

"All the news that's fit to print."

CRACCUM

VOLUME 27. No. 1

MARCH, 1953

CRACCIVARIA

S.N.A.F.U.

Messrs. John Anderson and Geoff Fuller have resigned from the position of editors of "Craccum."

Both have given generously of their time and talents to help student activities. The Association will be well served if others of equal ability can be found to take their place.

FRESH!

*Stage One
Is easier done
If you don't make passes
During your classes.*

Bookstall

A second-hand bookstall is now being run in the Table Tennis room (adjoining the Men's Common Room) for receiving and selling used textbooks. Hours: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the 4 enrolling days. 12-2 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. for three weeks following. Opening again in six weeks' time for those doing military training. This stall has proved to be easily the most efficient method of buying and selling your second-hand textbooks.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

*The Northern Club
Is next to a pub—
Its principal claim
To fame.*

Freshers now Welcome

For the record we report that an official welcome to freshers was held in the College Hall on Friday, 6th March.

Your reporter attended too late to hear the advice of the College Principal, Mr. K. J. Maidment, and was too far from the front (about four rows) to hear the advice of the librarian. We did hear an invocation to give blood by the newly appointed Physical Welfare Officer, Mr. Stan Brown ("... it is an insurance against the time you may be in hospital and need blood from the blood bank...").

From our viewpoint the arrival of the Women's Vice-President, Miss Elizabeth Charleston, was a welcome change from the more humdrum appearance of the male speakers. We quite forget the tenor of Elizabeth's message to the young, but do remember with delight a couple of jokes and her smile of welcome.

SOCIAL CLIMBERS

*Fresherettes, if pressed
Don't go west,
In a bower
In the tower.*

Social Committee

Under the chairmanship of Mate Frankovich, Social Committee work this year will be done by Miss Marietta Stratton (secretary), Miss Valerie Fromm and Messrs. Paul Temm, Jack Lasenby and Edward McK. Geddes.

LA RONDE

*A kiss in the dark
In Albert Park
Went farther
Than she'd rather...*

Additional Space

Purchase by the College Council of Mr. Justice Fair's former residence may make additional space available for student clubs. It is hoped that rooms vacated by staff members transferred to the new building will make room available for publication purposes, for the chaplains of the Religious organisations, and for storage space for College Clubs.

THE CLASSICIST

*The library stairs
Make legs with hairs
Look woefully
Anti-Socially.*

THE POOR

*If torn trousers disclose yer
It's indigent exposure.*

CARNIVAL

The executive is pleased to announce that the annual Carnival Celebrations will be held again this year (D.V.).

It is confidently expected that a quite original revue by Zambucka will be presented nightly in the Playhouse from 9th May.

Procession will take place on Thursday, 7th May. Capping Book will make its celebrated reappearance during the Carnival Week.

Dixon Reilly is Chairman of the Carnival Committee, Brian Horton is responsible for Procession and John Storry can tell you about Capping Book.

BOOK REVIEW

Calendar, 1953. Auckland University College. Whitcombe & Tombs, Ltd. (Our Copy Free)

This 278-page annual calendar of the Auckland University College is again available from leading city booksellers. A detailed factual work, it is an essential book for the freshman student.

Following recent policy this year's book does not contain a consolidated timetable, nor does it give any indication whether the trend toward reducing the number of lectures held after 5 p.m. will continue to be implemented in future years.

The book is of no great assistance to a part-time student attempting to plan a course over a number of years.

The paper is of good quality and the printing is of the high standard to be expected. There are three blank pages.—R.M.S.

Calendar, 1953. Victoria University College. Whitcombe and Tombs, Ltd. (Our copy, 3/-).

Issued by the Victoria University College this publication gives an informative survey of the history of the College, particulars of the courses of study offered, and details of College regulations.

An outstanding feature is a 17-page time-table covering all subjects taught at the College this year together with Arts faculty time-tables for the years 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957.

Of 114 subjects for Bachelors' degrees taught at the College this year lectures' hours are given for all but Economic Geography, Greek II. and III., Mathematical Statistics, Russian III. and Spanish I.

The Arts' time-tables published for the next five years are arranged to help the part-time student plan his course over those years.

Subjects which have lecture hours before 5 p.m. this year have lectures during the period 5-8 p.m. next year, and the various stages of the subjects can be taken in successive years either entirely during the day or after 5 p.m. The full-time student also is thus enabled to plan his purse with the least inconvenience.

The publication reflects the great degree of trouble which the college authorities have undertaken to ensure that the student is not hampered in his studies by lack of administrative efficiency.—R.M.S.

SPECIAL

woke to find the birds, and the bottles under our feet. The milkman, fired the birds, pulled the door open, and donned our shoes. We collapsed into bed with some obscure thought, and a murdered sleep. We finally awoke and breakfasted upon black coffee, a Turkish cigarette butt that somebody had left on the floor the night before and aspirin. We then remembered that "Craccum" needed an editorial.

What can we say to the Freshers? Who are we to advise them? We have no intention of warning the Freshers of the dire perils and temptations that await young girls and small boys in the big city, and are popularly supposed to make the student life enjoyable. We have spent too long in search of these temptations to imagine that they exist any longer.

We imagine we are sufficiently blase and brilliantly bored with these matters, and there let them rest.

Now, about welcoming the Freshers: this is a traditional ritual which shares a common tradition with the May-pole dancing of England and the Jew-baiting and fertility-rites of the Fascist-Aryan races.

We are going to be devils; we are not going to have anything to do with tradition. We extend no hand of welcome to the Freshers, but then neither do we refuse their presence. We recognize them, they recognize us, and we feel this somnolent lethargy is in keeping with our New Zealand culture of ennui and boredom.

All we ask is that the Freshers shall write no embarrassing letters to the editor, daring him to publish them. We do not feel strongly upon this matter—we have no feelings, no opinions, no ideas upon any subject. All we ask is that the Freshers shall not bring noise and action into the Halls of Apathy.

We have a tradition of apathy; indeed, if it were not that tradition implied action, we should claim it as our own strenuous terms, but that would necessitate exertion.

—J. A. Lasenby.

Executive

Mr. M. Frankovich and Mr. J. Henry have been co-opted to the executive to fill vacancies caused by the resignation of Augusta Dunlop and Selwyn Hetherington. They will take over the portfolios of Social Committee and Grants Committee respectively. Another recent resignation was that of the Treasurer, Mr. John Wigglesworth. This vacancy will be filled shortly. John had served as Treasurer for over a year and was responsible for introducing a new financial system. The thanks of all students are extended to him.

CURIOUS COVE'S CONGRESS

Culture Vultures Cogitate Cogently

Nine days of mental stimulation punctuated by sports and diversions of varying quality—that, in a nut-shell, was Congress, 1953. But putting Congress, 1953, into a nutshell is like dehydrating bananas, and leaves no room for the thousand and one little incidents and arguments which give Congress a flavour that makes everybody say, "I'm coming back next year—see you then."

There is nothing (well, hardly anything) sentimental about this feeling. N.Z.U.S.A.'s annual Congress at Curious Cove is primarily a meeting-ground for all students of all colleges, where they can exchange ideas, and if they like, thrash out an argument all night without being reminded that it is closing time.

One for the Dogs

I can only pick out some of the plums from the Congress pie. The lectures and ensuing discussions (sometimes quite dramatic) were the hinge upon which all else turned, and some of the points raised became topicalities for the rest of our stay.

A talk on the "Relevance of Philosophy," by Professor Hughes, somehow got itself wrapped around the burning question of whether knowledge is good merely in or for itself, and for some days the air was full of metaphysics. Some happy child wondered that if she were to count all the lamp-posts in Wellington, thereby acquiring knowledge, whether it would be a good thing in itself. The matter was laid aside when a body clad in a sleeping bag came to the fancy-dress dance as "A Thing Which is Good in Itself."

A theme, Individual and Community Purpose" was supposed to link up the discussions, but it acted only as a foundation for further discussion. We had talks upon the university community, the employer-employee relationship, the rural and Maori communities, interspersed with life in China, civil liberties, and others, which became matters of immediate interest to everyone.

Although the elements had their say during the first few days, and the wind nearly blew the recreation hut down on top of us, everyone gallantly sloshed through the mud, and the lecturers almost ruined their vocal chords out-galing the gale.

Clinging to Cook's Cannon

The climax to our "extra-curricular" activities was the picnic and afterwards the fancy-dress dance, held on Wednesday. The day was spent at Ship Cove, where brave young girls were photographed clinging to Captain Cook's cannon, and the evening brought forth unbelievable things. The fancy-dress prize was won by a nearly naked charac-

ter who rushed through the astounded dining-room, clutching a diminutive towel about his waist, and crying "Eureka! Eureka!" We must tell also of the melancholy figure with sodden bedding around her shoulders, who announced that she was "just a wet blanket!"

Country Sports Cut Capers

There were a thousand other things—singing madrigals in the afternoons with Nigel Eastgate from O.U.; eating fish in the moonlight, cooked expertly by some of the Colombo Plan students; watching some of our elders and betters tripping like young lambs in the Highland Fling; giving small pieces of toe to someone who was doing a thesis on Athlete's Foot, or listening to Professor Hughes while he told the melancholy tale of Ambrose who lived at "an unspecified time in the Middle Ages."

Then there were the Congress Olympics, where one threw aside all self-consciousness, and assumed the air of an expert in darts, archery, tenniquoits and other medieval sports.

Cultivated Cant; Cows Cuds

Altogether, you will agree, a very mixed bag, but that is what makes Congress. There was a spirit of free enquiry and open discussion which inclined to become suffocated in the cloistered formality of lecturerooms and college meeting-grounds.

At Congress you can attack the very foundations of someone else's philosophy over a couple of fishing lines, or lying on the grass with cows munching dangerously close to one's hair.

Victoria did a grand job as host college, and nobody could but enjoy the fresh and subtle wit of our chairman, Mr. E. K. Braybrooke, who astounded us all one day by giving out a notice for the madrigal singers in plain-song chant.

—Jennifer A. Cooke.

SUMMER SPORTS

"Shockingly Healthy Bods"

Easter Tournament this year is to be held in Dunedin, where shockingly healthy bods from the four university centres will converge to be strenuous competitively by day and co-operatively by night. At present reports indicate that training is being intensified in preparation for Tournament. Much sweat has flowed under the Panmure Bridge since the Rowing Club began its training, and the activity on the courts and in the nets seems to indicate that there are still many who are willing to risk a horrible death from Athlete's Foot, despite the lurid cracklings from 1ZB's sponsors.

The eight sports at Tournament are Athletics, Basketball, Boxing, Cricket, Drinking, Rowing, Swimming and Tennis. Last year Auckland narrowly missed carrying off the Easter Tournament Shield; this year we expect to win.

Reports from various city hostels indicate that some sly practice is going on for the Drinking Horn. Competition will be keen for the coveted N.Z.U. Drinking Blues.

A.U.C.'s Senior Tournament Delegate, Miss Marion Solly, with the assistance of the Junior Delegate, Miss Sonda Craig, is busy working on Auckland's Tournament team at present.

An added attraction this year will be the presence of an Australian athletics' team.

"THE DISCOVERY"

By MRS. F. SHERIDAN

Modernised by ALDOUS HUXLEY.

This clever and amusing
18th century comedy will
be presented in the

UNIVERSITY HALL

On Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday, March 21, 22, 23,
at 8 p.m.

This play promises to be excellent entertainment, and the Drama Society advises you all to see this outstanding production.

"... man that is born of woman ..."

DEATH OF A HERO

Official confirmation of the death of Joseph Stalin reached the College at 2.55 p.m., on Friday, 6th March. As soon as the news was spread in hushed whispers by sorrowing students, "Craccum" was on the job.

This is how the news arrived.

A lean gaunt figure of a man was seen to go his furtive way into the phone adjacent to the Exec. room. In his hand he clutched a copy of the "Auckland Star." Nervously he dialled a number.

He placed his "Star" across the glass front of the phone box.

Then he placed his bets with the bookmaker.

And with the cold brutality of 56 metro sans serif type two students who passed the box saw the terrible news.

Stalin was dead.

A deep gloom spread over the College. In room 14 three philosophy students started examining the evidence to ascertain if it was caused by Stalin's death, the fall of a test wicket, or a singing commercial broadcast by 1ZB.

By 3.05 p.m. four people had been interviewed.

Said Fine Arts Lecturer Rex Fairburn: "I have every confidence in the ability of Generalissimo Eisenhower to carry on."

Mr. David Heron, History lecturer: "Ask me in ten years' time."

Miss Elizabeth Charleston: "What would I know about it?"

Said a 4th year student:
"Ashes to ashes and dust to dust,
If scarlet fever doesn't get you,
The Kremlin must."

Brian Horton, 3rd Arts: "Stalin brought hope for the privileged classes. His death has removed it."

Lesley Moir, Arts Grad.: "He had such nice eyes."

At 2.38 p.m. on Saturday, 7th March, a Sydney medical student, acting as medical officer on the Monowai, wandered into executive room seeking information about student hostels.

"Craccum" asked him what he thought of Stalin's death.

Said he: "If I was to give an opinion I might be deregistered. Medical practitioners have no opinions—but—I think that you could quote me as saying that his death was inevitable from the day he was born; and that it became more inevitable when he had cerebral haemorrhage."

Throughout the daylight hours of Monday, 9th March, "Craccum's" political reporter haunted the traditional meeting places of the college's 13 Socialist students.

They were not there. At the time this edition went to press no information had been received as to their possible whereabouts.

CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

Control of Publications

College publications are now subject to a new set of regulations.

Adopted by the executive late last year the regulations provide that all copy for Carnival Book, Kiwi, Tournament Programme and all other student publications (except "Craccum") must be submitted to the Advisory Censor and to the President and Secretary of the Students' Association. Appeals against any decision of the Advisory censor may be made to the executive and the President or Secretary may request that material be submitted to the executive for their decision.

"Craccum" material must be submitted to any two executive members who may request that the material be submitted to the Advisory Censor or the executive of the Association.

Further "Craccum" regulations provide that all expressions of opinion must be signed by either a name or nom-de-plume while any criticism of any person, club, or activity within the college must be signed with the full normal signature of the contributor. Opportunity must also be given for any person, club or activity subject to criticism to make a reply in the same issue.

The Advisory Censor is Dr. R. Anschutz, of the Philosophy Department.

A full copy of the regulations may be inspected on the notice board in the executive room.

Capping Week Activities

The Executive has decided to hold a full Carnival Celebration again this year. They are also proud to announce that the plans are laid for one of the biggest Capping Carnivals yet.

The most important innovation in this year's Carnival is the form of Revue. Yes, it's a return to the successful Student Revue. Charles Zambucka, author of the famous series of Revues which included "Smellbound," "Bled White and the Seven Wharfies," "East of Sewers," etc., has a new script under way called "Seize Me, Caesar," or "There's No Place Like Rome."

You may recall what his earlier shows were like, but if you don't this is what you can expect.

A large cast (50 or more), bright songs, a full orchestra and all the fun attached to the humorous theatre.

Auckland hasn't seen anything like it since 1947. It is needless to say that the success of this year's play must depend upon the full support of the students.

Castings will be held about the second week of March—watch for dates! Then is the time to turn up for acting and singing parts. If you are willing workers. It is the brightest time of the year. Whatever you can do will be greatly appreciated by the committee.

Are you a wit? If you are, Capping Book needs you (and you need it)—make yourself known to the controller and be in.

Procession is the brightest aspect of capping and full details may be read elsewhere.

Prepare yourself to sell capping books and collect on the day of Procession.

Capping Carnival is your show. The committee can only organize, the rest is up to you. We need ideas and interested in important positions upon the committee please leave a note with Mrs. Chisholm in the Association office as soon as possible.

Here is the Carnival Committee to date: Chairman, Dixon Reilley; Secretary, Ann Letford; Producer, Charles Zambucka; Stage Direction, Dick Messenger; Musical Director, Michael Corban; Band Leader, Dick Mercer; Capping Book, temporary publisher, Norman Thompson; Acting Editor, John Storry; Procession Controller, Brian Horton.

Your Carnival Controller is Dixon Reilley.

"RELEASE INHIBITIONS"

Procession

Freshers, you may have seen a Varsity Procesh; you now have the opportunity of taking part in one. The date, May 7th. Procesh celebrates the success of our graduates, helps our collection (for some deserving cause) and lets Varsity students release their inhibitions. For 364 days the public presents itself to Varsity; for one hour on the 364th day, Varsity pre-

sents itself to the public. We aim to hit the public with a bang; to satirise the proletariat, antagonize the respectable married women and delight the others, bring hope to the desperate spinsters, and embarrass any bashful bachelors.

Be careful, however, letters to the editor can and have caused trouble. Procession needs the help of every student. Committees may be organized, may function, and may attain success, but only with the help of every member of the student body.

Students in Disguise

Floats are usually built by clubs with material supplied through Procesh Committee. Clubs should get together, start planning, and get rough plans ready immediately, as the committee has to estimate the amount of materials required before any actual purchases may be made. Get in touch with your club secretary or some member of Procesh Committee. Foot-floats, i.e., students in disguise, are popular with the crowd. If you are not on a club float, then help us in this way.

Many helpers are required for the collection, both male and female. Wear a mask and it will save embarrassing reports of your behaviour later on. Our target is one thousand pounds for Hospital Auxiliary.

In conclusion, let's all get cracking and make this year's Procesh the best yet. It's good fun and even those aspiring to moral seriousness cannot condemn it entirely because the whole thing is done for charity.

—B. R. Horton.

RECREATION CLASSES

FOR STUDENTS WILL BEGIN SOON AT THE

Y.M.C.A. GYMNASIUM

MORNINGS AND AFTERNOONS ONLY

Separate Classes for Men and Women

KEEP-FIT

VOLLEY BALL

GYMNASTICS

A Combined Class in
FOLK DANCE

Classes will be open for Students to attend when they please
Students may arrive and depart from Classes whenever they wish
There will be no charge

If you are interested in taking part in any activity, please see me
some time this week to discuss the arrangement of times to suit
you. My office is in Hut 6 behind the Students' Association
Building.

S. R. BROWN
Physical Education Officer.