



CRACCUM

Vol. 20, No. 5—Price Threepence.

Monday, June 24th, 1946.

THE
JOURNAL
OF
AUCKLAND
UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

ASINUS AD LYRAM

WE PEER AT GYNT

DRAMATIC CLUB'S NORDIC FAUSTRATION

WE PRINT TWO INDEPENDENT REVIEWS

The principal difficulty in giving an intelligent estimate of the production is the absence of any standard by which it may be measured. It is, to say the least, unusual and surprising to find the southern hemisphere premiere of "Peer Gynt" taking place in St. Andrew's Hall, Symonds Street, under the auspices of the A.U.C. Dramatic Club. Whether this is the result of great dramatic courage or extreme dramatic effrontery is difficult to determine; in either case the atmosphere of the production seemed a little unreal. It was like watching people moving around six feet under water without ever coming up to breathe; you realised it was rather unnatural, but there it was before your eyes. To some the attempt of a group of callow amateurs to strut and fret for three hours in an attempt to reproduce a Norwegian dramatic epic was rather ludicrous; in

parts it was. To some, the attempt of an inexperienced but eager group of students to enrich the cultural life of the city by the presentation of a dramatic masterpiece was a worthy effort; and in parts it was. On this topic it might be observed that it seems an excess of zeal to choose a translation of a Norwegian poetic drama when there are many plays in English well worth producing. Perhaps Shakespeare, having been produced before in the southern hemisphere, was too commonplace. Further, "Peer Gynt" is a satiric comedy referring particularly to Norwegian national habits and character; obviously much was incomprehensible to an Auckland audience. As if to add insult to injury, or vice versa, this long drama suffered the further operation of being heavily cut; actually there are a number of suitable plays of conventional length in English.

Decor

After making the decision to produce "Peer Gynt," those responsible appear to have undertaken the Herculean task with determination. The most striking feature of the production was the scenery. The designs were most telling and effective, the limited space being used most impressively. The set in Aase's death scene was a fine example of economy of means achieving an impressive result. The costumes also were most artistic, well designed and well selected. Both these departments reflect great credit on those responsible. The scene-shifting was rather noisy and took a long time, but the scene-changing in "Peer Gynt" is notoriously difficult, and in these circumstances the work was capably done.

Performers

The acting was of mixed quality. The principal honours are due to Marshall Hobson and Lynette Cox. The former gave an interesting performance as Peer Gynt in the first three acts. His diction and gestures were good, his language fluent and expressive. His treatment was perhaps a little superficial, but this was not wholly inconsistent with the role. It was a great pity that Mr. Hobson did not play Peer throughout the play. John Cronin's treatment was very difficult, the result being an unfortunate schizophrenia. The play was quite sufficiently broken up without this added factor to obscure the continuity. Further, Mr. Hobson did not have much opportunity to show his versatility. As Solveig, Miss Cox was devout, pure, steadfast and demure. Her part was not an easy one, but she played it with distinction. It was clear that she had had acting experience; less criticism can be made of her performance than that of any other of the leading players. Maureen Ross-Smith, as Aase, Peer's mother, was good. In spite of some monotony of diction, her scenes were well acted. The first scene between Peer and his mother was well sustained by both. Miss Ross-Smith was very badly made up on the first night,



PEER AND AASE

looking far too young. John Cronin also suffered from poor make-up; half the point in Peer's having aged was lost in the African scene. His hands were distinctly those of a young man. His efforts to simulate age were unconvincing. He improved in the final scenes. It was noticeable that he treated Peer more flippantly than Mr. Hobson. Though Mr. Cronin was probably well advised to do so, his decision emphasised the lack of continuity involved in having two actors in the title role. Ray Parkes portrayed the Troll King extremely well. His diction was good, as were his gestures, and again it was obvious that he had had dramatic experience. This factor was most noticeable throughout the play in other roles. Brian Clarke, as the Stranger, made an interesting character where a less experienced actor would solely have mouthed the lines. Whenever Mr. Clarke appeared, the tempo quickened. Peter Cross also gave a good portrayal; called the "Thin Man," but actually the Devil clad in clerical garb and armed with a butterfly-net, his brief appearance was highly amusing—one did not need to be a Scandinavian to appreciate his performance. Lionel Izod was convincing as the Cook, particularly when a gurgle he gave and plunged himself into the billowy wave. All the other parts were performed adequately. June Hunt was better in her later than in her earlier scenes. There were no conspicuous lapses among the minor characters. Mention should be made of the attractive singing by Ursula Briscoe of Solveig's Song.

The ballet was one of the best features of the production. They appeared to have practised assiduously and executed their movements precisely and gracefully. They contributed a great deal to the presentation.

Production

The producer was bold to undertake such a task. The odds were clearly that the play would prove too much for the restricted facilities at Dr.

(Continued on page three)

APPEALS FOR BILLETS

THREE HUNDRED
BILLETSare needed for Southern Students
atWINTER TOURNAMENT,
AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 3.Will anyone prepared to Offer a
Billet please leave a note with
particulars forJ. S. Rutherford,
C/o Exec. Room.

* * *

LIBRARY

ARRIVAL OF NEW GEOGRAPHY
BOOKS IS OF INTEREST TO THE
GENERAL READER AS WELL AS
TO THE GEOGRAPHY STUDENTThe Face of South America, by John
Lyon Rich. 1942. Presents a pano-
rama of South America as the
traveller sees it from the air.A Key to Maps, by H. S. L. Winter-
botham. 1939. Practical and in-
forming book on maps and their
uses.The Philippines, a study in national
development, by J. R. Hayden.
1945. Historical sources supple-
mented by twenty years' experience
in Philippines on part of author.Hurricanes, Their Nature and History,
by I. R. Tannehill. 1945. Authori-
tative study of one of Nature's
most fascinating phenomena.Australia, by Griffith Taylor. 1943.
Deals with discovery, geology,
climates, settlements and special
characteristics of Australian popu-
lation.The Earth and Man, by D. H. Davis.
1944. A text book of human geo-
graphy.Map-making, by F. Debenham. 1942.
Designed to show beginners the
essentials of mapping.Focus on Africa, by Richard Upjohn
Light. 1944. Story of an aeroplane
trip from Capetown to Cairo.Weather Study, by David Brunt. 1944.
An up-to-date account of weather
science by a well-known authority.Latin America, by Preston E. James.
1942. Describes Latin-American
people, commerce, industry, agricul-
ture and natural resources.The Climates of the Continents, by
W. G. Kendrew. 1941. Adequate
description of actual climates of
countries of the earth, considered
regionally.Japan, a Geographical View, by G. H.
Smith and G. Good. 1943. Brings
together information concerning
physical geography, resources, popu-
lation and economic life of Japan
and their connections with Japan-
ese military expansionism.Global Geography, by G. T. Renner.
1945. Presents background for
viewing nations and peoples in
appropriate environmental settings
and global relationships.

OTHER ADDITIONS

The Book of Modern Composers,
edited David Ewen. 1945. Dis-
cusses leading composers of dif-
ferent schools, with biographical
sketches and photographs.The Lady in No. 4, by Richard
Keverne, pseud. (C. J. W. Hosken).
1944. Mystery novel set in an
English country inn.The Open Society and Its Enemies,
by K. Popper. 1945. Turns the
searchlight of logical analysis on
the social sciences.Autobiography, by Eric Gill. 1945.
History of the growth and change
in his mind, by a well-known
sculptor.America, the Story of a Free People,
by A. Nevins and H. S. Commager.
1943. A learned and readable his-
tory of the United States.Case of the Buried Clock, by Erle
Stanley Gardner. 1945. Detective
story by well-known author.A Flower Book for the Pocket, by M.
Skene. 1944. Concise handbook to
flowers, with illustrations.

Craccum

Editor: J. A. NATHAN

VOL. 20, No. 5.

June 24th, 1946.



GRANTS SYSTEM

The Dramatic Club recently applied to Exec. for a grant of £30 for their production, "Peer Gynt." The Executive, assuming that the production would be a profitable one, decided not to make a grant, but to reimburse the club in any loss up to £30. Music Club sent in an admirably detailed application for £17/15/-. It was granted to them, despite the fact that their intention to hold concerts this year to raise funds for club purposes puts them on the same basis as Dramatic Club as a profit-making concern. This anomaly was pointed out, but passed over by majority consent.

The Executive may be accused of inconsistency in this particular case. However, it can be held that the whole attitude of regarding certain clubs as profit-making, and so unduly restricting their grants, is contrary to the spirit of a body which assumes the responsibility of encouraging and financing all university activities. It is ludicrous that there should be conflict over the funds of a separate club, and that of the Association, when both are from the same source and for the same purpose.

There are two possible remedies:—

(a) The reduction of the Association fee, and the payment of a membership fee for each club, separately. This policy of decentralisation would focus the attention of clubs, primarily on finance. The result—fretting secretaries, harassed treasurers, and a constant struggle for existence—detrimental to the full development of club activities. A membership fee for each club would impose a tax on students with wide interests, often exceeding the Association fee as it now stands.

(b) The further concentration of the centralisation policy at present existing. It is suggested that any surplus profits from clubs sink naturally into the Association fund at the end of each year, thus eliminating the possibility of separate profits, which in reality come from the same source. In the following year the Executive should place no artificial limit on grants. Provided that a project is reasonable, and conducive to the interests of the students, and that a detailed survey of the scheme is presented, the Association should shoulder the whole financial burden, whether or not there is opportunity of pecuniary gain.

The Dramatic Club in 1945 refused to allocate part of its profit on the usual basis, on the grounds that it had planned an ambitious production for the following year. It felt, and probably with some justice, that the annual grant from Exec. would by no means equal the funds on hand. The certainty of complete financial support from the Executive in a future production would have induced a more charitable outlook in this particular club. A common exchequer of club and Association profits would abolish antagonism over the rights of individual clubs to both separate profits and Association grants. On such a basis both Music Club and Dramatic Club would be entitled to grants, without the attempt of the Association to recoup the subsidy in the latter case.

In 1945 £404/13/- was spent in grants, of which only £22/7/- went to the fifteen scientific, faculty and cultural societies. The needs of sports clubs are fairly definite and easily ascertainable. The needs of other societies vary from year to year because of the fluctuation of membership; it is impossible for such clubs as the Classic or International Relations to give a clear-cut report of future expenses in applying for grants. The Executive has found a solution to the problem by reducing grants to a bare minimum—below subsistence level when provision for supper is considered. To a club starting a new year, a grant of £2 is not encouraging.

The effects of that parsimony is seen at present in the condition of the Literary Club. It owes its debility partly to the fact that it cannot pay outside speakers, nor offer suppers, a proven stimulus to cultural activity.

To all such clubs, a grant of a minimum sum, £10 perhaps, should induce a more vigorous development. Any balance left over from the grant would return to the Stud. Ass. fund at the end of the year.

The sound financial position of the Association does not call for extravagance; but monetary caution, if carried too far, ceases to be laudable. A large excess of income over expenditure is not necessary to a body whose concern is not the accumulation of wealth in the form of money.

The amalgamation of club and Association surplus income, the assumption by the Executive of greater responsibility for club projects, and a policy of reasonable generosity towards clubs in respect to annual grants would perhaps more closely fulfil the purpose and duties of a Students' Association.

M.B.

FIND THAT BOOK!

A FACTUAL TALE

It is incredible, but true, that there are still students who, when told to look in the catalogue to see if the Library has a certain book, gaze vaguely around and say "Where is it?" To a regrettably large number of students the imposing array of cabinets stretching half-way across the Library are merely an unnecessary piece of furniture.

Students, do you know what a catalogue is? It is not what some of you seem to think, a complicated mechanism designed for staff use only. It is for your use, and is nothing more than an index to the Library. You use indexes of books every day, yet many of you are reluctant to use an index of a library.

Students often come and tell us a book must be out because it is not on the shelves. We find it is not recorded as being borrowed, so we go to the catalogue to find its number, and then we go to the shelves—and find the book. Then the enquirer says, "Oh, but it used to live here"—perhaps one shelf away. With new books coming into the Library all the time, no book can remain forever in one place.

Again, someone else says he can't find a book. We say "What is its number?" "Oh, I don't know," he replies airily, "but I looked in the section where the others are on that subject." Has it ever occurred to you how wasteful of your time this method is? When you are looking for information in a book, do you go wandering aimlessly through the pages, hoping you'll happen on the information? Or do you at once turn to the index to find the page number? Why not, then, go to the index of the Library where instead of the page number you are given the book number?

The fact that the index to the Library is in the form of cards in drawers seems to intimidate some of you. We assure you that the catalogue cabinet has nothing subtle or mysterious about it, and you may approach it and pull out the drawers without fear.

And now, do you know just what the index to the Library will tell you? Some of you, we know, use the catalogue extensively. Many of you are aware of its value in finding a book whose author you know, but the catalogue will give you other approaches to books. It will tell you what books there are on a certain subject. In this connection we would like to point out that it is quite unsafe to rely on the shelves only for information. Apart from the fact that a book may be constantly out, and you may never become aware of its existence, you have to remember that many books deal with more than one subject, but can appear in one place only on the shelves. Supposing you have a book on Spain and Portugal. It will probably be classed with the books on Spain. If you don't go to the catalogue and look under "Portugal" you may miss some useful information. If you know a book's title only, look under that in the catalogue. All books that have distinctive titles have a title entry. Sometimes you want to know what books we have in a certain series. All books published in series of any importance have series entries, i.e., Loeb classical library, Home university library.

All these entries, author, subject, title, series are in one alphabet. But so is the Encyclopedia Britannica, so this need not confuse you. Streamline your use of the Library, and it will ease congestion and save everyone's time, including your own.

* * *

There is no absurdity so palpable but that it may be firmly planted in the human head if you only begin to inculcate it before the age of five by constantly repeating it with an air of great solemnity.—Schopenhauer.

PEER GYNT (Continued)

Birkinshaw's disposal. That he was able to stage it at all is a most creditable achievement; as he was responsible, full credit must certainly go to him for this. Whether the production was successful is not so certain. Though it is well known that the first three acts of "Peer Gynt" are noticeably distinct from the last two, there seemed little attempt to minimise the disunity. A sense of unity was glaringly absent throughout: the production resembled a series of inconsequent but picturesque scenes. The stage groupings and movements were ineffective in many cases. It is difficult to understand how the mistake of placing Peer on the wrong side of his mother's bed was permitted. The efficacy of the Troll scene was diminished by the fact that the King was seated so low. The wedding scene was clumsy; there were so few present as to make the affair not very convivial. The cutting of the play, though necessary (perhaps) once it is conceded that "Peer Gynt" was desirable as an annual production, was unhappy. In its entirety the play is difficult enough to understand for a New Zealand audience; it seems that the cuts were capricious, made with little regard for the audience or for Ibsen. The vagueness of these arrangements is evident from the fact that the significant Boyg scene was cast on the programme but was not played, although it is very short. It is difficult to understand why available records were not used for the music; the piano was inadequate, for it is well known that the dramatic version of "Peer Gynt" is very greatly assisted by the incidental music. The lighting, though good, was inadequately rehearsed; and it is hard to know why the spotlight was turned fully in the face of the dying Aase, making a difficult scene more so.

A General Survey

Any dramatic production is worthwhile. As such "Peer Gynt" was a good thing and memorable. It gave experience to a number of members of the Dramatic Club. The idea of having an annual production early in the year is a good one. The players were good, although naturally they were often out of their depth in such an epic enterprise. But it should not be overlooked that a large number of vital elements were contributed by persons not members of the University. It is not insignificant that a considerable number of the dramatic lights of the College did not take part, perhaps preferring to recognise their own limitations before rather than after the performance. The fact that Dramatic Club bit off more than it could chew is undeniable. But its talent remains, and "Peer Gynt" should not be considered a setback, though there is nothing to gain by claiming it a smashing success. With the prospective advent of English companies perhaps the Dramatic Club can hand over to them its task of presenting high epic drama to the few public who appreciate their gesture. Their desire for expansion might well be met by producing two three-act plays of a less extravagant nature next year. A return to a more unpretentious standard would be welcome and wise.

—J.N.

* * *

For six nights in St. Andrew's Hall the Dramatic Club presented the body of the play "Peer Gynt," but failed to capture its soul. Although the word "lyrical" was included in the programme note describing the play, I find it difficult to accept that the producer or the players were conscious of this quality of the drama.

Three things will remain in my memory for a very long time. First, the audacious stage decorations and costumes of Hella Hoffman, an ex-

pression in design of the fanciful, allegorical, almost mystical character of the play. Secondly, the piano playing of Dorothea Franchi and Owen Jensen, performing valiantly against the background of rude chatterings and giggles provided by the audiences. And, thirdly, the neat exhibition of vocal mechanics by the principal actors of the piece. In contrast the movement throughout was half-hearted and occasionally clumsy.

Several scenes had some of the elements of real theatre; considering them in the light of the whole production, it is hard to say whether this was because of the producer or despite him. For the presentation was pantomimic and there was a lack of harmony between the scenery and the acting: the one stylised and the greater part of the other presented in the realistic manner. The crowd scenes lacked spontaneity, the people involved having little, if any, appreciation of their import or purpose. Because their interpretations were so divorced from the context of the play, I suspect that the lesser members of the cast had not read with understanding the entire script, or even seen it enacted consistently in rehearsals. If this was impossible with so unwieldy a cast then judicious reading in the literature of the period (easily accessible in the Library) would have acquainted the players with the peculiarities of the Nordic

temperament, thus aiding improvisation. Miss Ross-Smith's playing of the unhappy and put-upon Aase was a little too lusty and matriarchal, although her acting was consistent, and the co-operation she extended towards Marshall Hobson as Peer

was largely responsible for the occasional moments of theatre during the early part of the play. Perhaps because many of the soliloquies were omitted I failed to associate my picture of an erring, unruly and yet sensitively poetic Peer with the prosy braggart which Mr. Hobson presented. Of all the cast his movement was in tune with the scenery, although in the death-bed scene it would have been better had he sat on the other side of the bed, then his mother would not have been masked to the audience during the first part of the scene.

The natural delicacy of Lynette Cox found good expression in the part of Solveig, although the balance of her acting was tilted towards the sentimental. The singing voice for which she was "visual stand-in" was not pleasing in quality.

Ingrid was awful.

The Woman in Green, her idiot son, the Troll King and the scene of his Court were for me the most enjoyable features of the production. The eccentric and nightmarish form of the ballet's dancing and its colour gave to the Court scene that atmosphere of unreality and unworldly horror which Ibsen surely intended should be portrayed.

Mr. Ibsen might well have had Miss Dale in mind when writing the part of Anitra.

Observing the audience reaction to the change-over of the title role to

change. The old man of the last acts was even harder to accept. He spoke in as light a tone and in as lusty a manner as a very young man of good breath and carriage. John Cronin's performance was pantomimic: the tone of his voice, more especially in the African act, almost a homosexual whicker. To mention but two faults of acting: According to the script the ship lurched very badly, yet Peer Gynt did not move a muscle of his body to accept or afterwards adjust the motions of that lurch. Again, in between his little conversations with the Button Moulder he was supposed to have been running from signpost to signpost. On appearance, Mr. Cronin looked as fresh and cool as if he had just stepped from a cold shower. Quite a triumph of athletics for an old man! I have been informed that Mr. Cronin is shortly proceeding to the British Academy to learn more about acting. I think that is the very best thing he could possibly do.

Had the stranger been a little stronger and more quiet he might have been mysterious.

Peter Cross looked a little too much like the ringmaster of Barnum and Bailey's to be convincing as either a thin man or a parson.

It is unfortunate that the Button Moulder's body showed such obvious nervous tension, for he had a good stage voice.

However, taking all in all, so little of Ibsen is presented in New Zealand that it is an experience to see and hear on the stage one of his finest plays, however inadequately it may be presented.

Perhaps with another three months' intensive rehearsals the cast might have caught up with the scenery.

—R.A.S.

* * *

CORRECTION RE M.H.C.

Readers may have noticed that the first paragraph of the article in our last issue about the Men's House Committee is inaccurate. The fact apparently is that the custom in the past has been to elect the M.H.C. But the Stud. Ass. constitution provides that the M.H.C. is to be constituted as the Exec. determines; thus this body has the right to alter the house committee at any time.

OBITUARY

We record with deep regret the tragic death of a member of the College Library Staff, Wynne Gillespie, who was killed in a motor accident on June 15. Miss Gillespie joined the staff of the College as a junior library assistant in 1942. She was also a student, taking, as far as her work permitted, a keen interest in the activities of the College. She would have gained her B.A. degree this year, majoring in English and Education.

Miss Gillespie will be remembered by all students who used the Library for her unfailing courtesy, her friendliness, her willing helpfulness, and in particular for her cheerful attitude to life. Her loss is one which both the Library and the student body can ill-afford.

I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.—Anon.



SOLVEIG

temperament, thus aiding improvisation.

Miss Ross-Smith's playing of the unhappy and put-upon Aase was a little too lusty and matriarchal, although her acting was consistent, and the co-operation she extended towards Marshall Hobson as Peer

John Cronin, it is certain that they found it hard to accept that this new person could be an older edition of the Peer Gynt they had seen and heard in the first three acts. The two interpretations were so entirely dissimilar that it was some time before I could adjust myself to the

PHOTOGRAPHS BY FIRTH

EXECUTIVE MEANDERS

IN AND OUT OF COMMITTEE

On June 4 the Students' Executive sat down to an agenda providing material for much controversy, and a three and a half hour's session. Mr. Jones was welcomed back, in the capacity of Legal Adviser, as a "necessary embellishment to the Executive."

The correspondence was lengthy, and not stimulating, with the exception perhaps of the letter thanking the President "for inviting me and Mrs. Fitt to the Revue." The Conservator of Parks passed judgment on the gum tree, after its execution, which is not British justice. The tree was dangerous. George Courts, it appears, can make no more 'Varsity blazers, and the Hon. R. Semple can give no concessions to students travelling to Tournament.

Forty-six women and one man submitted a petition in which they "respectfully protest" against the opening of the Common Rooms to both sexes, in the opinion that "the present arrangement does not fulfil any need." There are twenty-five men of the College who feel that association with them should be "an integral part of the education of every young woman," and that it is best carried out on their home ground. This counter-petition "respectfully protesting" against the women's protest, Exec. was inclined to regard as flippant. The unmistakable indignation of the latter document merited a reply. The matter will be reviewed after the lapse of a sufficient experimental period.

From Otago came a proposal that an N.Z.U. Drama Contest should be held in conjunction with Winter Tournament. A letter from N.Z.U.S.A. suggested that the King's Birthday week-end be set aside for cultural efforts—Joynt Scroll and Drama Contest. Mr. Morton pointed out the Winter Tournament is like a snowball gathering momentum, and must be stopped sometime. Exec., appalled by the threat of an awful avalanche, shuddered, and adopted the proposal of the second letter, leaving the discussion of details and finance to the Dramatic Club and the incoming Exec.

The cleaning of the Students' Block was somewhat disrupted at the end of last term by the fact that the chairmen of both house committees made different arrangements simultaneously and cancelled them simultaneously. The result was a period of uncleanness. After some altercation between Miss Montague and Mr. Hooton, in which the interesting revelations were made, that the Registrar told us to stew in our own juice, and that the present cleaners would be very pleased to get out of the Students' Block, Mr. Hooton got his motion passed, not without dissent. The cleaning arrangements are to be left in the hands of a cleaning firm, which he guarantees will do a "thorough job."

The appetite of the firm of Whitcombe and Tombs for profit is found to be gargantuan. Students always suspected this. It is revealed that they make 41% profit on every minimum price book. They have met the University demand for a 20% reduction for students, by the offer of 15%. Arrangements are being made for A.U.C. to import, "experimentally," all scientific text-books.

Revue Report

Mr. Giffins, Chairman of the Carnival Committee, presented a report so comprehensive and so detailed that Exec. was confounded, not to say, paralysed. Recommendations included the suggestions that an undergrad supper be held next year during grad week, and that the production of a Christmas Pantomime would be acceptable to the Auckland public. The sum of £73 was spent in Revue parties, and Exec. adopted the recommendation that a grant should be made later in the year for a social reunion "to keep the cast together."

The Committee recommended that of the £400 profit (£350 from Revue, £58 from Revue Book), £300 should be reserved for the financing of next year's revue, and £100 be given to Food for Britain Campaign. Exec. received these recommendations for the allocation of profits with a reservation as to the £100—due consideration will be given to Corso and Student Relief. Members were enthusiastic about two obvious results of Revue—the increased prestige of A.U.C. with the public, and the friendly amalgamation of returned and other students in the cast.

The financial side of Revue seems to call for some comment, which Exec. did not give. The profits this year are unprecedented. From inquiry it was ascertained that Revue in former years ran at a loss, until Mr. Chas. Zambucka pulled things out of the slough. After that the profits, still small, were dissolved, without dispute, into the general fund of the Association. This year the reservation of £300 has started an unfortunate precedent. The income of the Association from Student Fees this year amounts, roughly, to £3378. The accumulated fund at the end of June, 1945, stood at some £3119. The prospective income for 1947 is assured; it is large. Supplemented by the balance of the general fund, it would seem to assure the Association's ability to finance next year's Revue without the aid of this year's profit, even though it is contemplated holding it on a more lavish scale in His Majesty's Theatre. The Exec.'s attitude savours of the bullionist theory. To make money in order to have money to make more money should not be the policy of a body concerned not primarily with profit, but with progress. The profits of the Revue could be employed, actively, to student advantage, or disposed of charitably, without, it seems, any detriment to the success of future carnivals.

This was the first of the weekly meetings intended to ensure brevity and increased efficiency. On the former point members seemed to have realised the impossibility of escaping in less than three hours, and on the latter Mr. Piper suggested that fortnightly sessions might eliminate the cropping up of trivialities common to weekly meetings. The Exec. will meet on Tuesday of every alternate week.

At 10.25 p.m., the agenda and the members being exhausted, the meeting closed.

BOOK REVIEWS

"DEMOCRACY REBORN"

By Henry A. Wallace

(Publishers: Reynal and Hitchcock)

This is the complete record of Mr. Henry A. Wallace's position on domestic and international issues, including his most significant speeches and writings from his entrance into public life (1933) until 1944. The papers included in this volume have been selected and arranged by Russell Lord (long a friend and associate of Mr. Wallace in his Washington days), who has also provided a running commentary which places them in their setting and explains their background, suggesting the continuity of Mr. Wallace's growth as a political and economic thinker. The collection was published in 1944, before Mr. Wallace's death.

Mr. Lord's introductory biographical sketch is a brief but vivid portrait of Mr. Wallace as man and statesman. He outlines his Irish Presbyterian ancestry, and describes the straitened circumstances of the future Vice-President's early life. After leaving college "young Henry" became assistant editor of the family-owned newspaper "Wallace's Farmer," and it was not long before he was interesting himself in politics. In 1933-34, the first year of his public career, Wallace became known as "something of a middle-of-the-roader." When asked his opinion of Fascism or Communism, he would say, "There is too much hate and envy in the old-isms. What we've got to do is to find a way to make machine-age democracy work." The record of his writings and speeches shows how he tried to discover this way.

He first entered public life when America was just recovering from the Depression. One of his first objects was to secure sympathy and, if possible, help for the former and the cotton-grower. His speeches covered such diverse subjects as the nation's diet and international affairs, eugenics and books, T.V.A. and Lincoln.

The most interesting portion of the book to readers to-day is the last part, in which Mr. Wallace discusses America's future and the role she should play in international affairs. His insight was clearly shown when he remarked in 1944: "America will be called upon to make a new choice after this war. Our people, if they really wanted to do so, could raise their standard of living 50 per cent,

but in so doing they would violate many of their cherished convictions. . . . It sometimes seems to me that we Americans are a race of greedy children who have not suffered enough."

Mr. Wallace's worth has been recognised in all countries. As Mr. Lord says, "His war against barriers that divide mankind—barriers of trade, creed, race, colour, language and opportunity—have gained in reach and effectiveness enormously. He has grown to be known deservedly the world over not only as a good man but as a great man." His speeches and writings as they appear in "Democracy Reborn" comprise a fitting record of such a career, for, in the words of the "New York Times," "No other Vice-President, in so short a time, ever said so much that mattered."

As Craccum is supposed primarily to cater for the students, it has been thought that novels, as well as more serious works, should be reviewed. So, at the risk of wounding Craccum's more classical readers, we proceed to discuss

"SINISTER ERRAND"

By Peter Cheyney

(Publishers: Collins)

This article might just as well be headed "The Stars Are Dark," "Poison Ivy," "Dangerous Curves" or any one of Mr. Cheyney's score or so other novels. For there is a sameness about this writer's works that no amount of fast action can dissipate.

Judging by the unvarying pattern and wide popularity of these tales, the following is evidently an infallible recipe for a successful mystery adventure story. Take a tough secret service agent, add him to a series of hair-raising events, mix him with a bevy of beauties, flavour with a constant patter of smart backchat, shake the mixture and give it an atomic title. (This last is most important.)

This particular tale is without Lemme Caution and his peculiar brand of slang. I for one regret this, as to my mind it is mainly due to this singular character that Mr. Cheyney is better known than a host of other writers of adventure novels. There is no need to recommend "Sinister Errand," as all who admire this type of book have already met Mr. Cheyney, and all who do not would not appreciate Mr. Caution or his blood-brother Mr. Carew.

—A.D.

GEORGE COURT'S

for quality goods at lower prices

We invite you to share in the advantages of this great store . . . advantages that we have perfected over 60 years of trading . . . an unflinching courtesy, a cheerful atmosphere, a fine sense of service, and the unquestionable quality of everything we sell. Come to George Court's always for quality goods at lowest prices . . . for all college needs.

GEORGE COURT'S
KARANGAHAPE ROAD

You are invited to join the GRIFFIN PRESS PUBLICATIONS CLUB

(Life Membership: £1)

Members receive advance notice of our publications and a liberal discount on all purchases.

New Titles:

"Live Rounds," by "Caliban."
Humorous Verses of Army Life
(Illus.). Price: 1/6 (Members 1/-).
Postage 2d.

"The Secret Years," by J. C. Reid.
Poetry and Satire of Distinction.
Price: 5/- (Members 4/-). Postage 3d.

Also Available:

"Brown Man's Burden" (Finlayson).
7/6 (6/-). Post 4d.

"Sweet Beulah Land" (Finlayson).
7/6 (6/-). Post 4d.

"Workers Plan for the Building Industry" (1941). 2/- (1/6). Post 2d.

THE GRIFFIN PRESS,
AUCKLAND

Printers, Publishers, Stationers.
P.O. Box 1835. Phone 20-445.

WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION?

WHEN IS A UNIVERSITY THIRD GRADE?

All the more obvious reasons have been advanced in this paper and elsewhere. The excuses of shortage of staff, accommodation, equipment, combined with large numbers of students, have been heard ad nauseam. The writers and public speakers who voice these complaints with varying degrees of passion and despair are mostly, be it noted, persons holding some responsibility in the running of the University. They all, it would seem, intentionally or unintentionally, miss the real explanation. There is a pointed and excellent Army maxim which can be applied with slight variations to other organisations. It is "There are no such things as bad troops—there are only bad officers."

A University is an organisation. Its task is to train the minds of the more intelligent and enterprising of the youth of the population so as to enable them to maintain and improve the technical and cultural standards of the community. This is a responsible task and requires efficiency, and efficiency starts at the top and spreads downwards.

It is refreshing to hear the man at the top admit that his organisation is not efficient—it would be even better if the methods to correct this state of affairs could simultaneously be made public. The rejoinder from many of the old school is that anything so crude as "efficiency" should not be allowed to intrude on the dusty "University Tradition," and that the way things have always been done is necessarily the best. Education is no longer the privilege of the leisured classes with a lifetime in which to become cultured. In the modern world advancement is very difficult without advanced education, and this has to be obtained before senility closes the door of the labour market. At the same time, in the sciences the expansion of knowledge is so great that a schoolboy is expected to know as much as a sage of fifty years ago.

What then is being done by the University organisation to cope with these problems? As far as can be seen, the methods of education are the same as they were fifty years ago. It still seems to be a process of storing the memory rather than cultivating the mind. The menace of the examination room is still the stimulus to study, rather than the joy of acquiring knowledge. In how many lecture rooms in this College, or in any other college for that matter, does work proceed so that the end of the hour is a surprise rather than a relief? There is still the endless scribbling of dictated notes, the mechanical copying of strings of facts from the blackboard, the dazed feeling of the student as he leaves the room of wondering what it was all about. There are still too many lecturers who appear to be completely uninterested whether the details they drone from age-old files are assimilated or not—that is the student's business. It is not. Fifty per cent is the responsibility of the lecturer and ultimately of the University. The student is paying money and is giving his time to be educated, and it is fair to assume that he has a desire to learn. The organisation of the University has been paid for and has an obligation to the country to help him. The method of flinging a mass of facts at a student and saying in effect "learn all this or else—" is not efficient; it is worse, because it stifles the natural instinct to learn.

Here then is one way in which the University could make an immediate improvement which does not require the expensive unessentials the absence of which is being so frequently lamented. In a word, we do not need better lecturers, but we need them to do better work. In the Army if an officer complains that his men seem unable to understand their duties, the C.O. does not obligingly provide him with a new set of men;

he requires the officer without delay to initiate the necessary training. He also satisfies himself that the job is being done and, if necessary, trains the officer both by example and precept.

A little of this principle would do a lot of good here. How often is the professor of a department seen attending the lectures of his juniors and taking note of their diligence or otherwise? How often are students of known calibre asked to give frank comments on the quality of the lecture material they receive? In turn, are the professors of departments required to furnish annual reports on the progress made in the dispensation of knowledge in their respective departments? How many members of the staff have been dismissed in the last five years through failure to show sufficient zeal and initiative in their duties?

The public is entitled to know these facts, but it is doubtful if they will be given them. High academic qualifications are still considered more important than teaching ability or enthusiasm for the job. And yet year after year hundreds of students are failed, the majority of whom would have passed if they had been taught better. It is a case of "these men are no good, let's get rid of them and have a fresh lot next session." It is a pointless waste of time and effort which is likely to continue as long as the standard of education is judged by the number of students who are failed rather than by the number that are passed.

While education is on the examination system, it should be possible by method and skill to guarantee that the majority of the students will retain the necessary minimum knowledge to enable them to pass an examination and to replace the stimulus of fear of failure by the desire to obtain knowledge for its own sake. In fact, to give a proper University Education to all students who enrol from a good school and who have average intelligence and character.

The method and skill involved should not be left entirely to the opinions and idiosyncrasies of individual lecturers or departments, but a research committee headed by one of the more enlightened and energetic members of the staff should be formed. They should study methods of improving the educational standards in the University both by correlating local ideas and by studying the literature and opinions of the outside world. These could be disseminated by meetings and discussion to the teaching staff and the opinions of a cross-section of the students discovered by questionnaires and interview.

While on the subject of research, comment is necessary on the article by "D.S." on the same subject in a previous number of this paper. There it was stated that research was better for the University than hordes of students. Research, of course, is good, but from the point of view of the country the education of large numbers of young people is better. The former can wait but the latter cannot. Any tendency for individuals to spend their time enhancing their reputations by research at the expense of students with their way to make in life should be strongly discouraged. The first research question which should engage the mind of the head of a department is "How can I improve the teaching methods in this department?" It is a question which he could very conveniently pass on to his advanced students—their conclusions, if given without fear or favour, being fresh and unbiased, would probably be enlightening.

One hesitates to detail improvements that could be made; that is a job for experts. One essential is a reduction in note-taking, which could be effected by printed précis carefully

compiled to cover the necessary minimum of facts, with guides to advanced reading and with a liberal use of memory aids. The material should be subdivided by lectures so that the student can arrive at the lecture room with some knowledge of what the lecture will be about and the lecturer can devote his time to explaining and amplifying the précis, stimulating discussion and questions, and assessing the rate of progress of his class. With attention and interest comes memory. Mechanical writing at great speed from dictation teaches nothing.

More use can be made of visual aids, gramophone recordings, demonstration models, etc. There should be more tests (let the advanced students do the marking) and more healthy competition brought into the lecture room.

Considerable improvement in working conditions could be made such as in lighting, heating, ventilation, shiny blackboards and other details. Something should also be done to improve the cafeteria.

Until the necessary buildings can be built it is no use worrying about the absence of residential facilities for students. Life at a residential University is, of course, very pleasant, but argument can be made both for and against its value in other directions. It is also fruitless to sigh for the traditions of the older English Universities—it will be some centuries yet before these can be acquired. Let us not therefore describe our University as Third Rate. It just needs a lot of improvement. The time to start improving it is now.

New Zealand has the healthy reputation of leading the world in matters educational, but it seems necessary to get busy on the job of Higher Education before the laurels get too wilted.

—C.L.

UNIVERSITY COACHING COLLEGE

22 FERRY BUILDING,
AUCKLAND, C.1.

Tuition in Day Classes, Evening Classes and by Correspondence
—Coaching for University Entrance Examination.

D. W. FAIGAN, M.A.

(Honours in English and French)
PRINCIPAL

Phone 44-271

Dave De Renzy (returned medical student): "Stinks."

H. L. J. Halliday (compo chemist): "Admirable."

E. J. Baxter (President Aesthetic Society): "The Ballet. Mmm!"

George S. Brown (ex radar expert): "... shows a distinct lack of organising ability in not having a complete dress rehearsal first."

J. A. Nathan (of Craccum): "... producing Peer Gynt in Auckland is comparable to playing Revue in Iceland."

S. Waters (Zoology demonstrator): "... out of their depth..."

Cedric Day (ex Navy): "Lacks the sincerity of a British production."

Joe Molloy (moralist): "Nice for nymphomaniacs."

M. S. Robertson (S.C.M. and E.U. member): "The play had insufficient love interest—no sex, no success."

And finally, Fresher J. Chambers, when asked if he had seen "Peer Gynt," replied that he didn't know the fellow.

PETE'S PARADISE

The time for Stud. Ass. elections is coming near, but they will perhaps be rather uninteresting for the supporters of the great M. A. Allen. Owing to pressure of work in his present position of bottle-washer at Dominion Breweries, Mr. Allen (or Mike as his friends at Borstal called him) regrets that he will not be standing this year.



However, as he does not wish to disillusion his supporters totally, he has asked me to announce that he will contest the position of Student Chairman at the forthcoming S.C.M. and E.U. Annual General Meetings, and hopes that his many admirers will turn up to vote for him.

* * *

Variety was introduced to the Caf.'s menu one day recently; it was a delightful change to have a chocolate éclair with my afternoon tea. But some people can never be content, and Halliday is one of these; he says that he doesn't mind an odd oak leaf or two in his vegetable soup, but he objects strongly when he finds branches in it. Such fuss—the longest was only six inches in length, and looked perfectly fresh!

* * *

And was the petition on the part of the women to clear the men from the upper common room prompted by a Garbo-like desire to be alone, or from a frustrated ego when they discovered that the men ventured there only when there was a fire to lure them in?

* * *

Then there was the student who asked me to fetch him a taxi home from the After-revue party; owing to his incapability of talking and seeing coherently, I thought that I'd better accompany him. Unfortunately, owing to a slight indisposition on his part the trip turned out a rather expensive one. After crawling around his garden for some time he managed to get into his bedroom and undress. Being unable to undo the knot in the new tie he was wearing, he used the simple expedient of cutting it off. Next morning he woke up and remembered that he had made arrangements to stay the night with a friend who had a house quite handy to 'Varsity.

* * *

O.D. is to be congratulated on his letter re Tramping Club published in the last issue. It was one of the most logical analyses of the psychology of the typical trampler yet published. The Haka party seems to be providing a splendid opportunity for them to rid themselves of their inhibitions even further; in fact a better opportunity for exhibitionism could not be found; so it is not surprising that to date fully three-quarters of the Haka-ists consist of Trampers.

* * *

Several students are complaining that the friendliness of various Exec. members towards them is almost embarrassing. Could it possibly be attributed to vote-canvassing?

"PEER GYNT"

Candid opinions heard were:—

Mike Allen (4th year—no subjects): "I thought it was a suit. Fancy it being a play as well."

OPEN FORUM

LECTURES AND NOTES

Sir,—

I wonder if any of your readers have noticed in the April 11 number of "Critic" some interesting remarks about the necessity of lectures. The writer makes some sound contentions as follows:—

"How many lectures are necessary? Of the thousands delivered every year, how many contain material not already to be found in the students' text-books? If attendance were not compulsory, how many would be attended? Perhaps the last question is unduly acid, but I think the first two contain the key to our problem. Of course there are necessary lectures. That follows from the fact that the staff are not fools. There are also boring and superfluous ones. That follows from the fact that even Homer nods. It is my belief that his opportunities for nodding should be restricted as much as possible. There arises, of course, the prior question: What place do lectures take in students' preparation for examinations? The commonest thesis, apparently, is that they should contain the whole corpus of knowledge necessary for success in the examination concerned, the said information to be transferred by the lecturer from the standard authorities, via his lecture notes, to the students' note-book; the whole process bearing a strong resemblance to that by which books were multiplied in the days before the invention of printing. The copyist's—beg pardon, student's—part is completely passive. When anything more is required of him, a sense of incapacity may be observed that amounts almost to a grievance. There is one objection to this view, to my mind fatal: it has been out of date since the days of Caxton.

"A full utilisation of the possibilities opened up by the printing press would revolutionise the method of preparing students for examinations. The basis of preparation would be, not the compulsory lecture, but the text-book, to which, properly chosen, the lecture would be little more than a series of marginalia of greatly reduced bulk, if indeed that were necessary. And even that could be cyclostyled. The lecture, reduced to a supplementary role, would become the voluntary institution that it is in English universities. Relieved of the crushing weight of didactic responsibility, lecturers could be more venturesome and stimulating; and we should be in a position to answer the third of the questions from which this inquiry started."

To his remarks I would add that we up here take notes far too much. Notes are very harmful, as they are mental crutches which make us mentally lame. People keep saying that there are few about who can think intelligently, and I am prepared to contend that it is because of taking too many notes. The note-takers are so much in a majority that Professor Anderson caters for them exclusively. He speaks so slowly that unless his words are written down they are quite impossible to grasp and understand. If he is going to do that he should distribute notes with what he is going to say fully set out. We pay for lectures, not for writing practice, and it is quite unfair that we should not be able to benefit from the lectures unless we write them down.

Yours, etc.,
Wishful Thinker.

"PEER GYNT"

Sir,—

The Public's and Press' reception of "Peer Gynt" was quite satisfactory, and I do not intend here to justify it or disagree with it, but there is one point worthy of serious attention. I refer to the large number of people engaged in "Peer Gynt" who have no connection with the College. Therefore the University Dramatic Club can only claim a part of the kudos.

The producer, Anitra and Old Peer are three essential people in this

category, and the four most praised aspects, namely, music, lighting, back-stage and dancing, were almost entirely in the hands of outsiders. I attach no stigma to this usually abusive word, nor do I pour cold water on the work of these people. The fault lies entirely with the Dramatic Club itself. Out of 2800 students there must be at least 100 who are interested in drama. Are they represented? Was there very much publicity given to the casting of "Peer Gynt"? Many students were repelled from rather than attracted to the Dramatic Club.

The only people in the whole cast and technical staff of the play who could not be easily produced from the College are the ballet. A producer, pianist, electricians and stage hands are fairly easily produced if the trouble is taken.

This is a big and important question which should be given prominence in future months. A dramatic club cannot be called a dramatic club if it consists of actors only. Technicians are just as important.

Yours, etc.,
R. K. PARKES.

PROPOSED AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY BUILDING SCHEME

Sir,—

We are highly dissatisfied with the proposed removal of the College to Tamaki, as we believe that the tin huts under construction in the College grounds could be made the nucleus of a bigger, better University on the present site. Surely there is still plenty of room on the paths, lawns and tennis courts for the erection of many more huts. The ground space on which the present buildings stand is also very inefficiently used. Careful measurements have shown that two huts could be placed on the roof above the cloisters if one of them was bent slightly, while smaller huts could be built on other flat parts of the roof and inside the tower. The cloisters themselves could be partitioned off into lecture rooms, with no space wasted for passageways, as access to them would be gained by means of ladders from the lawn outside. Boards could be laid across between the galleries of the Library, too, giving greatly increased floor space, and common rooms, locker rooms and lavatories would make excellent rooms for extra staff. There would still be room for the Men v. Women Basketball match and other important sports events on the roof of the Biology block.

We are sure that if sufficient steel huts for this scheme are not available, the College Council could easily buy up large quantities of second-hand jam tins or oil drums, which, flattened out and nailed to a wooden framework, would make a University of which Auckland could be justly proud.

Yours, etc.,
C. K. PUTT,
N. L. RYKERS,
R. W. CAWLEY,
H. R. HARRE

CORRECTION

Sir,—

Professor Davis' views on the respective physiognomies of 1920 and 1946 A.U.C. students are so unfounded, unnecessary and ungentlemanly that I have no hesitation in making an equally malodorous (but more justified) comparison between Mathematics (or Economics) as he apparently learnt them in or before 1920 as against a layman's knowledge of them in 1946.

The boorish throng (regrettably not dancing a haka, nor talking Maori, nor singing "Old King Cole") that keeps Professor Davis from his eager class of sixty for ten minutes wastes, taking his second calculation as correct, ten hours ten minutes. As, however, this phenomenon most frequently occurs shortly after 5 p.m., then the time wasted should be counted as double overtime. Accord-

LITERARY COLUMNS

PROSE AND VERSE

THE MYSTERY OF THE GIN BOTTLE

Entwhistle Grant looked at his step-aunt and sighed. For years she had been prone to asthma, and now he was determined to use this to his advantage. Martha (for such was his step-aunt's moniker) was in the habit of smoking specially-medicated cigars to ease her aching pipes, and upon this hinged Entwhistle's plot for croaking the aged lady. Surreptitiously drawing a bottle of gin from his pocket, he took a thoughtful snort and regarded the old hag lighting up one of her stogies. The night before, he had gumshoed into Martha's parlour disguised as a Horse radish, and had slipped a dookful of stogies into the humidor on the cocktail bar. These cigars he had taken quite a lot of trouble with, dipping them in large amounts of an unknown asiatic poison. Before entering the old hag's domicile to-night, he had blown a ladleful of Golden-rod Pollen through the keyhole, and this had naturally given the ugly beldame an attack of asthma. Surreptitiously drawing a bottle of gin from his pocket, he took a thoughtful snort and watched the old hag lighting up one of her stogies. After a few drags on her weed Martha crumpled up like an injured louse. Resisting the urge to grind his dogs in her pan, he ate the cigar and ash (together with an antidote of course) to destroy evidence, and drew a false cat's foot from his sock. This he dragged over the corpse's swan-like several times till he drew blood, then ate the foot to destroy evidence. Then, surveying the landscape to see that everything was jake, he beat it. Donning his milkman's disguise which he had had ready, he eased into his swanky apartment and ate the milkman's togs to destroy evidence. It would be as well to state that this apartment was far beyond his income and he had blotted out Martha to inherit her Iron Men. In the morning he jumped a cab and slid into a speakeasy, where he started to get stinko as rapidly as possible. Before he had finished his third rot-gut, however, he was accosted by two men dressed in top hats, with large dogs. "Entwhistle Grant?" said one of these bums. "So what?" said Enty. "Police," said the other bum and flipped up his trouser leg to disclose a police badge. "We want you down at headquarters," said the first bull, and grabbed Enty by the shoulder. "You ain't got nothin' on me, copper!" said Enty. "Nuts!" said the second bull, and handed Enty a mean bust in the snoot. Naturally, Enty struggled, whereupon the first demon belted him in the puss with a bloater he drew from his hip pocket. The two demons then dragged the unconscious man into a waiting jallopy and took it on the lam for the dick-store. When he revived he demanded to know what he was charged with. "Your aunt drew her harp last night," said a beefy flat at a desk, "and we're keeping you on ice till we find out if anything's crooked about the layout." Entwhistle was then slung into the hoosegow with violence. He remained there for several weeks, with nothing to eat but a stack of ham-on-ryes. These he saved and fashioned a deck of broads out of them. With these he used to while away the hours with a heist man in the same cell, but lost his shirt and an ear when he was discovered dealing off the end of the deck. After many long nights without a slice of shuteye, he was released. "We couldn't pin nothin' on the punk," the first dick said to the D.A. sorrowfully. "Well, keep your peepers peeled in case you latch on

ingly, the true number of man-hours wasted is twenty and two-thirds—or more than ten times that arrived at by Professor Davis.

Yours, etc.,
J.E.

to anything relevant." Now a mere bag of bones, Enty surreptitiously drew a gin bottle from his pocket and took a thoughtful snort. The newspapers had only just been allowed to print the story, and headlines screamed "Mad tab folds bag. Neph. scoops pool." (This actually means that the Loco mog had creased the hag, and Enty grabbed the shekels.) For about a year Entwhistle lived the life of a gentleman and was in evidence at all society functions, where he would surreptitiously swig from his gin bottle. Then, one sad night, his world crashed in ruins. A hat stand in his apartment opened to reveal the first flat, while the second dick crawled out from under an old brassiere left over from one of Enty's parties. "We've nailed you this time, punk!" they said and dragged him to the jug for the second time. "Nuts!" said Enty, at which the second D. took offence and landed him such a poke in the star-like that Enty took the count. Back at the jug, Flat No. 1 proceeded to show Enty just how they had nailed him. A cat's claw had been found in Martha's room, and on analysis this proved to be composed of putty and gold dust. Also, a tuft of fur was found which was traced to a bat shop in Freeman's bay, N.Z. A residue of an unknown asiatic poison was found in the humidor, which on examination proved to be an unknown asiatic poison. Realising that the jig was up, Enty surreptitiously drew a gin bottle from his pocket, belted the D's on the noggin and took a powder. Outside the station he donned a disguise which made him the dead spit of Lana Turner and lammed. Capitalising on his disguise, he hitched easy to a hide, where he had a jallopy stashed. He finally reached a cute little hovel in the backblocks and prepared for a long stay till the heat died. However, one day, while fishing for bloaters in a little mountain stream, he slipped on a grape pip and handed in his spade and bucket.

The mystery of the gin bottle: How do you spell surreptitiously?



Brewed at the LION BREWERY

—M.A.A.

ON FIRST LOOKING INTO CHAPMAN'S ALGAE

Much have I travelled in the realms of mould
And small elusive fungal hyphae seen;
Round many haunts of Nature have I been
Which for the simple mind their pleasures hold.
Oft of green slime and scum had I been told
That mighty Fritsch once ruled as his demesne—
Yet did I never grasp its sense unseen
Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold.
Then felt I like Huxley philosophise
When a new species swims into his ken;
Or like an honours student with surprise
When he finds German useful now and then,
Consulting dictionaries with wild surmise,
In morbid contemplation sucks his pen.

—Pandorina.

Mainly About Movies by Astra

LO, WHERE IT COMES!

HENRY V.

In a few weeks an event long awaited will have come to pass. "Henry V" will have reached Auckland. Even those to whom Shakespeare means only that dust-covered volume in the room under the stairs are looking forward to what their movie magazines tell them is "first-rate screen adventure with an intriguing swashbuckling atmosphere in the romance . . . the greatest production to come from an English studio."

The "average" picture-goer will, I think, ensure the box-office success of "Henry V," for he is bound to enjoy the technicoloured exploration into history, the heat of Agincourt and the wooing of Princess Katharine. But there will be many, too, who normally do not patronise the cinema whose curiosity will this once overcome their prejudice against the motion picture as art form.

For this audience in particular, a brief sketch of production details may not be amiss—not that this is a review of the film which I have yet to see. Much of my information is gathered from "puff pars."

Do You Remember?

Shakespeare has, of course, been adapted for the screen before, even though "Henry V" marks the first attempt in nearly ten years. I am reminded that way back in the murky past Douglas Fairbanks, senior, and Mary Pickford did "Taming of the Shrew," which apparently wasn't a tremendous success. No one seems to be able to tell me much about it, and at the time I myself was rather busy with the "Triumph" and "Champion." Some twenty years ago "Romeo and Juliet" made history with the playing of the principal parts by Leslie Howard and Norma Shearer. Most of the film was pretty straight Shakespeare, and it scored more success than possibly was anticipated. Even if the picture as a whole did not bring Shakespeare nearer the public, Miss Shearer did give women of the western continent a new hair style.

In 1937 we in New Zealand saw the next attempt to bring Shakespeare successfully before the movie camera. "As You Like It" was produced in England and directed by Dr. Paul Czinner, to whose wife Elizabeth Bergner was given the part of Rosalind. "As You Like It" ran for one week in Queen Street. Even if we now have but faint recollection of the film (the scene that sticks most in my mind is Leon Quartermaine's "Seven Ages of Man"), we can do well perhaps to recall that Orlando was skilfully portrayed by an actor whom critics at that time were already acclaiming one of the most accomplished Shakespearean players in England. His name, Laurence Olivier.

More approaching the nature of Shakespearean spectacle was an offering from Warner Bros.' studios in 1936. Hollywood was proud to announce "a wealth of indescribable beauty and grandeur . . . an unbroken ecstasy, the humour, drama and romance of the world's greatest classic parading before your eyes." That was "A Midsummer Night's Dream." It ran for one week in Queen Street. Directed by the noted German Max Reinhardt, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" numbered in its cast some players whose names are still familiar to-day. It is perhaps when we see some of these names that we understand why the film could never have been a success—Joe E. Brown (Flute), Dick Powell (Lysander), James Cagney (Bottom), Olivia de Havilland (Hermia) and Mickey Rooney (Puck). Of course there was in addition the usual "1000 others." Funny how it's always a cool "grand" isn't it?

Lucky This Time?

And now comes "Henry V," the Two Cities film that is by far the most lavish and ostentatious screen adaption of Shakespeare. This technicolour spectacle, which cost half a million and took over a year to make, is "Caesar and Cleopatra," Mr. J. Arthur Rank's most determined attempt to gain a place for British film on the American market.

Much of the reported success of "Henry V" is attributed to the young man who ten years ago played Orlando in "As You Like It." However, on this occasion Laurence Olivier not only plays the leading part, but is also responsible for both production and direction. Olivier has taken the role of Henry V many times on the stage, and friends who have seen the film in England assure me that whatever one's reaction to the production as a whole, one can have nothing but praise for Olivier's portrayal. It is claimed, too, that not one word of the original play has been in any way altered—for which we may have reason to be thankful, knowing what usually happens to screen versions of notable literature.

Who's Who

In gathering his cast Olivier has called upon many who were with him on the stage. Whilst many are unfamiliar to the film public of New Zealand, they have records sufficient to warrant their performances being memorable. Robert Newton, remembered for his film work in "This Happy Breed" and "Hatter's Castle," is Ancient Pistol. Harcourt Williams as King Charles VI of France is an outstanding Shakespearean and for years was producer of the Old Vic Theatre. As Fluellen, Esmond Knight, blind since the sinking of the Bismarck and noted for his appearance in "The Silver Fleet," should have no difficulty with the role of the Welsh captain. Felix Aylmer, who created a good impression in "Mr. Emmanuel" and "Demi-Paradise," is cast as the Archbishop of Canterbury. To the commentator of "Desert Victory," Leo Genn has been given the role of Constable of France. Max Adrian, who plays Lewis the Dauphin, has many years of stage work behind him, as well as time spent making such films as "Kipps," "Young Mr. Pitt" and "Jeannie." Absent from the screen for some years, Leslie Banks returns as Chorus. Renee Asherson is Princess Katharine of France. Music for "Henry V" is composed by William Walton and played by the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Muir Matheson.

Henry Goes South

Apparently, as has been the practice in the past, Christchurch is to be favoured with first release of "Henry V." I am told that the Cathedral City always takes things British to its heart more quickly and more warmly than do Auckland and Wellington. Added to that is the fact that Christchurch has its All-British Theatre, the Mayfair.

So to Christchurch is to be entrusted the very pleasant task of assuring the initial screen success of Shakespeare. We in what I have heard somewhat unkindly referred to as the 49th State shall have to wait a little longer. "Henry V" should be worth waiting for.

"I LIVE IN GROSVENOR SQUARE"

Having only a week or two ago concluded an undeservedly long season, "I Live in Grosvenor Square" has been booked for a return screening in Auckland.

I say undeservedly long because, although an extremely pleasant film, it is not to be numbered among the great British productions, as its undoubted success would seem to indicate. Frankly I don't know what it

was that made me like the film so much at the time, but even now, when I retain no outstanding impressions of it, I recall that it made up an entertaining two hours. Probably it is best to be described as "the family picture," easy to take and quite harmless.

And although not to be thought of in the same street with "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp," "This Happy Breed" and "The Way Ahead" (among recent British top-rankers), I Live in Grosvenor Square" is infinitely more palatable than its tear-stained predecessor "White Cliffs of Dover," with which it is so often contrasted. "Grosvenor Square" came so late in the order of things that it must have been difficult to get a new line on the theme of Anglo-American co-operation in love and war (mostly the former this time since in "Grosvenor Square" any resemblance to war-torn England is, until the concluding twenty minutes, purely coincidental). This may account for the apparent lack of originality in some of the scenes and the slowing down in tempo after the first thirty minutes which are the film's best. I think we may assume, too, that it will be the last of World War II films of this theme.

Anna Neagle, the central figure of "Grosvenor Square," has not here the difficult parts of Victoria or Cavell to play, and whilst no longer the vivacious "Irene" has nevertheless still a charming personality and an ability to wear clothes. Dean Jagger, whom we have yet to get to know, is a younger Walter Pidgeon big enough of frame and handsome in appearance to set female hearts fluttering. As the American sergeant (yes, not even a second "looney") he contributes a consistently smooth performance. The picture is sent away to a fine start by his Lou Costello-like buddy Greenberg whose early antics at the ducal mansion in G.S. were certainly amusing enough to warrant of his having been retained in later scenes. Rex Harrison I prefer in tails and "Blithe Spirit" to uniform and elections; and an actor as accomplished as Robert Morley was completely wasted in the small part of the Duke. Directed by Wilcox was adequate, though I wish he had not so slavishly followed the curtain scene of "Mrs. Miniver."

All in all, I do not doubt that "G.S." is typical of the fashion in which "dooks" and their granddaughters received the more fortunate of servicemen stranded in a strange land. We are told that "G.S." is being reviewed "in response to persistent appeals by 'phone, letters and in person," in short by public demand. I seem to remember that the film was originally meant to be followed at the Embassy by "A Medal For Benny," which mysteriously made way to allow Deanna Durbin to attempt a comeback. I find it hard to believe that programme bookings have not come a little unstuck at the Embassy and that "I Live in Grosvenor Square" (of recent films screened on the Williamson circuit the one most likely to become a successful box-office rehash) has been clutched at thankfully, until things are sorted out.

KIWI

"Kiwi" will be stillborn if YOU don't contribute.

Send in essays, short stories, verse; and photographs, sketches, wood cuts, etc., to the Editor, "Kiwi," c/o Craccum box as soon as possible, and at least by July 8.

Literary contributions will be entered in a competition in three sections, for each of which a guinea prize is offered. The following judges have agreed to decide the awards:—

Short Story—Mr. Frank Sargesson.
Essay—Mr. John Reid.
Verse—Mr. A. R. D. Fairburn.

ON THE BEAT

By OFFBEAT

PIANO MAN

"Polecat"

Bob Zurke, "The Pounding Pole," was a peculiar eccentric. Although he was proud of his piano playing before drink caused him to forsake better things to go playing in a small, smoke-filled room, he never made any attempt to go back to the better means of living, although the opportunity was always present. His taste in music was very mixed; he liked Claude Thornhill (whose style is the very opposite of Zurke's), and Ravel's "Daphnis and Chloe." Earl Hines, Fats Waller and anything in a Dixieland style were his favourites. Many examples of his work can be heard on Bob Crosby discs, "Yancey Special" and "Eye Opener" being two of his best. Zurke's style can be judged from the fact that an American critic called him "Old Jerky, the Polecat of the Keys." In most cases his playing is thin, mechanical, toneless, and inspired by a player-piano. Where Basie leaves out notes, Zurke puts in twice as many. But even so, we could listen to a long programme of Bob Zurke with great enjoyment!

"Platterbrain"

As the clock nears 9.15 on a Monday evening, the 12M operator sets a copy of Duke Ellington's "Rockin' in Rhythm" spinning on the turntable. The needle is lowered, the first few bars are played—and "Platterbrain" is on the air.

We called on the "brain a week or two back, and found him to be a tall and pleasant-looking young man, with a nice smile. (Bad luck, girls, he's married!) His collection of records is something that any collector might well be proud of! he has nearly seven hundred including many discs not available locally. As the Auckland radio stations' record library has nothing very much in the jazz line that "Platterbrain" hasn't got too, he keeps the session going with recordings mainly from his own collection. "The record library in Wellington gets absolutely everything issued," he told us. "But they won't circulate it." This leaves "Turntable," of 2YA, with a practically clear run on all the pressings put out by the small American record companies. But the 'brain is getting some of these small company releases for his personal collection, and will broadcast them in due course, so that Auckland hot music-lovers will get an earful in future airings. "I try to make my sessions suitable for all tastes," he replied in answer to our query as to how he compiled a programme. "I devote half to those who like the modern music, and half to those who like the older, so that those who have a bias in one direction get a dose of the other." Because his studies were held up by the war, "Platterbrain" is now a first-year part-time student at A.U.C. This Column wishes the 'brain and his few-months-old session the best of luck for a long run in the future.

WE LIKE IT

Platterbrain's "12 favourite discs" poll restored our faith in Auckland rhythm fans' taste. On the jazz side there were two first-rate Spaniers, an antique Armstrong and a Tatum; on the swing side, a Chu Berry, a Carter, a Goodman Trio and an Ellington. There were, admittedly, some unfortunate items, such as Shaw's "Blues in the Night," and Part 2 of Goodman's "Sing Sing Sing," but on the whole voters displayed an excellent taste. The most pleasing touch, however, was that such a fine piece as Spanier's "Relaxin' at the Touro" came out first. And in future polls, if any, it would be pleasing to see more votes for Negro small-band work than just the one side which squeezed its way into Auckland's 12 favourite discs.

WANTED TO BUY

Sabine's History of Political Theory—Leave note in Craccum Box.

SOCIETIES AND

ULTRA-VIOLET UP-TO-DATE

SCIENCE SOCIETY

The ultra-violet acted as a magnet on Thursday, May 9, and drew a crowd of students which taxed the capacity of the Chemistry theatre to the utmost. The committee was no less amazed at the magnitude of the audience than was the speaker, but the interest shown proved to be well founded. Mr. Jamieson, resident electrical engineer to the State Hydro Dept., had prepared a lecture-demonstration on the nature and uses of ultra-violet light which combined interest, instruction and entertainment in equally generous proportions. His apparatus crowded the lecture bench, spilled over on to side tables, and included a beautifully placed trip-wire in the passage outside. The major part of the lecture was given in the dark, the only illumination being the violet glow from the blackened mercury-arc lamps used to generate the ultra-violet light. This was extremely effective, the various fluorescent and phosphorescent materials, used (including the lecturer's notes!) glowing vividly in the dark, but most annoying when trying to write notes on a small, invisible piece of paper.

Mr. Jamieson commenced by assuring us that the amount of science contained in his lecture would certainly not be beyond our level. This was reassuring, and we settled down comfortably (in the figurative sense) to listen. Ultra-violet light had been first discovered by Sir William Herschel (1800) in the spectrum of the sun. There was great difficulty in the examination of the rays, as only their effects upon silver salts and chemical activity could be used. Later, qualitative experiments were made, but the first ultra-violet photographs had to wait for the development of suitable photographic plates. Modern theoretic developments began with the Quantum Theory of 1906.

The ultra-violet light so much in demand at Alpine resorts and open-air clinics reaches us from the sun; to manufacture it locally, a mercury-arc lamp is used. For the purposes of experiment, when the effect of the ordinary light from the arc is not wanted, the lamp is coated with black nickel oxide, which absorbs the major part of the visible spectrum but transmits the ultra-violet. Ultra-violet light has many uses in medicine. It is effective in the treatment of rickets in children, producing the necessary vitamins to counter the disease; in non-pulmonary tuberculosis, though it has the opposite effect in tuberculosis of the lungs; for fungoid diseases, as in the diagnosis of ringworm; and for vascular troubles when it is used in conjunction with a fluorescent solution injected into the bloodstream. On the other hand, it produces conjunctivitis and workers continually in the influence of ultra-violet light must be suitably protected. This was illustrated in slides showing ultra-violet lamps installed in hospitals and meat works for the purpose of sterilising the air, the bulbs being always well screened from direct vision. The sterilising effect was amply demonstrated in slides showing the effect of exposure to the rays on colonies of bacteria; exposure for as little as five to ten seconds effectively destroys the major proportion of the bacteria present. We remembered the steri-lamps of the American Milk Bar, and wondered!

That the ultra-violet can exert a photo-electric effect was shown by placing a light meter under the generating globes, quite a respectable reading being obtained. This is more than can be said for the reading shown under the ordinary lights of the lecture theatre: one foot-candle of illumination directly below the source! A little further investigation showed the best-lit rooms of the

department could boast three foot-candles, and, after reference to the back of the meter, we learned that from 0-10 are recommended for railway platforms, bulk storage, coal and ash handling, foundry charging, and large auditoriums; 30-35 for ordinary bench or office work, and the reading of newspapers; and at least 40 for drafting and fine work. Three foot-candles is summarily dismissed as being insufficient for most purposes—the taking of lecture notes being, of course, excepted. Photo-chemically, ultra-violet is active in producing the protective tanning of the skin. It deteriorates rubber and some plastics, having the annoying property of turning white ones purple and purple ones white.

From this point the lecture hinged on the property of ultra-violet light to activate fluorescence and phosphorescence, the implications of this property and commercial developments from it being immense. The first practical demonstration was accidental—those sitting at the front in line with the rays found their teeth fluorescing, producing a Colgate smile such as Colgate's never dreamed of! Unfortunately, the pupils of the eyes also fluoresced; we were relieved to know that it was this that was producing the cloudy atmosphere in the room and not incipient eye-strain due to writing in the dark. Fluorescent lighting is a combination of effects: an initial mercury-vapour discharge in a neon tube generates ultra-violet light which impinges on a fluorescent paint on the glass walls of the tube, this in turn glowing vividly. As such paints can be obtained to fluoresce over a wide range of colours, very varied lighting is available. Better still, by a judicious choice of fluorescent coating, a glow corresponding almost exactly in its spectrum to sunlight can be produced: artificial daylight a reality indeed. Though few such lamps have penetrated to New Zealand, many millions are in use in America, serving as skylights in factories and large office buildings, as directive lighting in drafting offices and laboratories, providing a room filled with daylight from no apparent source in homes, hotels and a multitude of places.

On a smaller scale, ultra-violet-generating torches were in use during the war to view fluorescent instrument scales without betraying their presence at night. Similar torches find use in the engineering world in tracing faults in metal castings. For the geologist, the ultra-violet in conjunction with fluorescent powders enables water seepage to be traced, even the largest dilution giving a sufficient glow. The identification of minerals is also possible, though we were told there were traps for young players here. "No good for Wong," somebody was heard to murmur.

The most unexpected applications, and one of particular interest in this country, was in the testing of ryegrass seed, to differentiate between the annual and perennial grasses. Ultra-violet generates a blue fluorescence about the roots of the annual ryegrass, no such effect being observed on the other. Identification of papers, invisible inks, checking of the adulteration of foodstuffs, fluorescent oils, chemicals, glasses, the branding of unwary criminals—the possibilities of the ultra-violet seemed endless.

But not so the lecture, for even such a treat as this must have its ending. Supper provided a counter-attraction to the lecturer's apparatus, thrown open—not without some trepidation—to the hundred and thirty odd potential experimenters present, and Mr. Jamieson, balancing a cup of tea and a biscuit, spent a busy half-hour stemming the flood of questions. The acknowledgments with which the lecturer closed gave sufficient

proof of the breadth of his enquiries; we can do no better than add our own acknowledgment to him.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

ABOUT ALEXANDRIA

"The City of Cleopatra" was the title of the paper read by Dr. Blaiklock in the Upper Common Room on June 11. It is indeed encouraging to see the increasing interest of students in the Society's activities this year.

Alexandria, in the first century B.C., said the speaker, was a stronghold of Hellenistic culture, a spiritual force which at this time was spreading like religion over the whole world. Its plan of intersecting streets, the promenade along the mole which connected the island city to the mainland, its palaces, public buildings, museum, lecture halls, and library, its parks and gardens present a picture of a great wealth and artificiality. Greeks, Jews and traders of the world thronged the streets; their ships, filled with raw materials for manufacturing, jammed the harbours; textiles and paper, jewellery and silk were the main exports; port dues, a Government monopoly of the oil trade, a 10% sales tax and a system of superannuation were equal to modern times. Stories of royal banquets tell of the sumptuous wealth of the court derived from such extensive trade; others tell of the simple life of the bourgeoisie citizens. The University produced the arts of lexicography, begun by classifying the vast Alexandrine library, poetry of an artificial nature, and chemical research.

It was at this city that Caesar in 47 B.C. spent five months with the Queen and returned to Rome with his plans for world dominion.

We extend our appreciation to Dr. Blaiklock for his very able paper, admirably balanced with fact and humour, expressed in a characteristically descriptive manner.

MODERN LANGUAGES CLUB

GARCIA LORCA

On Thursday, June 6, some twenty members of this club heard a lecture by Mr. W. O. Droscher on "Garcia Lorca and the Spanish Literary Tradition." The address resembled the one given last year by Mr. Droscher, but was informative to those who had heard the first one. The lecture lasted about an hour, and gave some insight into Spanish habits of thought. Seeing such a small number attended the meeting, Craccum presumes that not many are interested in this topic. We therefore do not attempt to reproduce the matter of Mr. Droscher's lecture. Miss Bell made a short speech before and after the address. She directed her remarks to the excellence of Mr. Droscher's previous lecture, and of the one to which she had just listened. She expressed the hope that the Modern Languages Club would have the good fortune to hear Mr. Droscher again before long. We commend this occasion to those readers who want to know what happened on June 6.

EVANGELICAL UNION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The second week of the May vacation found some 120 delegates present at the 11th Annual Conference of the Inter-Varsity Fellowship of Evangelical Unions. A.U.C. was strongly represented, while other students travelled from all the other University and Teachers' Training Colleges of New Zealand. Many ex-servicemen were included. The weather was not always kind to us, but it in no way dampened the enthusiasm and bright fellowship which so marked the conference. Greetings were received from the International Conference of Evangelical Students at Oxford, at which

were delegates from many of the recently "occupied countries" of Europe.

Dr. E. M. Blaiklock presented a striking picture of the Christian life as a conflict against evil. The church was depicted as a resistance movement in enemy-occupied territory. The wider strategy of the conduct of the war was in the hands of God, which ensured certain victory. But the tactics of the struggle were the business of every Christian. Energy should not be dissipated in a welter of rival and hostile sections, in idle controversy, or in irrelevancies. In a stimulating passage Dr. Blaiklock exhorted the Christian to look to his weapons and tactics and ensure that they were both active and up to date.

A series of outstanding Bible expositions was given by the Rev. W. A. Orange, Principal of Tyndale House, Christchurch. Mr. Orange is one of the leading Bible expositors of New Zealand, if not of the world, and his addresses were among the highlights of the conference.

We were deeply interested to hear of the Rev. J. Johnston's experiences during three and a half years' internment at Hongkong. He was one of 2500 British citizens herded into a very small compound. Many of the internees did very little and gave up hope, while others were but waiting for release to begin rebuilding their shattered fortunes. Mr. Johnston worked in the compound hospital, a task which helped to maintain sanity. He was able to speak of a personal faith in Christ which was shared by others in the compound and by many Chinese Christians. Their faith has stood tests of a severity we in New Zealand can visualise only with difficulty.

Others speakers were: Mr. J. S. Burt, LL.M., of Auckland, who delivered an inspiring presidential address, Rev. J. A. Scarron, of Dargaville, and Mr. I. M. Moses, B.Com., the New Zealand Travelling Representative of the Fellowship. It was our privilege, too, to meet Rev. J. H. Deane, B.A., B.D., principal of the New Zealand Bible Training Institute, and Mr. H. A. Brown, senior staff worker of the Australian Children's Special Service Mission. We appreciated the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Harris in acting so capably as host and hostess.

Finally, no mention of an E.U. Conference would be complete without more than passing reference to the real fellowship it brought to us all. If ever demonstration were required that Christ has a vital message to ourselves personally and collectively, and to the whole of mankind, it was provided at conference. We have proved it, and it works.

COMMERCE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

At a well-attended meeting during the first term the Society was re-constituted for the purpose of again providing commerce students with extra-curricular activities. In the opening address of the year Professor Simkin gave his audience an interesting survey of world trade and its post-war prospects.

Of particular interest to full-time students who plan to enter the accountancy profession was Mr. Steen's talk: "After exams—what?"

Watch for posters featuring the following speakers: Mr. Rodwell, Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Julius Hogben.

In the entertainment field the Commerce Ball on July 20 will be well worth attending, while a coffee evening is scheduled for Friday, July 12.

S.C.M.

Auckland Visit of Rev. Newell, Secretary of the National Council of Churches,

and Mr. Barnard, Chairman of the Continuation Committee of the

CLUBS

Christchurch Conference, 1945 (late Speaker of the House of Representatives).

All students are—or should be—vitaly concerned about the social forces at work in their community. Here is an old-established institution showing signs of a new life which may well have a far-reaching effect on the everyday affairs of the whole people.

So don't miss this opportunity to hear Rev. Newell on the new spirit at work among the Churches in New Zealand as evidenced in the formation of the National Council of Churches; and to hear Mr. Barnard on "The Christian Frontier," an unofficial organisation which arose out of the Christchurch Conference, 1945, for the special purpose of thinking, discussion and action relevant to current social, political and economic problems viewed from a specifically Christian angle—

on Monday, July 1, in the Upper Common Room at 8 p.m.

FIELD CLUB

MAY CAMP AT MURIWAI

Led by Mr. Brothers, a keen party set out on May 20 by the Opuia express (on which train we were rudely evicted from our seats by the guard). Our headquarters at Muriwai was a luxurious beach cottage, complete with electric light and stove, not to mention a bathroom. Professor Chapman and his family paid us a visit in the afternoon. He dropped gentle hints about field experiments, which were taken up enthusiastically by the party. We armed ourselves with a post-hole borer (what it is to know the local residents!) and dug holes in the sand with furious effort, trying to find out about water tables. Further evidence of A.U.C.F.C. was to be seen on the beach in the form of lipsticked shells (which were meant to show the direction on sand drift).

Trips were made around the coast, where there was much to interest geologists and algologists; to Pulpit Rock (where three skulls were found and brought back as trophies); and to the lakes. (We hope the local farmer didn't miss any of his swedes.) Good weather helped to make the camp a most enjoyable one. We returned tired but happy on Friday the 24th.

Freshers! Have you forgotten about those 40 specimens? If you're feeling blue, forget your cares and come along next time to Field Club.

LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY TORT MOOT

Towards the end of the last term Mr. F. L. G. West acted as judge in a case debated by representatives of the Sir John Salmond and Sir Frederick Pollock divisions of the Law Faculty. This was the first moot of the year in the competition for the Sir Robert Stout Shield awarded annually to the division winning most decisions in the moots.

The main questions to be decided were "when is a servant outside the course of his employment" and "what harm suffered by the plaintiff is too remote a consequence of the defendant's conduct." For the plaintiff W. A. MacLeod and G. H. Walsham made an able and logical argument. A wealth of case law in support of the defendant's case was brought by K. C. Sutton and R. K. Davison. Received with applause was the latter's contention that "a bus driver must stick to his route and it is essential that he does so—or should be."

Mr. West, in giving judgment, was faced with the difficulty of acting as judge and yet having to infer facts that would normally have been found by a jury. However, undeterred by one learned counsel who attempted to convince him that a truck could be in two streets at the same time, Mr. West comprehensively reviewed the judgments put forward and gave

judgment for the plaintiffs. He expressed pleasure in the "free and outspoken address" of the counsel and their "clear and logical presentation" of the case.

Professor Davis, on behalf of the Law Faculty, thanked Mr. West for his very valuable assistance and mentioned that Mr. West had not only given of his time that evening, but had also drawn up the case itself.

The Salmond Club expects to avenge its defeat at an "Evidence" moot to be held in the near future.

FENCING CLUB A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting was held in April, when the following were elected as officers:—

President: Mr. A. Odell.

Coach: Rev. Naylor.

Student Chairman: C. R. Mann.

Secretary-Treasurer: C. E. West.

Armourer: B. R. Moulden.

Committee: Miss C. Haines, H. Naylor.

At last the club has shaken off the lethargy which characterised so many of the College clubs during the war.

The weekly practices, held every Tuesday evening in the Men's Common Room, have been well attended. Those who are beginning are progressing very well and all are enthusiastic. Several of the men who were trained, only to be called into the Services when they were experienced enough to take part in outside competition, have returned to the club. We now have quite a number of advanced fencers, and this augurs well for the standard of fencing in the club. Rev. Naylor is now teaching the sabre to a few members, and it won't be long before we can cut men in two as well as make holes in them.

We are looking forward to the visit of the Southern Colleges in August. All aspirants for the team are training hard, and the final selection will be difficult, as more than the four necessary to make up the team are very good. The teams from the South are reputed to be very strong this year, but we'll slay 'em.

The New Zealand Fencing Championships will be held at the end of the year. These will provide outside competition which has been missed over the last few years. There is the possibility of an N.Z.U. Fencing Team being selected to take part in the championships.

The club is still suffering from the lack of equipment, and this reflects on the training of those beginning. Masks are especially wanted, so if you know of any not wanted let us know.

SOCCER RESULTS SO FAR

Officers elected for the 1946 season are:—

President: Mr. L. H. Millener.

Vice-Presidents: Mr. C. M. Segedin, Mr. J. P. Neesham.

Club Captain: Peter Iles.

Secretary: Jack Dacre.

Treasurer: Mervyn Rosser.

Committee Member: Lionel Martin.

Two teams were entered into the Auckland Football Association's competition this year—one team is playing in the second grade and the other in the third grade.

The following comprise the first team—Peter Iles, Merv. Rosser, Peter Knight, Cedric Mann, Jack Dacre (capt.), Walt Brown, Lawrence Sang, Vic. Sundram, Merv. Hancock, Neville Rykers, Morris Smith and Bing Hodder.

Results to date are as follows:—

v. Onewhanga: Won 2—1.

v. Y.M.C.A.: Won 3—1.

v. Presbyterian: Won 7—nil.

v. Watersiders: Lost 0—3.

v. Training College: Won 5—3.

Sang (7), Smith (5) and Sundram (4) have shared the goals between them. This team is playing good football and have high hopes for the

Winter Tournament.

Members of the second team are:—Rube Elley, John May, Dharam Singh, Lorrie Millener, Harold Denby, Ian Kemp, Ram Sharma, Sabharwal, Lionel Martin, Ernie Thompson, Gopalan, Brian Smith and Prasard.

Results of games as follows:—

v. Watersiders: Lost by default.

v. Comrades: drew 3—3.

v. Eden: Won 3—nil.

v. Onewhanga: Lost 1—5.

HOCKEY CLUB

President: S. G. White.

Club Captain: L. W. A. Crawley.

Secretary: D. K. Neal.

Like most other sports organisations, the Hockey Club has benefited substantially from the return to membership of ex-servicemen, with the result that it is back at pre-war level as regards both numbers and standard of play. In fact, at the beginning of the season the selection committee laboured under a certain embarrassment de richesse, a situation for which there are few parallels in the club's history. The Auckland Hockey Association decided not to accept two senior entries from any one club, and this decision made it obvious that a number of 'Varsity senior players would either have to transfer to other clubs or play in lower grades. It is much to the credit of these men that they have appreciated the position and are cheerfully turning out for teams in the second grade.

The senior team, with a complete forward line of some-time representatives, supported by very wide experience among the backs, and skippered by "Scotty" Watson, last vice-captain of N.Z., is playing first-class hockey. Up to the time of writing, it remains unbeaten in the Auckland Championship Competition, with a goal score, impressive in the senior grade of 31 for and 8 against. On June 8 at Papatoetoe, in its most severe test to this date, it accounted for the redoubtable Grammar Old Boys' XI; the game, which has been topically criticised, surviving as a fine exhibition of Auckland hockey at its best. Altogether it is one of the most balanced sides the College has yet produced, and if it maintains its present form should finish near the top of the competition.

In the second grade the club fields two teams. Of these 2A is a powerful combination, largely owing to the inclusion of a number of men who have previously had experience in the senior grade. The same circumstances which are responsible for this situation also operate in other hockey clubs. As a result, the second grade competition provides hockey of little below senior standard, and 2A is to be congratulated on its leading position. 2B also shows much promise. It unfortunately suffers from the fact that at the beginning of the season and during vacations it must necessarily form the chopping-block for 2A, but despite this and odd defections due to injuries it is putting up a very good performance.

The tale of approbation unfortunately closes before we come to the third grade. Over the course of the years it has apparently become an established prerogative of 'Varsity third grade players that they follow their individual whim in turning out or not, oblivious or impervious to the fact that hockey is a team game, and the unannounced absence of some members of a team not only puts an undue strain on the others, but reduces a potentially scientific game to a mere scramble. On the other hand, no words of praise can be strong enough for those faithful few who must feel themselves the forgotten men of the club, but who turn out week after week to face (and sometimes to master) overwhelming odds. It is due to their efforts that the third grade team, always playing short, yet defaulting only once (unavoidably, owing to vacation) has suffered no ignominious defeat.

SPORTS

So much for the club's activities in the Auckland Hockey Association competitions. But Winter Tournament approaches rapidly, and A.U.C. will be entering two teams in the inter-Varsity competition, necessitating twenty-six fit and enthusiastic players, towards which total only eight will be available from the present senior XI. This College is capable of winning back the coveted Seddon Stick, and all the members of the club are reminded that over the next eight weeks the selection committee will be thinking in terms of the representative teams for the N.Z.U. competition.

BASKETBALL CLUB GOOD PROSPECTS

The Blues team started off the season rather unfortunately by having to field a scratch team every Saturday in the holidays. Even so they managed to beat Edendale and Papatoetoe, but lost to Westmere, a team they should have beaten. Middlemore and Killarua also have proved too strong for 'Varsity so far, but when we get our usual combinations working effectively again, we hope to give the crack teams in Senior Grade something to think about. The defence third in the Blues has been strengthened considerably by the inclusion as back defender of Joy Scouse, formerly of Christchurch, who shows promise of being an outstanding player in that position.

The Whites team in Senior Reserve Grade is the strongest we have had for many years. They are still unbeaten, and should go very close to carrying off the championship. This team is held together by several players of unusually high standard for their grade. Joan Hastings is a very sound player in the goal third, and her shooting lately has been a treat to watch. Norma Croot and Janice Brewer, in the centre, are a pair of remarkably fine players also. Janice was a Taranaki Representative, and Norma, though a fresher, plays as emergency for the Blues. She is a very neat player and has great possibilities. Jean Shepherd, who was emergency to the Tournament team, and Jackie Anderson make up the goal third. The defence third is uniformly good, with players of the calibre of Shirley Teasdale, Doreen Whitlow and Winnie Davidson. The whole team, with its keenness and talent, should go a long way before being beaten. We expect great things of our Whites.

HARRIER CLUB GOOD PERFORMANCE

On Saturday, June 8, the club showed that the hopes we held for a successful year were justified. The occasion was the running of the Calliope Relay Race for the Patterson Memorial Cup, and one of our teams turned on an impressive display to carry off the trophy. The club runners were put into teams of four and handicapped, and although the winning combination started off about eight minutes behind the first team to leave, it improved its position with each lap. O. Thompson showed outstanding form, and at the end of his 4½-mile run he had raced up to eighth after starting sixteenth. Then J. Gummer took over and further improved the team's placing to third. This runner is training hard and is showing very consistent form. On the next round the lead was taken by B. Harden, and J. Rawnsley held this position with a fine run.

There is no doubt that all these members ran really well, and they are to be congratulated; especially Thompson, whose effort won him the Handicap Competition Cup. Our next three teams filled ninth, tenth and eleventh places respectively, but the other two groups found their handicaps too great. However, there were good individual efforts in all the teams, and prospects are definitely bright for our next trial, the Great Eastern Road Race.

CHRISTCHURCH DELIBERATION

N.Z. UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

A.G.M., 1946

The N.Z. University Students' Association—the national body of N.Z. Students, holds its annual conference at Easter in conjunction with Winter Tournament. This year, at Christchurch, the meeting was attended by two Auckland delegates, Messrs. Piper and Morton.

C.U.C. extended the same warm welcome to N.Z.U.S.A. as to the rest of the Tournament party. There was a valuable opportunity to meet delegates from the other five students' associations; and Auckland hopes that when the August Conference of N.Z.U.S.A. is held at this College we will be able to return the fine hospitality received in the South.

The meeting extended over the greater part of three days. A detailed report has already been made to Executive, and the following account only attempts to cover some of the more important items.

1. Examination Fees.—The mandamus action taken by N.Z.U.S.A. against the Senate was heard by the Chief Justice at the end of last year, and was decided in the Senate's favour. N.Z.U.S.A. held a long discussion on what form its future action should take. On the remit of A.U.C. it was agreed that further action be meanwhile withheld. It was thought better to unite with the Senate in presenting an appeal to the Government for much-needed financial aid. To this end N.Z.U.S.A. will ask that a small Joint Committee of Student and Senate representatives be set up.

2. Winter Tournament, Rostrum and N.Z. Blues were discussed at length, and the machinery provisions of Blues and Rostrum were overhauled. Mr. R. I. F. Pattison, Editor of Rostrum, assisted the conference's Publications Sub-Committee.

3. International Student Body.—It was decided to affiliate with this organisation recently formed at the Prague Conference in 1945, and de-

tailed instructions were sent to our English representative, Mr. Robert Hirst.

4. The Chancellor's Five-year Plan, Student Medical and Health schemes, and the question of a standard Medical Intermediate Exam. were referred to individual Colleges to formulate opinions and present remits in August.

5. Secretary's Honorarium, on the suggestion of A.U.C., was raised to £52 per annum, and it is planned to re-invigorate N.Z.U.S.A. Executive by introducing a Portfolio system.

6. Election of Officers.—A.U.C.'s candidate for President of N.Z.U.S.A., Miss Marguerite Boxer, was elected by six votes to three against Mr. R. M. Daniell of V.U.C. Mr. Stan Campbell of V.U.C. was unanimously elected Secretary.

7. University Scheme for Text-book Imports.—This is to be looked into by individual College Executives who are to present relevant facts for discussion at the August meeting, as regards: (1) Information from Staff members as to shortages; (b) schemes

already in operation; (3) possibilities of Government assistance.

8. N.Z.U. Dramatic Festival.—A set of Draft Rules was issued which were to be submitted to Drama Societies of Constituent Colleges for suggested amendments. The rules will then be ratified by N.Z.U.S.A., and the Drama Festival will be inaugurated in 1947.

9. Rotation of Tournaments.—Winter Tournament 1946 and Easter Tournament 1947 are both to be held in Auckland. Thereafter, both Winter and Easter Tournaments will be held by the four Colleges in the rotation Otago, Victoria, Canterbury, Auckland.

10. August General Meeting.—It was enthusiastically agreed to hold a second general meeting at Auckland in August. The same delegates as at Easter, were, as far as possible, to attend.

LOST

GLASSES AND FOUNTAIN PEN—Red, with gold band and inscription; reward cash.—Sue Ivory.

No Reward for Rout's Pipe. Anyone who smokes it is duly warned that he or she is liable to die. Lost in the make-up room of the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall.



EX-SERVICES' SOCIETY

SMOKE CONCERT

AN INFORMAL SMOKO

will be held in the
R.S.A. ROOMS

Early Next Month.

Ticket holders only will be admitted, so buy yours from your Faculty representative in plenty of time.

Price will be notified later.

CRACCUM STAFF

P. K. L. Arnold, Nora Bayly, Margaret Brand, Anne Dare, Judith de la Mare, Eve Hersch, D. J. Hooton, Margo Miller, Prue Miller, C. W. Salmon, R. A. Snow, Joan Winter.

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

Copy for the next issue of CRACCUM will close on Wednesday, July 3, at 6 p.m. MSS. may be left in the CRACCUM Box (on the left hand Exec. Room door) or may be posted to the Editor. MSS. need not be typewritten, but must be legibly written ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY, and must be IN INK. If MSS. are typewritten, double spacing should be used. ALL MSS. MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE WRITER. A nom-de-plume may be added for publication purposes.

There are vacancies on CRACCUM staff for one law and one architectural student (both full-time), to report activities in their faculties; for a cartoonist; a photographer; and a male reporter for men's sports. Any student interested in any of the above is invited to see the Editor, c/o Exec. Room.

Catullus
might have
meant
a blonde —
But nowadays



NOX PERPETUA DORMIENDA



MATTRESSES
MANUFACTURED BY
C.T. JONAS LTD
AUCKLAND

FERGUSON'S FLORAL STUDIOS

PHONE: 43-529 (Studio)

FLOWERS FOR ALL
OCCASIONS

CARNIVAL WEEK

GRADUATION

ALL COLLEGE
SOCIAL EVENTS

FLOWERS BY WIRE

FLOWERS BY AIR-MAIL

FLOWERS BY MESSENGER



FERGUSON'S

(MISS F. C. WHYTE)

(Second Floor)

Dingwall Building,
Queen St., Auckland, C.I.

FOR FINER FURNISHINGS

Consult the furniture Specialists . . .

ANDREWS & CLARK

QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND