

Craecum

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS' PAPER

XXIX—No. 5

Auckland, N.Z., THURSDAY, 24th JUNE, 1954.

Gratis

Indo-China: The Unknown War

This article is a revised version of one which first appeared in the Presbyterian "Outlook," 24 February, 1953.

It was as I recall a character in Steinbeck's wartime novel *The Moon is Down*, who remarked that sometimes the flies are the fly-paper, thus portraying the dreadful insecurity of an army of occupation in a land which was both their conquest and their conqueror, an apparent source of exploitation and yet a drain on their resources from which withdrawal became ever so difficult.

The experience of the German armies of occupation has been undergone on many other occasions, as for example by European powers maintaining colonial regimes in Asia and the Near East. Steinbeck portrayed his Germans not as conventional villains, but as often conscientious individuals in a singularly tragic situation. So too one can pay tribute to the magnificent endurance of the defenders of Dien Bien Phu while wondering whether the French Government's efforts to retain the remnants of their once great colonial empire do not make them appear like flies upon the paper, paying too dearly for their conquests.

Considering the extent to which Indo-China occupies our headlines, it seems presumptuous to refer to it as an "unknown war"; yet as few Westerners in expounding Western history have discussed the origins of the contest, and as our newspapers have given publicity until years after the event and not until it had reached its fair to suggest that the problem could no longer be maintained. It is fair to suggest that the problem is one on which most people are inadequately informed. The end of the Cold War is no substitute for an understanding of the nature of the struggle, nor is it valid to assume that the blockade of Berlin and the Viet-Minh problem stem from the same sources and are to be met by the same type of strategy. People have been aware of the question when it first developed, would now accept explanations so essentially facile and over-simplified?

origins:

cannot present here even a sketchy account of the war's origins, it is at least essential to emphasise that no generalisation which applies to the situation in Europe can be regarded as ipso facto valid in Asia. Since Japan's lightning attack in 1941 and 1942 swept the occupying powers from century-old thrones overnight, destroying once and for all the myth of European superiority, we have been forced to realise that we must establish a relationship with Asian countries based on mutual sympathy and co-operation instead of domination and exploitation. It is to be learned that simple lesson caused most of the disasters suffered by the West in Asia since 1945. India, by a remarkable act of self-determination, the British Government had the good sense to retire gracefully from an impossible situation, thus preventing open conflict with India, Pakistan and Ceylon within the Commonwealth. In

Indonesia, the Dutch refused to take a leaf out of the British book and attempted to re-establish colonial rule by force. There is evidence that, had they continued much longer than they did, the moderate elements leading the Indonesian resistance would have given place to Communists, thus forcing the opponents of Dutch imperialism to come under Communist leadership. Only strong last-minute pressure by the Americans persuaded the Dutch Government to undertake negotiations leading to Indonesian self-government. Thus European rule ended at least without the Dutch being expelled by force or the Indonesians coming under Communist leadership.

Lessons not learned:

In other parts of Asia the outcome has been quite different. In China the American-backed and American-financed Chiang Kai Shek regime paved the way by its vicious internal policy and deep-laid corruption for a complete Communist victory whose consequences for China as a world power it is still impossible to prophesy. And now, in Indo-China, France's grip is slowly weakening before a Communist-led insurrection whose major asset has all along been its opposition to imperialist rule.

It is this aspect of the question which has been least publicised. Yet one can hardly escape the conclusion that ever since 1945 the French have sought to re-establish in the states of Indo-China something very like the pre-war colonial system. They ignored the fact that immediately following the Japanese collapse a native government had set itself up in the state of Viet-Nam drowning its tradition of independence from the period preceding French occupation in the 19th Century. It could hardly welcome the return of a colonial power with so unhappy a record as the French possessed in Indo-China. It is clear that this indigenous government far from being a group of Communist



French and Viet Nam troops halt at side of road during a recent mission in the Red River Delta.

bandits, was a well-established administration desirous of reaching an agreement with the French securing Viet-Nameese self-government. Had this been as clear in 1946 as it was in the case of Indonesia, public opinion might have been stirred into preventing the present deplorable situation from developing. French efforts to re-establish their authority, however, drove the Viet-Minh ever further into open insurrection and, by the logic of the situation, into alliance with the only powers looking sympathetically upon their struggle, China and the Soviet Union. Hence, logically, the struggle has become bound up with the present deplorable international situation and the considerations of strategy and balance of power which have rendered the holding of Indo-China eminently desirable to both parties in the Cold War.

Cold-War Complications:

Moreover, it is feared that a Communist victory in Indo-China might produce a chain reaction throughout the Far East. The corruption of the government in Siam, for example, appears so considerable that external events could cause it to fall. It would

seem, that such a situation demands from us a positive—and urgent—policy of reform in countries such as Siam, and rather than the essentially negative and hopeless measures of security facts and Japanese rearmament. This challenge to evolve a creative policy for Asia we have signally failed to meet in cases such as China (with results already described) and Japan (where the pre-war ruling caste rises again, under a slightly different guise); and not least of all in Indo-China itself.

The result is that the prospect of a total victory by either side can only be regarded as fraught with dangerous consequences. The fate of the unfortunate Indo-China has become so much an issue of prestige and strategy for the opposing camps in the Cold War of the fears and hatred in the world as a whole, that neither side is likely to allow the other to win completely without first taking the step of turning the battle into another Korea, with the ever-more flimsy hope that such conflicts can be continually localised. It will also give a further impetus to the insane vicious spiral of military preparations,

(Continued from page 2.)

CRACCUM

Auckland University College Students' Paper

The Editor accepts as little responsibility as possible for the contents of this paper, and the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Editor nor of the A.U.C.S.A. Executive.

STAFF

Editor: **PETER BOAG.**
Sub-Editor: **JIM TRAUER.**
Literary & Arts Editor: **DAVID STONE.**
Sports Editor: **JIM HOLDOM.**
University News Editor: **JULIA McMAHON.**
Distribution Manager: **ALAN TAYLOR.**
with **CLARE LILLIE** and **JENNY HILFORD.**

IN CORPORE SANO?

A Gymnasium for Auckland has been suggested for some time and this year has seen the first concrete steps taken towards the fulfilment of this project. The Students' Association has enthusiastically agreed with the desirability of a Gymnasium, and so, it appeared, did the College authorities. The present delay, on the part of the College Council, however, is hardly conducive to an early completion of the building, nor does it seem altogether compatible with their earlier attitude when this matter was first raised.

Once the question of whether or not to have a Gymnasium had been settled (as it appeared at the time) a meeting of students and others interested in this plan was called to discuss the question in general, and especially to consider ways and means of raising the necessary finance. The procuring of sufficient money was, of course, the major difficulty, and, following up the recommendations of the general meeting, the Executive of the Students' Association decided to form a representative committee which would have control of the campaign from the Association's end. The amount that the Association could contribute will be, of course but a fraction of the total cost. It has been estimated that a Gymnasium sufficient to meet the needs of the College would cost about £14,000, and of this, the Association feels that it could not expect to raise more than £5,000. This sum, in itself, is a very large amount for a student body to raise and is too much to be met by existing assets, but even if it were forthcoming in the near future, the remainder of the money would still have to come from somewhere. But the question is where?

The very nature of the Association, and the proverbial state of students' finances eliminates at once the suggestion that the students should provide the building *in toto*. The alternative, then, is the other body interested in this scheme, namely the College Council.

In our opinion the Council committed themselves irrevocably when they appointed a Physical Education Officer to the staff of the College. As we have said before, this was one of the best things this College has ever done, but to appoint such a member and then expect him to carry out his work efficiently without any accommodation is nothing short of worthless and turns what could be a brilliant, far-sighted action into a meaningless gesture.

The incipient move to Tamaki may, at first sight, seem to provide an obstacle, but, as the Physical Education Officer explained in an article in our first issue, a completely satisfactory Gymnasium can be built that could be shifted elsewhere should the occasion arise. This could be the only possible objection to proceeding with the project immediately, and hence we wonder what possible reason the Council can have for their further delays in referring the matter to yet another sub-committee and requiring the Physical Education Officer to furnish yet another report on the siting and need for a Gymnasium.

It once seemed that 1954 would be a year of hope and progress for those convinced of the need for the building, but instead it seems destined to end in another period of frustration as more delays occur, and more reports are written and more alternative schemes and speculations and statistics are bandied back and forth across the polished tables.

—P.W.B.

Cont. from page one.

with its constant threat of producing a spontaneous combustion in which each protagonist will blame the other for the "incident" offered as the occasion for a general conflagration. In the face of such a prospect, it would seem that a compromise solution is the best by far than can be hoped for, despite the constant fear of breakdown that such "38th parallel" arrangements must involve. (The Geneva Conference will have given some indication of the hopes of such a compromise by the time this appears in print.) Coupled with this, however it must be insisted that the West aim at something further: genuine self-government in the part of Indo-China remaining to it based on social reform and a termination of the present unequal social system. Failure to accomplish this will constitute a further betrayal of our noblest ideals.

On the part of the West there does seem a strong section willing to accept some form of partition as the best hope of a stable settlement. It can only be hoped that the Soviet bloc has the good sense to take advantage of such an opportunity, instead of raising their bid in the hope that Western indifference will cause all Indo-China—and beyond—to fall into their sphere of influence. However attractive this prospect might appear to Soviet politicians—as it presumably would to us in like circumstances—they should not bank on the U.S. standing aside in the face of such developments. The contradictory statements of Republican leaders in past weeks show a real unwillingness to intervene with men instead of money. The Eisenhower Government is in the unhappy dilemma of having won office (a) on its promise to bring the boys home from Korea and (b) by claiming that China was lost because of subversives in the American (i.e. Democrat) Government. To see Indo-China go as China did is to have their own facile technique of analysis turned against themselves and Senator Joe has taken good care that the Communists-in-Government issue is still very much alive; but to retain Indo-China with American troops is to hand the Democrats Eisenhower's appeal over Korea—and this in election year. Therefore, before Molotov banks on U.S. unwillingness for deeper involvement, he would do well to realise that involvement may be the price the Republicans are prepared to pay to sustain their right to be regarded as spokesmen for the anti-Communist fervour not only on a national but on international scale. In France, too, while it is possible to see a growing volume of French opinion desirous of ending so costly a struggle, it is still true that the motives which have kept France fighting for so long may keep it there still further. The principal French motive is simply one of national pride (see the report of "Times" Foreign News Editor, 5th April, 1954); "its determination to be acknowledged as a world power." "Now that Germany is resurgent, that power and pride are endangered. If

NIGHT SCHOOL OR UNIVERSITY

Sir,—I should like to correct misleading statements by respondent on "Night School or University" regarding English students.

1. The overwhelming majority of university students come not from a few Public Schools (i.e. schools by a public board of governors from the Grammar Schools, which is determined solely for academic work.

2. The majority are just enabled to attend the university by scholarships or bursaries of which is determined according to parents income.

3. In my experience, about 20 per cent of the men have completed 2 years National Service, served abroad, before entering the university and are therefore neither inexperienced. Also about 50 per cent of women had spent one or two years in a job before deciding to go to college.

4. There are a small proportion of coloured students.

5. Many students obtain their degrees from the University by part-time study at the College of Further Education, or the College, or through correspondence courses and home study. They include science students who do time laboratory work at the College of Technical Institute. In the students who desire only to obtain a degree, and not to join the life of a University are catered for, without affecting the function of the University so defined elsewhere.

—OLD EN

France were to withdraw from China, it would in fact contract to a nation with only an Atlantic pride, and even in Africa the French would draw lessons from China's example. It is this makes the French soldier a admired man... It is why no talks of 'turning the war over U.S.', for that, while not a like a Communist victory, would be an admission of France's as a world power." But is it worth the candle? Could we take more constructive action in Europe itself, where France's mental weakness has made it a ing-stock, and where it dearly to build its strength against Communist and a reviving so like its 1919 predecessor. Indo-China war has cost France over 30,000 men killed, has cost a sum greater than the whole aid on which recovery has been built, has hampered French construction from the war, lessened her military power in Europe and caused her voice to be unheard in the councils of nations. Such is the cost of China to France. Such is the price she flies pay for occupying paper.

Copy for the next issue of "Craccum" will close Wednesday, 30th June, 5 p.m. at the Executive Room.

SOCIALIST CLUB A.G.M. Room 2, Thursday 24th June, 8 p.m. Formulation of policy for the coming year. 8.10 p.m.

Second Thoughts on the Istanbul Conference

Recently 'Craccum' featured an article on the achievements of the Istanbul conference of the Co-ordinating Secretariat. The conference was perhaps a little rosy. After the conference the French delegation representing the National Union of French students, issued a statement condemning the conduct of the conference, and as a result the French student has now suspended all relations with Cossec.

We print below the statement of the French delegation.

The French delegation considering—dishonest manoeuvres which marked the work of the Third Commission (Press Commission set up for the study 'Student Mirror') when our statements were presented to it.

The unalterable attitude of Mr. Gaultze (Student leader from West Germany) while president of the session; the debates were marked by irregularities and inaccuracies as far as his behaviour was concerned.

The ungracious and inopportune remarks of the Dutch delegation, the systematic and unexplained hostility displayed by a number of delegations with regard to our proposals, the aim of which were only to make Cossec more efficient and to play a more useful role for the students whom we all represent.

Cossec is today an institution whose practical achievements bear absolutely no relation to the aspirations of its creators.

From now on it ceases to be interested in the work of this Conference in which only a few delegations possess effective powers and have not the slightest degree of mutual understanding.

It is now reported that the Canadian National Students Union is 'considering' studying relations with I.U.S., and the congress of Australia university students has recommended resuming relations with I.U.S.

UC Debating Success

Chamley, of Auckland, and Kenneth Melvin, of Otago have been selected as a New Zealand University Debating Team to tour Australia in August of this year.

Chamley has long been associated with debating Club activities in Auckland. As a committee member and former chairman of the Club he has represented the College in Joynt Debating contests over the past four years. A graduate in Law he is at present completing an Arts degree.

Kenneth Melvin was at Auckland in 1952 and represented the College against the visiting American team. A third year medical student he will now be in the footsteps of his father who toured Australia with an N.Z.U. team in the 30's.

Cossec until the deliberative bodies of UNEF have been informed of these facts."

The New Zealand University Students Association is now a member of Cossec.

Since the Istanbul conference also, the National Union of Students of England, Scotland and Northern Ireland has negotiated an agreement of associate membership with the International Union of Students, the international student organisation which Cossec claims is 'communist dominated' and which it is trying to replace.

The differences of opinion between the I.U.S. and the British N.U.S., mainly over the question of what is the legitimate concern of an international student organisation, have now been resolved by Article 6 of the agreement. This states that the N.U.S. dissociates itself from any formulation or statement of I.U.S. policies or projects where, in the view of N.U.S. these are not concerned with matters which legitimately fall within the scope of the N.U.S. constitution, and the acceptance of the fact by the I.U.S. that, once N.U.S. has declared a matter to be outside its scope of action, such a decision must stand until reversed by N.U.S. council.

It is now reported that the Canadian National Students Union is 'considering' studying relations with I.U.S., and the congress of Australia university students has recommended resuming relations with I.U.S.

"KIWI"

It is hoped that the annual Literary Publication "KIWI" will reappear this year, and accordingly applications are called for the position of

EDITOR.

Applications should be addressed to the Chairman of Publications, C/O Executive Room, before July 10, 1954.

Contributions in the form of Prose and Verse will be required if "Kiwi" is to be published, and these should be in the hands of the Editor, C/O Executive Room, before the end of the term.

Elections

Nomination forms for candidates at the Association elections are available at the Association's office.

Election statements for publication in "Craccum" should be submitted to the Secretary when nominations are lodged.

The form of election statements for publication will be decided shortly and instructions will then be available from the Executive room or the Office.

Music Club

On July 29th at 8 p.m., Music Club will hold its annual concert in the College hall.

The choral and orchestra sections of the Club will combine to present the major work, the "Blest Pair of Sirens" by Sir Hubert Parry. This is a setting of Milton's "At a Solemn Music," and is one of Parry's finest works. For this, Professor Hollinrake and Dr. Nalden have trained and conducted the choir and the orchestra respectively.

The choir will also sing a bracket of attractive, unaccompanied part-songs, and the College Madrigal Group, conducted by Mr. T. N. Rive, will present a bracket of Madrigals.

Other items, instrumental and vocal, will include a string quartet, a piano duo, piano solos and vocal solos.

This is a programme full of variety and of interest to all, whatever your taste, so come along on July 29th and enjoy an evening of music. Watch for notices about the purchasing of tickets which will be on sale shortly at the music department.

—JANET E. COUCH,
(Hon. Sec. Music Club).

Elections

President, Secretary and Treasurer: Nominations close with the Returning Officer on Sunday, 4th July, at midnight.

Executive: Eleven members. Nominations close with the Returning Office on Sunday, 18th July, at midnight.

Elections: For the President, Secretary and Treasurer, Monday and Tuesday, 19th and 20 July. For the executive, Tuesday and Wednesday, 3rd and 4th of August.

Annual Meeting: Wednesday, 4th August, in Room 19.

Christmas a Cloak for Reds

Senator Mc. C. Investigation Gives Santa the Sack.

At the latest hearing of the Domestic Security Sub-Committee of the Internal Security Investigation Commission of the Un-American Activities Committee of the House, Senator Joseph P. McCarthy stated that he has definite proof that a Mr. Santa I. Claus, of no fixed address, is a well known Red agent, responsible for the leakage of many vital domestic secrets throughout the length and breadth of America.

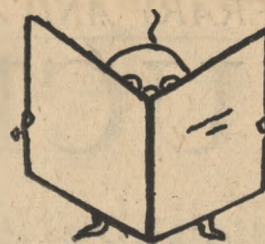
The Sub-Committee took place in a packed room before 15 television cameras. Only 30 arc-lamps were used, however, as the Senator had left his sun-glasses at home.

"I have information in my possession," declared the Senator, "that Claus was seen to visit the homes of Alger Hiss, Harry Dexter White and Whittaker Chambers on the eve of December 25th, 1944. So important is Claus to the Red spy network that it was not possible for him to enter the houses by the front door. Instead, he had to descend by the chimney after arriving by a means of transport which shows unmistakably his Un-American origin."

Release of the secret testimony of one of the witnesses five minutes after it was delivered revealed that the conveyance was a vehicle normally used in Siberia, known as a sledge, and that the animal drawing it was a Red-nosed reindeer.

FALSE WHISKERS

"What is more, Claus wore a red cloak in order to establish immediate identification for his contacts.



Ponderables

with Foxglove

POLITICS are the pivot between a philosophy of convenience and an inarticulate acceptance.

THE mundane cannot by any stretch of the imagination be extrapolated to the dimension of the truly profound.

PREOCCUPATION with the preparatory stultifies the conclusion.

MODERATION is the silken thread running through the pearl chain of all virtue.

WHY is it that a promulgation of the exception that proves the rule invariably demonstrates the invalidity of the rule?

I sometimes wonder whether the ad-diction of certain New Zealanders to tmesis is a function of a specific blockage to a personality power datum.

QUESTIONNAIRES usually result in the pooling of vast amounts of ignorance.

MODERN Education Theory may be likened to X to the power of n where X is a Greek philosopher.

FOR one word a man is often deemed to be wise and for one word he is often deemed to be foolish. We ought to be careful indeed what we say.

ONE interpretative process is said to be on a higher level than another when its occurrence requires the preceding occurrence of that other. Does this mean anything?

WHAT about this—Strictly pure symbols can signify only things familiar, and these only insofar as these are familiar.

But to fool the F.B.I. and ordinary members of the public, he carried the heavy false whiskers customary for all Soviet spies. He also employed decoys to serve in all the departmental stores of the U.S., in order to mislead my Investigators as to his real whereabouts."

COLOURED CARDS

"If any one still doubts that Mr. Santa Claus is a Red Agent, let him study these greeting cards, which have been sent in his name to many respectable citizens in this great country." (At this point Senator McCarthy produced a post office mail bag full of gaily coloured cards obviously the product of some great printing house, probably the Foreign Languages Printing House in Moscow.) "Their messages shows how the Kremlin goes about its work — 'Peace on Earth,' 'Goodwill to all men' are the chief slogans and unless you're a Democratic ex-President you can't get much more subversive than that."

THE KING FROM PRAGUE

"When my Committee had finished investigating Mr. Santa Claus," the Senator told reporters, "we intend to look into one of his associates, a Mr. G. King Wenceslas. This suspected agent has been operating from Prague for some considerable time. Clearly this is further evidence of Red infiltration in the State Department."

—Reprinted from NUS News No. 7, December, 1953, England.

Square Dance

Every Monday
Evening

8.10 p.m. M.C.R.

LITERARY AND ARTS

AUCKLAND WOOS THMU

"Edinburgh of the South"

The Auckland Festival Society may well look back with some pride on the 1954 Auckland Festival of the Arts. They have succeeded in arranging a large and varied programme composed of an excellent blending of world class artists and the best of local talent. What is more, the Festival captured the imagination of the people of Auckland and of those from further afield as well. The tremendous interest shown in the Festival as testified by the large, if not capacity attendances, provided an indication of the future that lies ahead for the Auckland Festival. This year's Festival, however, was a pioneer one, and like all pioneering efforts, it revealed several faults, which, with the experience now behind it, the Society should be able to correct next year.

The Festival has become very big, and accordingly, the planning and business side of the event must also be carried out on a large scale. While congratulating itself on this year's achievement, the Society must also begin their plans for 1955. The programme should be under way, artists engaged, orchestras, and similar musical groups, choirs and theatrical companies approached, and theatres and halls reserved. No chance should be lost, and planning ahead is the best way to ensure the high standard and general success of the next Festival. We may not be able to have such a wonderful selection of world celebrated orchestras, opera, ballet and theatre companies as that which is seen in the famous Edinburgh Festival, but if the Society retains and develops the initiative it has displayed this year, Auckland may well, at least for one month of the year, assume the title of "Edinburgh of the South."

One of the main drawbacks of the Festival was the disadvantage incurred in using the Town Hall Concert Chamber for opera and drama. Not only are the stage and its facilities hopelessly inadequate, but the auditorium is just not good enough for the purpose. There seemed no apparent reason for not booking His Majesty's Theatre for a longer season—especially when it is realised that the theatre remained empty for at least a fortnight before the Ballet season commenced. If the hiring of one of the city picture theatres was too expensive, the Playhouse in Karangahape Road would have been a better venue than the Concert Chamber. If we are restricted to one theatre, the Society could have hired His Majesty's for three weeks, and presented the ballet, opera and drama there, perhaps the three together on alternate nights. The capacity or near-capacity attendances would more than have covered the cost, while at the same time, producers, actors, dancers and audiences would all have benefited immeasurably.

Much has been written in criticism of the booking arrangements and little in the way of suggestions can be added here. The answer to the problem appears to lie in either, or both, of two directions. First, more than one box office, and secondly, the staggering of bookings. In any case the Festival Society must ensure that there is no recurrence of this year's upset.

The scope of the Festival—music, orchestral, instrumental, choral and solo singing, opera, ballet, drama films, and the visual arts—catered for all tastes, but the programme revealed several lapses in standard that could have been avoided. The most obvious and widely publicised was the deficiency in the ballet orchestra. Both the deficiency and the consequent unpleasantness would not have occurred if adequate planning had

been put into the venture. While applauding the initiative displayed in engaging two such artists as Rowena Jackson and Bryan Ashbridge, and the careful preparation given to the parts of the programme performed by local dancers, it must have been realised that the accompanying music is far from being a secondary consideration. The orchestra was obviously under-rehearsed.

The second concert given by the National orchestra, in sharp contrast to the first, showed a distinct lack of imagination in the choice of its "feature" item. The engagement of another top flight pianist, or of a violinist would doubtlessly have ensured the success of this concert.

Congratulations are due to Wellington's Unity Theatre for an interesting presentation of Ibsen's "The Wild Duck." It would be difficult to imagine any one of Auckland's many repertory companies, staging such a production. This fact is unfortunate enough, but it seems a thousandfold worse for the Auckland Drama Council to make the very sorry and surely unfounded statement that it was unable to stage a Festival play. Fortunately more initiative was shown in the presentation of the operettas, and also by the Art Gallery in its presentation of a first class exhibition, and the Kerridge-Odeon Organisation in a feast of excellent films, although more than one new film would have been appreciated. Could not "The Seekers," for example, been given an earlier release? Individual music recitals, poetry readings, an exhibition of flower books, and an architectural exhibition complete a widely varied and extremely interesting programme.

On these pages, the Library and Arts section records the impressions of a number of students who attended various performances in the 1954 Auckland Festival of the Arts.

—D.J.S.



Jan Smeterlin.

MUSIC

National Orchestra

In this programme we heard the National Orchestra in some of their finest playing since the visit of Juan di Castro some eighteen months ago. The playing in all sections was of a high standard during the whole performance.

The most interesting item of the evening was the first: *Symphonie Fantastique* op 14 by Berlioz. At all times we were conscious of his masterly orchestration, but it must not be said that this feature was of greater merit than the actual music. In the Ballroom scene we had a captivating waltz tune, a welcome change from the mawkish efforts of lesser musicians. The movement entitled "In the Fields" was a delightful Pastoral featuring the cor anglais and oboe. In the final movements, "March to the Scaffold," and "A Witches' Sabbath," excitement was the keynote with tremendous climaxes on the heavy brass.

The appearance of soloist Jan Smeterlin on the programme was perhaps the main attraction which helped fill the Town Hall. It is unfortunate that he was off colour for this concert, but nevertheless he showed himself to be a sincere artist, though perhaps of a different kind than was expected by some. We usually associate with the Rachmaninoff concerto No. 2 the idea of extreme subjective Romanticism and those who came prepared for that type of rendition were no doubt disappointed. Jan Smeterlin did not even make an attempt in that direction but played in a style almost completely divorced from Romanticism. It gave the Concerto a new meaning and at least some of the audience left the hall still in thought on the subject.

The short selection from "The Seasons" ballet of Glazounov rounded off a most enjoyable evening. The balance of the orchestra and the standard of sectional playing reached its highest peak in these pieces. One came away from the hall wishing to hear more.

Mention must be made of the Conductor, Warwick Braithwaite who was right on form during the whole programme. In the third movement of the

Berlioz, the oboe took an extraordinary part but immediately the conductor was with him. At all times in the concert the orchestra was in full sympathy with the soloist. Just prior to the final item the audience was asked to make the programme alteration with the topical comments by Mr. Braithwaite to whom must go much of the credit for a successful concert.

Jan Smeterlin Chopin Recital

An afternoon concert of most familiar piano music promised to be very attractive. The change from all Chopin programme damped the enthusiasm. Surely his work had been over played, had had a drop of sentiment wrung from the satisfied ego of enough of our ally brilliant pianists.

Smeterlin shattered my preconceived descending attitude towards music of his countryman. His pretation displayed his technical liance, and the sentiment inherent the music was expressed; but was much more. Strength and was given to the familiar waltz nocturne, the ballade. Most the mazurkas which were played thrilling rhythm, showing them lively national dances, were formed by the vigour which Smeterlin brings to the playing of Chopin, this that marks out his interpretation from other performers and was able again in the B Flat Sonata which was given new life by his more vigorous performance. In this same work his attitude on the funeral march and its meditative quality of which he allowed to appear in natural colour gave this movement in particular greater strength and depth.

Smeterlin was an ideal artist for such a concert, which because he held in the afternoon, had an informality. He obviously enjoyed playing Chopin and his enthusiasm communicated to the audience. His smiling smile in acknowledgement, pause, the pleasure with which he responded to demands for encores made for a friendly "let's enjoy together" atmosphere.

"The Dream of Gerontius"

"The Dream of Gerontius," from a poem of the same name by John Newman and set to music by Edward Elgar, tells of the death of Gerontius, his coming to judgment and his passing to Purgatory, death and the judgement forming distinctive parts. This is one of the most easily appreciated of allatorios due to the grand nobility of the music and the dramatic effect of the words, particularly in the first part. The second is more mysterious especially in the short overture which the peace of Eternity is fully suggested, and in the dialogue of Gerontius and the Angel. There are dramatic moments too in the Demons' chorus and in the passage, "Praise to the Holiest in the Height."

The main weight of the performance falls on the tenor taking

(Continued on Page 5)

Rowena Jackson

HMUSE

of Gerontius, and in the Festival
entation of the work, I must
ss that I was somewhat disap-
ned with Andrew Gold, particu-
in the first part. His voice was
and sounded as though he had to
ence was ad for some of his higher notes.
teration with MacAulay also had this
by Mr. Bra in the first part of his entry
much of the "Proficiscere anima Christiana"
ch caused this solo to lose a con-
rable amount of its impact. Mr.
's voice also lacked the necessary
ar in such passages as "Rouse
my fainting soul," and "Worse
worse some bodily form of ill,"
periodically there were dis-
sic promises with the orchestra over
The change
me damp-
his work
ed, had bad
wrung from
of enough
ts.
red my sam-
y had a nobility that was one of
ryman. His
his technic
tment inher-
pressed; but
Strength and
miliar wait-
ade. Most
difficulties with the tempo; apart
these lapses, however, the or-
ra gave a good account of it.
—W.E.A.

rlin Ch ital

acert of m
The change
me damp-
his work
ed, had bad
wrung from
of enough
ts.
red my sam-
y had a nobility that was one of
ryman. His
his technic
tment inher-
pressed; but
Strength and
miliar wait-
ade. Most
difficulties with the tempo; apart
these lapses, however, the or-
ra gave a good account of it.
—W.E.A.

Sacred Recital by ristchurch Harmonic Soc.

the sacred recital given by the
archurch Harmonic Society, con-
ed by Victor Peters, the qualities
made the choir's performance of
s "Dream of Gerontius" so
vable, showed to advantage in
er works.
recital began with two psalm
and the hymn, "Pierce Raged
ompest." These were all marked
ful diction, and phrasing, and

eam of
rius"

ontius," from
ame by Can-
o music by
of the deat-
ng to judge
Purgatory
nent forming
his is one of
ated of all
rand nobility
ramatic effort
rly in the
more mys-
ort overture
ternity is lea-
in the dialo-
e Angel. The
nts too in
L in the
e Holiest is

of the per-
enor taking
Page 5)

of the per-
enor taking
Page 5)

of the per-
enor taking
Page 5)

of the per-
enor taking
Page 5)

of the per-
enor taking
Page 5)



Pamela Woolmore, David Galbraith, Andrew Gold, Rowena Jackson, Bryan Ashbridge and Donald Munro.

expressive singing, especially in the
pianissimo passages.

The first of three excerpts from
"Elijah" was "For He Shall Give His
Angels Charge" sung by members of
the choir. This was marred by faults
in the balance of voices, but "Lift
Thine Eyes," a trio, and "Cast Thy
Burden" were most enjoyable.

The Sanctus and Gloria from Bach's
Mass in B minor were admirably con-
trolled, the strands of counterpoint
being maintained with confidence and
fluency, but without real inspiration—
probably due to tired voices.

The second half of the programme
was mainly devoted to carols, modern
and traditional. Of these "Fanfare
for Christmas Day" by Martin Shaw
was notable for its round pianissimo
tone, and "Jaques, Come Here" for
the preciseness of the singing.

"These Things Shall Be" by John
Ireland concluded the concert. In
this work, the difficult harmonies
were managed with care, and the
singing exhibited the attention to de-
tail and the devotion to the music
that is characteristic of all the choir's
work.

Mr. Peters' conducting throughout
was unobtrusive and extremely effi-
cient. The two soloists were Mrs.
Boyd Wilson, soprano, and Richard
Prothero, organist, the latter playing
Bach's "Toccatina and Fugue in D

minor." Although some of the toccata
was blurred and unrhythmical, the
playing on the whole was well-con-
trolled, and the registration varied
and in good taste.
—F.S.

Leon Goosens Recital

Leon Goosens, with Jessie Hall at
the piano, opened the recital with a
sonata by Sammartini. The assurance
befitting the stature of the oboeist
was immediately apparent. Technical
considerations never arose, and his
audience revelled in the beauty of his
tone, the flexibility and variety of his
instrument, and the completeness of
his artistry.

Jessie Hall, Ruth Pearl (violin),
Winifred Stiles (viola), and Marie
Wanderwart ('cello), gave a most
exciting and wholly delightful per-
formance of the Faure piano quartet
in C minor. This has more rhythmic
impulse than most of the composer's
work, and it was the flow of good
themes and strong exciting rhythms
which completely captivated the
audience. Jessie Hall's tone, quite
the equal of Goosens' in the Sammar-
tini, was not entirely matched by
the strings in the Faure. Winifred
Stiles, as always, was notable for the
quality of her tone. Marie Wander-
wart was artistically sound, but often
lacked the weight needed as the
foundation of a good string group.
Ruth Pearl surprisingly did not al-
ways come through.

Outstanding new fare was a sona-
tina by Malcolm Arnold. Piquant
rhythms and a tremendous sense of
fun characterised this work. The
brilliance of the oboe, especially its
high compass and its great flexibility,
was thoroughly exploited. Some
extraordinarily lovely sounds were
discovered between both piano and
oboe. Goosens impressed particularly
with his exquisite shading of tone,
and Jessie Hall by her faithful ac-
companying of one who gave little
and demanded all.

The final Fantasy quartet for oboe
and strings by Britten was the least
satisfactory musically. One is so
often disappointed that Britten's
brilliant sense of colour, sound, and
the individuality of every instrument
is not harnessed to something deeper,
an inner compelling force. How effec-
tive was the opening by the 'cello—
one's anticipation was high—yet again
one found 'effect' the 'end.'
—D.L.B.

David Galbraith Recital

In the Art Gallery on Friday, June
4th, a large and attentive audience
heard a lunch-hour recital by the
pianist David Galbraith. By his per-
formance on this occasion, Mr. Gal-
braith proved himself to be one of

New Zealand's best pianists of recent
years.

The 17 Variations Serieuses, Op. 54
by Mendelssohn, showed that Mr.
Galbraith has mastered the many
technical difficulties which the Varia-
tions present, and he portrayed clear-
ly the sudden changes of mood
throughout. Particularly pleasing
were the shorter, quiet Variations
where Mr. Galbraith brought out
every subtlety of tone colour and
thoroughly engrossed himself in the
beauty of the simple musical pro-
gressions which these variations con-
tain. The only criticism here is that
he over-used the sustaining pedal at
time, particularly towards the end.

Schubert's Impromptu in A Flat Op.
90 came as a pleasant interlude be-
tween the Mendelssohn Variations
and Schubert's Fantasia in C major,
Op. 15, which was to follow. Mr.
Galbraith's playing of the Impromptu
was a delight with its smoothness and
clarity throughout.

The most polished performance of
the afternoon was given in the
Schubert Fantasia, "The Wanderer."
Mr. Galbraith played this difficult
work with intense feeling and with a
mature understanding of the com-
poser's intentions in the interpreta-
tions of the work.
—J.E.C.

Ken Smith — Cornet

Although the recital was held on a
Sunday evening, and the concert was
comparatively short as a result, Smith
could not be expected to entertain the
audience for the whole time, and the
gaps were filled by the Auckland
Watersiders Silver Band.

For those who were prepared to go
to the concert with the sole intention
of hearing the soloist and to ignore
the rest of the items (as I was) the
evening was an extremely fruitful
one.

Of Ken Smith, however, the story
is much different. In his hands the
cornet assumes a new place in the
order of musical instruments, and the
beauty and the smoothness of the tone
produced fully explained why the
crowds in London stood and cheered
him whenever he played.

His versatility, too, is amazing, and
his performance in his arrangement
of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto
was nothing short of amazing. This ar-
rangement, which proved to be much
less improbable than it first appeared,
the shorter cornet pieces and the
Jeremiah Clarke Trumpet Voluntary
showed how very fortunate this coun-
try is that a world class performer
of such quality has returned with the
intention of staying.
—WILSON.

(Continued on Page 6)



Rowena Jackson and Bryan Ashbridge in Act III of "Sleeping Beauty".

The Festival continued ...

DRAMA

"The Wild Duck"

The field of drama was represented in the Arts Festival by Wellington's Unity Theatre in its production of "The Wild Duck" by Henry Ibsen. The choice of play was both an interesting and a bold one. These attributes would seem complimentary when Ibsen's play is compared with the types of "drama" that are usually brought before Auckland play-goers. Here then lies the interest of the production, and it is to be hoped that the Festival Society will continue a policy that has given us Shaw's "Saint Joan" and now Ibsen's "The Wild Duck." And yet the production remains a bold one, for not only is the play itself of such a higher standard than we are accustomed to seeing on the local stage, but it is also a play which demands an unusual amount of skill in stagecraft.

The play, in short, is a very difficult one. "The Wild Duck" not only exhibits Ibsen's genius, but also reveals certain theatrical faults. Had Shaw written about the same thing (however doubtful the latter may seem) he would surely have written a play of, at the most, two-thirds the length. It was the wordiness of the play that presented the players with a fundamental problem, but further, Ibsen is too inclined to use the sledge hammer to ram his points home again and again. There is no Shavian subtlety here.

A second problem of major importance is the delicate balance between tragedy and comedy that is inherent in the play; to cite an important example, it needs considerable mastery on the part of both producer and actor to ensure that Hjalmar Ekdal remains a pitiful figure and not a comical one. The success of the production was often threatened by a deficiency here, and the audience cannot be wholly blamed for inopportune laughter. Pat Earle had a very hard job on his hands in this role, and his characterisation seemed to lack the sensitivity required to show that Ekdal was not a clown, but what Shaw has described as a "vain, petted, spoilt dawdler" who "believes he is a delicate and high-souled man."

Bruce Mason, as Gregers Werle, appeared to have a firmer grasp on what it was all about, but he spoilt his portrayal somewhat by faulty technique. Gregers Werle was shown as a man whose life is governed by phrases and not by experience—in none of his high-minded attempts does he pay any attention to the delicate human material he is handling. Here Mr. Mason brought out the pompous idealist, but in so doing he often muffled his words, especially where his emotion became intensified. There was a suitable pomposity in his bearing too, but this sometimes led to what appeared as self-consciousness.

Rey Byrne as Old Ekdal and David Burger as Werle both gave sound performances—their portrayals were consistent and carried the stamp of conviction. Wally Christie as the Fat Guest and Roger Harris as Molvik presented delightful vignettes although the producer's handling of Molvik in the last tragic scene was unfortunate. Did Ibsen intend the disillusioned clergyman to be so obtrusive? Dr. Relling, in whom we see Ibsen the humanist, was played, commendably, in a straightforward manner by Wally Christie.

Of the women in the play, honours must go to Gillian Gordon. Her per-

formance was threaded with the charming innocence of the child who believes in her father as only a child could do. Miss Gordon's portrayal was delightfully restrained, her technique near faultless, and her performance probably came nearest to the warmth of Ibsen than any other.

Mary MacKenzie as Gina, Ekdal's wife, successfully portrayed the woman who saw through the romantic illusions of the Ekdal household, but who desired nothing better. Her performance was a solid rather than an inspired one, but then, Gina is hardly an inspired character, and the characterisation was probably the better for being left at that. Marion Chappell as Mrs. Sorby did all that was required of her—she was no more empty than the author intended.

The task of Nola Millar, the producer, was indeed a difficult one, and



A scene from "The Wild Duck."

she was not helped by the very static beginning that Ibsen has given to his play. The dramatist is often unduly slow in building up to his climaxes, and Miss Millar seemed unable to do much about it; some judicious cutting was perhaps called for. In the form in which it was presented, however, it must be conceded that the production was kept running smoothly. Miss Millar's grasp of character, with the difficult but notable exception of Hjalmar Ekdal, and of Molvik in the last scene, was firm and consistent. Together with the Stage Manager, Mike Mitchell, she made the most of the cramped stage of the Concert Chamber. The sets, designed by Ron Parker, were true to the spirit of the play—the first, that of the middle-class Werles, with its impression of drabness, yet complacency, and the other, conveying all the illusions of the self-deceived Ekdal.

—D.J.S.

BALLET

Rowena Jackson and Bryan Ashbridge

FIRST PROGRAMME

In appearance Miss Jackson is the most attractive ballerina Auckland has seen for a long time, and the precision of her dancing, I am told, is strikingly reminiscent of the great Pavlova. Her movements are quick and darting, her steps light and graceful. Fortunately "Swan Lake" Act II and the pas de deux from Act III were given on the same programme, and we saw her ability to express character. The delicate poetry of Odette was in strong contrast to the conscious power and malevolent exultation of Odile.

stripes. Joyce Quealy and group of dancers gave a good dance, despite tempos not calculated to aid them. But I think this work could even be fying since it contains a fusion of disunity. The Symphonic Variations are not suited to this type of dance and there was a continual jarring between the warm rich tones of the score and the passionless abstraction proceeding on stage.

The second local ballet, "The Sleeping Beauty" had little to do with the 1860, apart from Rangitoto in the ground and a stray Maori, it was delocalised, and really dealt with traditional pleasures of the ashore. But the performance, gaiety, movement, attractive bright scenery and costumes, many small parts brought in, numerous instances of fine and characterisation, while Baker as the lieutenant, the figure, gave an energetic dance that never lost interest, particularly good, too, were Kirner and Marian Newman, neatly differentiated roles, the an exotic hussy, the latter demure and gentle chaperone.

Miss Kirner deserves much for her choreography. The from the modernistic style of the to the lighthearted folly of the land 1860" showed great realisation. The manipulation of the crowd in so far as the latter was the best thing I have seen in local ballet.

The only disagreeable element in the evening was the orchestration, violin and cello were badly tuned, and the brass contributed most unwholesome noises, particularly in "The Sleeping Beauty" pas de deux. The woodwind section to acquit themselves.

OPERA

"The Telephone" "The Man from Tuscany"

"The Telephone" by Menotti and "The Man from Tuscany" by Hopkins, rank with the "Cavalleria" as being the most tasteful small-scale operas in Auckland within recent years. As Bach, are indebted to Andrew G. Pamela Woolmore, who are productions their charm and his sons a

"The Telephone" is a brilliant composition overcomes the of the subject—a proposal interrupted by a 'two-headed' the telephone. Although singers, Pamela Woolmore and ald Munro, sang and acted ly, my chief impression was of the composer. The phone conversations contained ly ideas—the slightly irritating theme to which Miss Woolmore, quired after the health of acquaintances, her coloratura, and the piano accompaniment delivery of the other side conversation. This is a most and highly-charged score.

"The Man from Tuscany" acts, of which the second is the better. The first is slow under way, and contains much cult music for the three sons of Bach. The discordant music appeal at first, but the classic ing prevailing Act II was attractive.

Pamela Woolmore, as Julia, the prefect of Bach's school, the most exuberant and roguish mass of

(Continued on Page 7)

The Nature of the University

The case for the "Studium Generale"

The studium generale is the basis of a comprehensive general education in contrast to specialised education. It has proved, however, very difficult to work out a good and practicably feasible curriculum for the studium generale.

Experience at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has shown American educators how essential to a well-balanced harmony of the individual subjects, thorough education in the sense of the universities litterarum, the development of the ability to utilise the knowledge gained in seeking the truth and for the independent forming of opinion,

good general education is the basis of good instruction. Good instruction does not depend upon the curriculum alone, but upon the material and the method of instruction. An in-placeable element in all instruction is the slow, far-reaching process of learning through experience. One of the habits of measuring the degree of general education according to how far it aids the individual in reaching a deeper understanding of all its aspects. Experience at Carnegie Technical Institute has shown that this criterion is correct with certain reservations: that in so far as one must bear in mind the age of the student. College university students have their lives still ahead of them. In this ever-changing, confusing world, when by ideological conflicts, they have much to learn after the termination of their studies. All these things must be self-taught with the help of an instructor. Therefore, it should not be so much the duty of the studium generale to give a student at a stated age a certain amount of knowledge, as it is to place him in the position of being able later to educate himself further.

What have been the experiences of instructors at Carnegie in the teaching of history, for example? Earlier, one sought to cram the student full of knowledge, thus enabling him to recognise and understand historical causality. Instruction consisted mainly in lectures, the studying of assigned selections from textbooks, the recapitulation of the studied material, and free discussion. It was shown in examinations that the students had, in general, collected a considerable amount of "book-learning" which they had, in part, thought out; on the other hand, they were completely uncritical and trusting in authority. Without textbooks and lectures—that is, without the presentation of well prepared "facts"—they were simply helpless.

THINK, NOT LEARN

After the introduction of the studium generale at Carnegie, a form of history instruction was chosen which would lead train the students, in the first place, for better historical thinking. After long years of not very successful experiments with various curricula and methods, the history professors were finally charged with

exploring the nature of historical thinking, and with finding out how they, themselves, had developed these special capacities in the course of their studies. The result was a curriculum which gradually led the students to make the historian's tools their own, and which guided and stimulated them to investigate the character of the main phases in the development of Western culture and to form their own opinions on these questions.

As shown by these experiences, the training and development of the capacity for true learning belongs to teaching on every level, whether in an elementary school or at a university. For university students, as for school pupils, this type of instruction is just as much a training of the character as of the mind. Perseverance, self-discipline, and moral integrity are necessarily developed through the teaching of self-reliant, independent thinking. If students are taught, instead, to accept everything blindly and without criticism, then a weakening of the character must just as necessarily result. It is, therefore, self-evident how important the schooling in independent thinking and learning is for later life and for the duties of the citizen.

BASIC SUPPOSITION

Each event—and each experience—is twisted today by dramatic aspects which hide its real meaning. Learning by experience and by independent study is strongly influenced through unconscious prejudices and the whole focus of the person learning, through prejudices and distortions of individual authors. A good schooling is needed if one wishes to form correct judgment in the various fields of knowledge. This schooling is, however, the basic supposition for all independent learning. Therefore, it is very important for the studium generale, to discover, through careful observation and experiments, what tools the student must gain for himself in the individual subjects, and how he can best make them his own.

The same experiences made in the instruction of history were also made in subjects like mathematics, and physical sciences as well as in languages, political and social sciences. In the former, as in the latter, practical experiments were required to develop suitable curricula gradually—a process which is still not complete today. The knowledge learned from teaching history—how much room the training in self-instruction and in the use of scientific tools should take in the studium generale, and what importance this fact of the teaching has—was also substantiated here. The more one strengthens the tendency to neglect the remaining aspects of the instruction as a result of the increasing complexity of the material to be taught, the more carefully must one investigate how, and how far, the form of the instruction influences the capacity of the individual for forming judgment and opinions. It is necessary to check the instruction in each case from this point of view.

DANGER OF NARROW-MINDEDNESS

However, this alone does not suffice. One must be on the lookout for "unplanned learning" which grows out of the combined action of individual moments. Then, here, the aggregate is in no way only the sum of its parts. As has been determined, for example, in courses on economics, psychology, or physics, the inclination to regard an intelligent analysis in economic, psychological, or scientific fields as a general conclusion grows in the stu-

dents with their increasing capacity for using scientific tools for a more reasonable and more analytical formation of opinion. That is, they are no longer able to see that the answer, which their analysis brings, is only part of the answer. The danger of narrow-mindedness, so frequently the mark of the specialists, is naturally bound up with this. Furthermore, the opinion becomes gradually deep-rooted in them that exact regard for objective facts and quantitative results is realism. They overlook that this realism leaves the great artistic and spiritual truths, which give life its real meaning, fully out of consideration. Thus, their so-called realism is only a half-realism, which, just because of its wide diffusion, belongs to the especially dangerous half-truths.

TEACHER JUDGEMENT

As the teacher seldom has enough time during a course to teach his students everything he would like, he might be tempted to save time by taking a large part of the work away from the students through more intensive efforts of his own. No matter how good his teaching methods are and how much he is in command of his material, if he gives up training the students to think independently, letting them feel mental exertion, and practicing perseverance—the necessary supposition for systematic self-instruction—then he substitutes good instruction for an empty form of teaching.

CONSTANCY OF STAFF ESSENTIAL

Because one is especially dependent upon the experience of the teachers in the construction of the studium generale, a frequent change of teachers proves to be most harmful for progressive development. The teachers need some time to recognise the full meaning and possibilities of such a course, and to adapt their teaching methods accordingly. With continual changes in teachers, a sort of sterility results which necessarily interferes with the process of learning through experience, and which excludes eventual changes that might be needed in order to make full use of the lessons taught by experience. No matter how the form and content of a course may appear, its worth is measured less according to the amount of material mastered, and much more according to how far it trains and enables the students to deepen and broaden their knowledge independently. To fill these demands, the instruction must be gradually improved, especially through skilled evaluation of teachers' experiences in the special fields. A basic condition is the recognition that enduring education—in good things as well as bad—is frequently completely unplanned and that the teacher is unconscious of it.

SELF-CRITICISM

Even when all this is clear to a teacher, he runs the danger of deceiving himself and of missing all the possibilities of improving his instruction, if he does not, from time to time, in the light of this recognition, throw everything that his pupils do and learn open to a critical and harsh scrutiny from which he draws lessons for the perfection of his instruction. It is only in this way that he can actually make his instruction instrumental in developing in the student the capacity for disciplined, schooled, but independent thinking in his judgments and in his studies. In our time, when freedom is threatened less by those who wish to dictate than by those who are ready and eager to be controlled, this aspect of learning attains the greatest importance.

phone"
an from
any"

of the best music falls to 'his' in particular a parody of opera and a light-hearted song in which he visualises his operatic role. Andrew Gold took the role of a really operatic impresario and with a clear ringing flexible voice. As Bach, Donald Munro was trained. His voice had an unfortunate tremolo by the end of the evening. His sons and pupils were performed by boys from Sacred Heart College. The trio of sons lacked assurance, but the full chorus sang bravely and well.

His opera, also, made good use of special tricks, such as scales played stage and harmonised in the accompaniment. Best of all was the full procession by candlelight through the audience, bringing the thing, both musically and dramatically, to an impressive conclusion.

—J.P.A.C.

LMS

The Pickwick Papers

"The Pickwick Papers" is both a delightful and a memorable piece of entertainment. The scriptwriter-director Noel Langley, perhaps better known as the author of "Cage Peacock," has somehow managed to assemble the multifarious elements of this, Dickens' first novel, into the framework of a film. Dickens has little in the process. By concentrating on the relationships between the members of the Pickwick and the ubiquitous Mr. Jingle, the mass of incident: Tupman's

courtship of Miss Wardle, Winkle's duel, Pickwick's predicament at the White Horse Inn and at the seminary for young girls, the breach of promise suit and the experiences at the Fleet Prison; is all linked together, even if somewhat tenuously. It is to the credit of the film that Mr. Jingle, ever at hand to give the machinery of the plot a helping push, is as well central to the illustration of the underlying goodness of human nature, the moral of the film if you so wish to call it.

The film fortunately never approaches the "Merrie England" of the Dickensian Christmas Card. Both facets of Dickens are present, the romantic nostalgia for happier days, for an age of colour and spaciousness and ease, seen through a haze of tears and laughter, and the awareness and criticism of contemporary reality. "The Pickwick Papers" is a film rich in comedy and pathos with a strong strain of humanist optimism. Human goodness is the solvent for the difficulties of this world.

On the same programme as the "Pickwick Papers," is another film, unheralded, unsung, a production of the N.Z. National Film Unit, entitled "The Legend of the Wanganui River."

This film, a documentary tracing the course of the Wanganui River from its source to the sea, makes few claims, and fulfills them all. The beginning of the film, dealing with the source of the river, leans heavily on the Maori legend. The director however never loses his hold on reality, the lower reaches of the river are not rhapsodised. The coastal reaches of the Wanganui River are not romantic. —J.E.T.

GUATEMALA

Communists in the Caribbean

Over the last few months, the South American republic of Guatemala has been in the news. In January of this year U.S. Senator Alexander Wiley denounced the government of Guatemala as 'a serious beach-head of international communism in this hemisphere,' and since then the heat has been on.

In March the Pan-American Congress brought down a resolution condemning communist intervention in South American affairs, obviously aimed at Guatemala. Last month, when American authorities in Panama forcibly seized a ship which they claimed was carrying arms from Poland to Guatemala, it was revealed that the U.S. government had placed an embargo on the export of arms to this country. Now the U.S. government is rushing military supplies to Nicaragua and Honduras, the southern neighbours of Guatemala, to save them for Democracy.

STRONGHOLDS OF DEMOCRACY

It is instructive to glance at these two strongholds of democracy. Nicaragua is ruled by Tacho Somoza, who owns most of the country. Freedom of the press is not permitted on the grounds that it leads to disorder. Elections are not popular for the same reason. Tacho owes a great deal to the U.S., which left him in charge of the National Guard when American troops were withdrawn in 1932. Like all the dictators he is profoundly interested in democracy, and supports active collaboration with the U.S. 'in the defence of those precious ideals we all share.' These ideals include an annual income of 1,000,000 dollars. Those subversive magazines 'TIME' and 'LIFE' are banned in Nicaragua, as well as in seven other states.

Honduras is owned by the Banana Companies and Tiburcio Carías. Under his guiding hand the constitution was revised in 1936 so as to give him complete control. Elections are not very popular in Honduras either.

Neither Somoza nor Carías are perfect, but at least they have the virtue of being anti-communist.

It is interesting to note that no protests have been received from Mexico, Guatemala's northern neighbour. But then Mexico is a democracy which enjoys popular support.

GUATEMALA TRIES REFORM

How about Guatemala itself? In 1944, after over 100 years of despotism interlarded with anarchy, Guatemala elected Juan Jose Arevalo with an 85 per cent vote and began a precarious experiment with democracy. In his six year term of office, Arevalo survived 27 attempts to overthrow his government, but he carried through a social revolution. He raised school teachers salaries, organised a school system for the Indians, demilitarised education, and made the university autonomous.

His successor, Jacob Arbenz has carried out his policies so successfully that Guatemala has now paid off its National Debt, and has kept its currency at par with the U.S. dollar. Between 1944 and 1951 the gross national production and the government income both tripled, and the expenditure on education increased sevenfold.

RAILWAY MONOPLY

This prosperity was gained without recourse to the usual methods of socialism or communism. The government policy was not based on Peking or Moscow, but on Roosevelt and the New Deal. Unfortunately the New Deal is not very popular in America these days. The quarrel with the American owned railway system is a case in point. This railway, controlled by the United Fruit Company, is the

only outlet to the sea for passengers and freight, and one of the former dictators sold it to a concession for 99 years. The railway carries United Fruit bananas at below cost and makes up for this by high freight charges on Guatemalan goods. The answer to this has not been to nationalise the railway but to build a road to the Atlantic which will allow trucks to compete with the railway and force freight rates down.

GOVERNMENT OPPOSITION

The United Fruit Company, which prefers to do business with the weaker republics of South America, has met stiff opposition from the new government. Previous legislation forcing the Indians to do 150 days annual labour on the plantations was repealed, and trade unions were recognised. This was a blow at the semi-feudal organisation of society which has not been forgotten by the big landowners or the company. In 1944 the company owned over 500,000 acres of land, of which some 37,000 acres were in cultivation. The government took 374,000 acres of uncultivated land from the company and paid 574,000 dollars in compensation.

The company claimed 3,500,000 dollars in compensation, and was supported by the State Department.

By questioning the divine right of the banana companies the government was definitely established as communistically inclined.

The avowed aim of the land reform was to bring uncultivated land into use. There is no limit to the amount of land that can be owned as long as it can be cultivated.

4 RED SEATS IN 54

The government of Guatemala has been accused of being communist-dominated. Of the 54 seats in the Congress, 44 are held by 'government' parties in coalition. The Guatemalan Workers Party, which is avowedly communist holds 4 pro-government seats. This is hardly a majority, but it is apparently sufficient for the needs of Senator Wiley.

The truth seems to be that the Guatemalans hold some old-fashioned notion of democracy whereby there is complete political freedom, and communists have rights.

The present crisis in Guatemala is part of the tragedy of South America. This continent which has valued freedom so highly is now in the grip of the dictators. Guatemala is one of the few democracies left and now it is apparently to be sacrificed to the new American policy of expediency rather than honesty. 'Anti-communism at any price' is now the slogan of the State Department. Guatemala is the latest victim of this New Look in international diplomacy.

Sport

Badminton

The first inter-club match of the season was played at Holy Trinity Hall on Thursday, 10th of June. Played under excellent conditions, this match resulted in a win for the 'C' Grade team by seven matches to three.

J. Holdom's match with Pettett was very hard fought, with every point fiercely contested. Holdom made a tactical error in not realising his opponent was a left-hander. This match lasted twenty minutes.

T. Gan turned in a fine performance to win the first match for the club. He had a slight edge on his opponent throughout.

Chee and Chin had an easy win as Number One men's doubles combination; so too did Holdom and Gan in Number Two position.

Pam Brooking fought well, but her opponent was too strong. Pam played well in defeat. Raewyn Dickson was far too strong for her opponent. This was Raewyn's first inter-club match, and she played very well. The change from tennis to badminton is not easily made, especially in the early stages, and Raewyn has adapted well.

Pam and Raewyn went well in their top doubles match. They wiped out an early deficit to win well. Marie Kane and Judy Oakden were up against a stronger combination in their match. Both put up a credible performance, however.

The combined doubles resulted in good wins for Varsity. Chee and Judy had a walk-over, 21-1. Chin and Marie met with somewhat stronger opposition, and won 21-9.

Results:

Men's Singles

J. Holdom lost to D. Pettett 13-21.
T. Gan beat G. Wood 21-15.

Men's Doubles

Chee and Chin beat Roberts and Hall 21-3.

Holdom and Gan beat Wood and Pettett 21-16.

Ladies Singles

P. Brooking lost to E. Hodgson 6-15.

R. Dickson beat M. Lornie 15-2.

Ladies Doubles

P. Brooking and R. Dickson beat E. Hodgson 21-15.

J. Oakden and M. Kane lost to Misses Comley and Canty 5-21.

Combined Doubles

Chee and J. Oakden beat Roberts and Miss Comley 21-1.

Chin and M. Kane beat Hall and Miss Canty 21-9.

On Tuesday, 15th of June, the Varsity 'D' Grade team defeated Avondale 6-4.

A. Baba had a fine tussle with R. Rusden. Baba led 18-11. Rusden decided he had better perk up. He carried his score to 19. Baba evened to 19 apiece; they set the match, and Baba won the next five points to win, 24-19.

K. Rae and Miss Heenan had a near miss in their match. A 19-21 loss is still good going.

Results:

Men

A. Baba beat R. Rusden 24-19.

I. George beat J. Waddington 21-4.

Baba and George beat Rusden and Waddington 21-5.

K. Crombie and K. Rae lost to L. Utting and S. Thompson 13-21.

Ladies

M. Kane beat S. Langlois 15-7.

P. Thompson lost to J. Taylor 9-15.

Kane and Thompson lost to Langlois and Taylor 18-21.

J. Cotton and M. Heenan Peck and B. Milligan 21-5.
Combined Doubles

Crombie and Cotton beat Peck and Milligan 21-16.

Rae and Heenan lost to Utting and Thompson 19-21.

Rugby Notes

Since the last edition of "Craccum" we have been privileged with news from the Australian Union team. The combined Auckland team was severely trounced by tourists in the mid-week game. The Test played on the following Sunday told a different story. Auckland players were in the New Zealand team, and five, we would especially like to congratulate Colin Martin and Chandler. Both of these boys began the season in the junior grades, but now they are international repute. Gordon place, largely on his magnificent play of football when the 3A team of the South Auckland Colts. A and unselfish half-back, he deserved his place in the team.

Unfortunately the Seniors during the last two weeks, have been too promising, but the shifting of players is sufficient to upset any good team.

The 2A team suffers directly from the irregularity of the Seniors as it is from here that reinforcements are taken. Compared with last year's performance, this team's results far are disappointing, and it is best if this comment is left at that.

Surprisingly enough the 3A team is proving to be more of a society group. The last two days have seen spectacular results for this team resulting in convincing over their opponents.

Garth Heenan is a staunch supporter of his side and never lets his side down. At full-back they are playing Colin Brown. Although a lightweight, his determined will stop the heaviest forward in the game against the Fijians. All in this team is playing football and football fever is in the Hostel; so much so that Fraser Hawkins is even playing go for practise runs.

The 3A team still maintains an unbeaten record. In fact it was last Saturday that their line was crossed in club matches. On Saturday, the 19th, the real game will arrive when the Training College. College narrowly won the third grade match, but so far this season they have had the lead. Considerable position there is little wonder enthusiasm for this coming year.

Morris Goodwin has produced a phenomenal try-scorer this year. Although his loose play may be criticised, the valuable points he brings justify his game. The line of this team is often praised for its power of penetration, but it often tends to overlook the back of the team. Max Glass, Schooled at Auckland Grammar, tradition of our better movements of this from his illuiveness.

Unluckily beaten last Saturday appears that the 3B's are going to improve their record this year. Players are still needed for the 3B and anyone interested should name on the sheet on the board.

Finally, games of football are by spirit and determination. A member that it is the score counts, and not the scorer.

—MYLES B. HILL