

Editor: Travis Wilson
 Sub-Editor: I. Pattison
 Assistants: R. Snow, K. Olds
 Sports: S. Hogben W. Wilkins
 Reporters: P. Key-Jones, P. Keane
 Circulation: M. Blott
 Legal Adviser: J. Blennerhassett

CRACCUM

"Craccum" is printed by the Auckland Service Printery, 15 Wakefield Street, Auckland, C.1., for the proprietors, the Auckland University College Students' Association.

Vol. 18, No. 8.

Auckland N.Z., Wednesday, August 30, 1944.

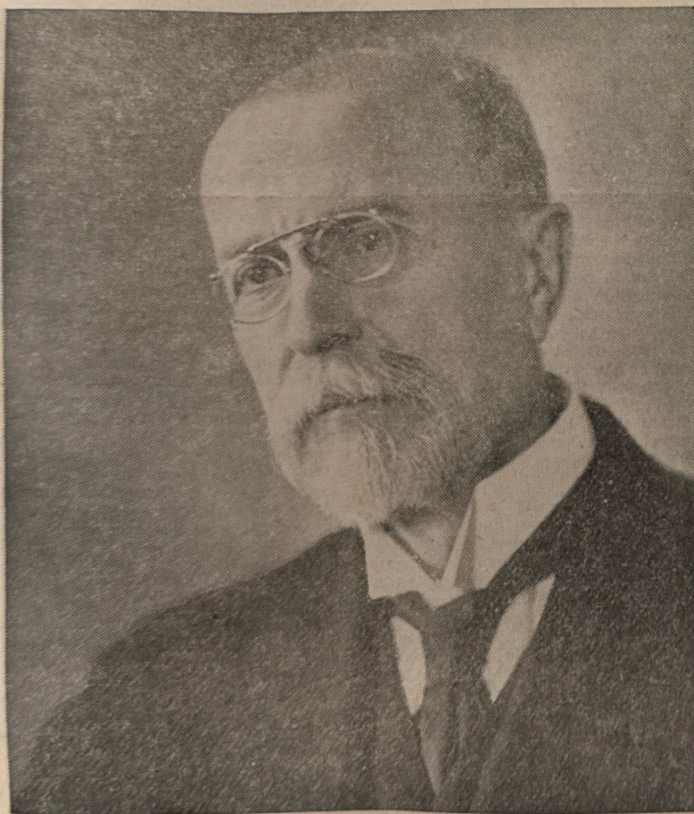
PRICE THREEPENCE.

Prague Charles University

MAXMILIAN ROSENFELD

Once again Czech cultural life has become the victim of furor teutonicus. As far back as the 11th century a peaceful people settled in the territories known to-day as Czechoslovakia, where within a century they had accepted Christianity and managed to translate the Bible from Latin into Czech. Already in the 13th century the Czech state was one of the most progressive countries in Europe, when Prague Charles University was founded by Charles IV. to become Europe's oldest university. Prague soon became a centre of learning whose culture was sought by students from all over the world. Had destiny placed us as neighbours to an English-speaking country, instead of to Germany, our cultural development would have a much better record. There would have been no need for the American Hobart and William Smith colleges to send salutations to Prague Charles University—as happened recently—in remembrance of the fourth anniversary of its closing. For nearly six hundred years Charles University has been the centre and symbol of freedom, in which Czech teachers of fame have made contributions to science and art, to be enjoyed by generations to come. It happened quite frequently in the past that our learned men had to seek refuge in foreign countries in which they imparted knowledge to other nations, while our own schools were closed down by the invading Germans.

When in 1918 Czechoslovakia gained her independence, we thought that freedom would be ours forever. No Czechoslovak would have thought that in 1944 John Milton Potter, President of Hobart, would pay homage to the heroism of countless Czech students and Professors of Charles University who died in defence of freedom and truth, in these words: "This day we come to honour the most ancient university of middle Europe, to proclaim our faith that it will live, flourish and increase to a larger glory and freedom when this



PRESIDENT MASARYK

great war shall end by the triumph of the United Nations. We give earnest of our faith as we send our sons to traverse the seas, and, together with your sons, share the perils of this struggle, to the end that the republic of letters and of all the truly free arts may be forever preserved."

While I am writing this article, the students of the New Zealand University are enjoying their holiday and gathering strength for the coming period when they will resume studies again. It is a wonderful feeling to leave college in the consciousness that work will be resumed after the holidays are over. Such a consciousness is possible only in free countries based on democratic principles. Unfortunately, our young generation is not only denied this privilege, even if temporarily, but are also in constant danger of their lives, as happened in 1939 when hundreds of university students were massacred by the Nazis in Prague. The story of Jan Opletal, a student of medicine, should never pass into oblivion. We may entertain the hope that one day the world will manage to persuade Germany to use peaceful methods in dealing with her neighbours and other peoples, though the atrocities they have perpetuated upon defenceless students should always be a warning to us.

It was on October 28, 1939, that Prague University students took an active part in the procession to commemorate the independence of the republic which at that time was not independent any longer. They marched in an orderly manner through the streets of Prague and sang the national anthem. What sort of people are they who can shoot at innocent young people between the years of 18 and 22 only because they are singing the anthem of their nation? The dead bodies of students lay in the streets of Prague, while other students were wounded and dragged into concentration camps. A fortnight after the event, the parents of Jan Opletal were informed that their son had died. Opletal was the leader of the students. Although exposed to the danger of losing their lives, the students as a body arranged a funeral, to render final honours to their comrade. The ceremony would have passed off without any disturbances had German cars not driven into a group of students. Shooting began again. The greatest crime occurred, however, when German armed military formations broke into students' hostels, attached to universities, in the early hours and began an attack upon the sleeping students. They awakened the caretakers imprisoned in the cellars, then forced their way into the dormitories and fired at the students. How fitting is the utterance of Germany's greatest poet, Johann Wolfgang Goethe, that it would take centuries before it would be possible to say that the Germans were no longer barbarians. Only barbarians are capable of shooting young people, utterly devoid of any means to defend themselves.

All this was just a pretext for the closing-down of the Czech universities. All buildings were occupied, and pillaging began with Prussian efficiency. Valuable apparatus and scientific equipment in all the establishments were seized and transferred to Germany. Precious books in university libraries were burned. The damage done is considered irreparable, and was not confined to Charles University alone. Other establishments, mainly the Masaryk and Benes Universities, suffered also. The professors were imprisoned and tortured until they collapsed and died. I have a list of Czech professors, which has been published only after being checked and double-checked by the Czechoslovak Government in London, according to which at least 50 per cent. of all university professors in Czechoslovakia are either killed or in concentration camps. Such is the fate of people who suffer only because destiny decreed they should be Czechs.

It would be a mistake to assume that similar measures could ever conquer the spirits of the Czechoslovak people. The other day the comic opera, "The Bartered Bride," by Smetana, was broadcast from records by 2YA in Czech. If you ever have the opportunity to spend some time in Prague after the war, as I hope many of you will, do not miss an operatic performance at the National Theatre when an opera by Smetana is played. In his operas there is more than brilliant Czech music. There is the masterly interpretation of Czech national life that has always helped our people to carry burdens imposed on them by foreign intruders, and it is such music which will again liberate the Czech people from alien domination and outrage.

University life in Czechoslovakia, and particularly at Charles University, was linked with the name of one of its most famous professors, who served faithfully and devotedly for more than 30 years, the ideals for which that Institute stood: Thomas Masaryk. Many people know him mainly as first President of Czechoslovakia, in which office he remained for 17 years until he reached an age when he no longer felt strong enough to serve his people. As Professor of Philosophy he had a deep influence upon the rising intellectual class. If students of his faculty knew more about Western thinkers than their curriculum prescribed, it was mainly because Masaryk was an admirer of Locke, Hume, Comte and Stuart Mill. In point of fact his inaugural lecture at Prague University in 1882 was on "Hume and Scepticism." During the last war, although fully occupied with political work aiming at the liberation of his people from the Austrian yoke, he found time to discharge his duties as Professor of London University. Many English universities honoured him with the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa, in appreciation of his knowledge of philosophy in general and the high humanitarian ideals he defended in particular. Similar honours were conferred on him by American universities, since he also held the professorship of philosophy at Chicago University.

Masaryk was not our only great philosopher known beyond the borders of his country. Some former professors of Prague University hold professorships at American universities, waiting for the time when they will be able to transfer their activities again to The Alma Mater Carolina to follow in the footsteps of Jan Huss, Komensky and Benes, to work again for simple decency and the pursuit of truth.

ORATORY CONTEST

There were five entries for this year's Oratory Contest, which was held in the Hall on August 1st. There was a very poor attendance, which must be considered as a serious breach of good manners on the part of the College towards Mr. J. H. Luxford, S.M., the visiting judge. Apart from this, the function was very successful, and the standard of speaking high. The contest was won by Peter Dempsey for the second year in succession, with 84.1, and Wyn Beasley was second with 63.1.

The only restriction on subject matter was that it should be "essentially serious," but despite this there was little variety in the choice of subjects. Beasley centred his speech round "Dunkirk," John Morton round Queen Elizabeth, and both, on occasions, wandered well away. Ray Honey chose "When We Rebuild," but the

scope of his subject was too much for him. Typically, Peter's title was, "There is No Darkness," and he revolved around the rights of man, and Peter's old hobby-horse, the Atlantic Charter. Miss Lukas, the sole representative of her sex, dealt with "Apartheid's handling of the land problem," and though her facts were a little confused, her platform manner was very pleasing.

Mr. Luxford, in his remarks, explained that he had consented to judge, not because of his own speaking ability, but because of his years as a listener to good, bad and indifferent. He gave the speakers some most lucid and helpful constructive criticism, and must have helped them a great deal. The Debating Club was very fortunate in getting such an able man to judge the contest, and wishes to thank him for giving so generously of his time.

This Craccum Business

It was indeed most gratifying to see that three students out of the fifteen hundred enrolled have had some criticism of CRACCUM to offer. We did expect, after the staff had given their (often biased) opinions, that the students would take up the challenge.

In all the criticisms, there was a general tendency to vagueness. Not one writer seemed aware of the fact that wartime conditions have had a considerable effect upon both the size and the lay-out of the paper. At the beginning of the present year the editorial staff were considering enlarging the paper to eight pages, but the paucity of contributions made this quite impossible.

As we considered that the utmost material possible should be published, we sacrificed principles of lay-out, headlines, etc., and adopted a format which permits of the greatest number of words per page consistent with legibility.

As regards subject matter, we have adopted the policy of including in each issue one or more articles of general interest, i.e., on non-varsity topics. For the rest of the paper, we have tried to make it representative of all extra-curricular activities of College life. We have endeavoured to create a debating ground for students in our Open Forum column. There have been few contributions of a purely literary nature, but some have appeared from time to time.

We have entirely eliminated the "Gossip Truth" element from the paper, because it has been our experience that such a column irritated rather than interested the majority of readers. In a non-residential college of this size, in which those who do not know the people who "ought to be known," outnumber those who do, it seems ridiculous to publish a column which is understood by about five per cent. of its readers.

Our final point is that the students of the college can make of CRACCUM what they want. Theirs, after all, are the contributions. The Committee merely sift the chaff from the grain.

STUDENT OPINION OF CRACCUM

Craccum has been a better journal this year than for several years past. It is good to see a number of serious articles on local and national affairs. Articles by students would be better, but as student opinion is apparently non-existent, outside opinion is welcome. CRACCUM has made one or two bad slips—for example the review of the reading of "No Man Stands Apart." But the general trend is good and should be kept up.

J. E. MORTON.

There should be one article per issue on outside topics, but keep our only college paper for student affairs, without petty gossip. Why not omit the resume of sports results, which can be read in the daily papers, and which, when printed in CRACCUM, is anything up to four weeks out of date.

JUDITH A. PHARO.

CRACCUM gets sold, not because of what it contains, but because it is the college paper. Still it is good to see serious subjects tackled.

The general presentation seems to be mediocre. The lay-out of articles, choice of type and placings of headings, strike me as being poorly thought out and unconvincing.

RAYMOND HONEY,
3rd yr. Architecture.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

SUMMER CONFERENCE

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

After six of seven years the Annual S.C.M. Conference is being held this year in Auckland. The dates are Dec. 28 to Jan 6. When organising your vacation or coping with the manpower, try to keep these dates free. The study is centring round the Bible and the right approach to it.

The general theme is to be God's Word in our World.

Watch for further particulars and plan to be at the conference.

MODERN LANGUAGES CLUB

This club held a very interesting evening at the end of last term in the Women's Common Room, when members of the French Club put on a humorous one-act play. Though this was very short, the dialogue and situations amused the small audience greatly, particularly in the scene where Dr. West and Professor Keys dined with the beautiful widow. The Modern Languages Club wishes to thank the French Club for putting on such an enjoyable evening.

Madam,—

Concerning question 10 of "Quiz Yourself" in CRACCUM, August 2 copy, which states "This time the Germans must be taught their lesson for all time," I would say that the question as it stands is useless. What is meant? By Germans, is it meant the German people, or the Nazis and the Junker class and the big manufacturers—the real cause of the trouble. If the former is meant, the contention is absurd. Can you imagine the ordinary German man in the street desiring war any more than, say, the average British worker? Surely the passions of men the world over, their loves, hates and fears, are the same. Is it reasonable to suggest, as we so often hear asserted, that the Germans are naturally militaristic and cruel? Just think for one moment and ask yourself: "Is the average German any different from me?"

If, on the other hand, is meant the Nazi leaders and Junkers, I would say yes, let them be punished. But in the heat of the moment it is difficult to pass rational judgments; excessive patriotism may lead to a perversion of justice by men however well-meaning they may be. It is so easy for the desire for justice to run away with itself and be supplanted by the desire for revenge pure and simple. And what good will this war have attained if we substitute for hate for the Jews, a hatred of the German people? Punish the German leaders, yes, but not in a spirit of revenge. For punishment is imposed to reform the character, not in a spirit of hate. And so, to oppress the German people after this war would be defeating its object of world peace, for in oppression would lie the seeds of future conflict.

JOHN CHILWELL.

Ouspenskaya: "A great artist is a person who can communicate ecstasy."

Chang Ch'ao: "Literature is landscape on the desk; landscape is literature on earth."

Madam,—

It was certainly gratifying to see the short article on the Yugoslav Youth Congress in your last CRACCUM. I am sure that all students appreciate your efforts to make CRACCUM worthy of A.U.C. by taking an interest in local and international affairs. Being Yugoslav myself, I was particularly pleased to read something of my kin in your columns and I should like the opportunity of saying something further about the students of Yugoslavia, who, like those of other occupied countries, are just now denied the right of pursuing their studies.

The following appeared in the German paper "Tagespost": "Belgrade University has proved itself a strong opponent of the 'New Order.' Students, intellectuals and civil servants are politically poisoned with undesirable ideals. This fact may be observed in the action of many professors and students who retired to the mountains to carry on organised resistance when Belgrade was occupied."

After the occupation of Yugoslavia in 1941 the occupation authorities immediately began to "remove" certain professors and students who still remained in the city. Soon the staff and student roll fell so much that the university was closed for an indefinite period; however, attempts were made by the Germans to reorganise it by enlisting new professors and students, but all such attempts failed miserably.

Before the war Belgrade University boasted of a great number of students, well organised, of democratic ideals and in most cases, Pan-Slavists of varying degrees. They were always first in upholding the rights of their people in national and external affairs, the first to oppose the machinations of the Axis and their country's Quislings, and now they lead their people not armed with books and notes, but with weapons of war and boundless courage. Among the foremost leaders of the Army of Liberation are to be found former professors and their students, students such as General Oapceovich and Colonel Oedier. These young men (and women) students, were strongly conscious of the problems of their nation; they never lost contact with their people and never did they fail to demonstrate their disapproval of any injustice. Truly they have been described as "noble sons of their people."

Belgrade University still remains closed, its emptiness and deadness symbolic of the deadness and cultural emptiness of Nazism and Fascism; but although their university stands an empty shell, the Yugoslav student spirit carries on in defiance, and that surging spirit will bear through the desperate struggle and emerge from the chaos to rebuild what has been razed and destroyed.

YUGOSLAV STUDENT.

Madam,—

It is unfortunate that many students (especially some stage I science students) have to attend lectures in which the lecturer reads from a set copy of notes which students take down verbatim.

This is not likely to arouse fresh interest in the subjects concerned or even to maintain interests which students have in their subjects at the commencement of a course. With this method of "reading at them" students tend to get bored and further lessen the value of what is said by talking in the lecture rooms during lectures.

I do not assume that all lecturers read the same notes year by year, or that a few notes in front of the lecturer means he is reading them out verbatim, but there are lecturers in this college who just read what is in front of them and seldom manage to explain satisfactorily the more difficult points of their subject.

Could not these notes (typed out for the lecturer) be cyclostyled and given directly to students and the lecture time devoted to going over them and fuller explanations of the more difficult parts be given. This would enable students to learn more about their subjects and lecturers would be able to give more explanations.

STENOGRAPHER.

Madam,—

Mr. Segedin was personally insulting when he said that the staff of CRACCUM came from the "backwater" of college life. To anyone who knows the Editor and her capable assistants, as I do, such a statement seems ridiculous. The absurdity of it is surely a reflection on the person who made the statement. But it is typical of the general high-handed tone of this criticism of CRACCUM.

This lecturer also stated that only articles containing social chit-chat are a live-wire with students. I do not wish to make the obvious remark about "judging others by oneself," but it is very regrettable that Mr. Segedin has made the acquaintance of only those among us who have such narrow, self-centred interests.

Without doubt Mr. Segedin wanted to create an impression, by being daringly critical. He managed to do this—but it wasn't the impression he wanted to create.

E. FAHN.

Madam,—

As a scrutineer in the recent Presidential and Executive elections, I made it my business to read the Constitution of the Student Association as it applied to elections and their conduct. Consequently, I was very surprised when I found that the Executive had taken matters into their own hands and reversed the Returning Officer's decision with regard to the informal votes.

Whether or not the votes were informal does not matter now, but what does matter is that it was the Returning Officer's duty and right to give the decision as to their validity on the day of the election, and after that the only legal way to alter the decision was for a formal protest to be made within three days, the matter then being considered by a special committee appointed for the purpose. I am not complaining about the reversal of the decision (although I feel that it was the correct one), but I do wish to enter a very strong protest against the action of the Executive who, disregarding the Constitution and acting outside their rights, created unnecessary and, indeed wrongly, a situation which was distinctly uncomfortable for all concerned.

J. C. BURNS.

Madam,—

It is refreshing to note that "Populate or Perish" could observe our salient feature of the Birth Control Panel—that Mrs. Ingham did her best to try and put the discussion on a rational level whereas the "Keep it Dark" attitude emerged from the non-commercial body of student opinion.

A question mentioned in the article was raised in an attempt to show how utterly insane, negative and futile the discussion had become.

Surely the whole of the more classical and scientific section of students has a little more realistic outlook on life and is able to understand and consider intelligently some of the problems of the world from which they seem to stand apart.

Should this arouse the ire of someone and cause them to discover that birth control is something that is part and parcel of our social life, not one of the amenities of a future generation and cause them to reply or even reflect, then I am well pleased.

ECON. I.

"I ain't in 'Who's Who,' but they have my picture in the next edition of 'What is It?'"



SPORTS RESULTS

WOMEN

AUGUST 5th.
HOCKEY.

Seniors v. North Shore, draw, 2-2.

Intermediates.

Blues v. Whites, Blues, 2-1.

BASKETBALL

Blues v. Surrey Hills, won 23-6.

Whites v. Edendale, won 10-9.

AUGUST 12th.

HOCKEY.

Seniors v. Tech, drew 4-4.

Intermediates.

Blues v. Training Coll., won 5-3.

BASKETBALL.

Blues v. Orah, won 17-5.

Whites v. Taupaki, lost 6-4.

AUGUST 19th.

HOCKEY.

Seniors v. Training Coll., won 3-2.

Intermediates.

Blues v. Takapuna, lost 3-0.

BASKETBALL.

Blues v. Westmere, lost 9-8.

HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Canterbury College were the hosts at Tournament this year and they did a great job; both the hockey and other brighter activities were happily and efficiently organised, even if they were rather exhausting.

A.U.C.'s successes on the field were on a modest scale, but in all other activities we more than held our own. The travelling was long-drawn out and pretty strenuous—but the Tournament was well worth it and we found all sorts of ways of amusing ourselves.

Games played were:

v. Canterbury B, won 6-2.

A rather scrappy game with Auckland trying to settle down after the long trip.

v. Victoria, won 4-1.

A.U.C.'s best performance; it was hard bustling hockey that kept Victoria on the defensive and Auckland played well as a team.

v. Canterbury A, lost 1-4.

The home team's experience and sound combination made them superior; a tough game that was fought all the way.

v. Otago, lost 1-5.

Otago's better team work was too much for the tired Auckland side.

Canterbury reps. beat the N.Z.U. team, 3-2 in a very fast and exciting game and Canterbury Colts beat an N.Z.U. B team (containing seven Aucklanders) in a game that was neither fast nor exciting.

A.U.C.'s main weakness lay in lack of practice together and consequently there was little team work or co-ordination.

Owen Jaine, goalie, and the two full-backs, Brian Kennedy, and Peter Roberts, were the soundest and most consistent players in the team. The play of the halves varied while the forwards lacked combination and any real penetration.

We'd like to make special mention of

CANTERBURY

for winning the Seddon Stick and deserving it;

VICTORIA

for their hospitality en route;

BRIAN KENNEDY

for being the only Auckland in the N.Z.U. team. Brian played fine hockey throughout and his selection for N.Z.U. was most popular;

JIM BEARD

for putting in a tremendous amount of time and work in making all our travelling and other arrangements;

KEITH BRAITHWAITE

for a magnificent constitution: the whole team looks to him with respect and not a little awe.

Our very sincere thanks to Canterbury for a really grand time.

HARRIER TOURNAMENT.

DARK HORSE FRASER

Again as last year we have had to content ourselves with "Honours—Second class" in the Dixon Trophy

contest at the N.Z.U. Harrier Tournament held this year in Christchurch. Teams from the four main Colleges competed—Massey and Lincoln finding it impossible to field teams, but basketball and women's hockey teams from Victoria and Canterbury Colleges made up for it by providing a good deal of diversion to the trip. Once again a delightfully full programme was arranged and large portions of fun and games were enjoyed by all, notwithstanding the fact that the visiting teams were somewhat "sabotaged" by the dinner and Ball coming immediately before the race.

The course was the severest 10,000 metre (6½ mile) test of endurance our runners have encountered—whatever said Christchurch was flat! Right from the start at St. Martin's Church (near Opawa), J. Chayter (Cant.), took the lead from B. Stanley (Otago), J. McDowell (Victoria), and J. Sinclair (Auckland). But as the miles rolled by, Stanley and McDowell fought for first place and finally the latter prevailed. Results were as follows:—

Individual placings—

1. McDowell (V.).
2. Coombes (O.).
3. Stanley (O.).
4. Fraser (A.).

Dixon Trophy Teams Race—

1. Otago (20 points).
2. Auckland (35 points).
3. Canterbury.
4. Victoria.

Hence the North Island Trophy—the Shackelford Cup (presented for the first time this year)—has been duly "wheeled" back to Auckland where it belongs.

The highlight of the whole contest was the dark horse of our team, Pete Fraser (don't hold that against him), who first displayed his form in Taurunui by chasing fast-moving automobiles, if you please, at 10 o'clock at night. Pete first got into difficulties in the run about 1½ miles from the start when the mud won its nine-point-law-possession of his shoes, but pausing only to toss carelessly aside his now entirely superfluous socks, he finished the course over mud, stones, fences, boulders and what have you, barefoot and ran into fourth place finishing ahead of many old hands including last year's winner. Jack Sinclair also put up a splendid performance to finish in 6th place with Wally Erceg not very far behind. Rube Wright, Clive Allpress and Jim Shackelford showed signs of over-indulgence in something, even if it was only the Canterbury Basketball Team or was it Helen Connon Hostel? Marin Segedin, competing for Victoria, was also not up to scratch—the dinner, no doubt.

Blues were recommended as last year, N.Z.U.A. have the final word and so you know as much as we do. Jack Sinclair's name was included in this recommendation and Pete Fraser's would have been there, too, but for the fact that this was his FIRST HARRIER RUN—he's been footballing, if you please, all year.

Any of the team will tell you the most enjoyable parts of the whole trip were the delightfully vague travelling arrangements and the subsequent feeling of insecurity and eventually reckless abandon.... "Oh, What the hell, anw.!"

INTER-FACULTY FOOTBALL
ENGINEERS v. SCIENCE

Of course, you have heard of the Engineers and their prowess in the field of sport; last year they won the Inter-faculty Athletics and the football match against Science. Unfortunately they are concentrating more on work this year and have not given the science students any competition on the field.

Science, however, must give their opponents credit for the good showing they put up. The game was played under terrible conditions, and the lighter science team had the advantage over the engineers that they were not "stick-in-the-muds."

The Engineers opened the score with a penalty, but Science retaliated and a try resulted from a fine piece of back combination. The kick failed, making the score 3 all. The going was very tough, both sides calling the tune.

After half-time the play slowed up considerably and it wasn't until the last quarter hour that any life returned to the game. The Engineers using their nuts (and bolts) scored a clever try, following a quick throw-in, and once again took the lead. Things looked pretty grim for Science until McKay landed a penalty from a handy position. With several minutes to play both sides exerted themselves and play went from one end of the field to the other. McKay went over for a try for Science on time, thus gaining victory for the team.

Final score:

Science 9; Engineering 6.

Referee: Doc. Briggs.

CRICKET CLUB.

Of course, you are playing for the A.U.C. Cricket Club this year! Swot, exams, essential work and Tramping Club notwithstanding, Cricket Club will carry on. We shall be free this year from our connection with the Middlemore Club, so BE IN and play for Varsity.

Practices commence early in October at Blandford Park, so hand your name to Bill Sidnam, Hamish Thompson or Ken Bain and be at the A.G.M. on Wednesday, September 6th.

Don't hide your light under a fig-tree! Decide NOW to play the GENTLEMEN'S SPORT.

EVANGELICAL UNION

COMING EVENTS

Annual General Meeting: This will be held in Room 2 at 8 p.m. on the second Thursday of the term, September 7th. The annual report for the year will be presented and all E.U. members are urged to be present. We extend a cordial invitation to all E.U. friends and interested students to attend this, our last meeting of the year.

Sunday Tea: Our last tea for the year will be held as usual in the Women's Common Room at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday, September 10. The speaker at this tea will be Mr. E. M. Haiklock, M.A. We invite all students to join with us in our last tea and experience the warm fellowship of an E.U. function.

Watch the notice boards for further details of these meetings and of our annual Squash and Picnic after Degree exams.

Disraeli: "Variety is the mother of enjoyment."

"I wasn't born in a log cabin, but my folks moved to one as soon as they started living indoors."

—Cal Tinney.

Ished air to the whole production, which would have been ruined by amateurishness in these respects.

The stage effects were good and the attention paid to detail, such as changing the table-cloth, replacing the bow in Jane's hair by a clasp, the placing of a vase by the wireless in the second scene, was well repaid by the effect of time's passage produced so unobtrusively.

T.W.

NO MAN STANDS APART

Before proceeding to a criticism of the performance, may I write a few words in praise of Dramatic Club's initiative in presenting an unknown play for their annual production. It does seem that a society such as the University Dramatic Club, whose performances have nothing whatever to do with profit and loss, and who may expect at these performances an audience appreciative of any departure from the usual "romantic" and stereotyped drama of the day, should for its major production, put on some drama which otherwise would not be presented in Auckland—preferably something controversial in subject or form. The university Dramatic Club can afford to "experiment," and it would be an excellent thing if it could always put on plays by University people.

The review of the play in the "Auckland Star" contained the rather naive statement that there were no difficult words in the whole play. Surely Arthur Sewel, merely by virtue of his professorial status, was not expected to write a play on such a theme in euphemistic bombast? We can, however, understand the surprise of the critic at the very real and natural dialogue which was almost without exception, spoken by the Smith family. This, together with the use of the cyclorama were perhaps the two most outstanding features of the play. The chorus spoken by the announcer was also highly effective, although I fancy the audience were a little restive at its third repetition. It would perhaps have been better, if, on the second occasion, it had not been given in toto.

Acting honours go to Mr. P. H. Woods as Bill Smith. Seldom in amateur production does any actor so live his part. The rather insignificant little Englishman slumped in his chair, humorous without brittle repartee, never over-acted. His gestures and movements were completely natural.

June Savage, as Mrs. Smith, did a very competent job. Unfortunately her voice was too clear and youthful for her supposed fifty years, and though unavoidable, was a slight flaw in characterisation. I liked the way she handled the tea-things, but not the way she tended to "address" her son rather than talk to him, in the more serious moments of the play. I felt that Mrs. Smith would have twisted her apron while she talked of "meddling," or at least moved her feet slightly. She should have been a little more embarrassed by the discussion.

Richard Savage, as Jack, gave an easy, restrained interpretation of his role, marred only by the fact that he tended to strain his voice to too high a pitch in emotional moments. I liked particularly the way he received the news that Britain was at war, relaxed, quite still and silent, till the words that changed his life were finished.

The younger children were natural enough, but Glen Simmer's voice was a little too "refined"—her vowel sounds too pure for her part.

David Dunningham gave a characteristically capable performance, and I liked his rendering of the difficult lines in which he had to "preach" to the Smiths. The other characters in the air raid shelter were a little stiff, and I felt it would have been better if Mary had struggled more to get out, instead of standing almost still while she screamed, "Let me out!"

Mervyn Rosser would have been more realistic had he been made up to look a little older. Of the crowd scenes, I liked particularly the despondent trailing of the defeated French against the blood-red background. I thought the scene where the speeches were made would have been more telling if, as they were speaking, each famous person had been a little more detached from the surrounding crowd.

The lighting and sound effects were especially remarkable, and gave a fin-

THE GREAT FAVOURITE
DB
LAGER
A BEER OF REFINEMENT
Coming to you from the
WAITEMATA
MODEL BREWERY OTAHUHU

ODD ODE ON INTIMATIONS OF IMMORALITY

(cf. OLE MAN RIVER)

or

WORDS WORTH SAYING

I wandered lonely as a clod
That floats on high through lecture
rooms.

When all at once I saw the Odd
Amidst a host of forks and spoons.

She dwells among well-trodden ways
Beside her steaks so tux,
A maid whom there are none to praise
And very few to luv.

A violet by the cash receipts
Half-hidden from the eye,
Fair as a star (the poet says)
—Until you drain her milk supply!

She's not unknown, and many say
She'll NEVER cease to be.
She isn't in her grave as yet, and
(Speaking from experience with
grim thoughts, my all too frequently
outraged stomach lining through too
many meals in the A.U.C. Caf.).
—OH, the difference to me!!



AT THE GASWORKS

One fine July day at the gas-works
The sound of all movement was stilled.
The men were all meeting about rates
of pay,

And hot dinners for many were chilled.
The stoppage was caused by a three-
pence,

The extra some men got an hour.
The others objected to treatment like
this,

And with faces determined and sour
They said to the senior foreman,
"We're ceasing to labour for you.

We'll not work for the pay that we're
getting to-day,

So we stop till you give us our due."
The people of Auckland were filled
with delight

At the workers' contempt of the law,
Especially at dinner-time, seven at
night,

As their vegetables had to stay raw.
They murmured sweet nothings to
friends and relations,

As stricken they ate bread and but-
ter.

They blessed the truck drivers and gas
works in general,

The whole of the town was a-flutter.
"Drat them, and bless them, and blow
them!"

Were frequent remarks to be heard.
Most people would say, "we're the
fools who will pay."

Of good wishes and praise, not a word.
I suppose that we just take for grant-
ed,

The growth of this cancerous tumour.
To put up with wharfies and go-slows
and strikes,

Shows the Aucklanders' good sense
of humour—or does it?

G. R. GREEN.

Subscription to "Poetry": 4/6 (post
free). Single copies: 1/6 each.

A flat rate of 10/- is paid for any
but very long poems.

MSS. and subscriptions should be
sent to—The Editor, "Poetry," Lucin-
dale, South Australia.

POETRY

This is a quarterly magazine of con-
temporary Australian and New Zea-
land verse, edited in S. Australia by
Flexmore Hudson. The June issue was
sent to us for review.

The most striking contribution is
a long poem, "Blossom on the Dawn,"
which is sub-titled "A Dramatic Spec-
tacle." The scene is a darkened hut
"somewhere in England," where six
airmen wait for the "alert" which will
signalise an enemy air-raid. As they
wait, they speak their thoughts. The
First Voice is a lover of nature, a
man who cries from the agony of war.

"What a neglect my life has suf-
fered
Of the simple, homely ways of
peace!"

The Second Voice is energetic, ruth-
less, implacable. Hate is the weapon
with which this man fights.

The Third Voice is weary and a
little perplexed. His ideal is not clear.
"But for what would one die?
For strength and for right?
Or for the benefit of selfish unconcern
with human misery?"

The Fourth Voice speaks with pas-
sion. It is the voice of a man who has
lost his brother, and who can find little
to cling to in life.

"I should be glad to die and be clean
of the earth's stain."

The Voices go on, speaking in no
regular order, and each personality
is subtly shadowed for us, as they try
to reach in words their inmost beliefs.

This poem, or poetic drama ends
with the announcement of enemy
planes approaching.

This is an extremely interesting and
moving piece of work, though made a
little raw in parts by the intensity of
the poet's own feelings.

Another impressive poem is one by
the editor called "Our Words Must
Burn," in which he tries to recapture
the moods, the situations of his life,
which would have given ample scope

for poetry in another age. But war
has changed the duty of poets—
"We must never let the people forget.
Our words must burn forever in their
minds. . . ."

Even if one does not agree with the
theme of this poem, one cannot help
admiring its sincerity and vivid lan-
guage.

Most of the other poems in this
collection are directly or indirectly
influenced by the war, and it is per-
haps this attempt to reconcile the
chaos of present living with the poetic
tradition of analysis and interpreta-
tion which gives validity to intrinsi-
cally imperfect verse.

T.W.

THE UNIVERSITY COACHING COLLEGE 22 FERRY BLDGS., AUCKLAND

The College specialises in Personal
Tuition (Day and Evening Classes) for
University Entrance and Degree Subjects.
Coaching by Correspondence is also
given for University Entrance, and
certain University Subjects.
The following personal tuition courses,
conducted by experienced tutors, will
be of special value to University
Students:

Phonetics

Greek

Botany for Medical Intermediate and Pharmacy B.

Pass Degree Mathematics.

The Principal will be pleased to advise
students or Prospectus will be forwarded
on request.

D. W. FAIGAN, M.A.

(Honours in English and French)
PRINCIPAL

Phone 44-271

FERGUSON'S FLORAL STUDIOS

PHONE: 43-529 (Studio)

FLOWERS BY WIRE
FLOWERS BY AIR-MAIL
FLOWERS BY MESSENGER



FERGUSON'S

, (MISS F. C. WHYTE)

(Second Floor)

Dingwall Building,
Queen St., Auckland, C.1.

FLOWERS FOR ALL
OCCASIONS
CARNIVAL WEEK
GRADUATION
ALL COLLEGE
SOCIAL EVENTS

GEORGE COURT'S for quality goods at lower prices

We invite you to share in the advantages of this
great store . . . advantages that we have perfected
over 55 years of trading . . . an unfailing courtesy,
a cheerful atmosphere, a fine sense of service, and
the unquestionable quality of everything we sell.
Come to George Court's always for quality goods at
lowest prices . . . for all college needs.

GEORGE COURT'S
KARANGAHAPE ROAD

FOR FINER FURNISHINGS

Consult the furniture Specialists . . .

ANDREWS & CLARK

QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND