of self-expression in the form of exhibitionism in the presence of a strong female influence.

As evidence I quote one of several examples from a recent tramp. A trumper (boy or not I have yet to decide), for some obscure reason, leaped fully clothed into a pool of water. The personalities applauded his feat with laughter expressive of their appreciation of what was, at the best, slapstick comedy. The boys were delighted with such a precedent and immediately began jumping in, to splash each other and anyone else with water. They came out soaked to the skin and wagging their tails

HAKA PARTY NEWS

Overheard at Eden Park:

First Student (to Second Student): What are you doing?

Second Student (to First Student): I'm doing a haka. What are you doing anyway?

First Student (to Second Student): I'm doing a haka OFFICIALLY! Oh! yes, you too can haka officially. Come to practices to be held this term in the Lower Common Room; and remember, fifty blokes are wanted for Winter Tournament Haka Party. In spite of the wind and the rain and the high cost of living, you are guaranteed a week of sheer murder then. So turn out and don't forget to get as many old hands as you can to come and help too.

(literally and metaphorically) with their subconscious urges satisfied.

Thus, if these ladies tired of tramping and no others replaced them, the boys would lose interest and Tramping Club would fall again to its natural position as a second-rate society.

Yours, etc.,
O.D.

FEAST FOR MUSIC-LOVERS AND PLAYERS

If you can make any noise on any instrument at any time in any key in approximate rhythm, start practising any time now for Tournament Band. People playing the following instruments are urgently required: Cornets, trumpets, E flat basses, mangles, fountain pens, trombones, saxes, clarinets, penny whistles, triangles, tambourins and sweet potatoes, not of course forgetting the French horn. We need you for Winter Tournament, where entertainment is guaranteed. Watch for notice (any notice) or leave a note in the rack for any of the following people: Maestro Waters. Bandmasters, apply now for an executive position in this stupendous enterprise.

WILL ANYONE who witnessed the conduct of Mr. Clouston and Mrs. Green at the Town Hall on the nights of the week May 15-22, please communicate without delay with

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