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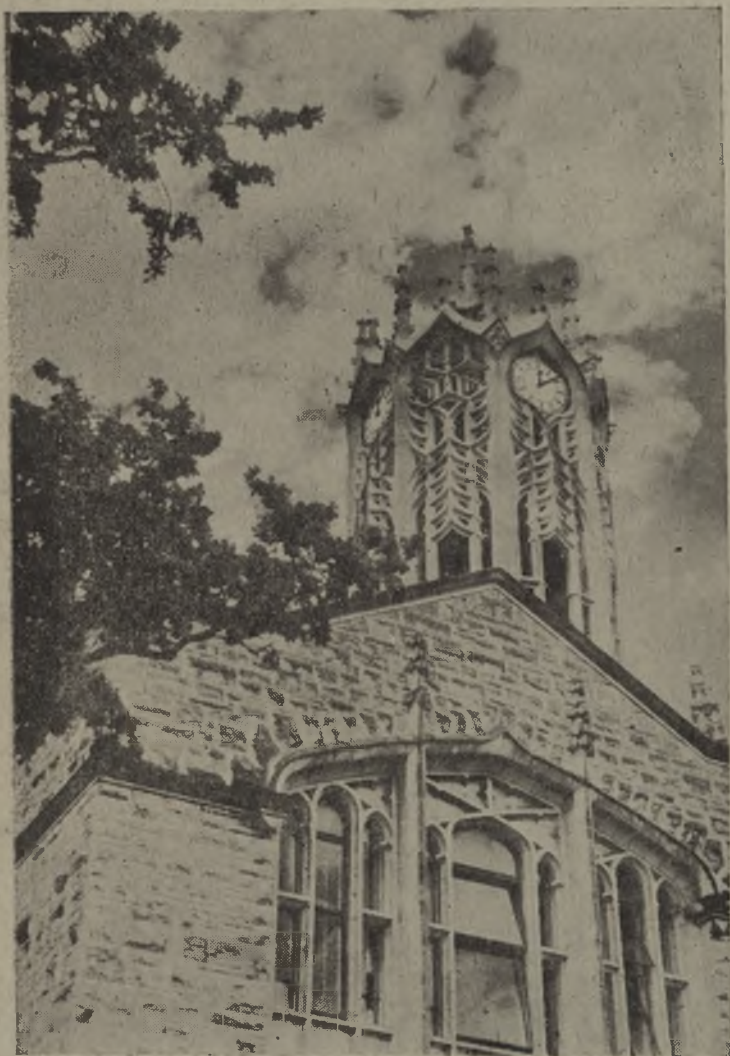
CRAGGUM

THE JOURNAL OF AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Vol. 21—No. 5

THURSDAY, JUNE 19th, 1947

PRICE: THREEPENCE



Carnival Number

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- SHAKESPEARE APPLAUDS PROCESSION
- CAPPING CONTEMPLATED
- A. R. D. FAIRBURN on the IDEAL UNIVERSITY

THE SHOEMAKER'S HOLIDAY

This rollicking Elizabethan comedy opens a short season at the Town Hall Concert Chamber on Saturday, July 5, with a matinee. Performances will be given also on the Saturday night and the following Monday and Tuesday.

Walk-on parts for men and women are still vacant. Very little rehearsal time need be spent on these parts. If you care to assist in this or in another way, see someone who is connected with the play, or leave a note for Barbara Morton.



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KIWI

Closes July 15—no extension of time can be considered. With the abolition of ROSTRUM, KIWI is the chief organ of serious discussion for students.

Any piece of writing or design which is not frivolous will be considered but this does not exclude genuine wit and satire. Let us have some of your writing that has been locked away for the last few months. Don't leave it until too late.

All contributions not published will be returned and anonymity will be respected if desired.

Prizes of £1 1/- will be offered for the best contributions in poetry and prose; also a special guinea prize for the best item submitted by a Fresher.

GRADUATION BALL,
1947

Well, Grad. Ball has been and gone one more with the colourful spectacle of Graduates wearing caps, gowns and hoods for the first two dances. This is always pleasing, considering it is one of the few occasions on which the average "bod" sees large quantities of hoods and gowns.

Undoubtedly, Grad. Ball was a great success this year. If numbers only are the judge it was outstanding. Congrats. are due to Dutch and his committee for the good show. 500 couples were estimated as attending and all enjoyed themselves immensely.

The guests were received by Mr. John Nathan (who is to be congratulated on his speech at Capping Ceremony), president of the Association, Miss Gay Garland and Mr. John Morton, vice-president, and Miss Pam Montague, secretary. The Official Party consisted of the Chancellor, Mr. Justice Smith, Mr. Cocker, chairman of the Council, and Mrs. Cocker. Also present were many members of the staff and their wives.

A pleasing feature of the Ball was the noticeable return to full evening dress, particularly amongst the males, dinner jackets predominating with the odd tail here and there. The ladies, as usual, looked their charming selves. "Off the Shoulder" and "Wicked Lady" frocks seemed to be very popular. The Lady Editor might be mentioned here as wearing the outstanding frock of the evening (we hope it does not reflect political thought). Noticeable also were the number of non-university people who attended which speaks volumes for the popularity of Varsity Social Functions.

As the reporter doesn't know anybody to give a list of names and anyway a list only fills space, one will not be appended. However, a few comments might not go astray:

1. "The Miller's Daughter must be just about married now or else an old maid or something. A few more stunts would be welcome, I think. They help to get things cracking, e.g., Miss Shalfoon's "A-Hugging and A-Chalking."

2. While it would be a great pity to lose the atmosphere created by having dances at Varsity (the quaint battlements, you know) something will have to be done to cater for the larger and larger crowds which the functions attract.

3. The Architects are to be congratulated on their excursion into Abstract Drawing. They tell me it meant exactly what it portrayed — Nothing! Very good, anyway.

About three-ish the reporter being a trifle fatigued slunk off to the "Frisco" for the proverbial cup of coffee? and so to bed.

Vale Grad Ball, 1947.

* * *

APOLOGY

The Editor offers her apologies to Dr. Cumberland and Professor Chapman for an error which appeared on page four of our last issue, when a photograph of Dr. Cumberland was inadvertently printed as being that of Professor Chapman

* * *

A man whose desire is to be something separate from himself, to be a member of Parliament or a successful grocer, or a prominent solicitor, or a Judge, or something equally tedious, invariably succeeds in being what he wants to be. That is his punishment.

—Oscar Wilde.

Craccum

Editor: NORA BAYLY

Vol. 21—No. 5

THURSDAY, JUNE 19th, 1947

STUDENT AND SOCIETY

Discussion at a recent Literary Club meeting combined with the fact that the student body has just concluded its yearly meteoric appearance in the public eye, may profitably bring to mind the question: What place has the average student in this community?

Procession, formerly an annual event for A.U.C., but this year revived after a long lapse, caught the attention of the Auckland populace, as was shown by newspaper comment and correspondence. Graduation Ceremony, if the attendance at the Town Hall and the subsequent attention paid by the press may be taken as any indication, passed far from unnoticed by the ordinary citizen. And last, and perhaps most important of all, Smellbound presented its concerted hilarity to packed houses for six nights. Students, and student affairs were definitely "in the news." Yet all this has passed, and A.U.C. has subsided into its island of academic somnolence.

Whether this state of affairs is as it should be, or the reverse, depends entirely on the individual conception of the relation the ideal student should bear to the rest of society. If the University is to be divorced from the rest of the community, and if from his cloistered seclusion the student is to assimilate fundamental truths, then perhaps A.U.C. is the ideal University. No University can fulfil its highest conception unless it stands aloof from the day to day factions surrounding it, serene in the endless quest for learning—this is one conception of the ideal University in the ideal State. Yet, one could answer, what is learning, when it is severed from the surroundings and people among whom we live? All learning affects an age, and that which reaches towards the essence of a Truth, to be found in contemplation of past wisdom, unpolluted by present reality, may very well eventually prove to be no learning at all. And if the University entrenches itself in this isolation, what relation does it then bear to the bulk of the people from whom it is so proud to dissociate itself? Is it a mere truism, beloved by the sentimental, that no man stands apart?

The antithesis of this is a University, the cynosure of the daily lives of all men and women; the hub of their ambitions and ideals. A University which will open its doors and its opportunities to all comers, and which will lead them all a step further along those twin paths of knowledge and culture. And having reached this point, where is the University then? Does it lead society, or does society lead it, and if the latter is true, what is then its function at all? With the outside pressure which it must inevitably bear as a consequence of its all-embracing regard for human kind, can it, in truth, rise above the half conscious and half formulated meditations of the populace at large? Or must it be restricted in its vision, hampered in its progression, ever matching its step to the average mind of the average man? Such a picture must seem drear indeed to those who regard education in the Miltonic sense as instilling the receptor with "high hopes of living to be brave men and worthy patriots, dear to God, and famous to all ages . . . infusing into their young breasts such an ingenuous and noble ardour as would not fail to make many of them renowned and matchless men." But to those of us to-day who survey with approval the more broadly utilitarian aspects with which education is in its every branch associating itself, the vision of a University essentially a part of the people cannot be other than pleasing.

These are two alternatives, yet A.U.C. cannot with accuracy be placed in either of them. We are not a race apart, neither are we a vital part of the community in which we live. Our culture does not reflect the country's learning, and our learning does not lead the country's culture.

CLOISTER COMMENTS

This column needs some introduction. It has been started in response to a recent suggestion that Craccum should cultivate a "more personal touch" (figuratively speaking, of course). We do not intend that it should degenerate into a gossip column recording the affairs of a small clique. Its continuance and quality will depend on help from any reader who hears some amusing remark delivered by any university figure; any contribution of sufficiently general interest, however short, will be printed.

Honours Student: I think Craccum stinks. It isn't half as funny as it used to be.

Mr. Joseph advocates the establishment of a University Pub, or Pubs. (Professor Musgrove: "Hear, Hear!")

A. R. D., Fairburn: The W.E.A. is a place for lonely women to go and knit.

(Craccum—he hasn't seen the back row of a Philosophy lecture).

Father Forsman, concerning the Americans: I take an interest in the antics of barbaric peoples.

Fresher: Who is that fascinating man with the ginger moustache?

English I. Student: My landlady says her daughter would make a very good writer—she spells beautifully.

Dr. West is one of those enlightened beings who believe in closer relations between staff and students.

The trouble with the Blank Twins is that they've got only one brain between them, and you never know which one's got it.

Science student, adoringly: Will you be my Valentine?

Professor Cooper: There are two kinds of students in Latin I, those who use cribs and those who pass.

A Retiring Dean: What I like about this University is its "Central" position.

Official circles firmly deny the rumour at present circulating in the College that Professor Rutherford thought Revue Book just ducky.



Professor T. D. J. Leech, C.B.E.

CRACCUM EXTENDS, ON BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS, SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO PROFESSOR LEECH ON THE OCCASION OF HIS NAME APPEARING IN THE BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST. HIS BEING ADMITTED AS A COMMANDER OF THIS MOST EXCELLENT ORDER IS, AS WE ALL KNOW, A JUST AND DUE REWARD, NOT ONLY FOR ACADEMIC DISTINCTION, BUT FOR HIS OUTSTANDING ENDEAVOUR IN THE NATIONAL CAUSE DURING THE RECENT WORLD CRISIS.

REVUE

To this old fogey who remembers "Jubilade" and even further back, "Smellbound" still appeared a very good show—"clean, bright and slightly oiled" (in the words of Mr. Kersch), and definitely cleaner and brighter, in both senses, than the average commercial revue.

Comparing the first and last nights, it seemed that the first performance had a better pace, a proper first-night enthusiasm, in spite of certain obvious calls on the prompter. The last night had slackened off a little, and there was the incident of that mysterious second balloon, which must have puzzled an uninitiated audience.

As a revue, it had the proper beginning, middle and end—the beginning bemusing, the middle topical, and the ending arbitrary. The opening had a pleasant combination of the fantastic and the prosaic. The ending suggested to at least one member of the audience a bewildering endless regress—sitting in the theatre, looking at the outside of the theatre, inside which I am sitting, looking at the outside of the theatre. . . like Mr. Durre's theory of time, or the label on a Camp Coffee bottle.

Of the topical middle, the most effective scenes were perhaps those which dealt, with a Minnickian malice, in local politics. Two were memorable—the luxurious purlieus of Berlei, and the wharf scene, to which the addition of realistic sea-gull noises gave a perfect finish.

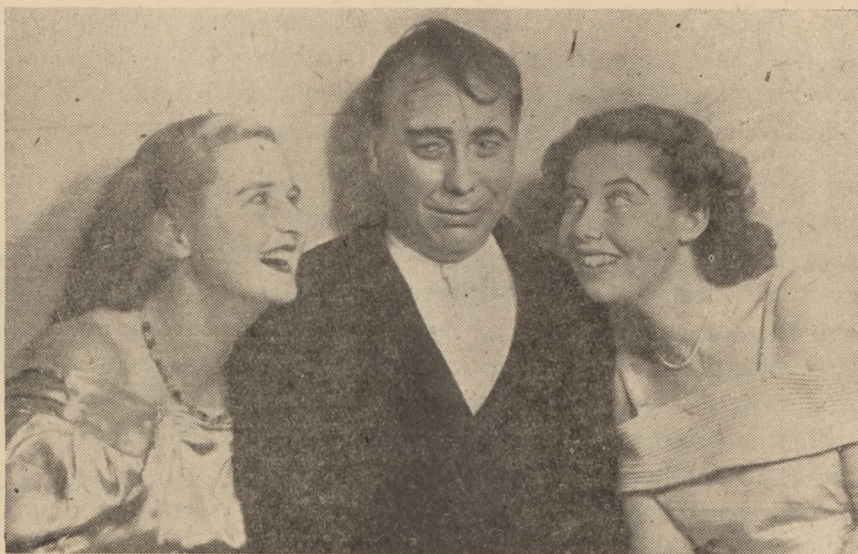
It is distasteful to distinguish among an obviously well-drilled and able cast, but (to use gambit No. 16 in *The Critic's Handbook*) "special praise should be awarded to" the three sirens, whose Cinderella-like trio made a good foil to the male cast; and to sundry other principals (among whom some "old-timers" were conspicuous for virtuosity)—Mr. Parkes as the forthright Smellie, Mr. Gordon as the bounding Smells, Mr. Hodder's composite Minister, Mr. Giffins as Mr. Lorre as Mr. Karloff as the Frankenstein monster, Mr. Rout (confusingly brunette) as Mr. Rank, and Mr. Smith's Iron Joe ("Life is so cheap in Russia"). Among supports, memorable were Miss Bennett's excessively elegant Miss Smythe, and Mr. Downey's Brother Flopp, who bore a quite improbable resemblance to G.B.S.

Among details remembered with some joy are:—

Smellie's vintage bathing costume; the radio operator; the entry of the Wanganella; the Minister being (in Biblical phrase) smitten in the hind-parts; the crack about Raglan; "Ironical, isn't it?"; Miss Smythe wielding a neat blackjack; the wharfies' chorus; and Iron Joe "larning" everybody.

And a special word for Mr. Hillyer and his corps de ballet, whose superb grace and aplomb recalled the great days (so often described by that well-known balletomane J. B. Morton) of Serge Trouserin and Ilona Fallova.

Altogether, it was good to see the tradition of the student revue flourishing so strongly—and it is by no means an universal tradition. There is surely a strong argument here for planning, in the dim future, a College Theatre in which the student revue could be staged, and its season extended if (as here) it appeared desirable and profitable. —M.K.J.



Hot-Cross Burns (Allan Giffins) is enthralled at last by Sirens Morona (Gay Garland) and Marina (Laurie Evans)

In "Smellbound," the producer of our Revue moved further in the direction of a unified play as against a series of unconnected acts. The plot had cohesion, and yet managed to take its characters to places where current New Zealand phenomena could be satirised. The Revue was almost entirely political, with social themes a poor second. The best two scenes centred around the latter. The scene in the corset factory was excellent in conception and execution; Valda Bennett gave the best female performance of the Revue. The scene on the wharves was equally effective; so much was conveyed, so simply and in so short a time. The political satire



A Radio man of high renown—Orson Smells (Alan Gordon)

centred around the Minister (Ivan Hodder) and Hot-Cross Burns (Allan Giffins). Both these parts were performed very competently, with honours going to the former since he had a more interesting role to portray.

The play contained some brilliant ideas; the arrival of the Wanganella; the foreign minister's ballot; and the Royal Commission on Stealing. And while it was a great achievement to string them all together in a coherent plot, yet it seemed that to do this it

was necessary to allow the show to drag. The reduction in the amount of music did not serve to enliven the production. The siren scene was too long, and hardly brightened up till the "Wanganella" appeared. As for the Rationalists, though well acted, their scene was a distinct triumph for Rationalism. The final scene, though ingenious, was no climax like the end of "This Slap-happy Brewed." While it is very nice to tie up all the threads of a Revue play and give all the characters their due, in a play (as against a series of skits) there must be climax at the end if dramatic interest is to be sustained.

All round the cast performed very creditably. While Mr. Hodder and Miss Bennett were best, it was not by much. Alan Giffins, Diane Waterson, Ray Parkes and Alan Gordon were all competent in the roles the author gave them. It seemed that the galaxy of talent displayed last year had insufficient opportunity to repeat its performance. Snow Rout had an unconventional part where his undoubted abilities were wasted. Laurie Evans had a very second-rate role from which it was difficult to gauge the quality shown last year. Ray Parkes had an appalling part—a professorial jeune premiere would have been enough to quench the boldest spirit; he did very well indeed in the circumstances.

The wharfies' song was the best of an indifferent set of lyrics. The ballet was quite good, but also not up to last year's standards. Do I hear the cry, Laudator temporis acti? Because at any rate the music was a distinct

improvement, especially the woodwind section. The wardrobe was good; the stage management and properties well done; and the publicity agent's work was rewarded deservedly by good houses.

Future revue committees may be well advised to consider whether something a little more riotous might not be an improvement. They might elect to sacrifice dramatic content in a context where it can never be fully appreciated. —B.D.S.

The rigours of a wretched evening did nothing to deter a huge audience from attending the final performance of Smellbound. So popular indeed was this year's Revue that not a single seat was unoccupied and scores of enthusiastic patrons were politely turned away.

Viewed in retrospect there is no doubt that the performance this year showed more all round polish than that of its immediate predecessor. Once it got under way (the start was somewhat tardy) the action was well sustained and its creators achieved a



continuity which did them considerable credit. As the show progressed, it assumed more and more the air of first rate entertainment and one was made aware that here was a company with the hallmark of talent. Now and then the gilt shone brightly, though at times there was much that was not pure gold. Nevertheless, enough was seen for one to feel that here was lots of good clean fun, served in a most palatable fashion, and in a manner which augurs well for future revues.

First on the scene were the three sirens, Marina, Morona and Carmella, all of whom, fortunately, we were later to see quite a lot. Yoo-hooing coyly, tripping prettily across the stage and occasionally breaking softly into tolerable song (when Mor-



REVIEWED

ona's huskiness added to her not inconsiderable charms) these three sylph-like creatures gave a competent performance.



Professor Smellie, of television fame, was at times very good, though I thought that Orson Smells, perhaps better suited to his role, overshadowed him. Certainly Orson had the advantage of a spectacular entry when the "Wanganella" thrust her prodigious bows on the rocks. Later too, he was to display a voice that was not at all bad.

A word of praise must be given to the ballet. This was unquestionably an hilarious scene and one which was good for all of us in these gloomy days. Anyone who has the facility of provoking laughter deserves commendation and the act of these masculine sirens was undoubtedly a highlight of the show.

For that diabolical and frightening creature, Hot-Cross Burns, played by Alan Gifkins, much has already been said. Public praise of him was fulsome; critical judgment prejudiced. Neither was discriminating. Some of those I heard say he was not as good as he looked, reminded me of the mouse who has a swig of whisky, and then says, "Now show me that bloody cat." He was the embodiment of power, oozing evil and before him our Cabinet Minister was a pitiful, abject minion.



"The Prof. and I larv each other" Caramella (Diane Waterson) and Professor Smellie (Ray Parkes).

Act Two, which opened with Berlei girls, had some good moments. Miss Smythe and J. Rather Rank were at their best here. Both raised some hearty laughter and the remark by the latter concerning the Rolls Royce was very neat.

Of the scene in which the Burglars and the Rationalists held the stage I will not say a great deal. There was was much that was mediocre here and some of it was poor stuff.

Something better was soon to follow; the wharfies entertained us all with a rollicking song in which I was tempted to join. The role of Iron Joe was capably handled by Ian Smith, and he played the part as though he enjoyed it. His sallies with his henchmen, Orson Smells and others, were very bright and carried a punch that was equalled only by the facility with which he "liquidated" (to borrow Hot Cross Burns' terse order) those unfortunates who crossed his path. He indulged in an orgy of shooting and revelled in it to such an extent that I feared the show would end for want of players. Happily this was not to be and he sheathed the evil weapon.

Some of the minor roles were played with ability; two who appealed to me were the British and the American foreign ministers. Others who did not succeed so well, failed because they either did not speak out or were unconvincing.

With the songs throughout the performance I was much impressed. The material was good, the tunes were appropriately chosen and they were invariably sung as the author intended them. In particular I liked Orson's song, "A Radio Man of High Renown," and the wharfies' song, which was extremely good.

A word of praise must be extended to the orchestra. The Revue last



Are you happy in your work?" Miss Smythe (Valda Bennett) is charmingly persuasive.

end of tragedy; to please our curiosities . . . by a faithful representation of manners is the purpose of comedy. To excite laughter is the sole, and contemptible aim of farce." Thus spoke the historian of the Roman Empire. "Smellbound," then is a farce; and its success as such is due to the devoted labours of Alan Gifkins, Ivan Hodder, Ian Smith, Alan Gordon, Raymond Parkes and the three sirens, Gay Garland, Diane Waterson and Laurie Evans. —J.S.R.



Incomparable symmetry expressed by the Ballet—G. Beca, E. Cameron, D. Drower, P. Hillyer, J. D. Humphrey, D. Jones, D. Norwood, P. Olsen, J. Smith, S. Waters.

year suffered through an orchestra that was weak but the defect had been remedied this year with excellent results.

When I was asked to write this review I said it might not be very complimentary as I was not a critic and could only report what I saw. I have found a few faults but also a great deal that was first class and enjoyable entertainment. In conclusion may I quote Gibbon: "To touch the heart by an interesting story, is the



NOT AMUSED!

GRAMOPHONE RECITALS

1.10 p.m. IN THE COLLEGE HALL

Tuesday, June 3rd:

1. Bach—Double Violin Concerto.
2. Beethoven—Emperor Concerto.

Thursday, June 5th:

Organ Music (held over from 1st term).

Tuesday, June 10th:

1. Mozart — Piano Concerto in D minor.
2. Brahms—Symphony III.

Thursday, June 12th:

(and five following Thursdays)
Promenade Concert for Student Relief.

Tuesday, June 17th:

Brahms—Horn Trio.
Double Concerto for violin and 'cello.

Tuesday, June 24th:

1. Brahms—Violin Concerto.
2. Wolf—Lieder.

Tuesday, July 1st:

1. Saint Saens—Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso.
2. Brahms—Symphony IV.

Tuesday, July 8th:

Tchaikowsky—Symphony IV. Nutcracker Suite.

Tuesday, July 15th:

Brahms—Quintet in F minor. Variations (orch.) on a Theme by Haydn.

Tuesday, July 22nd:

1. Berlioz—Le Carnival Romain Overture.
2. Tchaikowsky—Symphony V.

Tuesday, July 29th:

1. Wagner—Tannhauser Overture.
2. Tchaikowsky—Symphony VI.

Thursday, July 31st:

Cathedral Choral Music by Palestrina, Vittoria, Sweelinck, Byrd, Purcell, Handel, Bach, Berlioz, Jacob, Franck, Holst.

Tuesday, August 5th:

1. Rachmaninoff—Piano Concerto II.
2. Walton—Facade Suite.

Thursday, August 7th:

Elgar—The Dream of Gerontius.
(Begins at 1.00 p.m.)

Tuesday, August 12th:

1. Franck—Symphony in D minor.
2. Faure—Ballade for piano and orchestra.

Thursday, August 14th:

- A Shakespearean Recital.
1. Arne—Two Songs from "As You Like It."
 2. Berlioz—Romeo's Reverie and Fete of the Capulets.
 3. Six Songs from "Twelfth Night."
 4. Mendelssohn—Overture, Scherzo and Nocturne from "A Midsummer Night's Dream."
 5. Quilter—"It was a Lover" and "Come away Death."
 6. Vaughan Williams—Serenade to Music from "The Merchant of Venice."

Revue Photos by BETTINA

DB
LAGER
The Great Favourite
from the
WAITEMATA MODEL
BREWERY

PROCESX!

THE PUBLIC AND PROCESSION

The Public liked Procession. It said so in no uncertain language. "Marvellous," "Wonderful," "It's great," "Why don't you have more?" were frequent comments. So frequent in fact that I became rather bored. Unanimity of public opinion may be an excellent thing, but it does not lend itself to the compilation of interesting reports. Consequently I began to look about for some person who looked capable of giving his views in a noteworthy way.

I recalled the recent Musgrove-Shakespearian discoveries at the University. If it were only possible to get Will's opinion! I looked up Queen

"Urging their engines against wind and tide,
And all so small and slow,
They seem to be wearily pointing the way

They would go," he remarked.

Half way up Upper Queen Street I found John Milton sitting in a Morris Eight. He was wearing powerful glasses, and was looking yearningly at the Waterside float.

"Blest pair of Sirens," he whispered passionately, "pledges of—" Here another truck rolled past, drowning his voice. However, I think his last words were "pledges of Smellbound's joy." I'm not quite sure.



Street. There was a figure in Elizabethan costume standing on the pavement. I rubbed my eyes. I looked again. The figure was still there. It was Shakespeare. I broke into a run.

Unfortunately the great man was in no mood for conversation with mere reporters. He listened to my plea for an opinion in silence then, when I accused him of being as inarticulate as the rest of the public, he said, with great dignity,

"We, which now behold these present days,
Have eyes to wonder, but lack tongues to praise."

And walked away into the crowd.

I turned, and somewhat dazedly began to follow the floats. In the middle of the smoke-screen I walked into another familiar figure. It was Keats. He was delirious. Procession had gone to his head.

"What men or gods are these?" he cried. "What maidens loth?"

What mad pursuit? What struggle to escape?

What pipes and timbrels. What mad ecstasy!

I staggered out of the smoke wondering at my sanity.

Ben Jonson was the next person I asked for an opinion. He was gazing at the Electricity float. The bicycle generator fascinated him.

"It was the Plant and flower of Light," he sighed.

Robert Bridges was standing on the corner of Wellesley Street. He was admiring the Parade Marshals.

In Karangahape Road I met Wordsworth. He was considering the "Liberty, Maternity, Equality" part of Procession.

"What is that to you?" I asked.

"A presence which disturbs me with a joy

Of elevated thoughts," he retorted.

I was now in the van of the parade. The band was just in front of me. My attention was suddenly attracted by a wild figure waving a trombone. It was Shelley. I went up to him and asked for his impression of Procession. Unfortunately he was not quite sober.

"And that did attend and follow
Were silent with love, as you now,
- Apollo,

With envy of my sweet pipings," he shouted. He waved the trombone dangerously near my head. I thought it better to leave him in peace.

At the end of the parade I was standing by the floats as they were being stripped. I was trying to think of an appropriate ending for my report. It had to be pithy and striking, and it had to embody the general feeling of all the opinions that I had heard.

A nasal voice spoke behind me. I turned. It was Walt Whitman. He had been reading my notes over my shoulder. He gave me my ending.

"I am larger, better than I thought,
I did not know I held so much goodness," he said. —PIC

BUILDING THE BRUTE

"The best laid plans of mice and men gang aft agley."

That seems the most apt thought to keep in mind when planning a float. The perpetrators of our atrocity spent a good deal of thought on problems such as those with which theatrical producers must busy themselves. Know what I mean?

"How shall we group our 'actors'?" "Isn't this a bit hot to parade before the Wharfies in Customs Street?"

"Shall we have the various types posed like this or like this?"

Alas! Alas! How little the theorist knows of practice. But as absent-minded lecturers say—that, more anon.

* * *

We duly collected our allocation of materials. Surprising thing really, but timber of which we seemed to have oodles, without taking much more than we were supposed to, later proved to be our hardest task, whereas the paint that a grubby urchin (closer inspection revealed Katy Olds) dealt out to us, went much further than its meagre proportion suggested. In fact, this commodity rather out-did itself. Towards the finish one could hardly step in any direction.

"Onwards, upwards, sideways, downwards" — without coming into spectacular contact with "Celestial Blue," "Chromos Yellow" or "Vegetable Black."

Some intellectual who does not confine his self-education to the three "J's"—"Jiggs, Jimpy and Jane"—deplored the absence of "Toothbrush Pink."

The only material that behaved itself at all decently was the calico; we seemed to have just about enough of this for our purpose and strange to say, we did.

When building was scheduled to begin, about half as many as we expected rolled along—some with, some without equipment, and everyone without a clue. We made a good start by completely ditching the first idea into which so much thought had gone, in favour of a simpler scheme. As we came up against difficulties in rigging

up this simple (?) idea we rather congratulated ourselves on this move.

The first construction job was the making of frames for the placards which were to cover the sides of the trucks. This seemed simple enough, until we had made one placard and found that we had about enough timber left to make a couple of yard rules and half a dozen match-sticks. This deficiency was made good at the expense of the limbo of lost picture rails with which every self-respecting household is furnished. (There were one or two types amongst us who came from self-respecting households though you'd never have guessed it).

Meanwhile one or two conscientious souls were becoming involved with 14 yards of calico, tearing it, stretching it and tacking it on to the frames. They also described it occasionally in what did not sound to be draper's terms.

The next job was to outline the mottoes, puns and other breaches of convention which we intended, Censorship Committee willing, to display throughout the city. This involved a considerable amount of condensation of "thought." Articles, conjunctions and punctuation were omitted as so much verbiage. We thought we could safely leave these to the public's imagination, as we knew that some of the slogans and costumes would not make great demands in that direction. We found that the paint "took" quite well on the calico—and elsewhere. The only difficulty was to do one-inch lettering with three-inch brushes.

As time passed we began to rejoice that we had no "props" to construct and to pity those who had. Better planning, we reflected sagely, would have saved them their trouble.

By a process of continuing the processes outlined above we eventually found ourselves at the end of our tether—sorry, task, or so we imagined. "Sunshine" Beca later told us that the whole thing had to be sprayed with size, but that's rather a long story and I haven't much time.

(Continued on foot of next page)



Humorous Artists of New Zealand

(Reproductions by kind permission of the artist and The Listener)

It is hoped that this series will appeal to readers other than students, and has been started in an attempt to broaden CRACCUM'S coverage and range of interest. It is intended to treat of those whose work is widely known, so that, although we may be unable to print many examples of the work of the artist under consideration, readers will have little difficulty in finding for themselves numerous additional examples in the more popular of our daily and weekly contemporaries.

I.—Russell Clark

It would be doing Russell Clark an injustice if I do not emphasise here at the beginning that his drawings for *The Listener* belong to only one of the very numerous branches of art mastered by him. At an exhibition of his work you could expect to see also sculptures, designs, water colours, oils, or pencil drawings with, like his pen-work, an etching-like quality. If you were in Wellington in 1940 to see the Centennial Exhibition, then you may remember his mural work there in the main foyer. The artist's versatility is therefore the quality that will probably most strike you when examining his work, which is also marked by accuracy, boldness, and clarity. All of these qualities are particularly necessary to a first-rate comic artist, who, as David Low has observed, must not only know that brevity is the soul of wit, but must also search for and express the soul of brevity.

PROCESSION APPEARANCE

Russell Clark, who is nearly 45, is said to have begun his artistic career at the age of four and a-half, when he made a drawing of his father as a knight, clad in pots and pans. This was used in the procession prior to the Christchurch Plumbers' Picnic of 1910, and may be said to have launched him on art for his chosen vocation. Of this choice his family did not disapprove.



ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION

The development of Clark's artistic ability was principally due to eight years of instruction in the more serious draughtsmanship, effective composition, and mastery of the various modes of artistic expression. His instructors at Canterbury College School of Art were men noted for their academic qualities of care, discretion, and industry, so that he emerged sufficiently skilled at express-

ing his own or others' ideas to become what is commonly known as a "commercial artist. The discipline provided by the necessity to give form to his employers' suggestions or wishes must have provided further training destined to be of great service in later fulfilling the partly-prescribed requirements of *The Listener*.

EMPLOYMENT

Russell Clark has been a commercial artist without losing his integrity or independence. The exactions of the commercial studio regarding display and accuracy have served only to increase his skill. He was never caught in the rut that traps artistic enterprise, condemning it to a drear routine of lettering, advertisement



designing, and the delineation of curvaceous bosoms, fashionable clothes, and brands of food. After practising for some years at commercial designing in Christchurch, Dunedin, and Wellington, he is now a teacher at the Christchurch School of Art where he earlier studied.

LISTENER ILLUSTRATIONS

Originally a one-man show, his illustration work for *The Listener* is now shared by other able penmen, who, however, appear to be left to manage the more routine illustrations, while he devotes most of his efforts to humorous work.

One cannot help feeling he must enjoy doing this sort of work. Each drawing is so beautifully integrated, the lines so meticulously drawn, the expression and attitude of each character so whimsical and apt. The simplicity and openness of the drawings allows of their being considerably reduced with no loss of effect.

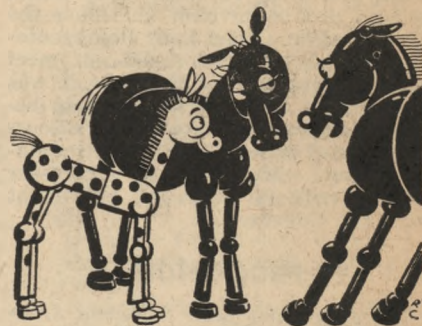


A correspondent to *The Listener* once complained that Russell Clark's work was too like Emmett's, of *Punch* fame, who specialises in topical phantasies, mostly about trains. When, the writer wanted to know, was New Zealand going to produce a really individual cartoonist? But this seems

a very superficial complaint, for neither in matter nor in manner does Clark's work resemble Emmett's, in more than some few minor ways. His style is more orderly, and his variety of subjects much broader, to give but two instances. And it would be absurd to say that to be whimsical is to be unoriginal. Surely an artist automatically adopts the form of expression that is best suited to his nature—the medium that best harmonises with his ideas.

The illustrations here reproduced are typical of Russell Clark's humorous work. The first accompanied an article in which there was a description of the trapping of mosquitoes lured to destruction by a recording of their mating call. Unless you have never heard of Marie Antoinette's famous remark, the remainder are self-explanatory. Notice, however, that he obtains an effect of very vigorous action in the cricketing scene without the objectionable means employed by so many other cartoonists: the straining after effect by ridiculously exaggerated expressions and postures, which are usually a result of lack of originality.

This article, although properly a discussion of Russell Clark as a humorous artist, has necessarily made some reference to his genius in other directions. It is worth noting in conclusion that even within the limits of



the reproducible medium in which he works for *The Listener* his versatility is notable. With equal genius he can delineate the most varied characters for short stories, serious and light. He can turn from an imaginative drawing on a musical theme to a traditional biblical scene at the manger for a Christmas carol programme.

Above all, remember he is New Zealand-born and trained; his drawings of street-scenes, homesteads, and other things typically New Zealand are worth watching for. —J.E.

THOUGHTS FROM A FLOAT

I suppose the purpose of Procession is to make the citizens of Auckland aware of the students in their midst, and, if possible, to make a favourable impression on them. I do not know what the Auckland public thought, or what opinions they expressed, except that those letters which were published in the daily papers were mainly in favour of Procession; but the reception we got, although quiet, seemed friendly enough, but Auckland crowds are notorious for their rather stolid attitude.

At first the whole business seemed rather a Good Thing. It would be fun to wave to the populace from the back of a moving truck, moving fast enough to ensure that we should not be too easily recognised, we hoped; to assist us in this purpose we covered our faces thickly with grease paint and took up highly unlikely and improbable attitudes, so that any friends

and relations witnessing the horrid sight would shudder and look away before knowledge dawned on them.

The critical comments of fellow students while we were waiting in Princes Street prepared us more than sufficiently for the comments of the general public. Students are so outspoken. As we came along Customs Street East into Queen Street we saw a dense crowd waiting for us lining the roadway. Obviously news about Procession had got around. Queen Street as far as the Town Hall was crowded, people lined the pavements, crowded on the tram zones, and gathered at office windows. We took it as a personal tribute, in spite of, or perhaps because of, the heavy grease paint, and handed out toothy smiles to all around. It was a little disconcerting when we found this included some of the members of the Staff.

Karangahape Road was crowded

too, but it was a little boring going down Hobson Street, except for the brief moments when we were running beside a tram, when things became lively again. About this time the novelty began to wear off, and the spontaneous beams were replaced by rather fixed grins, our once-clear voices became hoarse croaks, the grease paint got sticky, our hair blew into our eyes, and we became very stiff.

That was Procession. It was quite a Good Thing, but it would have been a Better Thing if we could have travelled more slowly (several people missed our gorgeous smiles), and perhaps cut short our itinerary. And here comes the usual dig at student apathy, —although there was quite a wide interest in Procession, there were, as always, those students who took no part in Procession, and while they missed sore throats they also missed a rather good show.

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VARIATIONS ON NUMEROUS THEMES AS EXEC. MEETS

LIQUOR QUESTION

Exec., when it met at 6.30 on May 8, picked up its business at the same point as it had dropped on April 15—namely, on the vexed question of alcoholic liquor. A letter had been received from the Chairman of the Professorial Board stating that liquor at College dances was illegal. Exec. had sought legal advice on the matter, and had been informed that such was the case with public dances, that is, dances where payment is made for admission. Queried Mr. Haresnape hopefully, "Why not a Free Ball?" Mr. Nathan summed the matter up admirably with "It's a narrow-minded country," in a voice that suggested that he had drunk his cup of bitterness to the dregs. The meeting became a trifle more cheerful when doubts of the legal opinion were expressed.

PROFESSORIAL ADDRESS TO FRESHERS

Exec. expressed dissatisfaction with the present situation. It contended that the occasion is a valuable opportunity for Freshers to meet the Board. It did not, however, see the sense in a large number of the staff being present. "Or in a large number of words," remarked a voice. Mr. Morton maintained that Student Representatives should keep in the forefront. Mr. Nathan suggested a separate function to which the Board should not be invited, at which the Freshers could meet their Representatives. This suggestion did not meet with the approval of Exec., as it was felt that it would widen the gap between students and staff. The discussion closed with a flippant misquotation from Mr. Nathan, "Professor Rutherford's in his room, all's right with the College."

PROCESSION

A letter had been received from Professor Rutherford, objecting to student activities occupying too much lecture time. After a short silence, during which the contents of the letter were digested, the suggestion was put forward that all lectures should be abolished. This, it was felt, would definitely improve the accommodation situation. Exec. then turned to more serious matters. Mr. Nathan, who had just returned from Christchurch, stated that if the proposed return visit of the Christchurch delegates became possible, Carnival week would have to be compressed. This year's Procession was then discussed, and it was acknowledged that the chief fault had been the speed with which the floats had moved up Queen Street. Mr. Haresnape suggested the extension of Procession route through Newmarket. This was approved, as was Mr. Nathan's suggestion that next year the example of Christchurch be followed. In that idyllic part of the world all Procession receives tea or beer.

OPEN LETTER TO 'CRACCUM'

The open letter from E. C. S. Little published in Craccum of 7-5-47 was next considered. The letter drew the attention of Exec. to the fact that Terms examinations were held only a few days before the beginning of Degree, and in consequence students did not know whether or not they were eligible to sit until the examinations were upon them. It was moved (Brand-Morton) that the letter be set before the Council.

STATE OF EXEC. ROOM

Exec. was confronted with the

necessity for putting its house in order when this item came up on the agenda. Miss Montague turned the light on Exec. room with a few illuminating remarks. The room, she stated bluntly, was a revolting mess. She also objected to a floor covering which was composed, in the main, of lumps of Rostrum and Kiwi. Mr. Nathan remarked, nostalgically, that in Christchurch there were built-in lockers. There was some argument on this subject, in which Mr. Nathan made a strategic retreat. Exec. reached agreement on the existence of a bad smell in the room, and peace was restored to some measure. Paint was needed, it was considered, to restore the room to its status of hub of the student universe. Paint, amended Mr. Nathan, and someone to put it on. The members of Exec. looked uneasily at each other. Mr. Haresnape saw the dread implication before anyone else, and brought out his excuse at the double. He was not quick enough, however. The President pounced. Mr. Haresnape's excuse was battered into the dust. The President then excused himself on the grounds that it was his duty to delegate jobs, not to do them.

PROFITEERING

Iniquity was brought to light when a letter from Mr. Lynch was read to the meeting. Mr. Lynch was an expert on statistics, and something of a mathematician. He had computed the actual cost of the cyclostyled notes, for which 2d. is usually paid, at a mere 1d. This evidence of extortion caused Exec. to throw up its hands in horror, and to delegate its secretary to put the facts before the Council.

MINOR THEMES

The Editor of Kiwi for 1947 was ratified, and the hope expressed that this year, unlike last, the annual magazine would be published punctually. Miss Brand, pondering on whether or not ex-students' work was publishable, asked innocently, "What is a student?" This was met by a stupefied silence.

The disappearance of a trumpet mute from Tournament ball was the next item dealt with. Unfortunately this had been reported too late for Exec. to take any action.

A complaint that the payment of Students' Association fees was causing her to starve was received from a part-time student. She stated that her work forced her to dine late. Because of power cuts she was left only a short period in which to dine. This period coincided with certain of her lectures at the University. If she was to receive the full benefit of the payment of her fees she must attend all lectures. To do this she must go without food. At the end of the recital Exec. yawned, stretched itself, and regretted that there was nothing it could do about it.

High and low readings of optimism and pessimism were recorded during the discussion of Revue Party. The proposal to spend up to £50 on this function was received with varying degrees of enthusiasm. Miss Brand wondered gloomily if there would be any profits at all. Mr. Neal showed an inspiring amount of optimism.

Labour Club's Constitution had a crowded hour of glorious life before the moving of its confirmation by the Morton-Haresnape duo.

On this note Exec. crumpled up its agenda, scattered its much-doodled notepaper over the floor, and went home.

EXEC. ROOM, 3rd JUNE

After the minutes of the last meeting had been dealt with, Exec. settled down to deal with an impressive looking pile of correspondence.

IF THE CAP FITS

The first letter was a note of thanks from the Registrar for the help he received from the Students' Association in the organising of Capping. Exec. directed the kudos to the correct quarter by passing a vote of thanks to Mr. Shane Waters and all others who performed the functions which the Registrar so much appreciated.

TERMS' EXAMS.

Following the receipt of an unsatisfactory reply on the vexed question of Terms Exams., Exec. directed its Secretary to write to the Chairman of the Professorial Board asking that the question of the proximity of Terms Exams. to Degree should be reopened and considered on its merits.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

The Students' Association has been informed that as an Act of Parliament will be passed to permit of non-voting student representation on the College Council, will be passed in the near future, the Council does not feel itself bound to make any change in the present positions. Thus it will be seen that there is nothing amiss with the situation that time will not right.

THE COST OF NOTES

The prospect of a satisfactory answer to the question of the price of duplicated notes is not quite so hopeful. This has been referred by the Professorial Board, to the College Council, who we believe have referred it to its Finance Committee. Even if there were an immediate answer it seems that it would take a long time to be referred back to the students.

CHANCELLOR'S THANKS

Another letter of thanks was received, this one from the Chancellor, the Honourable Mr. Justice Smith, thanking the Students' Association for entertaining him to supper after the Graduation Ceremony, also at "Smellbound." His Honour also expressed his best wishes for the work of the Association. Exec. was deeply gratified by this gracious mark of appreciation.

OH WHERE? OH WHERE?

The venue of Grad. Balls was next discussed. A motion was framed suggesting that Capping should be held in the afternoon with the Ball in the Town Hall in the evening. It was pointed out in support that this is what is done at Canterbury which holds an academic procession through the city from the University to the Town Hall. Miss Garland pointed out that at Victoria's Capping a team of workers is organised to clear the Wellington Town Hall immediately after the Ceremony to allow the Ball to begin there about half an hour later. Mr. Morton felt that an academic procession is out of place in Auckland where the University is so far from the city and so far from public interest. The general feeling seemed to be that the University should entertain "at home rather than in a cabaret or at the Town Hall, although it should be more successfully arranged than at present. The means of accomplishing this by organising the function purely

on the basis of invitations, by opening the ground floor architecture studio and the library were all discussed. Gradually the whole organisation of Capping week became involved. Mr. Gifkins, as chairman of Carnival Committee, said he would like investigation into the whole programme. Miss Laidlaw's suggestion that information should be obtained from other Colleges was rebuffed by the fact that all other Colleges are governed by the facilities at their disposal just as much as we are ourselves. Investigation was left in the hands of Messrs. Gifkins, Holland and Clouston.

EASTER TOURNAMENT EXPENSES

A final echo of the Easter Tournament was the reading of the Tournament Treasurer's report. Exec. felt that the fact that the actual net expenses of Easter Tournament to A.U.C.S.A. funds (£217 0s. 5d.) so nearly equalled Mr. McClaren's estimate of two months before tournament reflected great credit on his organising ability as Treasurer. It is gratifying to know that the loss is under a third of that entailed in Winter Tournament, 1946.

INTER-FACULTY COMMITTEE

A proposal that a consultative committee should be constituted to provide Executive with more accurate knowledge of student opinion on vital matters aroused discussion. There has been something of a similar sort in the past at A.U.C. called an Inter-Faculty Committee or some such name. Otago has such a body rendering effective service at present. The suggestion is for a membership of about sixty representatives drawn from the various faculties and major clubs. Its office should be purely consultative. However, nothing definite was decided at the time, it being felt that the chief difficulty lay in the finding of a sufficient number of interested representatives.

PROCESH, 1948

The meeting closed on a cheerful note. Mr. Gifkins announced that one way and another, the prospect of a full-dress Processh, complete with a charitable collection, in 1948, is definitely good.

Exec. dispersed, crossing its fingers.

"THE BARBER OF SEVILLE"

Some people may have heard of it. Some French students may even have read it. And if you have visited some other part of the civilised world you may possibly have seen it performed. But even if you have—as Abraham Lincoln once said, "You ain't seen nothing yet!" Because on June 26th and 27th in the College Hall the Modern Languages Club presents the Auckland premiere of Beaumarchais' comedy, "The Barber of Seville," starring Professor Keys, Dr. West, Barbara Bell, Ray Parkes and a supporting cast of thousands (more or less). Recommended by the censor for adults, University students and children.

Beaumarchais thought the story was a good one and made a very popular text-book for Stage I French from it.

Rossini liked the idea and made a first-class musical hit of it.

Come on June 26th and 27th and see what you make of it.

The proceeds are for Student Relief.

CAPPING

An apology is due to the citizens of Auckland who voluntarily helped to fill the Town Hall for this year's Graduation Ceremony. After seeing the Procession, they must have been hoping for something less tame and ineffectual. Memories of the vigour with which students traditionally participate in Capping will have left many feeling what a spiritless, amorphous breed the student is becoming.

There are many ways in which Capping Ceremonies can be, and have been, enlivened without undue embarrassment or excess. Some are noted below.

PROCESSIONS

The preliminary events are, of course, interesting enough in themselves, but the unusual solemnity engendered at the sight of some hundreds in full academic dress surely affords an opportunity to brighten the proceedings with some form of parody. One year, for example, a troupe of men filed into the hall clad in white tie and tails—impeccable but for the complete absence of trousers!

VICTORIAN IDEA

Similarly, Victoria began their Capping Ceremony in the right way this year by sending in a rearguard behind the official procession. Attired in Process-type costumes, they carried above their heads a long ladder, which they placed against the circle rail, mounting it in turn to occupy commanding positions near the stage. Some development of this idea might well be considered for our ceremony next year.

WORDS UNSUITABLE

"Gaudeamus" was vigorously sung. Everybody enjoys singing it for its tune, and not for the sentiments it expresses. I doubt whether, in singing it, one person in ten considers the meaning of the words. They are merely the vehicle for a jubilant noise. It is time that their discredited Epicureanism was replaced by something more suitable. A year or so ago there was some agitation for a University song. The proposal might well be revived and carried to fruition.

SPEECHES

Mr. Cocker's speech was principally a report on University affairs.



Mr. COCKER

In common with other prominent University men, he loses no opportunity to express the College's great need of public and private financial support.

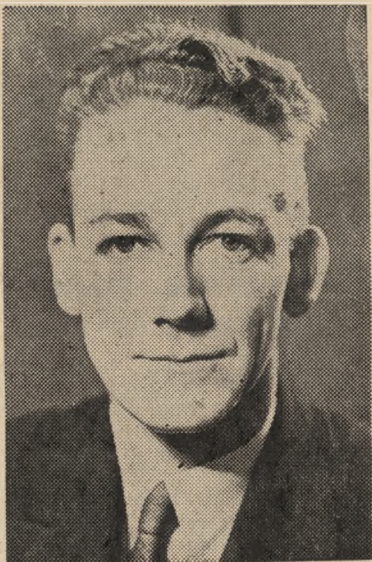
The Chancellor, speaking next, emphasised the value of the University's contribution, directly and indirectly, to the Society in which it exists. Echoing Mr. Cocker's theme, he also suggested that "this great and friendly city" might seriously consider aiding the University by presenting a residential college. This was greeted with enthusiastic applause.

DEGREES CONFERRED

Poor Mr. Smith had then to plough through the long lists of graduands. To give the audience a thorough trial in patience (or is it to give double publicity to those Christian names?) each name is read twice.

CHORUS OF QUACKS

When it was over, Professor Rutherford came forward to speak. Having co-starred when last seen at Capping with a duck of no mean dramatic ability (you may have heard how it dominated the centre of the stage, and skilfully eluded professorial pursuit), Professor Rutherford must have felt uneasy at the chorus of quacks that broke out as he stepped to the micro-



PROFESSOR RUTHERFORD

phone. But they were from a decoying apparatus, and ceased in time for us to hear that in this University the History I (and other) standards are very low. This, the Professor claimed, was attributable entirely to the excessive numbers of only partly-educated students with which the College is swamped. Such students would be acting in their own and the University's best interests if they refrained from enrolling here. To strengthen this contention he quoted figures purporting to show that 70 per cent. of the students who enrol at A.U.C. are, by so doing, causing only harm to themselves, their instructors, and their more able fellows.

PRESIDENT SUGGESTS:

Mr. Nathan, who followed, took the opportunity to give Executive's views on the important matters of the move to Tamaki, and the appointment of a full-time academic head for the College. Having made the necessary preliminary remarks about the graduates, the Tournaments, Process, and Student Representation on the College Council, he proceeded to raise objects to the Tamaki project.

1. EXPAND IN CITY

Tamaki, he said, would be unsatisfactory for both part- and full-time students. The former would find attendance at lectures and participation in university affairs excessively arduous, while the latter deserve "something better than the urbanised, unattractive site which the Council happen to own at Tamaki."



Mr. NATHAN

Further arguing that Government House could well be replaced by a modern building in one of the remote suburbs, and that the Council might more profitably expand the College upwards rather than onwards, he considered that the greater part of the University might well remain, like other and greater universities, within the precincts of its parent city.

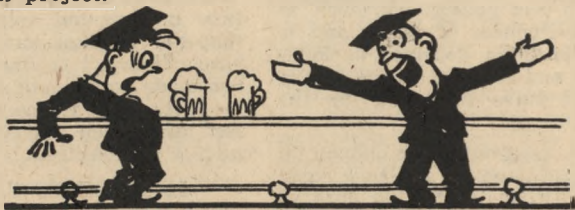
Whether the Executive will be able to sustain these contentions in the debate on Tamaki scheduled to take place later this term is open to doubt. Their corollary that wishful and vague thought about the Tamaki scheme has had a "paralysing effect on any development of the present site" is clearly a more supportable objection to the Council's policy.

"With one hand," the speaker stated, "the Council's enquiry commission deplore the decay of the School of Engineering; with the other, they erect a School of Architecture from a collection of huts."

2. WIDE ADVERTISEMENT

In conclusion Mr. Nathan laid emphasis on the College's need for the best staff possible, particularly when it is strained by increased numbers and deficient quarters.

Noting that the Council had won their figure of £2,000 as salary for a College Principal, he hoped that they were doing all possible to engage some eminent academic administrator from overseas. "Perhaps what the College needs most," he said, "is an infusion of new blood. It is very unlikely that a person of sufficient calibre and adequate qualifications is to be found in New Zealand. My Executive feels that it would be better to wait to obtain the services of a first-class man, rather than to make a hasty appointment."



STUDENT RELIEF WORK DAY

A total of about £35 was raised for Student Relief funds as a result of the work-day held last term. This amount is less than has been raised in previous years. The fault, however, lies not in ourselves but in the weather, which was so bad that many jobs had to be cancelled and others carried out at considerable inconvenience.

The committee expresses thanks to all those who worked, and to those who offered to help and were prevented from doing so by circumstances beyond their control.

STUDENT RELIEF

LUNCH-HOUR CONCERTS

Programmes have been arranged for the first three concerts to be held in the College Hall on Thursdays from 1-2 p.m.

No. 1, June 12th:

Music for flute and strings by Mozart and Rameau, played by Will Henderson (flute), Ina Bosworth (violin), Emile Bonny (cello).

No. 2, June 19th:

Colleen McCracken (piano), Cecil Hauxwell (baritone).

No. 3, June 26th:

Tracy Moresby (piano), Kathleen Reardon (soprano), Charles Lawn (violin).

A charge of 6d. each concert, or 2/6 for the series of six is made for admission. The proceeds are for Student Relief funds. Come and bring your friends to enjoy these concerts.

CRACCUM STAFF

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

Copy for the next issue of Craccum will close on Friday, June 20th, 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.

HELP!!!

Craccum requires additional staff in its PROOF READING department. The Editor can with confidence guarantee the hygienic and harmonious surroundings under which potential employees will work, and only regrets that at the moment neither teas, perms, or shaves can be offered as additional attractions, owing to further shortage of staff in all other departments. It is estimated that the work involved would probably occupy about two or three hours every third week, and Freshers especially are invited to avail themselves of this unique opportunity of becoming members of Craccum's College-famed staff. Please leave a note for the Editor either in Craccum box or on Exec. letter-rack.

CLUBS AND

PROFESSOR MUSGROVE ON THE INADEQUACY OF CRITICISM

The audience in the College Hall recently heard an address from Professor S. Musgrove, head of the Department of English, which must be taken as a landmark in the "Talks to students" series. Shunning the custom of leavening solid matter with a high percentage of jokes likely to appeal to the student palate, he delivered a "paper" in the academic sense. It covered the field of literary criticism from the time of Aristotle, and was profusely illustrated with example and quotation from English, Icelandic (translated), Latin and Greek. A.U.C. students were treated as though they were in a state of mental grown-up-ness and they enjoyed it.

Defining the ideal duty of criticism as discrimination and evaluation, Professor Musgrove pointed out how little the known body of criticism encompassed these duties. He passed over the incidental stupidities of criticism, such as Bentley's emendation of "pajeks" to "hiccups," to consider the very minor part it has played in analysing and illuminating contemporary poetry for contemporary readers. No one of his period discerned in Marvell's lyrics that combination of intellect and reason which later critics



have found. It is obvious from incidental observations that his contemporaries found the imaginative experience created by Shakespeare, but there is no attempt at analysis of it.

Professor Musgrove passed on to 18th century criticism, in which no new observations were made and easy judgments were possible by dividing poetry into certain categorical kinds, the Heroic, the Pathetic, the Satiric, which evoked "formula responses," which, to those who knew their classics, became almost mechanical. Critics have been fairly satisfied to judge Pope's "Essay on Criticism" on the tag that it is "what oft was said, but ne'er so well expressed." Professor Musgrove stressed the fact that apart from flashes of insight, there is nothing lost in Vida's "Poetica" and suggested that Pope, like Alice, "had to run very hard to keep in the same place."

Aristotle conceived and moulded the principle of Katharsis, but is this the ultimate comment criticism can make? "It looks rather on the subsequent effects on the reader than on the nature of the experience," and leading as it does into the region of social and moral inquiry tends to suggest that poetry will become either "a psychological emolument or a social instrument." After the original impetus given to criticism by Aristotle and Lazarus, Professor Musgrove questions the value of criticism until the 19th century. The Romantics had new questions to ask, but the isolation natural to their more highly sensitive

perception, made their criticism purely the reason of an individual free from any standard by which to measure their own impressions. The absence of recondite research resulted in the anomalous position of a body of criticism on Shakespeare's sonnets, when it had not yet been finally established if Shakespeare wrote them. The apotheosis of Romanticism Professor Musgrove finds in Oscar Wilde's "paradoxical-subjective objective juggling—each mode of criticism is only a mood, and we are never truer to ourselves than when we are inconsistent."

In the 20th century, though rejecting the text-books labels to periods, Professor Musgrove defined two broad methods of "providing the necessary frames of references and standards"—the "rough trellis of political prejudices" and the historical approach epitomised in C. S. Lewis' words, "it is what its author meant it to be." Banishing the first as a short way with the Dissenters, the speaker condenses the second in an extension of Coleridge's "willing suspension of disbelief" to a permanent suspension. It attempts to "recreate in detail the mental climate of the age," but though the critic's mind be lowered into the past, he cannot escape from making the judgment of value. The established body of criticism presents the choice between the here-now view and the there-then, but Professor Musgrove doubted its adequacy in fulfilling the objectives of discrimination and evaluation.

Until this point, the audience had heard a very able, but not unorthodox exposition of the comparative merits of centuries of criticism, and trained in disillusion, was prepared to believe that criticism and inadequacy went hand in hand. Then followed an excursion into the very nature of poetry, into the creative act itself, to seek the "area of the springs of passion." We passed from the text book evaluation of poetry to seeing it as an "organic extension of life," when poetry was "a passionate expression of a need vitally necessary for life," and experience was identical with representation, in the form of incantation. The remnants of that first identity of life and poetry are found in the constant emphasis of all critics on the moral effect of literature, on its power to affect actual life for good or ill, or is the view, as slyly suggested, "only Prince Albert again?"

Is it possible then to mine our way into the very springs of the poet's understanding, to that point where experience coalesces with the creative faculty, so that "motive" in past literature which has puzzled us, such as that in the Duchess of Malfi; and in the Icelandic Saga becomes as comprehensible and rational to the reader as it must have appeared to the writer.

Professor Musgrove then opened up the possibility, new to at least some of us, of criticism taking the path of anthropology and psychology. The

connection between the plunge into the pristine nature of poetry and the surface probings of centuries of criticism was condensed in a quotation from Dr. Richards, "artistic activity is not of a fundamentally different kind from ordinary living." The speaker recognised the dangers of meddling in the darkensses of these sciences, the certainties of producing "things we know already, or things we do not wish to know." Again he recognised that our two thousand years of "elaborately saying obvious things in a very conditional and non-committal manner," bound and recorded in mountains of volumes labelled "Literary Criticism," have not led us to an ultimate judgment. T. S. Eliot stood on Margate sands and connected nothing with nothing; unless we take him as the be-all and the end-all, Professor Musgrove sees the only alternative to digression in the resolute union of criticism with the sciences of anthropology and psychology in the pursuit of the ideal objects of discrimination and evaluation.

This address, more "packed" than any Tudor parliament, made an undoubted impression on the audience. Whether it was one of bewilderment or understanding one person cannot judge and only hopes now to have recorded the main lines of the address with the minimum of misrepresentation. The press left with one feeling clear, that this type of paper should be delivered more often to the students of A.U.C., and echoing a few octaves lower, Professor Musgrove's parting quotation, "I have known what wisdom does not know, nothing."

* * *

FRESHER FIASCO

DEBATING DEBACLE

The chief trouble with Debating Club's annual Freshers' Speech Contest this year was that it wasn't a contest. A very small audience assembled in the Women's Common Room on the evening of June 5th to hear one Fresher, Mr. Hereward Ludbrook, make a few random observations on "Power," considered as "A formative influence in the 19th Century."

Because there was only one entrant, this meeting was not a competition, for any competition presupposes the participation of at least two competitors, each endeavouring to outdo his rival in skill or merit.

Debating Club Committee have therefore decided to award the Freshers' Cup to the best first-year speaker in the Junior Oratory Contest, held later this term, as noted below.

THE SPEECH

Mr. Ludbrook's speech, incidentally, lasted about three minutes, with pauses while he waited for divine inspiration or searched for a telling phrase in a notebook. His subject, he said, left him free to talk about anything, for any influence was formative, and anything that happened was an influence. (Mark my deductive reasoning, Watson). In view of our current shortage of power, therefore, he had decided to speak about "Power." The audience would realise that power involved energy and work. This conception, he implied, speaks volumes, so he thoughtfully ended his speech right there so that the audience could work it out in silence.

Mr. Rodwell, who had come to judge this uncontested soliloquy, observed that the speaker had in no way related "Power" to the 19th Century, had made no attempt at a climax, and, in fact, had scarcely delivered the sort of speech one would expect in such a competition.

IMPROMPTU SPEECHES

The audience were then invited to

take part in an impromptu speech evening, to which they responded well. Three men new to Debating Club spoke pleasingly. Mr. John Stackhouse exposed the mythology in modern advertising, with some amusing illustrations. Mr. Palmer passed some sound remarks about the Committee's shortcomings concerning the evening's "contest," which he had missed through arriving five minutes late! And Mr. Alford made some clear and logical observations about work as a source of happiness.

HUMOUR NECESSARY

Commenting on the impromptu speakers, Mr. Rodwell said that he liked humour in such speeches. He felt specially moved to congratulate Mr. Butcher and Mr. Stackhouse for the way they switched from their original subject to matters more easily dealt with; and to commend Mr. Foy for introducing the always-diverting topic of sex. "I like that," said Mr. Rodwell; "It is always interesting wherever you are." He had nothing but censure for Mr. Ellis and Mr. Rodney Smith, who had ill-disguised the fact that they had nothing to say, and had also occupied some time in demonstrating it.

BLEDISLOE MEDAL TRIALS INCORPORATING THE SENIOR & JUNIOR ORATORY CONTESTS

To be held in July, the time limit for each speech being 12 minutes, and the subject, "A great man or woman (Maori or Pakeha) connected with New Zealand; or an outstanding incident in New Zealand history."

COMING EVENTS

DEBATING CLUB PROGRAMME

Monday 16th June: "That Palestine should be made a Jewish State," in the Women's Common Room. Messrs. Nathan and Stone v. Messrs. Goodman and Bolt.

Monday 23rd June: (a) "That there should be equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex."

(b) "That the American is the lowest form of civilisation."

Monday 30th June: Bledisloe Medal Trials.

Monday 7th July: versus Junior National Party. "That societies for the prevention of should be abolished."

* * *

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The College Classical Society began the year well with a talk by Dr. Blaiklock on daily life in Greek-Egypt. The title, Dr. Blaiklock said, was in reality a blanket term enabling him to talk about almost anything—on this occasion, the papyrus.

The remarkable discoveries of huge quantities of preserved papyri (the writing material made from a special river-reed, which grew only in the Nile and at Syracuse) in the last century has given us a great deal of information about life 2,000 years ago. The dry climate of the territory south of Cairo has favoured the preservation of many tons of papyrus sheets collected in rubbish heaps outside the ancient towns. Here are found not only the oldest texts known of ancient authors, but also a mass of manuscript evidence of the manner in which life was lived in those days. Bills, receipts, notices of births, census returns, shopping lists, letters from schoolboys, soldiers, unscrupulous town clerks—all documents recording the day to day life, much as if, as Dr. Blaiklock said, the contents of the waste-paper baskets of this College, St. John's College, the Town Hall, and a city legal firm, were all preserved for future generations.

SOCIETIES

ALLEGORY IN THE MODERN NOVEL

On the evening of the 29th of April, Mr. M. K. Joseph delivered an informal and interesting address on the above topic. This evoked much discussion and prompted some at least of the forty people to do some vacation reading.

LIT. CLUB MEETING

Mr. Joseph adopts a very pleasing style for such occasions. His crystallization of atmosphere into a few satirical words, with the force of caricature is a welcome form of humour. Another feature of Mr. Joseph's address was his outlining of the theme of the novels he cited.

REASONS FOR ALLEGORY

Mr. Joseph said that the existence of symbolism of which allegory is the literary form could be explained on the lines of two schools of psychology. The view based on Sigmund Freud's theories is that undesirable ideas are rejected by the conscious mind, but stored by the subconscious mind. In the case of authors these undesirable ideas sometimes find their way into the writer's work, although the man himself may be quite unaware of them. The other view, based on David Hume's conceptions, is that symbolism is employed to express something which can be expressed in no other way, because of its very nature or because of some form of constraint. Allegory is thus used to dodge political and other forms of control.

Another point Mr. Joseph mentioned is that trite ideas can be presented allegorically with new forcefulness. This, though a less subtle aspect is important in a field where exhaustion is being felt, as evinced in Joyce's extreme subjectivism on one hand and on the other an abundance of books "by authors on authors," days in the lives of land-girls by land-girls and so on. This tended to make it difficult for realistic novelists to present any new themes, so they are turning to new means of presentation.

NEW WRAPPING

An example of this is Graham Greene's presentation of the old "pursuit" theme of which Dickens' "Bleak House," Dostoevski's "Crime and Punishment" and Hugo's "Les Misérables" are the prototypes. In "The Power and the Glory" Mr. Greene portrays a man's flight from a spiritual reality and in "Brighton Rock" flight from an "unofficial" kind of justice, both under the guise of a Hollywood thriller.

Another novel presenting an old theme in allegorical disguise, to which Mr. Joseph referred, is Alex Comfit's "Power House," written in 1944 from outside, but dealing with a factory in France during and after the German occupation. In this book realism is carried to extremes. The atmosphere of occupation is presented by the "Victory" sign on walls and the drone of planes. Industrial power is symbolised by the power house which serves French and Germans equally.

RECENT INFLUENCES

Mr. Joseph then discussed influences which have recently affected the allegorical novel. Among these he mentioned a re-appreciation of the works of Dickens and Dostoevski, with the discovery of an allegorical element in them. The effects of Kafka's two symbolical novels "The Trial," a guilt-complex allegory, and "The Castle," an allegory on the search for divine grace, can be seen in most modern allegorical novels. Other writers exerting an influence are Bunyan, Swift and Defoe.

ESCAPING CONTROL

An allegorical attempt to dodge control and one that succeeded, is Ernst Ganger's "The Marble Cliffs," an attack on Nazism written in Germany in 1939. Herr Ganger personifies Nazism as the Mad Ranger—a composite figure reminiscent of Hitler, Goering and Goebbels. The concentration camp is symbolised as a flying shed. In spite of this attack, Herr Ganger did not suffer the punishment that might have been expected. Instead he was appointed to a high position in the Nazi Propaganda organisation.

SPIRITUAL BIOGRAPHIES

Two allegories which are really spiritual autobiographies, like "Pilgrim's Progress" are Rex Warner's "Wild Goose Chase" (which has an anti-Fascist theme interwoven also) and C. S. Lewis's "Pilgrim's Regress." They differ in that Mr. Lewis concludes his book in a position to defend his faith, while Mr. Warner ends on a dissatisfied note.

MORE REX WARNER

Rex Warner's "The Professor" which treats with the conflict between 19th Century Liberalism and Totalitarianism. Written in 1938, this book foreshadowed subsequent events in Europe. Mr. Warner's "The Aerodrome" of 1941 represents to the evolution during and after the war, of a new way of life, a process in which a compromise is struck between the traditional mode and a vague New Order which some folk expect to emerge after a war. "Why was I Killed," by the same author, embodies the several attempts of typical figures to explain the bloodshed of the First World War. Their answers to the questioning of the Unknown Soldier do not quite add up to an explanation. Mr. Warner leaves it to the reader to find a solution of their own, if there is one.

MORE C. S. LEWIS

Three other novels by C. S. Lewis, which have been called "the Trilogy of Theological Thrillers," are the "Story of Dr. Ransom," "a Wells' story upside down" in which the earth becomes the battleground of good and evil; "Peleranda," in which Dr. Ransom is sent to Venus in order to stave off the destroyer; and "Peleranda Lost," another contrast between two ways of life. Here again the author suggests a compromise. The best way of life consists in walking warily between the extremes.

The discussion that followed after Mr. Joseph had concluded reflected the interest with which all had listened, and the meeting closed with a warm expression of thanks to the speaker.

* * *

NATIONAL PARK

FIELD CLUB

The first week of the May vacation was, for 36 members of Field Club and Botany Department, a week of official intensive study and/or of unofficial fun and frolic. Taxing the elasticity of Mr. East's 'bus to the utmost, the main party left 'Varsity on Sunday morning. Even the longest legs found a little cranny in which to rest their weary bones.

The main object of the trip was to gain an insight into a type of vegetation differing markedly from that in the neighbourhood of Auckland,

and we were not disappointed, as owing to the late season and exceptionally fine weather, many species were obtained in flower and fruit.

There passed three days of feverish activity and three nights of equally feverish festivity. We studied the intricacies of vegetation and soil on tussock grassland, upland desert and beech forest. Particularly acquaintance was made with a genus called Elytranthe (known to the common herd as mistletoe). This acquaintance was particularly encouraged by certain members of the staff.

Field trips were run to Tama Lakes and Taranaki Falls.

Apart from increasing our knowledge in the Natural Sciences, we received instruction in table tennis, Field Club hockey (particularly violent) and poker, not to mention blind man's bluff and whack'em.

We also sang. Some V.U.C. students sojourning at the Park were impressed by the purity of our songs.

We returned with regret on the Friday. The most important stop was at Rangiriri, by popular demand.

* * *

LABOUR CLUB

FIRST MEETING

Politics burst upon A.U.C. recently when Mr. McLaren and Mr. Monk called a meeting to form a Labour Club. A.U.C. is the only New Zealand University without one although there was one here several years ago with Professor Sewell of beloved memory as President.

Mr. McLaren, opening the meeting with a large and vociferous audience, stated that the object of forming a Labour Club at A.U.C. was the guiding of the Labour Party back into the true paths of socialism.

Interjection: What is Socialism anyway?

Mr. McLaren: I refuse to stand here till two o'clock in the morning to define socialism.

Dr. Anschutz having been granted permission to address the meeting, said that he did not approve of the formation of a Labour Club but that a Free Discussion Group open to all would be much more beneficial. The former University Club had degenerated into a small clique group of very peculiar people who had done harm rather than good.

Mr. Smith, the President of the Junior National Party, who had been invited, said he was all in favour of a Free Discussion Group to which anyone could go without loss of reputation, whereupon Mr. Bolt moved that such a group be formed.

Mr. McLaren pointed out bitterly that there were already two clubs of that nature in the College—the Debating Club and the I.R.C. He and Mr. Monk had called the meeting with the purpose of forming a Labour Club affiliated both with the Students' Association and the Labour Party so that they could help the Labour Party to achieve what it had almost forgotten in the throes of domestic economy, its ultimate goal of socialism, and to train people with an intellectual background as future leaders of the Labour Party. As for a debating society, the Labour Club could organise debates of its own.

Mr. Airey rose to say that the question of affiliation to the Labour Party was irrelevant as there was as yet no Labour Club; Mr. Bolt withdrew his motion and another one approving the formation was carried.

Mr. McLaren then proposed to read the constitution which had already been ratified by Exec. The clauses relating to affiliation with the Labour Party aroused a storm of protest which caused someone to say that those who

were not interested in the Labour Club should have been excluded. Dr. Anschutz apparently took this personally for he got up and walked out.

An amendment to the constitution that the Labour Club should not affiliate with the Labour Party was then put to the meeting although someone suggested that those who did wish to affiliate should come to the meetings but not be able to vote.

Amendments and amendments to amendments were showered upon the meeting until Mr. Smith proposed a vote of no-confidence in the Chairman. Mr. Monk took Mr. McLaren's place until the motion was defeated amidst a chorus of boos and cheers.

Mr. Airey said that the proceedings had become highly unconstitutional. Mr. McLaren and Mr. Monk were acting as if they were a Provisional Committee which they certainly were not. It did not augur well for the club's future existence if such things were allowed. When Mr. Airey had chivalrously untangled the constitutional knots a provisional committee was elected.

At a subsequent meeting of the Labour Club the constitution was read and adopted in its entirety and the provisional committee was elected for the rest of the year.

* * *

VACATION CAMP

TRAMPING CLUB

Contrasting with the watery conditions of previous camps at Hunua, the last vacation provided such fine weather that newer members are wondering if the city fathers are really on the beam in building a dam across the Corsey Stream.

Seven parties of students left the Presbyterian B.C. Camp on Wednesday May 21st, and spread out over the area between the Managatangi River and Clevedon. All of the parties passed at some time over the trig Kohukohunui and those fortunate enough to escape the mist enjoyed the very fine view. They were able to see as far north as Muriwai and south right down the Waikato Valley, while the Hauraki Gulf and Firth of Thames stood out like a map.

After being restricted to the Waitakeres for most week-end walks, trampers thoroughly enjoyed wandering over a larger area well sprinkled with tramping huts. The suicide railway at the Manganese mine has now been dismantled. This was a great disappointment, but we are able to report as a result that no serious accident has occurred this trip.

Back at the base camp, parties found many old hands who had been unable to break away from their breadwinning in the middle of the week. These characters enlivened the week-end no little, and all left the camp wishing it had been longer. Which is as it should be, anyway.

(Continued inside back cover)



OPEN FORUM

"TAMAKI"

Madam,

I shall be pleased, in company with Messrs. J. E. Blennerhassett and J. E. Morton, to accept Mr. Woods' challenge to debate the desirability of the Tamaki design. I hope a debate will take place before the end of next month.

In reference to the subject, protagonists of the scheme have elected to concentrate on whether or not certain persons have the right to criticise the Tamaki project. While the onlooker may draw his own conclusions from this, it should be emphasised that argument on the merits of the scheme is quite unrelated to the number of students who support or oppose the move. Even if all students favoured it, this would not prove its desirability.

In fact, of course, they do not—although much has been made of a poll in which only about one student in ten voted, let alone for Tamaki.

J. A. NATHAN

GRADUATION BALL

Madam,

I wish to register a vigorous and emphatic protest in connection with the running and organisation of the 1947 Graduation Ball.

Two outstanding points worthy of criticism come to mind. First, accommodation. With past experience as a guide, coupled with this year's record number of graduands, it was only reasonable to expect the provision of ample dancing space by the setting aside of at least two rooms each supplied with a band. But no! The confusion and discomfort resulting from the presence (or at least the attempted presence) in the College Hall, of a seething mass of perspiring humanity amounting to some 500 couples, and the chaos resulting therefrom does not place much demand upon the imagination. The above picture possesses certain ameliorating features as some preferred to sit and talk, while others passed the time away in various portions of the College not immediately adjacent to the ballroom, thus tending to relieve the congestion. The supper in failing lamentably to do justice to a third rate coffee evening, has absolutely nothing that can be said in its favour.

I, personally, and from conversation with others, I gather that I was no exception, was eminently successful in obtaining one cup of lukewarm coffee minus one saucer and spoon, and one cake.

Now am I being unreasonable or is this supper usually to be associated with an A.U.C. Graduation Ball? I think not. In fact I personally consider the whole show an insult to the graduands of the year.

Finance was certainly not the difficulty, for last year ample dancing space and music were provided plus an excellent supper, the balance sheet showing a profit of £100. Where then lies the trouble?

The inescapable conclusion is that of incompetent organisation on the part of the Social Committee and some explanation from that body is awaited with interest.

L. R. ALLEN

SUBTLE POLICY?

Madam,

Mr. Wilson's inflated, emotive reply to "Keep your copy clean" could be summarized into the one sentence: "I think he is a lousy twerp for calling 'Offbeat' a lousy twerp."

It surprises me that this Mr. Wilson should himself descend to using the very same method of "miserable, personal attack" (to use his own words) for which he criticises "Keep

your copy clean."

For Mr. Wilson is clearly an educated man, and one of some perception, being also equipped with a pleasing felicity of expression. He appears, for example, well versed in the psychology of watersiders, the procedure in French Oral classes, and the intricacies of 19th Century English Literature. In passing, or, as Mr. Wilson would no doubt say, "en passant," I would remind him of Bacon's adage: that to use studies for ornament is affectation.

It surprised me, therefore, as I hinted above, that so talented a man should commit so elementary a mistake as to be guilty himself of the accusation with which he charges the other.

Personally, I have always been amused by "Offbeat's" column, for to me it seems due to a very subtle editorial policy: to discredit the cult of swing by making it appear ridiculous. This is an admirable aim, and I think that for this reason, if not because of the perennial shortage of copy, the feature should be continued.

ALF.

NEW COLLEGE MOOTED

Madam,

In reply to Mr. Winston:

1. I agree with him in his estimation of the function of Executive, but point out that it is scarcely the fault of Exec. if through lack of interested support from the student body as a whole, its opinions are not fully representative. If the opinions of Arts students are put forward more often than those of science students, then it is up to science students to arouse among their number sufficient interest to make their voice heard too. But to stress too much the differences between Arts and Science students is foolish, and we ought to be concerned rather for the welfare of the whole college than for our own faculty. I can assure Mr. Winston in all honesty that, Arts student though I am, I am considering not my own faculty but the whole college in my criticism of the Tamaki scheme.

2. The Tamaki scheme seems to involve either the complete removal of the college to Tamaki, or the partition of the College between Princes Street and Tamaki, either in Arts and Science divisions or part-time, and full-time divisions. Both are bad. The first alternative would prove disastrous to part-time students, and aggravate the board problem. (We are not likely to see student hostels at Tamaki inside 50 years). As for the second alternative, the division of part-time and full-time students is too obviously undesirable to need any stressing, and the division of Arts and Science faculties is not much better. As it is now, students of one faculty have little enough contact with members of other faculties, and the removal of the Science side to Tamaki would prevent even the little contact which now exists through Arts students taking science units in their degrees. Is there any good reason why a second college composed of all faculties should not be established in this city? Any college with more than 1,000 students is too large. The buildings we have here would not be impossibly overcrowded if there were 1,400 students instead of 2,800. Another college of the same size, established elsewhere in the city—preferably not so far out as Tamaki—would cater for the remaining 1,400. It is sometimes argued against a proposal of this kind that the larger a college the better it is equipped, but I cannot see that this conclusion necessarily follows. It is not very probable that A.U.C. will ever (unless

the South-West Pacific becomes the hub of the world) possess laboratories or scientific equipment approaching the standard of the Cavendish laboratories. This being so, we ought to envisage for A.U.C. only moderate equipment for science faculties—amply sufficient, that is, for undergraduate work, and minor post graduate work, leaving major post-graduate work to such wealthy institutions as the Cavendish. Now to house A.U.C. in one college of 2,800 would not improve our scientific equipment, but merely multiply it. We are then faced with the question of sports grounds. I may be howled down from all quarters for this, but my opinion is that while it is desirable to have sports grounds adjacent to the college, it is not actually necessary, as A.U.C. lectures occupy the whole day from 8-8 p.m. Until that probably mythical day when A.U.C. has (say) the afternoon for sport (as at Oxford) there is no great advantage in having extensive sports grounds on our very doorstep. All that would be required are a few tennis-courts, a practice cricket-pitch, etc., for use in the lunch-hour and between lectures.

3. A.U.C. as it stands now is within easy distance of the city's amenities. This is not a wealthy college, and probably never will be, therefore it is unlikely that we shall ever, either at Tamaki or in Princes Street, have libraries, etc., which could stand independent of those of the city. I cannot see that Tamaki will ever be the metropolis of Auckland as some optimists would have us believe. Finally, the Princes Street buildings were constructed as University buildings, and are not easily adaptable. We should find it difficult to dispose of them.

Mr. Winston may think that my doubts of Tamaki's being the future metropolis of Auckland and of A.U.C. as a wealthy college, are the doubts of a pessimist. There is, however, a distinction between pessimism and realism, and while we ought to plan for the future, we ought not to allow our imaginations to run away with us, particularly since the government grant for Tamaki is still in the embryonic stage, and may never be more than pigmy-sized.

KILROY

TRUTH ABOUT LABOUR

Madam,

At a meeting held in April the A.U.C. Labour Club was formed and a constitution adopted which states as one of the aims of the Club, the establishment of socialism by constitutional political means. This club endeavours to awaken the students to the profound political ideas current in the modern world and particularly to introduce the socialist viewpoint independent of the emotional prejudices which have grown up round the abuse of this term. We believe that it is the right and proper thing for the University to be studying actively the political destiny of the country, not only from the purely theoretical but also from the practical standpoint. Part of the weakness of University education in New Zealand is that for so long we have tended to remain obscure and detached from the world about us. Only by identifying ourselves with the community and showing ourselves as an active body, stimulating the art of thinking, can we hope to make the presence of the University of more influence in national affairs.

This is the underlying principle of the Club's affiliation with the N.Z. Labour Party and with the Students' Association. We feel that with this practical connection with political life, a greater awareness will be created.

both among the students and in political circles, and the responsibilities which are now facing us. A University Club can help to stimulate the thoughts and actions of many minds, and has an influence far beyond the narrow confines of the lecture room, reaching out into the heart and pulse of the nation. Among the followers of socialism there has been a tendency in the past to eschew independent thinking on the intricate problems involved in the transition to the socialist state, and in this respect the Club can be a powerful stimulant to earnest discussion on the immense effort that will be needed over the years to come. Much of the success of the socialist state will depend upon the personnel appointed to the key positions, and the realisation of the implications of these responsibilities is an absolute necessity in ensuring the advancement of the cause of the common people. For long have leftists often typified by the so-called intellectuals, many of whom are drawn from University staffs—talked glibly about the benefits of socialism and the evils of the capitalist organisation, but more than this brand of wishful thinking is required to stimulate to thought and action the social forces of the modern world.

It has been contended by some that it is not the place of the University to take a definite point of view, but that merely discussion of truth without particular loyalties enters its sphere. This ignores the fact that this stand alone is taking a definite point of view. There are forces and people who are willing to challenge the right to independent thought and the bare fact that the University takes a stand against this view is as much taking a partisan viewpoint as holding an opposite faith. Again, there would be no room for any Christian organisation, taking as it must do a definite religious outlook in contra-distinction to rival religious faiths.

We therefore invite all members of the Association who are sympathetic to our cause, to participate actively in our activities and deliberations. To all students we would ask that you patronise our meetings, not in the facetious spirit of some who already have seen fit to show their own paucity of mind by obstructionist actions but in an earnest endeavour to understand our point of view. You have as much to offer us in real constructive criticism and in questioning our ideas and motives as we have to offer you in placing before the students the socialist viewpoint. At the outset let it be clearly understood that this Club desires to stimulate the thinking of students; it is a serious club and will accept all who have a keen desire to question the adequacy of the social forces about us. Ideals and principles are vitally necessary to our organisation, but it is action and hard work that will bring these ideas to fruition. Let us as students face the future with all its hopes, its fears, and its opportunities, which press more urgently as mankind moves onward in the march of social progress.

—C. A. McLAREN.

President, A.U.C. Labour Club.

* * *

The Secretary,
Students' Association,
Auckland University College.

Dear Madam,

With reference to your letter of 14th May concerning College Terms Examinations, which has been referred to us from Council, the Professorial Board has already considered the problems involved in the setting of Terms Examinations prior to the Degree Examinations, and is unable to recommend any more suitable arrangements than those that apply at present.

Yours faithfully,
J. RUTHERFORD,

Chairman of the Professorial Board.

AT THE THEATRE

WILDFLOWER

THE GIRL FRIEND

(Not. erotic confessions but two musical comedies)

There will come a time, I suppose, when musical comedies will no longer cheer or rejuvenate, when their empty, tuneful music, their obvious humour, and their gaudy colour will be so much poison. There is little artistry in any of twelve I have seen (and I have enjoyed them all). Everything is laid on with a trowel. You know what's coming after one or two experiences, for the formula never changes. You know who will marry whom and that everyone will be the best of friends at the end. The sort of thing we have come to expect is well described by Ngaio Marsh in *Landfall*, Vol. 1, No. 1, to which I will refer you, as it is too long to quote here. It makes amusing if cruel reading.

But, and I confess it without shame, I enjoy all the glitter of these gaudy nights, or in my case Saturday afternoons. If you go expecting something just a little less than Gilbert and Sullivan, you will be disappointed. It is a lot less than G. & S. It is cheap and corny; but if you take a seat in the gods (you can see quite well for 1/6) and forget impending exams, and lab. books, you can enjoy for two and a-half hours music that you have heard many times on your radio, jokes that you groaned at ten years ago and tricks with which Chaplin or the Marx Bros, or even Abbott and Costello amused you. Unless you are dying, "like a student's wit of academic strain" you will come away purged of some of your mortal grossness.

That will do for an introduction. Now for *Wildflower*.

AND ALL THAT

This is the first musical comedy that was untouched ground to me, so there were one or two things that were "truly memorable." It was only determination not to miss *Wildflower*, though I knew I was late and did not expect to enjoy it (though vide supra) a feeling of duty towards my editor and you, dear readers, coupled with the fact that there was a 5 o'clock session of The "Song of the South" which I could visit afterwards, that made me go at all. At 4.30 *Wildflower* was good. At 7.15, after seeing the "Song of the South" it was very good indeed and I was glad that duty had conquered desire.

Wildflower is not a new show and is not particularly original, but it goes with a swing and is good entertainment, with the old formula of "boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl" with its accompaniment of stale jokes and spectacular scenes. But above all this there are some noteworthy features. One is the Bamba-lina, a spirited Italian dance number. Another is the appearance of Phil Jay, a better comedian than Dennis Hartley. It is to be hoped that he won't turn into an audience-wcoer. Joy Beattie was in it but she has since graduated to Australia. She has been very successful in New Zealand and should go far. She has a good voice, a personality, the necessary acting ability and a good appearance. Allen Christie, the lead, has remained for *The Girl Friend*. He has a good voice but lacks the charm of winning an audience. We have come to expect him as a lead but not to look forward to his appearance.

AND NOW ALL THIS

Except for Viktoria and her Hus-sar, which is almost too good to be called a musical comedy, *The Girl Friend* is the best I have ever seen. Many of the tunes stuck persistently in my head, everyone sang and acted well, the story was slightly less incredible, the humour was at times amusing, there were one or two good effects and—for this relief much thanks—there wasn't any romantic ballet.

A NEW RECRUIT

Joy Beattie was replaced by Joy Asquith, a local girl making good—and very good. She hasn't such a good voice as her namesake but is more charming in manner and looks. Phil Jay stepped into a larger and better part and was the most successful of all the players. Marie Ryan, similar to Joan Davis of Hollywood, was a joy. There is even an element of pathos in her comedy. Dennis Hartley didn't have much to do. His first performance, in the *Student Prince*, is still his best with this company. Allen Christie was adequate as the hero. His appearance is against him and his hair caused laughter at one stage. He should do something about it. Betty Sparks was back, but her place as chief comedienne has been taken by Marie Ryan. Ralphine Sprague ended a series of one-line parts of beautiful women as an aged maid—not beautiful—called Mary Rose (clever or bloody?)

GOOD NEWS

I have reviewed this show at greater length because I believe that it is the last one we shall see from them for some time. The next offering will be a Gilbert and Sullivan tour about August. Several of the principals

have the necessities for these comic operas, though it would be preferable to see Allen Christie stay in musical comedy, and a large contralto will have to be imported; the ladies of the present company are too fetching and slim. It will be interesting to see who, out of Phil Jay and Dennis Hartley, will play the Henry Lytton roles so nearly murdered by Ivan Menzies. I am told that Dennis Hartley's Lord Chancellor in *Iolanthe* was excellent but Phil Jay would make a good Jack Point. His voice has that light touch and he is a musician too. It is to be hoped that the last few months have not spoiled any of these people for Gilbert and Sullivan.

THE MAN WITH THE LOAD OF MISCHIEF

This was a disappointing performance by the Phoenix Society, especially after the splendid effort they made with "Ghosts." (I did not see "Ghosts," but I have heard highly favourable reports of the Hamilton performance at least).

The first fault lay in the choice of play. In the producer's note in the programme, we are told that it is "escapist romantic comedy, . . . here are no problems, no murders, no 'who-done-its,' no deep and esoteric messages, no leftist propaganda." In fact, after seeing the play, we begin to wonder if there is anything much at all. Again—"it was a pleasant era (Regency period), and this is a pleasant play." Well, pleasant perhaps, but that is about all. It doesn't seem to get anywhere, or even try to. It may therefore have been the fault of

the play that most of the time the audience was just watching something on the stage—we were not made to feel that we had a part in the events in which the characters on the stage were real people.

In fact, some of the characters were very far from seeming real people—so much so that once or twice where the situations were intended to be very amusing, there was hardly even a titter from the audience. I refer particularly to the over-acting and exaggeration of the innkeeper and his wife, which made most of the first scene rather dull, and lost the interest of the audience. However, things brightened up a little after the appearance of the main characters, and some of them became almost believable as real people. A good performance was given by Maureen Ross-Smith as a Lady. Her ease and fluency of acting were probably the most enjoyable part of the play. John Mc-Millan was a fairly convincing nobleman—vain, shallow and selfish. As his servant (a bit of a philosopher) Norman Ettlinger acted well, though at times he sounded rather as if he were reciting Shakespeare—a little inappropriate here. The lady's maid—a small part—was satisfactorily done by a young English girl.

It was fairly evident that the play was under-rehearsed, resulting in a lack of polish and spontaneity. Thus the production may have been as much at fault as the play itself in causing a dull performance. I feel that given better material to work with, the players could have done themselves more justice. —D.C.D.

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SPORTS

VARSITY FORM

Early in the autumn, University students cease to be merely curious fellows with very academic notions and learn to accept the national standards for a good scoring movement. And though their success in the field may have surprised the public, judging from the support given them—and all too little of it is from students—Varsity teams are playing a very popular part in this winter's sport. Most in the public eye is of course the College XV, which is having its most successful season for some years, standing joint leaders in the Pollard Cup with only one more series of matches to be played. The hockey XI, too, is at the head of its ladder, this side having lost only one match in the past two seasons. The senior Soccer team after several years in the reserve grade moved into the senior ranks this winter, its very fair results quite justifying the promotion.

In another respect, University teams have pleased its supporters and won the interest of the public — by producing several of the sporting personalities which crop up every winter. Such a headline as "Sweet is 'Sweet'" has set people everywhere talking about University rugby—while on the soccer field the Fijian centre-half Matasan delights spectators every Saturday with his powerful bare-footed kicking. Many other names have been going round the enclosures this season, and the tendency on the part of the public to find its heroes on the football paddocks appears as great as ever.

When we heard last week of a University junior XV defaulting its match because of a shortage of players, we were minded to find approximately how many make up this Varsity form and just how far these good results carry. And we found that it would be very generous indeed to estimate that we have four hundred sportsmen and women this winter. We could not even excuse the very large percentage who apparently do nothing during these months by their attendance at football and hockey. Student support has been notoriously lacking, and it is only the work of a sturdy minority which has saved Varsity from being the rather hollow affair of other years.

RUGBY FOOTBALL

For the first three Saturdays the six club sides together returned a total of 100 points per week, and though this standard has not been maintained, the results have continued to be very favourable. Though not the most prolific scoring side in the College, the Senior XV has performed consistently well, owing its position at the head of the football ladder to the fine grafting of the forwards. It is difficult to single out any for special mention but representatives G. McDonald and P. Fox have shown particularly good form with B. Rope not far behind them. Behind the scrum representative half-back, Monegatti has proved a great individualist, his combination with the first five-eighth, probably suffering from number of injuries in back line. This has indeed been a very serious handicap in University football, upsetting for the Seniors as well as affecting the lower grades who have to give up their leading players. Whether the cause of these injuries has been lack of training it is difficult to say; the side does appear fit enough on the field; the forwards certainly have been in great fettle from the beginning of the season. The injuries were

particularly unfortunate for the new Senior Coach, ex-All Black Trevor Berghan, in that he did appear to have something to offer the public this year. Early Varsity form was very spectacular—and the promoted Juniors, Tanner and Kay have done very well to keep something of this spirit going. The team has an excellent chance of winning the Pollard Cup for the first round of the senior championship, and provided the forwards can maintain their form, Varsity should hold its place in the Second Round.

RESULTS

v. North Shore: won 23-9; v. Suburbs: won 19-9; v. Grafton: won 9-6; v. Ponsonby: won 13-11; v. Marist: lost 14-16; v. Otahuhu: won 19-13.

VERSUS VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

Auckland began its inter-College football in promising form with a clear-cut win over Victoria University. Though the winning margin was only three points, Auckland always appeared in command in what was a very drab game. Both sides were depleted through injuries, and their football was not representative. The promoted Junior, Colin Kay, was the most impressive back on the ground, running with determination to straighten up Auckland's rather lateral attacking movement. Wilkinson engineered a good try for the winners when he ran up from full-back opening up a movement which Kay capped off.

JUNIOR SUCCESSES

The two second grade sides have suffered heavily from demands made by the Senior XV, and 2A at present is only a shadow of the powerful side fielded earlier in the season. After scoring 142 points for, with none against in its first three games, this team has met stiffer opposition lately, winning only by a penalty goal in the last minute of the game against Grammar Old Boys. With its back line very seriously depleted, on 2A's forwards—amongst whom Hellaby, Robinson and Kearney have been a powerful trio thus far—will lie the burden of maintaining the team's unbeaten record. 2B has managed to keep its back line together for most of the season and a very fair combination has been worked up. This team is strong close to the scrum with B. K. Caghey, the Auckland Junior representative, playing a particularly good brand of football. Of the other backs Colin Kay has been most impressive, but it is feared that the senior selectors have called on him for the rest of the winter. The forwards have been rather patchy, very good at times but liable to tail away as in the Navy match.

RESULTS

2a v. Suburbs: won 30-0; v. Akarana: won 45-0; v. Waitemata: won 69-0; v. Training College: won by default; v. Grafton: won 6-3; v. Grammar: won 9-8.

2b v. Tech. Old Boys: won 28-9; v. Grafton: won 26-7; v. Grammar: lost 6-12; v. Shore: won 8-6; v. Training College: won by default; v. Navy: lost 3-20.

THIRD GRADE

Most successful of the three third grade teams is the Intermediate XV which has lost only one game to date. Improved forward play and a very fleet three-quarter line have been the strength of the team, and prospects

are good for winning the section. The other teams have not been successful being victorious in only two games between them. The Open side has struggled against a shortage of players, being unable on one occasion to field a side. Third Intermediate B's matches have been remarkable for their closeness, the team never being more than two or three points down at the end.

RESULTS

3rd Open: played 6, won 1, lost 5.
3rd Intermediate: played 6, won 5, lost 1.
3rd Intermediate B: played 6, won 1, lost 5.

HOCKEY CLUB

Premier Auckland hockey team in 1946, Varsity shows every sign of holding its position this year. Unbeaten to date, the XI have established a slender lead in the Senior Championship, whilst in the seven-a-side Tournament held at Hamilton on the King's Birthday a College side won all its matches comfortably. Spearhead of the attack, Dick Coldham has been scoring consistently again this year, being given good support by the very fast forward line. When hockey is established at its headquarters in Remuera once again, Varsity should prove a very good draw, the lowest qualification in the Senior team being an N.Z.U. Blue.

That the club could well field two Senior teams is indicated by the very high scores 2A run up week after week. Already over fifty goals have been scored by this very powerful side which is yet to have a close game in its section. 2B, although not quite so successful, is also well placed in its grade. The third grade team has balanced its fortunes very evenly with two wins, two losses, and two draws to date. And they do enjoy their hockey; to quote one senior player, "they are a really happy band of brothers."

RESULTS:

Seniors: played 6, won 4, drawn 2.
2A: played 6, won 6.
2B: played 6, won 3, lost 3.

SOCCER CLUB

With the gaining of Senior status 1947 is proving a most auspicious year in the history of the club. The Seniors have made very fair progress, and though they have lost many of their games, the margin of defeat has always been very small. With Peter Iles in goal, and a reliable pair of full-backs, the team has found it very much easier to save than to score goals. A very telling lack of co-ordination in the forward line has been the team's main weakness—but a weakness which the club appeared likely to remedy in its two outings on Blandford Park.

Highlight of the season has been the 5-1 win which the side scored at Thistle's expense, and this was followed up by a very fine exhibition against Mount Albert Grammar Old Boys, when Varsity made its first appearance in the big match at Blandford Park. The game appealed very much to the large crowd present, and Varsity football is undoubtedly popular at the present time. There is need, however, for more player support from the College, several lower grades having great difficulty in fielding sides over the vacation.

SPORTING COLUMN

Noticed in Varsity sporting circles:

That the Rugby football XV has been doing very well in spite of its

very heavy casualty list. No fewer than six of the back-line are off the field at present, most of them with very little chance of playing again this season. One of the most serious losses was the centre three-quarter, G. G. K. Gilmour, who sustained a painful shoulder injury after showing very impressive form in the early matches. An unfortunate coincidence was that the very same thing happened to Clive Nettleton in his first game deputising for Gilmour. Neither is expected to play again this winter.

That Barry Sweet missed Representative and possible All Black honours when he injured his knee in a club match the Saturday preceding the North Island trials. Sweet actually left for Palmerton but he was unable to take the field.

That except for the rather negative display in the Owai Rovers match the College hockey XI has had a very smoothly functioning forward line. The best indication of this is the number of goals scored by centre-forward Coldham, who collects two or three almost every Saturday.

That the University Table Tennis team has begun the winter in very good form routing Farmers by 30 games to 6. Tills, Jaine and Nunnerly were in very good form for the winners.

That Peter Iles has added to his cricket laurels by some very fine goal keeping at Blandford Park this season. Competent critics compared his display in one match with those given by past New Zealand custodian Yeull, at his best. Iles played for Auckland in the Cup matches at Dunedin during the King's Birthday week-end.

The College XV played football worthy of the occasion when it took part in the maiden Rugby match played on Sarawai Park at the beginning of the season. Varsity's best football this winter, it was pleasing to see the royal light blue carrying on the triumphs of athletes Holland, Kay, Neesham and others scored on the same field during the summer.

Talking of athletes, two Varsity students have been accorded the very high distinction of an invitation to compete in the 1949 Empire Games; hurdlers both, J. M. Holland and A. R. Eustace.

That the Varsity Harrier Club has had several outings this winter, all being well attended. High hopes are held of taking the cross-country shield from Otago this tournament.

That University appealed "as a very fit side which plays spectacular football" when it made its debut at Blandford Park several Saturdays back. Soccer enthusiasts were particularly interested in the football of the three Fijian members, Matasan, Naidu and Vola Vola.

Latest of the football personalities that appear during the season is "Scotty" McDonald, a returned serviceman who was chosen emergency for England during his service overseas. McDonald's play in the Auckland-Waikato was said to have been of All-Black standard, particularly his line-out work.

That two of Varsity's leading cricketers, Henry Cooper and Jack Elliott, are playing good hockey in the senior team again this year. They both know what to do with the ball.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

(Continued)

DEBATING CLUB

When the Debating Club chose for subject "That Free Love is Immoral," it put its finger upon the one thing which will draw a large audience in this college—sensation. Judging by the number of chairs the committee drew up in the Women's Common Room, the audience which did in fact assemble there was by no means unexpected.

The case for the affirmative was opened by Miss Barbara Hyland, who stated her belief in the fitness of marriage as an institution, and in free love as an iniquity. Most memorable of her remarks were her quotations of Aldous Huxley to the effect that very few people could stand up to free love anyway, and that in any case it was a waste of energy.

Mr. George Gunn, for the negative, ranged D. H. Lawrence against Huxley, and pointed out that failure to place sexual relationships in their right perspective could lead to morbidity, maladjustment, etc., etc. He stressed the difference between free love and promiscuity, and asked why, if real love existed in any particular case, it should not be expressed through a sexual relationship.

Miss Trowen in reply, quoted the abandonment of marriage ties in Russia and China, with "disastrous results." The people of to-day, being insufficiently educated, she said, need a legal tie to make bargains binding. As an example of the effects of free love she asked us to consider the increasing shiftlessness of people. A Voice: "They're living in caravans."

Mr. Colin Bell, who confessed to having read "some authorities on the subject," pointed out that to sanction free love does not mean that all the members of the community must practise free love, it means merely that the stigma at present attaching to free love is removed. He denied, that the increasing divorce rate had any connection with the more liberal ideas on sex relationships and marriage—it was simply that divorce was now more respectable than 50 years ago, when couples unhappily married, still continued from a sense of duty to remain married and "to produce their annual child." Finally, in answer to the quotation of Christian standards by the leader of the affirmative team, he mentioned the fact that the Christian ethic is not the only one.

Mr. Garden's speech was characterized by a singularly unfortunate choice of expression, considering the subject in hand. His main point was that the present ethical code had produced a civilized race which considered its rights and duties not merely as individuals, but as members of a whole community.

Mr. Norwood, the final speaker for the negative team, took exception to the laying of responsibility for conditions which existed in Russia and China at the door of free love—war and political instability were the causes of chaos, not free love. Mr. Norwood, who showed more signs of getting to grips with the subject than any other of the speakers, said that chastity and virginity were virtues trumped up by the XV century and that in the words of a modern critic, virginity was not a virtue, it was a condition. The marital bliss urged by the team for the affirmative was not in practice successful—witness the number of divorces. The strong laws of marriage and conventional morality were nothing more than misapplied Christianity. Mr. Norwood's final point was that free love was composed of "love" as well as "free," a fact he considered the team for the affirmative had overlooked.

When the subject was thrown open for discussion from the floor there were several interesting quotations. Bishop Bradley to the effect that the doctrine of the greatest good for the greatest number was an argument than which he could conceive none the more terrible; and Shaw to the

effect that marriage was the most licentious institution yet evolved (proved by its popularity). A speaker from the floor referred to the first two commandments and also remarked that righteousness was traditionally rewarded by the god of the Israelites by a "piece of chocolate or a victory." Evil brought its own reward. Mr. Norwood was heard to remark darkly, "Ah, the woman always pays." The speaker's point was that under the regime of free love, she had more to pay. Mr. Norwood: "She gets 10 bob a week now." Another speaker from the floor brought forth the startling remark that exponents of free love had very lax ideas—they "seemed to think finding a bed was the main thing, and how can that be a firm foundation for lasting happiness?" A Voice: "It depends on the bed."

Mr. John Hooker said that unhappy marriage was nothing better than officially sanctioned prostitution.

After the summing up, a vote was taken on (a) the presentation of the case, and (b) the merits of the case. On the first question the team for the negative was unanimously voted the better and on the second the affirmative team won by 14 votes. (About 60 per cent. of those present did not vote on this second question).

* * *

THE UNIVERSITY IN MODERN SOCIETY

LITERARY CLUB MEETS

Through the courtesy of Dr. Aubin, Literary Club was enabled to hold a vacation meeting in most comfortable surroundings at his home. The topic, however, was not a literary one, but a very enlightening panel discussion was held on "The Place of the University in Modern Society." Professor Musgrove, Mr. A. R. D. Fairburn, Mr. M. K. Joseph and Father Forsman led the discussion, which was notable chiefly for indicating why our University is considered "third-rate."

Professor Musgrove mentioned the popular misconception of the University as being the cultural core of the community as well as the body which set its cultural standards. He pointed out that this is not historically correct. The university was originally a training ground for the clergy, and later for the diplomatic corps. Thus it provided purely vocational training. The professor maintained that the University has not set the cultural standard for the community; it is a result of society's outlook, not a cause. He quoted incidents in the field of literature and religion in support of this. The University Wits, Marlowe and Greene, when they came down from Cambridge, reflected in their plays not the cloistered calm of their university, but the turbulence of everyday life.

The Wesleyan Revival, although some of its protagonists were scholars sprung from the need of the time, not from any theories matured behind University walls. The so-called Oxford movement arose in a similar manner.

Professor Musgrove said that nowadays too many people are getting a University education. Teaching is becoming too specialised and not enough time is devoted to pure research and pure study. This, of course, raised the question, "Why not let the University develop along its own lines, as it has done in the past?"

The answers are that the University is numerically swamped to the point of being "clogged," and at the same time understaffed. Another aspect which must not be forgotten is that as the numbers of students under the University's influence increases, so does the tendency of the state to interfere in University affairs.

Professor Musgrove wants the University to be left alone, to do its job which, he declared, was thinking, the end of a University system being to maintain straight thinking.

Mr. Fairburn opened by warning us

that there are troublous times ahead. European civilization is on the verge of collapse and America is in no position to stand alone. Mr. Fairburn pointed out that people trained in Universities were admirably suited to stave off the collapse of a civilisation, and quoted in support of this the fact that the Nazis very quickly shot students on occupation of any territory. Mr. Fairburn said that a University needed some central focus, such as it had lost since clerical days when theology was the cultural core. He pleaded for a more philosophical approach to professional training instead of stressing the mercenary aspect. Subjects such as law, for instance, should be studied with a regard to relating them to the other traditions of civilization. In this connection, Mr. Fairburn drew a distinction between academic economics, which is a subject parallel to physics, and economics which concentrates on practical problems such as inflation. The economist who gets a job is chosen for his services more than for his learning. Should this influence on the trend of study be allowed to go too far?

Mr. Fairburn said he believes that New Zealand education is running on better lines now than ever before, in spite of current letters to the newspapers from lamenting employers. These, he said, only show the business man's view of the end of education—to produce efficient office-boys.

The fact that the University depends on grants and gifts make it doubly vulnerable. It is forced to accede to government demands and some times forced to accept gifts out of keeping with its nature.

The need is for the University to realise and to define its position. As the staff's comments were likely to arouse doubts, this meant that the student body should clarify its views on the University's position and then try to educate politicians and business men in the "facts of life."

Mr. Joseph startled everyone by reading the Calendar definition of the purpose for which the University was founded. He also quoted Cardinal Newman on this topic, again emphasising the lack of a central focus. He deplored the expectation of the general public that the University should produce as much justification for its existence at the least possible expense and inconvenience. The function of the English department seems now to be to turn out journalists and teachers and to act as an auxiliary to the Schools of Law, Commerce and Music. The University is doing the work of the schools and the W.E.A. and in this respect it has taken on tasks outside its sphere. It should seize upon members of society, remake them and turn them out into the world again to exercise their beneficial influence. Research has been relegated to non-existence because of the insistence on a full set of lectures. The ideal is, besides providing full facilities for research, to have a creative artist on the staff of every department.

The cultural position of the University in Auckland can be gathered very accurately from its geographical site. It is placed conveniently to the business area, to engineering shops, legal firms and accountants' offices, handy to the transport system, road, rail and ferry linking it with the Training College, schools and suburbs. Nothing remotely suggestive of the detached, self-contained community such as is envisaged at Tamaki and which Mr. Joseph deems desirable.

The University, Mr. Joseph concluded, should be looked upon as the oyster producing an occasional pearl, not as the hen producing the regular egg.

Father Forsman said that the deplorable condition of the University reflects the deplorable condition of civilisation. The basis of every civilisation is a synthesis which can explain the relation between Science and Art, Faith and Reason. Our civilisation, and our University have lost their synthesis. Their aims are many

and varied, differing and irreconcilable. Progress has become the central focus of our University system, the same progress that leads to unreasonable reason in the shape of an atomic bomb. The University, he said, should produce an elite of worth, intellectual and moral, to exercise leadership.

Miss Garland, thanking the speakers for their views, opened the general discussion by stating the view of most students, that the University should work in co-operation with society and not seek to detach itself. The University, she felt, is detached quite enough from society already by the very apathy of that society.

Mr. Salmon sought to supply a central focus once again by suggesting a compulsory "general knowledge" course before taking a degree.

These views, and the discussion which followed, gave all the students present much to think over, together with a new standard for estimating the value of the education we are receiving.

* * *

CHESS & DRAUGHTS CLUB

Student Chairman: H. G. Barter.
Secretary-Treasurer: G. A. M. King.
Committee: O. S. Hames, H. J. Hanham, O. Sternbach.

A serious gap in the intellectual and social life of the College has at last been filled by the formation of this Club.

The inaugural meeting was held on April 22nd. The President of Student Association Executive, John Nathan, took the Chair. The Constitution was adopted, the Committee was elected, and the Club formally launched. Present playing times are: lunch hours in Room 37, and Tues. 7.30 p.m. in Room 2.

An account of the opening night held on June 10th will appear in next issue. The Club intends to put problems in Craccum with solutions in the following issue. In the Chess notation capital letters represent White pieces, small letters Black. Numbers indicate the number of blanks in the row. Each row is set on the board like writing on a page, i.e., left to right with the lines from top to bottom. The Draughts board is numbered from Blacks double corner, i.e., if Black is at the top, also like writing but using alternate squares.

Problems:

Chess: White to play and win.
r1bqr1k1; pppppppp; 8; 3P2N1; 2n5; B1P5; P4PPP; R2QRIK1.

Draughts: White to play and win.
Black kings at 19. 31. Black men at 12. 15. White kings at 10. 20. 22. White man at 26.

* * *

CATHOLIC CLUB

At a meeting held on Sunday, March 30, at 7.30 p.m. in the W.C.R., the members were pleased to welcome back a former chaplain of the Club, Rev. Father M. G. Lavelle. Father Lavelle, who has recently returned from a visit to his native land, spoke on "Ireland's Spiritual Destiny." This destiny, said the speaker, was to preserve and spread the Catholic Faith. He showed how Ireland had restored the Faith to Europe after the invasions of the barbarians had resulted in the fall of the Roman Empire and a lapse into paganism.

Again, in the nineteenth century, Ireland had fulfilled her destiny, for her people, driven from their country by persecution and the artificially produced famine, had played a big part in the christianising of the newly-discovered lands of the world.

To-day, said Father Lavelle, missionaries from Ireland were engaged in the conversion of the enormous population of Africa and Asia with whom, it seems, the future of the world must lie. He expressed the opinion that it was once again the destiny of Ireland to preserve Christianity in the world.

SCI. SOC. FILM

GORGIOUS TECHNICOLLOUR

I don't think many who were at the Science Society's film evening on April 22 will forget what they saw. Drawn by a curiosity which overcame feelings of apprehension, a huge crowd filled the Chemistry Lecture to capacity to see Mr. W. A. Fairclough's film on "Thyroid and Brain Operations."

An atmosphere of excitement and mounting tension could be felt as the Chairman went through the formal preliminaries. Mr. W. A. Fairclough introduced his subject from his place by the projector, from which he was unable to move because of the crush.

In matter-of-fact tones he described the necessity for the thyroid and brain operations we were about to see. The film was to be in technicolour taken at a range of 4ft, photo-flood lamps, stops. . . The light went out. In the darkness I thought—I hope I won't be sick or faint; better men have at first operations; still this is only a film—but colour—4ft! My collar seemed rather tight. A voice, "Will there be sound?" "No." Another voice, "Just as well!" A nervous titter from the crowd. The projector began to whirr. This was it—some of the mystery and terror, to the layman, of the operating theatre would be revealed. "I'm beginning to wish I hadn't come—" "You don't have to look . . ." —whispers. The film began, Fairclough's voice explaining that the first part would show by diagrams what had to be done. A little easing of the suspense as we saw sections of the neck and the regions that had to be negotiated before the removal of the surplus thyroid tissue could be effected.

Then, suddenly, the theatre and the patient being wheeled in. We gazed fascinated at the features of the unconscious young girl, the long white throat, the strapping of her arms to the table, then the smear of the brown antiseptic. A flash at the rows of cruelly glittering instruments raised the murmur of the audience to a sharp outcry. The tension of the preliminaries was eased as it became almost unbearable by the quiet half-amused voice of the doctor. "Injection of local anaesthetic, procaine, the stuff Crippen murdered his wife with." "Here is Sir Carrick Robertson." "The first incision."

It began—the deft movements of scalpels held in gloved hands, the dextrous manipulation of arterial forceps, the team work, the widening wound. The intense interest of what followed made it less difficult to keep one's eyes on the screen; the presence of one's stomach was less uncomfortable obvious. Even so, there were noises that indicated that some had had enough and were feeling it wisest to leave before it was too late.

With sure strokes the unwanted tissue was laid bare, removed, first on one side then the other. Sir Carrick's fingers moving at incredible speed tying ligatures on the arteries. The closing of the wound and the neat row of stitches in a long curve. It was over. "She was premedicated, she'll wake up soon and wonder where she has been all the time." Laughter. Lights. We all stretched, grinned and looked at each other to see how we had taken it. Some remarkably greenish-white faces gave a little satisfaction to others who hadn't been feeling too well themselves.

The next film. This would be better; we had been initiated. But, as we saw the shaved scalp of the patient, a woman, and then the sweeping circular incision above the forehead, we weren't so sure. The doctor: "We have to make a map like this before we cover up the area round the operation otherwise we mightn't know where we were." A laugh—badly needed. The patient's face was then covered; this helps a lot. We needed help when in the next screen a large hand-drill was busily applied to produce a circular row of holes in the skull after the scalp had been folded back. These

holes were linked by sawing with a fine-tooth wire threaded from hole to hole. The section of skull was removed and there was exposed the mysterious tissue of the brain. Probing confidently into the depths of the folds with a long instrument, the gloved fingers removed, portion by portion, the cyst on the pituitary gland which this miracle of technical had made accessible.

The portion of skull was carefully replaced, sewn into position and the holes refilled with the "sawdust" from the drilling. The operation in contrast to the first was truly gory, the whole area shimmering with blood from the myriads of cut vessels in spite of the dozens of shining, neatly-arranged forceps. A long operation, which we saw in a few minutes.

We left marvelling at the skill, training and patience needed in a good surgeon.

A great experience.

—C.L.

* * *

HARRIER CLUB

Judging by the attendances at both the Annual General Meeting and the opening run (even in the storm of April 19), indications are for a very successful season.

The A.G.M. was held on April 16, and the following officers were appointed:

President: Mr. J. Hogben.
Vice-Presidents: Messrs. Harden, sen., M. Segedin, sen., J. B. Christie, sen., J. G. Millar, F. W. Orange, L. Barker.

Club Captain: Q. Thompson.
Vice-Captain: P. Fraser.
Secretary: B. Nicholls.
Treasurer: H. Maslen.
Committee: R. Rawnsley, A. S. Wilshire, F. Taylor.

A prompt start for the season was suggested, so on the next Saturday thirty-one runners assembled at the home of our President, and sent the Club off to a good beginning. From now on runs will be a weekly affair, so if you are thinking about "having a canter," see any of the above members for a programme.

* * *

FIELD CLUB

The A.G.M. resulted in the election of the following officers:—

President: Miss R. F. de Berg.
Student Chairman: Miss V. U. Dellow.

Secretary: Miss A. Lush.
Committee: Miss M. Crum, Miss D. Savage, Mr. E. H. Kerkin, Mr. R. V. Mirams.

Members of the staff representing several Science Departments were elected Vice-Presidents.

A very successful week-end camp was held at Piha from March 28th to 30th.

The Saturday was spent in examining a marine thesis area at Piha and in collecting in the coastal forest at White's Track.

A dance was run primarily for the entertainment of F.C. at the Piha Hall on Saturday night. When the amplifier broke down, Field Club entertained the locals until the arrival of a gramophone, with delightful renditions of several College songs.

On the Sunday morning the "Gap" was visited, while in the afternoon members helped an honours student to set up several experiments in her sand-dune thesis area.

* * *

S.C.M.

"What are we all here for?" may be the sort of rhetorical question which parsons are well advised not to ask when preaching in Mount Eden gaol. But there seems to be no adequate reason why some such question should not be faced by those who more or less voluntarily and regularly enter the portals of that Institution of Higher Learning known as A.U.C. There is not only this question of why we are found there, but also of why it

is here at all—what does it stand for, what is the University's function in Society and its relation to the latter.

It was in the discussion of a study opening up some such fundamentally important issues as this that those who attended A.U.C. S.C.M. May Camp at Henderson found much food for thought and something of a fuller and more satisfying approach to their distinctive task as students. Mrs. Rainsford Jansen gave us an insight into the workings of the American University (and the comparative merits of U.S. and N.Z. silk stockings!), Mr. P. Martin Smith, Director of Auckland W.E.A., spoke of the ideas underlying the Community Centre scheme, and Mr. John Laird, M.A., tried to help us clarify our minds a little on the many involved and important aspects of the individual's relation to society. Tutorials on Christian Apologetics, and the usual Devotional Sessions, plus fine weather and excellent meals helped to make it a most worthwhile Camp, not unworthy of the traditional high standard of such S.C.M. functions.

During the Vacation we availed ourselves of the opportunity of welcoming at an informal function Mr. Alun Richards, M.A., Dominion Organiser of CORSO and Editor of "Student," and we had a very stimulating evening together.

Outstanding coming event of the month is the World Day of Prayer for Students on Sunday, June 22nd. A Service of Worship on the afternoon of that day in the College Hall will mark the official observance in Auckland of this occasion when the worldwide unity of Christian Students is effectively demonstrated in all its reality and deep significance. It will be followed by Tea. Remember the 3rd July, when we are the guests of Trinity College for a Combined Fellowship Evening; and don't forget Study Circles on Tuesday at 1 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m., and Devotional Service on Thursday at 3.30 p.m.

* * *

"STING, PASSION, AND POISON"

"Pouring his full heart
In profuse strains of unpremeditated art."

In the Hall recently shades of a conservative from the glory that was Greece, chased the echoes of Dr. Blaiklock's address. Aristophanes I'm sure would have stirred the audience with some pointed direct reference, and Dr. Blaiklock seemed to regret the freedoms that are past. Despite the laws of Libel, Dr. Blaiklock was not unduly hampered. Ignoring authorities' well founded doubt, Dr. Blaiklock had no hesitation in beginning with a good solid date—Aristophanes, born 448 B.C. The satirist, through his work, was related to conditions of the present day. Dr. Blaiklock pointed out that the established type of Dionysiac comedy gave Aristophanes a weapon such as no other public Satirist has ever wielded. "Sting, Passion and Poison" was his description of "The Lysistrata." Aristophanes could indulge the wildest flights of extravagance. He could deal keen thrusts, or make serious appeals. As mentioned earlier I feel that Dr. Blaiklock's analogy with modern times, would have compared well with the work of Aristophanes were it not for the fact that our freedoms of speech are not quite so wide in the time of Aristophanes.

Dr. Blaiklock quoted occasionally in a very modern idiom. Out of some eleven extant comedies, he dealt with six in relating them to his theme. First, there was his comment on "The Acharnians." He felt that this play produced in time of war, and stating so admirably the case for the enemy, while the speaker's head rests on the chopping block, with the knowledge that should he fail to be convincing, his head will be lopped off, was the perfect example of the freedom of speech that prevailed in the Athens of the day. The Doctor seemed to

imply that it would be a very dangerous thing to attempt to-day. Just as dangerous I feel, as arguing the Aliens case with one's head on the R.S.A. chopping block. Then there was "The Birds." The speaker quoted Murray on this play. He agreed with him that it was a play of escape. But perhaps it really is a satire on law and order. Dr. Blaiklock positively enjoyed describing the treatment accorded Poets, Prophets, Lawyers, Inspectors, and finally Planners. For the sake of the Architectural School, I trust Dr. Blaiklock will forget about the Planners. Next "The Lysistrata." Dr. Blaiklock quoted some lines proving that the line of vitriolic wenches extends far back. Then there was reference to "The Clouds" and "The Frogs." In "the Frogs," Euripides gets it. True to form Aristophanes proves himself the hero of the old and conservative.

Finally, the Doctor said that he thought the Aristophanes had his hand on the pulse of Athens, and that he divined the dry rot of the day and was not afraid to say so. But personally I wonder whether Aristophanes really had such a clear view of the intellectual revolution going on around him, when, as in "The Clouds" he can attack thinkers and Literary workers, who have nothing in common, as prophets of a common heresy.

* * *

"ONLY A FLY'S WING"

On the above subject Dr. Goldschmidt spoke entertainingly to a packed hall. Without going into details it was felt that the speaker was both too elementary and too advanced, all in the one breath. Highlight of the evening perhaps was the solitary question posed at the end of the address. An elderly member of the audience desired to know whether it was true that the offspring of elderly men were likely to be superior to those of young men. Dr. Goldschmidt answered in one word.

* * *

MUSIC CLUB

As the year advances, the date of the Annual Concert that has been a feature of the Club's life in past years, draws closer.

We are greatly concerned at this ever diminishing interval of time in which we may prepare a programme worthy of public performance, and at the sporadic attendance of some members of the Singing Section on practice nights. An appeal is made to those members who have not been regularly to rehearsals to do their utmost to rejoin our ranks.

The Club has another commitment this year besides the Annual Concert. Mr. Arthur Cock, organist at St. Pauls, Symonds Street, has asked that the Singing Section assist him in a recital at the church some time in the near future.

These matters, coupled with the poor financial position of the Club this year, make it imperative that all members loyally co-operate for the good of the whole. It would seem a very unworthy thing to let this section of the Club fade into ineffectiveness while its chief benefactor is overseas. So to all people who showed their interest at the start of this year—show your continued interest by your physical support next Wednesday evening.

Practices are now held, 7-8 p.m., as before the power cuts.

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