

# C r a c e c u m

## Auckland University College Students' Paper

XXX—No. 7

Auckland, N.Z., Monday, 4th July, 1955

Gratis

### WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE

## Appeal to Auckland Students

In Auckland, World University Service is an unknown quantity. The committee has not functioned effectively for some years.

We hope, however, that 1955 will prove the beginning of a new era in International student activity in this College. We consider undertakings of the nature of WUS to be of fundamental importance in developing international understanding and sympathy, and thus promoting that which we think all students desire—a peaceful, stress-free world.

This article gives information on the origin of WUS, and something of its activities, both internationally and within New Zealand. Throughout, its basic philosophy, promotion of goodwill and understanding, and the encouragement of self-help, is evident.

World University Service finds its origin in European Student Relief (ESR), which was established in 1920 to meet the needs among university students created by the First World War. Appalled by the desperate plight of students and the harmful indifference in lands untroubled by war, European Student Relief adopted the slogan, "They would care if we knew, and know they shall". Students around the world responded generously to the appeal far beyond anything had been expected.

Resistance to students and universities was neither careless charity nor unbridled politics. It was administered on sound economic lines. Except where students were physically unable to work, they were not given directly but used as a means to start self-help enterprises. Aid was provided without any discrimination on grounds of race, creed, or nationality.

### Between Two Wars:

These principles upon which the organization was founded have spanned successive changes in structure brought about by the impact of changing conditions. By 1925 the most urgent needs of Europe were being adequately tackled by international resources. But the desire to maintain contact and exchange ideas and the urge to work together to solve problems and needs of the university community remained. Thus in 1926, of European Student Relief, emerged a completely independent international organization, International Student Service (ISS), with headquarters in London.

From then until the Second World War, ISS continued to stimulate service among the university community of the world. ISS international operations included both material assistance and mutual education.

### The War Years:

Then in 1939, for the second time in the generation of those who created European Student Relief, war engulfed Europe, and with it, the liberties, lives, equipment and buildings of another generation of students.

Early in the war years it was realised that the responsibilities to be faced were far greater than those created by the First World War. To meet this situation, in co-operation with the World Student Christian Federation and Pax Romana, ISS established a war-emergency relief committee: "European Student Relief Fund".

### Post-War Era:

By 1946, ISS and WSR had begun to extend operations to the Indian sub-continent, Burma, Malaya, and Indonesia. The total need was for every possible means of access—to the university, to books and study materials, to university communities of other nations.

In December 1950, the General Assembly of ISS adopted a new title, "World University Service" (WUS), and approved new Statutes re-formulating its principles in order to meet the vast new needs of its expanding activities more adequately.

### Laying the Foundations of Peace

Since 1950, this programme has continued to provide the means through which university men and women have been able to combine their efforts to help where needs are greatest. The main emphasis has been placed on major undertakings to solve basic problems in South-East Asia, the Far East, and the Middle East.

A new phase was begun in 1953-54 when operations were extended to the young university communities in East, West, and Central Africa. The enthusiasm and genuine understanding with which WUS objectives and programmes were met in these countries have not only meant the rapid and effective development of new Committees, new voices and new contributions within the total WUS framework, but are also a vital confirmation of the basic validity of the principles upon which WUS is founded.



"Washing facilities" at an improvised student hostel in Calcutta.

### Fields of Action:

The various projects and activities of WUS may be collated under the five following headings:

Student Lodging and Living  
Student Health  
Educational Equipment  
Refugee Services  
Mutual Education

Let us look at each of these spheres in turn, and note some of the activities which have been completed, or are still under way.

### Student Lodging and Living:

A hostel to accommodate 100 students has been brought into operation in Seoul, Korea. This in itself is a major undertaking.

In Indonesia, construction of a student centre to house 600 students at Djakarta is under way.

Other activities include equipment and supplies provided for hostels in Athens and Salonika; scholarships and loans to help students pay tuition or examination fees or to meet other urgent liabilities were made available to Greece, India, Israel, Japan, and Pakistan.

### Student Health:

The value of international exchange of experience and information is, in many ways, most clearly demonstrated in the fields of student health. A most important aspect of WUS endeavours is to improve student health by encouraging the development of medical examination, and preventative medicine schemes, and furnishing collated data from the experiences of others.

Internationally, and through its National Committees, WUS has placed particular emphasis on student health in

South-East Asia, the Middle East, and the Far East.

### Educational Equipment:

The slogan here is "Give them the Tools".

Educational equipment and supplies, including books, typewriters, laboratory equipment, mimeographing machines, and stationery, were made available to university communities in various parts of the world.

Supplies of books continued to help replenish the Mandalay College Library in Burma and the Kurume Medical College Library in Japan, which had been destroyed by floods. Books and journals were also sent as gifts-in-kind by various Committees to their colleagues in other parts of the world.

### Services for Refugee Students:

Programmes of assistance to refugee students were continued in various parts of the world, particularly in France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States, including scholarship aid, facilities for accommodation, the provision of medical care, and medicines. Student refugees in South-East Asia, especially in India and Pakistan, have also been helped.

### Mutual Education:

In addition to the greater understanding and sense of contact developed by working together for the fulfilment of projects, WUS also promoted mutual international education in other ways.

### Surveys, Seminars, and Study Tours:

Among the important surveys, seminars and conferences were: a series of lectures and meetings at the Delhi University, in which prominent personalities in

(Continued on Page 7)



# CRACCUM

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

## STAFF

Editors - - - - - JIM TRAUÉ and DAVID STONE  
 University News - - - - - CLARE LILLIE  
 Sport - - - - - JIM HOLDOM, with ANN LUND  
 Overseas Student News - - - - - ALLAN TAYLOR  
 with  
 "CINCINNATUS," "MUGWUMP," "STUBBS," "JON," and "WOL."  
 Distribution - - - - - GERRY EDWARDS  
 Typist - - - - - WENDY STRICKETT

## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The results of the Special General Meeting of the Students' Association are now fairly widely known, but it is probably true to say that the implications involved in the decisions made are not so clearly realised.

The recommendation of the Executive that the Student fee be raised by 5/- to cover the expenses of the normal running of the Association was rejected by a large majority. This decision was perhaps to be expected, for to ask people to increase their own financial liabilities is always a difficult measure to obtain. That the case for the rise was not presented as well as it might have been was no doubt an important factor, and the absence of the Business Manager of the Association, Mr. Postlewaite, did not help any. But it was equally apparent that the students present had not given

The setting up of a committee to consider the nature of material suitable for future Capping Books does, however, suggest that this year's effort did not meet with very widespread approval. But there is an important point that must be made. Appeals for copy for Capping Book have been, and were again this year, ignored by the vast majority of students. Those who are sharpest in their criticism should be prepared to make some constructive contribution, and not be prepared to sit back after tearing other people's efforts to shreds.

### Confidence in President

By a majority of 40 the meeting expressed its confidence in the actions of the President relating to Capping Book and to *Craccum*. This decision was democratically made and as such is definitely a valid one. The chief comment that may be made, however, is that it was quite obvious to anyone present that the meeting, or at least its majority, had come along with their minds made up beforehand; they were not prepared to listen to the views presented with any idea of justice, and what is far worse, were not prepared to hear two people who were maligned in no uncertain terms by two of the speakers. The Editors of *Craccum* do not hold to any ideas of infallibility, but when they hear themselves called liars and distorters of the truth, they do expect to be given some opportunity to defend themselves. They have endeavoured to present the truth to their readers at all times, and will continue to do so in the future.

There have been comments made that the meeting was packed with pressure groups; this may or may not have been the case—it really depends on the way you look at it, but what was certain was first, that there was an alarming amount of block-voting, and secondly, that the meeting spent considerably less effort considering the motion than did the Executive when they passed their original motion of no-confidence—in this case the matter was thrashed out for three and a half hours, and every opportunity was given to hear all sides of the story. This will be vouched for by any member of the Executive, irrespective of the way he or she eventually voted.

### Unfortunate precedent

The main drawback to the motion was that it set an unfortunate precedent. What is there now to stop any President from over-ruling the decision of his Execu-

tive, all fifteen of them elected by the students, when he knows that his actions may be supported by a Special General Meeting which is, after all, composed of only a minority of the student body who participated in the elections? A similar question may be posed with regard to interference with the student press.

Some points that were not made clear at the meeting and which can all be verified are first, that all the "facts" presented by the President and his principal supporter, were never at any stage put before the Executive. The President himself showed no confidence in the Executive in that at none of its meetings prior to publication had the President voiced his objections to Capping Book nor informed them of his actions; secondly, two members of the Executive received letters from the Principal, Mr. Maidment, that after consultation with Mr. L. P. Leary, Q.C., he was quite satisfied that there was no chance of action being taken as a result of the publication of Capping Book in its original form; and finally, on the word of the Factory Manager of Watson's Printing House, interference with the printing of Capping Book brought about an extra cost of some £200 in its publication. These are one or two points that the meeting showed itself unwilling to hear.

### Nine Executive resignations

Then there came the motion of confidence in the Executive in their actions relating to Capping Book and *Craccum*, and this was passed unanimously. What on earth then was the final result of the meeting? The fact that nine members of the Executive resigned after the meeting, an increase of two over those who voted for the original no-confidence motion, is fair enough an indication. The remainder of the Executive refused to accept these resignations and a petition signed by 127 students expressed further confidence in them. But it must be admitted that the action of the members concerned in staying on to carry out their duties was one which stamps them as people who are aware of the responsibility of an elected officer of the Association and they deserve praise for this; after this action it would take a great deal to support any allegation that they have not the interests of the students uppermost.

Now the elections are drawing near and it would not be surprising if it were a record poll, which would of course be a very good thing. But if there is one

## STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS

Election dates for Officers and Executive members of the Auckland University College Students' Association are as follows:

President, Secretary and Treasurer Monday and Tuesday, 18th and 19th July.  
 Members of the Executive Committee Monday and Tuesday, 1st and 2nd August.

Nominations for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer closed yesterday and will now have been posted on the noticeboards. Full details of election dates will be published in the next issue of *Craccum*.

Nominations for the Executive Committee on Sunday, 17th July: again all nomination forms and relevant material for publication must be in the hands of the Secretary by that date.

All candidates must be nominated by three bona fide members of the Students' Association.

There are eleven candidates to be elected to the Executive by students attending the University of Auckland, the School of Engineering at Ardmore or the School of Fine Arts elect their representatives.

The portfolios of the Executive Committee are as follows:

N.Z.U.S.A. Corresponding Member  
 Secretary of Grants Committee  
 Registrar of Clubs and Societies  
 Chairman of Carnival Committee  
 Chairman of Publications Committee  
 Chairman of Cafeteria Committee  
 Orientation Controller  
 Sports and Senior Tournament Director  
 Chairman of Social Committee  
 Renovations Officer  
 Chairman of Women's House Committee  
 Chairman of Men's House Committee  
 Travel and Exchange Officer  
 N.Z.U.S.A. Congress Officer  
 Records Officer  
 Legal Affairs Officer.

These portfolios should be held in mind when nominations are submitted, and the essential factors for the satisfactory running of the affairs of the Association.

## MEN'S HOUSE COMMITTEE

Those types wearing red felt hats to their University Student badges are not Communist sympathisers but members of Men's House Committee, a body which looks after Male students' do's. If you have any problems, more particularly those concerning student affairs and the student block, let the people to see.

Lost property may be handed into the room (below the Caf.) or Mr. West, Custodian. —L. W. Nash, Hon. Sec.

Copy for the next issue of "Craccum" will close THURSDAY, 7th JULY, 7 p.m. Please place contributions in "Craccum" box on Exec. Room door.

Lesson which is to be drawn from this business, it is this: when selecting candidates who we wish to be our representatives and to carry out the most arduous duties of the portfolios, we should judge all on the individual merits as suitable people for the positions they are each seeking nomination of others; we should allow each candidate careful consideration of this light, and make every effort to avoid prejudice.



# ASSOCIATIONS CAPPING COLLECTION FIASCO

Officers and the Auckland University Association advance publicity for collection this started three weeks before procession. Craccum April 22nd contained an outline of carnival activities for 1955. In was included a headed paragraph a brief outline of collection organization and aims. At the same time notice was placed on the carnival board emphasising the need for positions of interest. Notices were placed in prominent positions around the College. Copies of those interested were sent and some fifty obtained. Five hundred cyclostyled notes with detailed instructions and information were available and some three hundred of these were issued. Therefore it seems reasonable to assume that the College was not ignorant of the aim and object of collection.

However at a meeting of collectors, which four days notice had been given, seven people attended to discuss collection methods. These seven, incidentally, were responsible for the greater part of the results achieved. We expected at least 300 students to collect. We expected to issue 400 collection boxes to be filled. We expected to collect a minimum of £600. We did not expect a mere 100 collectors. We did not expect to collect a mere £350. We did not expect 400 boxes. Yet this is precisely what happened. A well organized system arranged for collection of full boxes at depots placed in the city was a sheer and utter farce. The simple did not make use of the credit is due to those who did collect. However it is significant to note that some 30 of the 150 boxes issued

were returned empty and that 50 boxes accounted for 90% of the total collected.

This means that in a college of over 2800 students only 50 were prepared to devote the time and effort necessary to collect adequately for what, you will agree is a worthy institution.

The charitable organizations for which we collect are dependent on us for a large part of their annual income. If we do not collect for them they are allowed to hold a street collection in conjunction with some other charitable organization. From this street collection an amount of between £600 and £700 for each charity can be expected. Is it fair to expect any charitable organization to depend on the fickleness and apparent disinterest of the university student in the matter of collection?

We have come to the conclusion that if the university cannot be relied upon to raise the sum of at least £700 (an exceptional sum for our university collection) then no collection should be held at all. If, as we have been told, a collection is necessary before a procession can be held let us have some more adequate official recognition from both Carnival Committee and City Council and have collection assume its proper importance in carnival festivities instead of having it treated as an onerous adjunct to procession.

Failing this we consider that collection as it is at present should be abolished for the following reasons.

1. Officially we are not allowed to collect for more than one hour and therefore cannot hope to achieve the results obtained by a street day.

2. We are not allowed to erect collection booths which are, in our opinion, necessary for efficient collection.
3. It is only the exceptional student who is prepared to devote the time necessary to collect adequately.
4. The charity concerned can take no active part in a collection primarily for its benefit.

We suggest that procession should be held in conjunction with a street collection organized by the charity or charities concerned. The only responsibility of the University in this way would be in the providing of a few independent collectors from among those few students misguided enough to consider collecting for anyone but themselves.

G. M. PRENDERGAST,  
Collection Organiser.  
G. A. L. NIXON,  
Assistant Collection Organiser.  
E. E. P. HODGSON,  
Collection Secretary.

## Local Observations

### LECTURES

Does it not stick in our stomachs, that students in general can tolerate read lectures—elaborately prepared monologues designed to impress them to silence?

When you consider the hours spent listening with half an ear to the philosophies of other men, you wonder if students ever possess their own thoughts. Fifteen hours of lectures approximates the average time each student spends thus.

Yet despite this they rush avidly to club meetings and listen to more lectures, read or delivered with more gusto, in the effort to educate themselves. It stands to reason that they cannot absorb so much by ear in the short time allotted to their life span. And it results in the fact that they take anything dished out to them in the form of address as correct and moral. Freshers are especially gullible in this connection. It is no wonder they are apathetic. Their very minds have been drained from them over the period of years.

—'Stubbs'.



## OVERSEAS STUDENT NEWS

... with Allan Taylor

### India

Twenty bachelor students of Mysore have set out to break the barriers of caste through marriage. They have vowed "to marry out of their caste to create a casteless society within the fold of Hindu religion." These 20 graduates and post-graduate scholars of Maharaja's College have invited boys and girls to join the matrimonial crusade against the "communal problem in India which is threatening internal peace". No girl has, so far, rallied under the "matrimonial banner" which waves over mere men now.

### Mexico

A campaign against pornographic literature, which is openly sold at all newspaper stands in Mexico City, has been undertaken by the Student Association. The authorities of the Ministry of Education are giving their support to this action of the student body.

### South Africa

The withdrawal of South Africa from UNESCO will increase the educational and cultural isolation of the country from the rest of the world, says a letter written by the National Union of South African Students to the Minister of External Affairs. The letter asks the Minister to reconsider his decision. It points out that 45,600 fellowships and scholarships were made available by UNESCO in 1955 to people wishing to study abroad, and that not a few South Africans have been among their recipients.

## COLLEGE LIBRARY

### Some recent acquisitions

Asselineau, Roger.  
*L'évolution de Walt Whitman après la première édition des Feuilles d'herbe.*  
Atkins, John.  
*George Orwell, a literary study.*  
Bennett, Merrill Kelley.  
*The World's Food; a study of the inter-relations of world population, national diets, and food potentials.*  
Brown, Maurice John Edwin.  
*Schubert's Variations.*  
Crawford, John Grenfell.  
*Wartime Agriculture in Australia and New Zealand, 1939-50.*  
Fairley, Barker.  
*Heinrich Heine; an interpretation.*  
Hayden, Howard.  
*Moturiki; a pilot project in community development. [In Fiji]*  
Holland, Vyvyan.  
*Son of Oscar Wilde.*  
Lednicki, Waclaw.  
*Russia, Poland, and the West; essays in literary and cultural history.*  
Lynam, Edward.  
*The Mapmaker's Art; essays on the history of maps.*  
Martin, A. F., editor.  
*The Oxford Region; a scientific and historical survey.*  
Norman, Sylva.  
*Flight of the Skylark; the development of Shelley's reputation.*  
Page, Denys Lionel.  
*Sappho and Alcaeus; an introduction to the study of ancient Lesbian poetry.*

## EXEC. NOTES

## Split in Council's £6,000

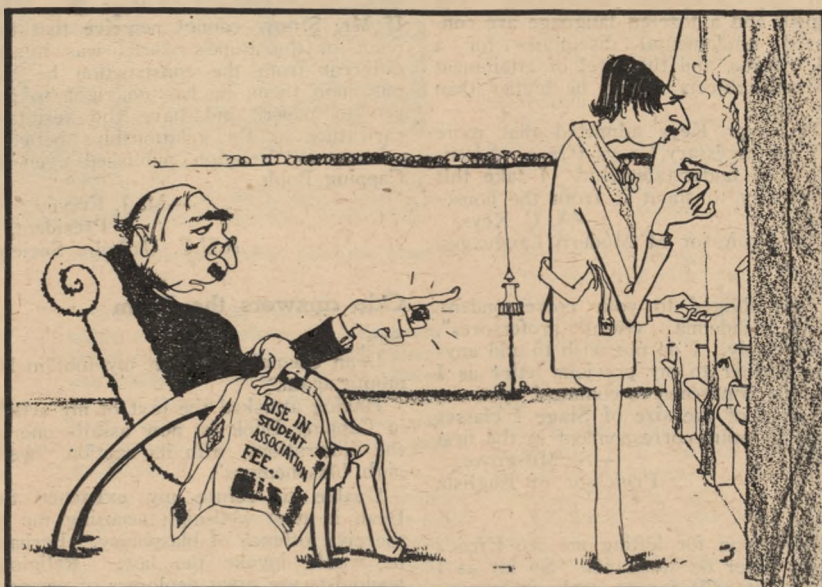
... by "Mugwump"

This was a slow, rather dull meeting although there was a large attendance. Some matters were discussed which came up at the Special General Meeting. For instance Kevin Treacy asked for £300 to help cover Tournament accounts which are still coming in. This sum will be added in entertainment levies and recovery accounts from the other colleges.

Maidment had asked for Exec. approval of the proposed split by Council House Committee of £6,000 into £4,000 and £2,000 for the Rugby Club and rugby shed respectively. Al-Nash, Hon. Sec., in view of Council's rejection of Rugby Club, later approved the building of both gym and rugby shed. With his usual clarity, Peter Boag pointed out that, having already supported the Council, Exec. were bound to approve the split in funds.

Later in the evening Exec. decided to pass two notices for the Conscientious Objectors. And finally (no connection to Pacifists just mentioned!) Hanno asked for ratification of his House Committee:

S. Fairburn—Chairman  
A. Nash—Secretary  
G. Nixon—Treasurer  
R. Roberts—Vice-Chairman  
P. Poole  
G. Prendergast  
J. Watson  
An Architects' Representative.



"Mark my words, son, this will keep the peasants out!"



## OPEN FORUM

# Professorial Report and Capping Book

Following up his letter to the Editors of Craccum criticising the Professorial Report which, together with the replies from the Professors concerned, was published under the heading "Where does the blame lie?" in the last issue, the correspondent, "Vivat," has entered into the field again to do battle.

This time, however, the response was not so great, and the Editors were able to persuade only Professor Keys to answer at any length. The letters are printed below.

Sirs,

First I would like to thank you for publishing my letter dealing with the Professorial Report, and also the Heads of Departments referred to therein for their replies. However, I feel that they have left a few points unanswered.

I think Professor Musgrove brings out a very important point in his comparison of the staff/student ratio in the normal English Department in a British provincial university as against that obtaining in our own case. There is an enormous difference between 10-12 staff to 150 students and 6 staff to 400-500 students: in fact the difference is so great that surely it needs far more emphasis on such occasions as the presenting of a professorial report. If we had one staff member to every 13-15 students, I feel that our pass rate in degree examinations would be far greater than it is at present.

A staff of up to 20 in the English Department alone may seem an abnormally large number, but the point to remember is that English, for the vast majority of students, is a compulsory subject for a Bachelor of Arts Degree; it is only natural that there are so many students of varying standard in the English Department.

Professor Rutherford, while correcting my figures of 40%-50% failure at Stage III, does admit that the pass rate has dropped on one occasion during the last few years to 61% of those who sought terms and 64% of those who sat the degree examinations, and that the average pass rate has been 70%. The Professor concedes the general point, but does not try to account for the fact that this figure is at Stage III, and I repeat, after the student has passed successfully two years of his History Course.

The answer is I think, in this case, the course—at least the Department has changed it this year to allow for more specialization, and smaller classes. This is perhaps an example of the self criticism that is needed in all subjects at all stages. The smaller "study group" idea is one that is used at two stages in the History Department, and while not allowing for "Spoon feeding" does make possible discussion and the interchanging of ideas that is surely essential to all university study. If there is a shortage of staff this is an obvious way to get round the problem without a lowering of standards.

Professor Keys, I think, misses this point. The linguistic side of French studies which he admits is "the more difficult part of the work" in his department is treated at two lectures in Stage I French so that the class numbers are smaller. But any student who has passed through the department will testify to the fact that at these lectures there is never time to ask questions, and should there be so, there would still probably be more questions unanswered than otherwise at the end of the hour.

I agree with the Professor that the French Literature lecture has a more detrimental effect on the Stage III and Honours students than on those more junior, but this is hardly an answer to the original criticism. Besides, the effect that this one lecture may have on students at the earlier stages may prejudice them against the subject indefinitely. Professor Keys admitted that more staff are necessary—well can anything be done about it?

The final point I should like to make is that French is also a compulsory subject—at least, it is virtually so, for a great majority of students would far sooner face a subject with which they are even a little familiar, than one which is entirely new to them. Hence a very large number of students who have taken French at school—again because they were compelled to—are included in the French I class. If Professor Keys were to give us the pass rate of those students who have taken French because they wished to, I am sure the figures would be entirely different to those which are in the books at present.

This is not intended to be an opening sally in an argument against a compulsory language, but there can be no denying that it is an important point to be taken into consideration when the pass rate is examined. A class which includes a good number of students who are taking the subject because they are compelled to by the regulations of the College, will never achieve the results of one which is taking the subject because that is where their interest and academic ability lie.

—"Vivat academia, vivat professores."

## Shouting from housetops

Sirs,

The two points in *Vivat's* reply that concern me particularly, are the staff-student ratio and the fact that a foreign language (not necessarily a modern language) is a compulsory unit for a B.A. degree in this College.

If students took French I, or any other foreign language because they really wanted to study it, the level of attainment might be higher. But the same argument would apply to English I. As Dean of the Arts Faculty, I was mildly surprised at the number of students who would not have taken English I had their been any acceptable alternative. But English and a foreign language are considered fundamental disciplines for a B.A. degree, and the level of attainment in these subjects should be higher than they are.

"Professor Keys admitted that more staff are necessary," says *Vivat*. Admitted? An understatement! I take this opportunity to shout it from the housetops.

—A. C. Keys,

Professor of Modern Languages.

Sirs,

I am obliged to your correspondent, "Vivat academia, vivat professores", for his reply. I do not wish to add anything further to my previous letter as I was only concerned to comment upon the one point of the size of Stage I classes raised by your correspondent in the first place.

—S. Musgrove,

Professor of English.

Sirs,

Thank you for letting me see *Vivat's* second letter on standards. So far as I can see, it calls for no reply from me.

—J. Rutherford,  
Professor of History.

## Capping Book Comment

Sirs,

I wish to make a few points in connection with the 1955 Capping Book.

In the first place, I consider the articles entitled "Morality" and "An Easter Wedding," along with the brief account of Black Masses in Auckland, quite unsuitable for a Capping Book. Surely something could have been found more in harmony with the spirit of the Capping Festivities, the purpose of which is to give an opportunity to the whole student body to join in celebrating the academic successes of a section of its members. The Editors of Capping Book may, I suppose, have wanted to start a crusade for moral reform in this city; Capping Book, I suggest, was hardly the means to achieve such an end.

However, my sharpest impression of the morality section was that it was very feeble. After the solemn build-up it received in the Introduction, the Report on Adult Conduct fell flat as a pancake, consisting as it did of a page of prefatory remarks, a full-page sketch of vague significance, a note apologising for a blank page, and two short articles on homosexuality. For the Editors of the Book, morality seemed to embrace nothing more than a few superficial snippets on perversion. The Editorial Staff have been described elsewhere as amateur Kinseys. With this verdict I substantially agree; Parturient monts, nascetur ridiculus mus.

To pass to the pages contributed by Odo Strewé. I have no objection to the publication of any expression, provided it is (a) sincere and (b) well-informed. For though such opinions may contain what is false, and error has no rights, error often contains the seeds of truth, and it is by conflict between truth and error that the compelling power of truth can make itself felt.

In any opinion I ask for sincerity and intelligence. I have no right to judge Mr. Strewé's sincerity. But I wish to voice a strong protest against the publication of such ignorant materialistic claptrap as appeared in "Can Science Save Us?" Mr. Strewé's fulminations are not worthy of an intelligent man. I particularly object to his misconstruction of some recent remarks of Pope Pius XII. If Mr. Strewé cannot perceive that the tenor of the Pope's words was totally different from the construction he has put upon them, he has no right to put pen to paper, and have the resultant caricature of the relationships between science and religion published even in Capping Book.

—M. J. Freyne,

President,  
A.U.C. Catholic Society.

## Odo answers the Dean

Sirs,

Dean Chandler has put my foot in his mouth again.

Having attacked the text of my article in Capping Book he now assails one of the illustrations, with its caption, "well-nigh blasphemous".

Unable to refuse my existence the Dean is now well-nigh accusing me of the civil offence of blasphemy. Perhaps he would invoke the law. Religious apologists are great deplores of persecution in other lands. Within the confines of their own lands however, they

are great believers in the application of such as the Blasphemy Law, which so many religious inspired instances of persecution, had its beginning in physical torture—branding, and out of the tongue.

Sirs, is the Dean's tongue in my or his own? Or is it his cheek that threatens my tongue?

I am unable, because of my own to admire the Dean's mental acrobatics, however, applaud his present feat. He began by putting my tongue in his mouth. He has ended by putting my tongue in his cheek.

The picture I used was a photograph featuring the Holy Week celebration in Seville. The holy men are the members of the confraternity. Having assembled in various churches early on Good Friday morning, the confraternities walk in procession to the cathedral, wearing penitent's dress. A long pointed hood drawn over their faces, with the eyes.

Dean Chandler, Facts are things.  
—Odo Strewé

## Capping Book vindicated

Sirs,

Owing to adverse criticism relating to this year's Capping Book, the Editor of the Journal, take the opportunity of pointing out to your alleged 'concerned' correspondents who have written and raved through your Columns in the 'Forum' that if it was a case of student co-operation the book would never have appeared. For two years prior to its publication material in the form of stories, skits and satires were led for from the student body, and no avail. Therefore we, Mr. Strewé, I, were placed in the unenviable position of having to call upon assistance from people unconnected with the University. Fortunately these people, Mr. Strewé, Ian Hamilton and others, responded to the invitation to collaborate in the production of the Capping Book. Students as a body have never taken interest in the preparation of the Capping Book. Perhaps it is the extra work involved—subediting, proof-reading, setting up, etc., which constitutes the deterrent. Whatever their reasons for apathy I suggest that they should, first, before bellowing like mad bulls, the exacting work involved in the production of the journal.

For those people who objected to Odo Strewé's article "Can Science Save Us?" I feel that, in passing, it is known that members of the Church were presented with a copy of the article and given an opportunity to defend themselves against his "attacks upon the Pope". They replied "comment". For those students who in Capping Book material for the book be welcome—NOW!

—A. T.

## MID-TERM BREAK COFFEE EVENING

Make sure that you don't miss the best hop of the year sponsored by the combined House Committee.

NEXT WEDNESDAY, 6th July  
AT 8 p.m. M.C.R.



# O'Rorke Hall or Havisham Hall?

O'Rorke Hostel, the home of 120 students, is the greatest blot on our university landscape. The fault lies not in the students, nor in the College Council sub-committee which controls the hostel, but in the lack of financial support from the New Zealand University and the Government.

Indeed the Council sub-committee is doing its best to make its grant spin out, and the majority of O'Rorke students deserve the highest praise for the pride they take in their dismal, crumbling home.

Three years ago O'Rorke Hall was in a sorry state of disrepair. Today—primarily with the help of its residents—things are looking more cheerful in Symonds Street, although there is a long grind ahead before the hostel will meet average respectable living requirements.

A Craccum reporter, in a quiet browse around the establishment recently, received some severe shocks. He also noted many remarkable improvements (made during the last three years), but unfortunately these were greatly outweighed by the former, and were chiefly the result of the residents' unselfishness. Here are some of the "shocks":

1 The walls of the Stonehurst block are cracking and gradually splaying outwards. (This, he was told, is a top priority job).

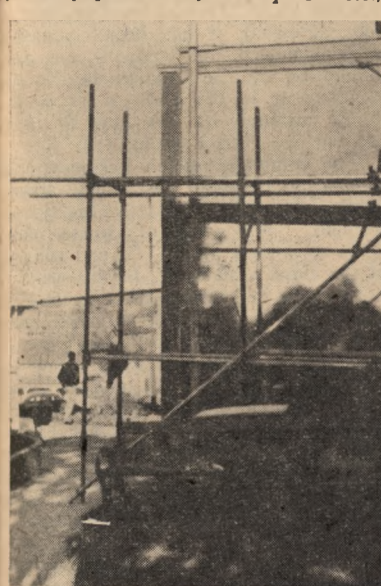
2 Wooden fire escapes have been built along the sides of concrete and brick buildings.

3 There is only one shower to be shared by 75 men students. The hostel, however, boast about seven baths for the men students.

4 One telephone (complete with "A" and "B" buttons) is available to the 120 students.

5 The only room in the main building with a corner-to-corner carpet is the entrance hall.

6 Wallpaper is peeling from the stained walls in large chunks. (One part of the swot lounge has a 20ft. area without a piece of paper on it; just dirty concrete.)



Walls cracking — what will be done?

7 Only about 30 people can work in the swot lounge at a time, and this room is devoid of carpets, curtains or blinds.

8 The 80 men wash their clothes in a poorly-lit laundry underneath the main block. There are three tubs and one washing machine (for which the students were required to pay half).

9 Clothes overflowing from the two revolving clothes lines are hung on makeshift lines in bedrooms and on verandahs.

10 The hostel also provides two irons for the residents—one for the 40 women, and another for the 80 men.

For these conveniences—and inconveniences—the student pays between £3 and £4 a week, depending on the size and location of his room.

Despite these apparent weaknesses in the O'Rorke set-up, the residents voice very few complaints. They are striving for a more pleasant home to live in, and it seems wrong that they are not given greater financial aid.

On a recent "work day", when every hostel student takes a job somewhere in the city and hands the proceeds over to a hostel committee, O'Rorke made £115. These "work days" are enjoyed by the residents—and undoubtedly by the College Council—for they have provided O'Rorke with a substantial library, a large radio-gram, a piano and half a washing machine.

In the last year or so the hostel's sub-committee (severely restricted in its operations by the Council) has launched into new plans. The dining room has been re-painted, a phone box installed, and leaks in the roof repaired. Now huge scaffolding against one of the buildings suggests the commencement of the re-plastering and exterior painting programme.



Modern lounge — what has been done!

To the outsider, O'Rorke Hall is a rather forbidding place. The Symonds Street facade is a rusty brown colour, and inside the entrance hall the picture is more grim still. A broken panel reveals scrim and cracked plaster, and everywhere one sees soiled and torn wallpaper.

Carpetless passages are cold in the winter, and the only warm and comfortable room in the place is the students' lounge. This was recently painted in red, yellow and white; attractive angle lights were placed on the walls; and serviceable car-



Wallpaper peeling in chunks.



Makeshift Clothes Line

pet squares on the floors. This room, housing a piano and radiogram, is a credit to the hostel. The material was provided by the sub-committee from the hostel grant—and working bees of residents did the rest.

Many students have also renovated their own bedrooms, and in all cases they have made attractive and commendable efforts. Pastel shades in papers and paints have brightened and warmed the previously drab walls; and reading lights and curtains have added a homely atmosphere to the place.

But for their efforts the students have received little compensation, despite the value they have added to the buildings. For an outlay of £10 per room (for wallpaper, paint and material), the students can never hope for a grant of more than about £3—despite the hours of labour they dedicate to the project. On one floor, four of the seven rooms have been renovated by their occupants, and in another part of the hostel two of the five

rooms have been completely repainted and papered.

There are many acute problems to be faced at O'Rorke within the next few years, but most essential is a thorough overhaul of the disgraceful bathroom facilities. Blame for this neglect in the past is not aimed at the Council's sub-committee, which can only work within its means. However a move should be made in the near future for an increase in funds for the hostel. If money were made available the committee and students could continue to ensure that this urgent work is carried out.

Most of these O'Rorke residents pay the price of first class board around the city. They should at least be provided with normal home comforts, and their willingness and generosity should not be exploited. By remaining at O'Rorke they are playing a very essential and important part in our university life.

## In Search of his Soul

To the astonishment of those who remember the foolish twenties, and even the earlier of Wells, Huxley, and Victorian confidence, modern man is in quest of his soul.

From all the continents and a score of lands there is strong, clear evidence of religious awakening. The menace in the air has driven mankind back to old sources, and the Biblical diagnosis of the human situation seems every day more reasonable.

The future historian will trace the movement further back than the era of indiscriminate war, totalitarian wickedness, and atomic destruction. Wells died in despair, convinced that the coming scientific millennium of his earlier secular dreams was a mirage.

And now the tide is in full flood. The scientists are now the eschatologists, concerned over the ethical implications of their vast discoveries. Bertrand Russell, having spent too many of his eighty years attacking, not only Christianity, but Christian standards too, appeals in his Christmas broadcast for the rebirth of "impartial love"—which has never existed in human hearts apart from some form of religious faith.

"Mankind", said Sir Winston Churchill early this year, "is in a situation both measureless and laden with doom." Einstein has also expressed something of the same apprehension. "Confidence,"

he said, "in the stability, yes, even in the very basis of human society, has largely vanished. One senses, not only a threat to man's cultural heritage, but that a lower value is placed upon all that one would like to see defended at all costs."

Who is to blame for this deterioration in morality? Not the Christians. The secularists and atheists who led the way are in full retreat. The indifferent multitude, who "could not care less", are beginning to awake, and feel deserted and deceived. Hence a wide return to God. And if the motives are no better than those which moved the Prodigal Son, the Father is equally gracious.

"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life," said Jesus Christ. Caught by his fear, sensing the stirring of old yearnings and desires, faced with the emptiness of a Godless life, and the peril of a Godless society, modern man is finding that Christ's words are true, and that in Him lies safety and satisfaction.

It is to aid the quest that the Evangelical Union has invited Dr. the Rev. Howard Guinness to address the College. Dr. Guinness, who is both medical man and Christian minister, is a preacher of standing and experience. He knows and understands students, and we invite our contemporaries, indeed urge them, to give him an attentive hearing. We ask only for that, in confidence that speaker and message will do the rest. —R.E.



# Protest at Lecture Change

Last week the Editors of Craccum received a flood of letters from students taking English I, protesting at a change in their lecture timetable. It appears that Mr Curnow, who gives courses of lectures on modern poetry, suddenly cancelled the full-time lecture and combined it with the one for part-timers held in the College Hall at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Much of the students criticism was on the grounds of a clash with a Philosophy I lecture, but this situation has now been changed, the combined English lecture now being held at 7 p.m. on Fridays.

This change, however, does not affect some of the points of criticism made by the students. The views expressed in the letters are given considerable support by the fact that 48 students appended their signatures either to letters or to an accompanying petition "objecting strongly to Mr Curnow's alteration of lecture hours without any consideration for the students concerned."

As it would be impracticable to print all the letters received, the Editors have selected significant extracts from them, and present them on this page together with the reply submitted by the English Department.

## Full-timers penalised

Sirs,

We commenced our first year at College fully understanding the situation between full-time and part-time students. But it is becoming apparent that the convenience of the full-time students, who are prepared to devote the whole of their day to studies, is being sacrificed to the whim of certain members of the college staff who are prepared to cater only for part-time students. What is the advantage of being a full-time student if all lectures are crammed in between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.? The solution offered by lecturers was a repetition of lectures during the day, and this system worked admirably in the first term. However a new situation has arisen. Mr. Curnow has decided, without any warning, to discontinue his day-lectures to full-time students who are now required to rearrange their time-tables so that they may attend the lectures normally given to part-time students at 7 p.m. Mr. Curnow has ignored the fact that some students are now obliged to attend lectures from 2 o'clock to 8 o'clock at night, without a break for nourishment. It also incurs two late nights when many students will not reach home until 9 or 9.30 p.m. Has Mr. Curnow consulted Dr. Thompson on the disadvantages of eating a meal which has been in a state of tepid congealment for four hours?

Perhaps these disadvantages could have been overlooked if the situation had arisen at the beginning of the year when students were arranging all their activities to work in with lectures. But this is now the middle of the second term and all outside activities have been arranged accordingly . . .

The most frequent complaint of lecturers has been that their classes are too big. Why then does Mr. Curnow wish to herd 300 students together in the hall where there are no proper facilities for writing? Mr. Curnow's excuse for his action was that by delivering two lectures on the same subject, one group of students would lose by the repetition of his remarks. This situation did not seem to effect the first term lecturers. We would suggest that Mr. Curnow take a vote to determine the general opinion of

the full-time students about this action, and act accordingly.

—6 o'clock closing.

## Breach of faith

Sirs,

Your question, "Where Does the Blame Lie?" seems to have been answered within the week of its publication. I refer to the recent change in policy of the English department. I have two objections to the proposed change and, with your consent, would like to bring them to the notice of both the English Dept. and my fellow-students.

Last week, in an official statement to "Craccum" made in reply to criticism of current teaching methods, Professor Musgrove stated, "I agree and have frequently said that what your correspondent calls the 'mob of sheep' in Stage I makes good teaching almost impossible; it is precisely for this reason that I should like to see the number reduced." His opinion was endorsed by both Professors Keys and Rutherford. However, this week Professor Musgrove has without explanation of any kind, informed the students that, in future, full and part-time classes of the poetry course will be combined. This will double the number attending any one lecture, bringing the total, in fact, to more than three hundred. Truly, "a mob of sheep"! This change will necessitate the use of a large part of the gallery in addition to the whole floor of the hall to accommodate the students. Writing facilities will be non-existent, and I can imagine the growth of a new plague — an ever-increasing pile of writing-boards outside the already cluttered library. No doubt the department, with its aversion to note-taking, will claim that the lack of writing facilities is a good thing, but perhaps the students will have other ideas on the subject.

My second objection is one based on principle. I consider that the proposed change of lecture times constitutes a breach of faith, and an unexpected alteration of lecture-times by one department can have far-reaching effects . . .

If this drastic change is made, is it not the duty of the English department to state in public its reasons for the change? —"Fletcher Christian".

## Who benefits?

Sirs,

The reason for the changes, we were informed, is that a lecture delivered once is more beneficial (whether for stu-

dent or lecturer is not entirely clear) then one given twice or more. This may possibly be true but the new scheme's advantage seems more than outweighed by other considerations. Firstly, since the plan proposes tuition for full and part-time students simultaneously, the greater numbers (there will be more than 300) will make concentration and audibility much more difficult; secondly, since the lectures are to be held in Hall (to accommodate the increased number) instead of in a properly equipped lecture room, the lack of benches will make accurate and legible note-taking virtually impossible; thirdly (and this factor is certainly not unimportant), many students who are even now unable to eat their evening meal until after 7 p.m. will be delayed yet another hour.

The University, its English department not the least loudly, complains of the poor standard of attainment of its Stage 1 students. It offers as one of its excuses that it is forced to take too many part-time students. These unfortunate people, because of the late and inconvenient hours at which they must attend lectures, do not gain as much from them as they might do otherwise. In this way the University explains the low pass percentages of some of its departments.

And yet although its numbers merit separate classes, the English department would cancel its well-attended full-time lectures and bid the students join those classes for part-timers. Since the University will soon be nothing but a dignified night-school, the fulltime students might just as well discontinue their efforts to make the best of what it has to offer and occupy their time at more lucrative employment.

The English department has no doubt fully investigated the pros and cons of the situation. Its decision, however, would appear to have been made in favour of its lecturers rather than of its students . . .

Indicative of the tone of several other letters received, the essence of which has been stated in the extracts above, the writer of the following letter has been distinctly sardonic in his approach.

## Divine afflatus

Sirs,

The arbitrary cancellation by Mr. Curnow of two series of day lectures in Stage One English would indicate possession by some of the Divine Right of timetable disorganisation.

The "excellent reason" given us for these cancellations appears to be that the lecturer is tiring of giving the same lectures three times over. With due sympathy to Mr. C. the following points occur to me which may not have occurred to him.

- Other lecturers in the College are saddled with similar drudgery, but what chaos if they decided to give each lecture once only.
- Many students already have lectures when the part-time lectures concerned are delivered.
- How is Mr. C. going to give "better attention" (one of the promised outcomes of this change) by packing over 300 students into one lecture?

It is possible that Mr. Curnow, inspired by the performance of Maria Dronke in our recent Festival, seeks to give impassioned readings of poetry to packed houses, and of course, six performances a week would take it out of him.

—Gerontion.

## Professor replies

The following letter from Prof. Musgrove was received in reply to students' protest:

Sirs,

I am sorry that the somewhat alteration of lecture arrangements this term has inconvenienced many students. The comments of your correspondents are fair, and deserve a reply. I give a full account of the reasons for the change would require a detailed examination of the organisation of work in the whole department, which is impracticable; but a few points may be noted. May I say first that none of the arguments raised by your correspondents was overlooked by us?

To take first the increase of the size of the class. We think that there is an effective difference between lecturing 150 people and 300. All personal contact is lost at about 80, beyond that, a public meeting—or (the phrase I use) a "mob of sheep"—and all matters of audibility. In thinking that this may be wrong; but we wish to do it because it is likely that in the next few years the number of students of Stage I will rise sharply, and we need to know how to deal with them. The Hall, of course, is bad; we want to find out how to deal with them. (Actually, the acoustics are worse in Room 19). As a footnote, may add that 300 is, these days, a small class; some Stage I classes at St. Andrews have touched 1000.

Second, this matter of duplication of lectures. Students may not know that lectures in English I are not duplicated but triplicated, since they have to be given at Ardmore also. It is a fact that this makes for tired, mechanical and less lecturing, and only those who have tried it can know the awful feeling of wondering, at the third repetition, if the words have any meaning at all. We are worth while that cutting out one repetition will do to avoid this. Duplication of lectures at Auckland was introduced in the post-war rush when the class was too large for the Hall. Though numbers have lessened somewhat, it has been continued as a convenience for students; not as an obligation on the department. No other department in the College, as far as I know, attempts it. We hope to continue it; but we cannot promise to do so.

The complaint which has most of my sympathy is that the newly arranged hour, 7-8 p.m. on Friday, is highly inconvenient. We could of course, offer a.m., as is done at V.U.C., and will do if the class so desires. In this matter, of course, the full-time student is the victim of the system by which university education is offered freely to the part-time student also. Recently I spent a year (and on) in trying to produce a rational version of the Arts timetable while maintaining this system. It cannot be done. The full-time student has all my sympathy (and so has the part-time student for that matter); but it is not in my power to alter the system, much as I should like to do so.

The alteration, then, was made for reasons in some measure determined by the nature of the course and in some measure experimental. It will continue, subject to college regulations, unless it becomes utterly unworkable, for the present term but in the third term we propose to revert to the previous arrangement. I cannot say yet what will happen in 1956.

—S. Musgrove,  
Professor of English

P.S. I should not like my reference to the size of a manageable class to be misinterpreted to mean that I want to cut Stage I to 80 in all. Ideally, I would wish to handle any Stage I class of whatever size, in small tutorial groups for most of their work.



## INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY

## United Nations Stocktaking

To the observer the international scene seems to have become brighter over the last month, and now more than at any time for some years it does appear that war is not likely to break out in the next week or two.

Despite such obvious liabilities as the stagnation in Korea where that problem remains unsolved, the hostility across the Formosa Straits and the unsettled position in Indo-China, the International Balance Sheet has accumulated a pleasing number of items in the assets column.

Nations of the world have just gathered together to mark the anniversary of signing of the United Nations Charter. England seems to be making some impression on her fellow countries as to desirability of "talks at the summit". China has just released four American airmen captured during the fighting in Korea. A satisfactory means seems to have been found of including Western Germany as an active member of the Western European bloc and at the same time of making some progress towards reuniting her own sovereignty, and with settlement in Austria at last reached. Friendly visits to Yugoslavia and her neighbours, Russia seems to be making determined efforts to convince the world of her peaceful intentions.

## Force in world affairs

Ten years ago the nations of the world had just survived the threat of total disaster formulated and signed the United Nations Charter. Although the idea of World Council or Parliament had been repeated, it is still in very many quarters decried as worthless and purely idealistic, the men at that time agree that the experiment tried with the League of Nations should be tried again. Since then another decade has passed and the United Nations Organisation is still with us, and for good or ill is still recognised as a force in world affairs. This month representatives of the member nations of U.N. have met in San Francisco to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of the Charter. It is wise to remember that this is not only the anniversary of the setting up of the forum from which representatives of all countries might present their views and opinions to their fellows. It is also the

anniversary of all the organisations set up by the U.N. whether for relief, research or education, and however much the forum aspect may have proved useless and not worth the money and time involved, no one will dispute the far reaching and worthwhile effects the subsidiary organisations have had.

## International forum

It was interesting to note that at the anniversary celebrations the speeches of representatives became by and large universal declarations of a desire for harmony and co-operation. The speakers as a whole all stressed the value of having a place at which conflicting views can be aired and at which if possible problems can be solved peacefully.

Although it is unwise in diplomatic circles to accept everything at face value, this opinion coincides with that of many other people, and the tangible accomplishments of the U.N., such as the way the Arab-Israel conflict was handled can be held up as being in themselves sufficient reasons for its existence.

It is fashionable in many quarters to decry the United Nations and to question the need for every country to be put to the expense of keeping a permanent delegate at Lake Success. But if the large nations consider it important enough to appoint their top diplomat to present their case it is just as important that the smaller countries who have as much say in the General Assembly should realise and live up to their responsibilities.

## Russia again

Those who have been accustomed to thinking of Russian rulers as typified by Stalin and of their diplomats by Molotov have not been able to reconcile their

... BY CINCINNATUS

previous ideas with their first impressions of the new hierarchy. To the outside world Stalin was the man of Potsdam and Yalta, the man of iron will and



Krushchev

unbending purpose and the man before whose grim exterior all but the staunchest diplomats quailed.

Molotov has been the Russian most before the eyes of the world and his appearances in the United Nations and his presentation of the Russian view point have been those of an extremely skilful diplomat and of one not afraid to incur unpopularity providing he achieved his ends.

Molotov is still with us, and even in his speech at San Francisco—where the substance of his speech was friendly and where his message was Russia's willing-

ness to give a lead in a quest for world peace, he made no concessions to popularity and was his usual self.

Nearer home, however, where reporters have had an opportunity to observe the newcomers more closely their impressions have been somewhat different.

When, following the signing of the Austrian treaty, Russia followed up her policy of spreading goodwill people looked with interest upon the visit of Bulganin and Krushchev to Yugoslavia. Not only was this the first official recognition accorded Tito since he broke with Russia some years ago, but this was also one of the rare occasions on which those two particular men have appeared outside their country.

The impression they gave was, to say the least, astonishing, and to read the reports sent back, the one underlying thought seemed to be that Russia at last seems to have stopped producing supermen to fill the top positions, and that these two, at any rate, seemed to be distinctly human and to be liable to make as many mistakes as anyone else.

Long reports came back about the talkativeness of Krushchev, Stalin's successor as Party Secretary, of his staging impromptu wrestling matches while waiting for a tyre to be mended, of his inability to hold his liquor at ceremonial dinners, and of the amount of good humoured backchat indulged in by the pair of them.

Out of the visit came a pact signed between Yugoslavia and Russia designed to open up normal trade between the two countries, but also out of it seems to have come the theory that Russia by her own peculiar process of evolution may have reached the stage of development of the western countries in so far as the era of dictators may be over, and that whoever holds power does so with the approval of other interested parties and may be just as liable to fall from power as any other premier.

Whatever the position may be it does appear likely that if ever the much publicised talks at the summit take place as all the interested countries have suggested, it may happen that Sir Anthony Eden with his mastery of diplomacy and language may feel out of his environment and regret not having risen from a bare-footed farm boy.

chant', a melodrama written in 1731 by G. George Lillo. The Producer is Professor Musgrove, and title role will be played by Professor Keys. Other members taking part are Messrs. Fairburn, Herron and Packard. The ladies in the production are Mesdames Maidment and Prendergast, and Miss O'Dowd. The production will be presented in the College Hall at 8 p.m.

Collection for Asian Students—On July 14th and 15th a collection will be held in the College. This will be held to provide assistance to students in South-East Asia. This is the area the New Zealand Committee has chosen as the focus of its assistance in 1955, and the major portion of the money collected will go to 'self-help' and other projects here.

## We Need Your Help!

WUS Committee cannot help to provide this assistance on its own. It needs the help of all students.

If our activities this year can raise a sum equal to one shilling from each student, we will not consider our time wasted.

We consider this work, the provision of assistance to students less well endowed with advantages than ourselves, and the promotion of international understanding, as of vital importance, and we appeal to all students to support us to the limit of their resources.

The Auckland Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Trevor Wilson, will do its utmost to provide a satisfactory framework on which you can build your assistance.

—J. Holdom.

## W.U.S. — Your chance to help

educational or international field addressed students and teachers; study tours of Canadian students to Europe and West Africa, organized by the Canadian Committee in co-operation with the International Secretariat.

Study Opportunities and Foreign Student Services: While various other meetings were held in all countries where WUS is operating, scholarships, student and faculty exchange, and work camps were also organized by some WUS Committees. Laying considerable emphasis on scholarship programmes for foreign students are Committees in Canada, Germany, Norway, and Sweden.

The need for such services is clear. Besides offering opportunities for the development of personal contact and friendships through formal and informal social gatherings, they make information available on study and scholarship possibilities, accommodation travel, cultural activities, and vacation work. Wherever the work is not already being done by some student or university body, WUS is deeply concerned with the organization and development of services for foreign students.

All the programmes established in this connection have two aspects and objectives: to help make the study and stay of a student in a foreign country as fruitful as possible, and through human encounter to gain a wider outlook and understanding among the university community which has the opportunity to welcome these foreign students.

## New Zealand Activities:

While contributing over 8,000 Swiss Francs to the International Programme, the New Zealand Committee has also been concerned to enlarge the scope and impact of its activities.

Work-days featured prominently among means used to raise funds, and the Otago Committee raised SF 2188.10 through this technique. The largest amount in a number of years. The success is ascribed to the previous years' experience. At Canterbury, press and radio were utilised to advertise for work, and in future such efforts are to be organized in closer co-operation with Student Clubs.

Educational activities comprised a number of talks and forums at Canterbury

and Otago. Plans for publishing papers on problems are to be implemented at Victoria. At Canterbury, the WUS Committee has taken over responsibility to arrange talks for the University's Current Affairs Club, on which the Christchurch daily papers gave extensive reports.

## WHAT ABOUT AUCKLAND

Auckland receives no mention in this report of activities. One could ask, "Why?" The answers can be left until a later date. In the meantime, the support which the Auckland Committee of WUS receives will provide a reflection of the interest and sympathy of Auckland students toward this worthwhile organization.

## Coming Activities:

Early in the second term a series of 'Film Hours' will begin. These will be held in the Science Department, and at each a short commentary on WUS will be followed by films on a variety of topics.

Play Reading—On Tuesday, July 12th, the Staff will present 'The London Mer-



# Special General Meeting Report

The Special General Meeting of the Students' Association, held on Wednesday, 15th June, was attended by an estimated 250 students, although the numbers thinned out by the time the meeting arrived at the last item on the agenda, and only 150 recorded their vote in this matter.

The recommendation of the Executive "that the Students' Association fee be increased by 5/- per capita to cater for increased costs in the normal running of the Association", was rejected by the meeting, and as a result of two successful amendments, the following substantive motion was passed:

"That this meeting is not prepared to sanction an increase in the Students' Association fee until such a time as the Executive has shown it is not possible to effect economies, and that the Executive make investigations regarding such economies and report back to the forthcoming Annual General Meeting."

Any element of doubt as to a levy for the Gymnasium Fund came mainly in the form of enquiries as to details of the Gymnasium. The Executive's recommendation that a levy of 7/6 per capita be imposed on students to meet the Association's share in the cost of the erection of the Gym was passed without any serious difficulties.

## Capping Book

Of the three motions of Mr. R. M. Smith, the first two, were carried unanimously, reaffirming the *Regulations governing Student Publications other than Craccum* which were adopted by the Annual General Meeting in 1952, and expressing to Dr. Anschutz its appreciation of his services to the Association over a number of years and its gratitude that he had been willing to withdraw his resignation as Advisory Censor.

The third motion dealing with material for Capping Book brought out more debate. Finally the following motion was passed: "That the Association agree that efforts should be made to establish a tradition of material in Capping Book other than that of *Comic Cuts* material or pornography, and to that end forthwith elect a committee to consider and make recommendations regarding the form of Capping Book for 1956, such a committee to table its reports and recommendations at least two weeks prior to the 1955 Annual General Meeting."

Consequently, the following committee was elected: Mr. Frankovich (Convener), Miss C. Lillie, and Messrs. D. Howell, G. Nixon, R. Roach, A. Taylor, P. Temm, and J. Young.

## President's Actions

The last item on the agenda was "Consideration of the actions of the President in relation to Capping Book and to *Craccum*." First Mr. Frankovich introduced the subject giving the facts of the case as he saw them. He founded his case on his discussions with members of the Law Faculty and a Detective-Sergeant of the Central Police Station, as a result of which Mr. Frankovich was convinced that if the Capping-Book was published in its original form, legal action would be taken. Consequently, he considered it his duty to prevent any such outcome. With regard to allegations of attempts to silence *Craccum* in the matter of a letter which the Editors had received, Mr. Frankovich stated that he had not threatened the Editors but had pointed out that if they published the letter, they would be damaging the reputation of the paper, as the letter was based on a complete misconception of fact. Mr. Frankovich then vacated the chair and retired from the meeting, returning for

the last motion. Mr. Temm also spoke at some length in support of the President.

At this stage there was an attempt to have a motion of confidence in the President's actions put to the meeting. When some students pointed out that an opportunity should be given for the other side of the case to be heard, the procedural motion was withdrawn and the discussion continued.

Mr. Boag presented a summary of the case and indicated the reasons for the no-confidence vote of the Executive. He pointed out that at no stage had the President consulted the Executive in the matter, that the only legal opinion put before the Executive was that of Mr. Leary, Q.C., who had stated that there was no chance of a successful legal action. With regard to the allegations printed in *Craccum*, Mr. Boag stated that the Ex-

ecutive had not made their decision after hearing the "uncorroborated evidence of two people", as the President had alleged, but also after the statement made by Mr. Frankovich to the Executive that the report published in *Craccum* was true in substance. Mr. Smith also spoke giving details of censorship of Capping Book.

Finally a procedural motion that the motion of confidence be put was carried although some students present expressed the opinion that the Editors of *Craccum* should be heard. The vote of confidence in the President's actions was eventually carried by 90 votes to 40, with 14 abstentions recorded.

The final motion of the meeting was one expressing confidence in the actions of the Executive in relation to Capping Book and *Craccum*. After it was pointed out that little consideration had been given to the Executive in the matter, the motion was carried unanimously.

## Resignations

By the next day, however, nine members of the Executive had resigned. They were: the Vice-Presidents of the Association Miss Frost and Mr. Boag, Misses Barnes, Cotton and Quinn, and Messrs. Butler, Clarke, Goddard, and Treacy. This action left only one of the original eleven members of the Executive Committee who were elected last year. Reasons for resignation were that the atti-

tude of the students at the Special General Meeting was one of dissatisfaction with the Executive and was pressed in the belief that the Executive had acted hastily and without sufficient thought in the matters arising over the past two months in connection with Capping Book and *Craccum*.

Consequently a petition was taken among students of the College, expressing confidence in the Executive and stating that should they resign, it would be detrimental to the affairs of the Association. This petition, carrying 127 signatures, was presented to a special meeting of the Executive and was backed up by a motion passed unanimously by the remainder of the Executive that the resignations be not received.

## Mr Boag's Statement

The following is a statement made by the Vice-President, Mr. Boag, clarifying the present position:

Following the General Meeting of June 15 which considered amongst other things the actions of the President, consequently those of the Executive, the last two months in connection with Capping Book and articles that appeared in "Craccum", nine members of the Executive submitted their resignations.

I, along with many others, felt that the general feeling of the meeting was that the Executive as a whole had acted somewhat hastily and without thought or care for the best interests of the Association.

Although we were willing to accept the decision of the meeting we did not think that we had acted without undue thought or consideration for our responsibilities as the elected representatives of the student body. Despite the final motion of confidence we still considered that at the time did the meeting feel that the Executive had had the interests of the student body at heart.

Subsequent events however, and the petition that had been circulated for a day and a half and collected signatures from more people than had voted for the motion at the meeting did confirm the Executive that they had misinterpreted the feelings of the students as a whole. Accordingly at the special Executive meeting called to discuss the matter the remaining members of the Executive refused to accept the resignations that had been submitted.

The members concerned did not act hastily when they offered their resignations, and it was only from a firm assurance that the student body had expressed confidence in their ability to act as the representatives that caused their resignations to be refused. —Peter Boag

## Editorial Comment Page Two

## COLLECTORS

Wanted for the W.U.S. Collection. Volunteers please see Mr. Trevor Wilson (Hut 6), or leave a note in "Craccum" Box for Jim Holdom.

## FILM HOURS

Every second Tuesday in the Science Department, sponsored by W.U.S.

WATSONS PRINTING HOUSE LTD.

## COLLEGE COMMENTS

On learning that nine members of the Executive had tendered their resignations, several zealous bods decided to run a petition to ask the members to reconsider. Some of the comments and discussion these bods heard in the course of their campaign, were most interesting, ranging from violent partisanship, responsible and irresponsible, on one side and the other, to complete nonchalance and apathy of a nature to make us despair completely.

From some of the more responsible partisans:

"The Executive members are resigning out of pure pride because their vote of no confidence in the President was not upheld at the S.G.M. Mr. Frankovich was quite correct to take the action he did and the Executive must know the students realise this."

"Resign? What the devil for? Just because the S.G.M. was so obviously composed of pressure groups, the Exec. don't have to interpret the ravings expressed there as representing student opinion as a whole."

On a less responsible level:

"No, I've got no confidence in Exec. They've obviously bungled things or they wouldn't have to put the Stud. Ass. fee up. They don't seem to have done much, and it's about time we had some new blood."

"Good on Exec! Mate deserved to get hung. He must have known he was in trouble judging by the barrackers he had lined up at the S.G.M. If Exec. take any notice of that meeting, they're nuts."

And a completely uncoloured view:

"What are they worrying about? There was a fight over the first motion and the other was passed unanimously. It would be very difficult to replace the Exec. members with people of sufficient experience to do the job."

At the other end of the scale, however, we have such comments as:

"I'm sorry, I don't know enough about it, so I feel I couldn't sign."

Which of course, is fair enough, I suppose; but these people didn't seem to be particularly interested in finding out any of the affairs of their own governing body. Still, the next was even worse:

"Why the sudden interest in University affairs?" !!!

These extremes apart, however, the main body of the comment seems to have been more or less along the following lines: "Mate's motives apart, his actions seem to have been deserving of some criticisms, though perhaps Exec. was a little hasty with its vote of 'no confidence'. Therefore, perhaps they should realise this and not take it too much to heart that their decision was not backed up by a Student S.G.M. Besides, I think it would be unwise of them to resign as firstly, it would create an unfavourable impression, and secondly, and most importantly, it would be detrimental to student affairs, as these people would be difficult to replace. We voted them as the most suitable people for office, and we still think so."

Incidentally, the petition that engendered the above comments, finally rallied 127 signatures. Perhaps I should say that none of the above comments are directly attributable to me, or indeed to anyone in particular. They just represent the various and varied feelings expressed around the College on this matter.

—'Barney'.