

CRACCUM

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AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS' PAPER

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENCY

Allan Coulam

Nominated by W. A. Laxon:
G. E. Vail, B. M. Atkins.

Allan Coulam is known to most students as this year's Men's Vice President. His ability and capacity was particularly noticeable during the absence of the President last year, when Allan and the Lady President assumed the duties and responsibilities of the President.

A part-time student since 1953, Allan is taking his LLB degree. He has participated in four tournaments and was one of A.U.C.'s delegates to NZUSA. In 1953 he was Secretary-Treasurer of the Debating Society, and Controller of Debating and Bledisloe Medal at Winter Tournament. He has twice represented AUC in Bledisloe Medal. He has twice taken part in Revue, this year as Abdomen Ben Algje.

One of the most important functions of the President is to chair all meetings of the Executive and here Allan has also proved himself by his capable chairing of the two general meetings at which the new constitution was adopted.

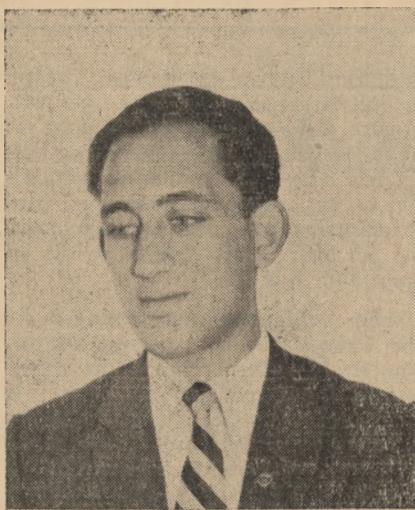
By virtue of his position Allan has participated in most of the administrative duties of Exec.; he has been active on the following committees, Grants, Capping, Orientation, Travel and Exchange, Social and the Student Block. We believe that the position of Vice President equips a candidate for the Presidency better than any other, and that Allan has shown, by his ability and keenness, his qualification for higher office.

Peter Gordon

Nominated by M. J. Freyne:
A. P. Holman, P. Q. Nixon.

Peter Gordon is a full-time student who is completing a B.A. majoring in Anthropology. He came to AUC from Otago in 1955, and in that year was elected to Exec. as Student Liaison Officer, a post which he has held ever since. His interest in student affairs has been many-sided. He has been Orientation Controller (1956-57); Travel and Exchange Officer (1955-57); AUC Congress Representative (1955-56); AUC delegate to meetings of NZ University Students' Association at Winter Tournament 1956 and Easter Tournament 1957; member of Cafeteria Committee (1956-57); Club Captain of Maori Club (1956) and Archaeology Soc. (1957); member of World University Service Committee (1957); main AUC competitor for the Bledisloe Medal in Oratory (1956); leader of an AUC Debating Team (1956); New Zealand delegate to the Sixth International Student Conference held in Ceylon last year (after which he made a goodwill tour to the universities in South-East Asia).

Tournament, Congress, Cafeteria, NZ-USA, Travel and Exchange Orientation: these are the things that will be especially important in student life. Peter has had experience in all of them.



As Student Liaison Officer he has achieved a very real, personal contact with students, and so has an intimate knowledge of student needs and aspirations; as he is a full-timer, there is no danger that he will lose contact with student feelings. His record reveals that he has a flair for imaginative policy, powers of clear and persuasive speech, and sound administrative common sense. A President of the Students' Association must have all these qualities; Peter's abilities fit him for the office, and we commend him to you.

Arthur Young

Nominated by P. W. Boag:
M. B. Francis, Janet M. Watkins.

Arthur Young is a law student who came to AUC in 1953 from Kings College where he was Head Prefect.

He has been Chairman of O'Rorke Residents Association and showed himself capable of filling such a position with distinction.

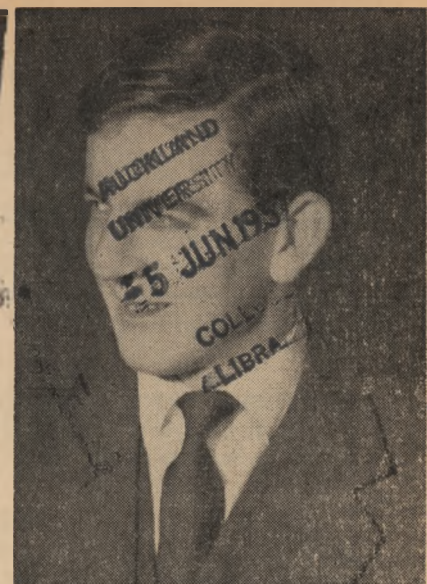
He was elected to the Executive last year as Business Manager, and has started off this newly-created portfolio in an excellent fashion. Thanks to his efforts a complete picture of the Cafeteria and Publications has been available for the first time — with one immediate result that the Cafeteria is now starting to show a profit.

Further, from his position on the Finance Committee, Arthur has acquired an invaluable intimate knowledge of Association finances.

He has also taken part in many other activities at University. These include Debating, Water Polo and Tennis. He has, as well, represented the College in Cricket at Tournament, and was last year chosen Captain of the Auckland Second Grade Rugby Representatives.

The finances of the Association are still critical, and we will, in addition be host College for this year's Winter Tournament.

We are confident that Arthur has the necessary proven ability and experience to fill this position well.



RECORD YOUR VOTE

For the election of President and Man Vice-President on Thursday and Friday, 6th and 7th June, polling booths will be in the Cloisters and the main foyer of the Arts block, at the School of Architecture, Elam and Ardmore. Voting will take place from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday. The electoral roll is posted in the Cloisters and students are requested to check that their names are on it. Students whose names are not on the roll should see Mrs. Chisholm immediately as otherwise they will be ineligible to vote.

MAN VICE-PRESIDENT

Dennis Howell

Nominated by C. S. Judd:
Ann Lund, P. N. Wedde.

Since he came to the College in 1952, Dennis Howell has shown a lively and continuing interest in student affairs.

He has been on the Committee of O'Rorke and the Debating Society and has been a member of SCM.

It is on the Executive, however, where he has been Capping Controller for the past two years, that Dennis has done most for student affairs and has shown his ability in the direction.

Before the re-organisation of portfolios, Capping had become a one-man show which was undertaken at the risk of one's academic career. Dennis so successfully re-organised this portfolio that he still managed to pass units. It is a tribute to his administrative ability that Capping now has an organisation that operates with the minimum of commotion. It is unnecessary to comment on the success of these two Capping Carnivals, which will rank with the most successful in the Association's history.

As an Executive member Dennis has shown, also, a breadth and clarity of thinking and an ability to cope with any problem that has made him an extremely valuable member.

We commend him to you with confidence as a person worthy and capable of filling this, one of the senior posts of Executive.

Michael Freyne

Nominated by A. P. Holman:
W. J. Strevens, D. I. Pool.

Michael Freyne is doing nine months this year—in the Grad. Section at Training College! Entering AUC in 1952, he completed his M.A. with honours in Latin last year and is now doing Anthropology. Hence he has a considerable amount of spare time, which we feel could be well used in Association affairs.

"Mick" has a wealth of experience in student affairs behind him — participation in process 1952-55; Revue administration 1954; Capping Book distribution 1956. In 1955-56 he held the offices of Secretary, Social Committee; President, Cath. Soc.; Student-Chairman Classical Society; and Committee I.R.C.

This year he is doing a grand job as a member of Men's House Committee; Secretary of Capping Committee and of Cath. Soc. W.U.S., Modern Languages and Literary Clubs have also shared his interest.

Probably most important of all, and of direct value to the position for which he is nominated, is the knowledge of the workings of Executive gained as Craccum Exec. Reporter. In this capacity he attended NZUSA Council meeting at Easter tournament, and together with attendance at Congress 1955 and 1957 has gained a valuable experience of national student affairs. Further Michael is keen! He is not hoping to be elected simply for prestige. He combines an impressive academic and student affairs

John Bayley

Nominated by Allan Coulam:
Owen Miller, Ian McLean.

John came to AUC in 1952 as a law student, but changed his course and is now completing his B.A. A part time student, he has shown a continued and growing enthusiasm for Student Assn. affairs. In 1952 he took part in Revue. In 1953 he was chairman of the Debating Society. He has been on the committee of Drama Society and has represented AUC at Winter Tournament, also starring in major production.

In his element during discussion, John is an able speaker and has represented AUC in Joynt Scroll. We are confident that he will bring new ideas and fresh enthusiasm to Stud. Assn. administration. A keen tennis player John is also a proficient skier.

As he spent last year abroad studying education, John is not well known to some students, you probably do know him, however, as Uncle Reggie and Beau Peepe from "Cornucopia."

We have every confidence in his ability and capacity and feel that he is the most suitable man for the job.

record with a strong and very likeable character; thoughtfulness and high ideals with a practical approach. I do sincerely urge you to let him show his ability by electing him to the Vice-Presidency.



CRACCUM

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.

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Mercenary interests 'triumph' over University

FOR Mr. Holland the conference on the University site was a boomerang. With his Government now rests the responsibility for making a decision that he had hoped the conference would have made for him. Instead, its negative outcome, leaves the College Council in the hands of Cabinet, and a deadlock between the City Council and the Government. Mr. Holland has two alternatives. He can divert extra finance to develop another site thereby appeasing the businessmen of the City Council, but risking serious criticism from the rest of the country eager for its own share of capital development. Or, he can reaffirm the previous decision to remain in Princes Street and take the land that the Council refuses to make available, under the Public Works Act — and raise the inevitable local outcry. A difficult decision — especially in election year!

One thing is certain. Delays are inevitable, and it is students who are going to suffer, not the City Treasury. Restricted entry and its consequent denial of the right of a University education for all holders of the entrance qualification, now faces those planning to enter the university in the next few years.

Two things struck the Editors, who were present at this Conference "to help the College Council solve its dilemma of finding a site." Firstly the self-righteous and discourteous attitude shown by the City Council delegation. Their minds were made up before they entered the Conference Room. The four objections to the Princes Street site raised by the City Council and which formed the reasons for convening the Conference were: 1. The loss to the Council of rates, rents and property; 2. Disturbance of existing tenancies; 3. Probable closing of Council owned streets; 4. The effects on Council's Town Planning Scheme. All of these objections were conclusively proved false by a submission by Dr. R. G. McElroy, under the College Council's direction. The submission used the reports of the City Council's own officers, which demonstrated that the statements made by Mr. D. M. Robinson and Professor Cumberland to induce the Council to oppose University development on the central site were wildly inaccurate.

But this made not the slightest impression on the City Council delegation. They could not possibly have considered any of the facts presented by the College Council which shattered their own case. Instead their seven man delegation noisily passed the

resolution against development on the Princes Street site, while the four man College Council delegation rightly refused to vote. The whole thing was a farce. The City Council delegation's action was then endorsed and congratulated at the next Council meeting: in Mr. Ashby's words "it was an open and shut case."

The Conference was arranged by the Prime Minister and the Mayor, who decided the bodies to be represented, and their voting power. It was rather significant that the City Council had seven votes and the College Council only four. And since when is Sir James Fletcher a representative of a local body. He was allowed to present a submission on behalf of his own private enterprise. Was this because he had personally shown the Prime Minister over the Hobson Bay site in February of this year, and presented a confidential report on the alternative scheme for university development to the Government? (Paragraph 18 Fletcher Submission). All this long before the scheme was made public. Indeed, Sir James had to ask the permission of the Prime Minister before issuing the plan to the Press. Sir James seems very keen to get a contract so much so that he has chosen the site, drawn up the plans, influenced the Prime Minister, and now presented his submissions to a conference "seeking" to decide a site suitable for university education.

Such was the air to the conference: a group of mercenary interests forcing their desires on a Council trying to act in the interests of University education and the students.

Exec. decision unwise?

THE decision of the Executive last year to investigate the alteration and improvement of facilities in the student block consequent upon Cafeteria extensions was a commendable one. The plan which the Executive approved at their last meeting on 20th May was not so commendable. No matter where the new University eventually finds a home, Auckland students are doomed to spend at least another 10 years at Princes Street. By that time the student population will have reached at least 7,000 yet there will have been no parallel increase for student facilities.

At present there may not be an apparent need for austerity and conservation of space but in another two years this position will have radically changed. Yet in the face of this common knowledge the Executive agreed to the partitioning of a substantial portion of the Table Tennis room as

a Conference Room. It is bad enough that the Table Tennis Club have been asked to find another venue for their activities; it is very much worse when the Executive take about one third of that area for use as a meeting room. Such a glorious idea belongs to the southern universities where the student population is smaller and the room for student facilities so much greater. It is plain therefore that, despite their avowed intention to reorganise student facilities so that the most beneficial use could be made of all the available space for students as a whole, they have in fact only succeeded in "feathering their own nest."

The Table Tennis room should be wholly used as a Common Room, preferably a Women's Common Room but failing that a Mixed Common Room. A Mixed Common Room is all very well, but both men and women want separate facilities, and that means more than just a Reading Room and locker space. The Table Tennis room could then be bookable in lieu of the Women's Common Room, taken over by the Cafeteria. The question of additional space for the Secretary could be answered by shifting the office to the present Executive room. Such a move would not be contrary to the sub-committee's conclusion of the necessity for the more efficient running of the office. All the Stud. Assn. files and cabinets could be housed in the one room. On the other hand the men's reading room would remain undisturbed. What of the Executive? With such a premium on space in the student block the Executive must realise that there can be no idealised dream of a Conference Room, even if available for other clubs and societies. Why not therefore Exec. meeting in the present office? The room measures 18 by 16 feet, and with compact desk and chair, City Council style, there would be ample space.

The facts must be faced. Conditions in the student block will become more congested in the future not easier. Thus the Executive must reconsider their decision to deprive the majority of students of such valuable space in the Table Tennis room.

COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Copy for the next issue of "Craccum" will close on

Monday, 10th June,
at 7 p.m. Please place contributions in "Craccum" box on Exec. Room door.

EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

Elections for Portfolio Holders of the Executive will be held on Wednesday, 19th, and Thursday, 20th of June. Nominations close with Mrs Chisholm at the Association Office on Saturday, 8th June, at 12 noon. The necessary form may be obtained from Mrs Chisholm. Candidates may stand for more than one portfolio, but can hold only one portfolio on Executive. The portfolios are as follows:

Business Manager
Capping Controller
Sports Clubs' Representatives (2 persons)
Societies' Representatives (2 persons)
Student Liaison Officer
Chairman Men's House Committee
Chairman Women's House Committee
Social Controller

K. W. LOACH,
Returning Officer.

THE LIBRARY

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When more than two people are waiting for a book it automatically becomes a "3-day book" and remains so until pressure of demand eases. (In this case it is recalled after 3 days).

This kind of automatic governor is working well. Some members of staff and some students do not know about it. If, of course, you don't request a book, it won't just turn up on the shelves. The only rule to remember then, is: if you want a book that is not on its shelf, ask for it.

—F. A. Sandall,
Librarian.

STUDENTS!

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CHRISTCHURCH : TIMARU

Student Block Changes

Subsequent to the approval of the Buildings Sub-Committee of the College Council stage-one in the plans for the re-organisation of the Student Block will be begun as soon as possible. This involves the erection of a partition from the corner of the Secretary's office to the corner of the present men's reading room so that entry to that room, the future Association 'work room' housing files and office equipment, can only be through the Secretary's office; the erection of a wall across the far end of the Table Tennis room to provide a Conference Room; the transfer of the Executive to the Conference Room and of the Men's Reading Room to the present Exec. room; and the refurnishing of the remainder of the Table Tennis room and the existing Men's Common Room.

This authority was given on the motion of Bob Bilger and Arthur Young at the Exec. meeting on May 20th, after Exec. had heard the report and recommendations of the Student Block sub-committee from the Chairman, Allan Coulam. Other members were Peter Boag, Arthur Young, Cliff Judd and Owen Miller. Explaining the proposals, Allan Coulam said that the present Exec. room was too small while there was a great need for closer juxtaposition of the Secretary's office and Association files, which were present in the Exec. room. There was need for a conference room therefore where all student bodies, including the Executive could meet, and which could be booked for meetings. The sub-committee suggested taking a portion of the Table Tennis room, the vacated Exec. room to be occupied by the men students as their reading room, which in turn would become the Executive's work room. In the latter would be kept all the association files, cabinets and office equipment. The mixed Common Room would thus be the remainder of the Table Tennis room and the present Men's Common room.

Clubs make way

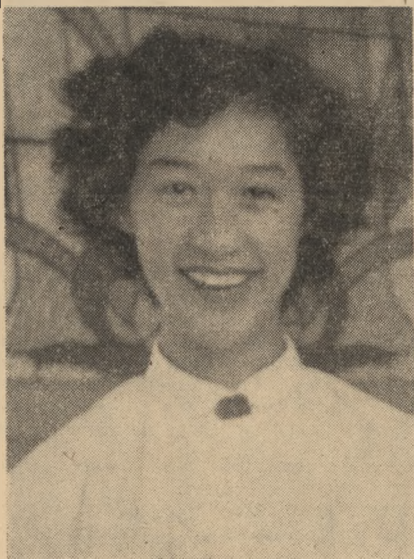
This plan was undesirable from the point of view of the Table Tennis Club, the Swords Club and those building props for Revue, admitted Allan Coulam. On the other hand with the Cafeteria expanding upstairs specialised activities such as these had to make way for general student facilities. Under this plan Coffee Evenings would not be affected since the present Men's Common room could still be booked as is now the case. Women students would still have their own locker space, reading room and the Federation Room, while the men students would have the first two. With the Secretary having two rooms closely linked the office could be better organised, and he considered the plan the best in the circumstances.

In reply to Owen Miller's query over the question of the exclusion of clubs due to the huge demand from those wanting to hire the remaining common room facilities, Allan Coulam said the clubs could use the conference room, the Cafe when it was extended or otherwise they would have to use smaller rooms. Peter Boag remarked that the alterations would have to be begun soon because Cafe extensions would begin in the near future and the student block had to be ready for the hoards of students which would migrate downstairs. Exec. then authorised the implementation of stage one, while it was also decided to write to the Table Tennis Club informing them of the sub-committee's decision and the fact that the provisions for the playing of table tennis would have to be revised.

College Council Rep.

The Students' Association representative on the College Council from July 1st is the retiring President, Peter Boag. He succeeds Mr. Keith Piper, who has represented the students since 1950. In thanking the Executive for his appointment Peter Boag thought that special mention must be made of the great amount of work which Mr. Piper had done for the Students' Association, and on the motion of Peter Gordon and Grace Li, Mr. Piper is to be thanked for his efforts on behalf of the students. Peter Boag remarked that of the four student College Council representatives which he knew, Mr. Piper was the only one who regularly attended meetings of the Student Executive.

WOMEN'S VICE-PRESIDENT



Grace Li

Grace Li was nominated for the position of Woman Vice-President by Misses J. M. Watkins and A. E. Porritt and Mr. A. W. Young. Being unopposed Miss Li has been declared elected by the Returning Officer. This is her second term on the Executive for she previously held the portfolio of Social Controller.



TREASURER Cliff Judd

Also elected unopposed was Clifford Judd for the position of Treasurer. He was nominated by Messrs A. W. Young and M. B. Francis and Miss A. Lund. This will be his second term as Treasurer.

the eternal site question . . .

REFERENDUM

Although it appeared last August that a final decision had been reached by the College Council on the question of the site of the University, the whole issue seems to have been reopened.

With every odd local body and organisation with the vaguest connection with the University expressing its own definite opinion on this matter, the Executive has decided that the students should be given their chance.

A referendum will be held in conjunction with the Presidential elections on Thursday and Friday, June 6 and 7.

It would be impractical to cover every possible choice of site with all their possible variations, and a choice will be given as simply as possible.

Students will be asked to vote on (1) Princes Street, (2) Hobson Bay, (3) other site, **as they see the positions of each at present.**

This will be only a rough indication of student feeling, but it will at least give you a chance to vent your feelings!

PETER BOAG, President, AUCA.

NZUSA RESIDENT EXEC.—

No Asian Seminar

It is now most unlikely that the Asian Student Seminar will be held in Auckland next August as has been hoped. This is made clear in a circular letter from the Co-ordinating Secretariat which was considered by the first meeting of the 1957-58 Resident Executive of NZUSA on Monday, May 6.

Most of the 4½-hour meeting was devoted to matters arising from the draft minutes of the NZUSA Council meeting in Dunedin at Easter. Mr. E. A. Woodfield, the new VUC representative on Resident Executive, was welcomed to his first meeting.

The president, Mr. Dalgety, read to the meeting the text of a circular from the Co-ordinating Secretariat in Leiden, Netherlands, calling for applications from interested national unions of students to hold the proposed Asian Student Seminar. The circular specified early 1958 as the most suitable time for the seminar.

The New Zealand University Students' Association, after considering a report from Mr. David Stone, a member of the NZUSA delegation to the Asian Student Press Conference in Manila in February had informed COSEC that New Zealand would be happy to stage the seminar. The NZUSA application had suggested Auckland as the venue, and August as the most appropriate time (to coincide with the Winter Tournament there).

The circular from COSEC, signed by associate secretary Isaac Omolo, points out that the secretariat's attention will be largely concentrated on the Seventh International Student Conference in Nigeria towards the end of this year. The difficulties involved in organizing another important seminar about the same time would place too great a strain on the secretariat, and 1958 is therefore suggested as a suitable time.

Mr. Dalgety pointed out that the COSEC circular did not necessarily imply that the New Zealand application was unacceptable; even if the Supervision Committee favoured holding the seminar in New Zealand, other national unions would expect to be consulted in the matter before a decision was made. Perhaps another application from NZUSA, complying with the terms of the circular, would be very well received. The Executive should therefore consider possible times and venues for the seminar so that a new application might be sent.

Venues discussed

The Executive discussed a number of venues (Auckland, Massey, Wellington and Canterbury were specifically mentioned), and Easter and the last fortnight of summer vacation were suggested as suitable times. The meeting directed the International Affairs Sub-committee to list all relevant factors together with their recommendations and forward these to the college Executives for consideration. Factors having an important bearing on the ultimate decision were considered to be: climate; accommodation facilities; proximity to publicity media, to the centre of government, to Maori communities; and convenience in respect to travel arrangements.

The Executive decided also to write to COSEC informing them that NZUSA is still keenly interested in holding the seminar and outlining moves which have already been made tentatively towards staging it in New Zealand.

Stricter control

The president, Mr. Dalgety, was directed to inform the vice-chancellor (Dr. Currie) that despite complaints received concerning the contents of the present NZUSA song book, NZUSA did not propose to withdraw the present edition from sale. The association would, however, exercise stricter control over future editions.

Boag for Ibadan

Mr. Templeton, who with Mr. Galvin was elected to the NZUSA delegation to the Seventh International Student Conference in Nigeria next September, informed the Executive that for personal reasons he would not be available to make the trip. He deeply regretted having to make the decision and apologised for any inconvenience he might have caused NZUSA. The president (Mr. Dalgety) then ruled that Mr. P. W. Boag, of Auckland, who had been elected reserve delegate, should automatically become a member of the delegation.

QUAD ERAT FACIENDUM

Which was to be done—Do this term. Consult Whitcombe & Tombs Ltd., regarding all your requirements in books, stationery and apparatus. Special departments and trained staff cater specially for students rendering a service unequalled anywhere. All prescribed and recommended text books are stocked. Special books can be obtained.



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Top left: Wellington in one hour dead. Top right: A page from the past. Inset: Haka party hot rod marshals the Yahoos. Bottom left: Official party gets the vegetables. Bottom right: Gaza stripped.

AUCKLAND STOOD THE STRAIN

by Sue Cox

"Just the most, or whacko" seems to have been the general opinion of capping week this year. In public eyes capping was considerably quieter though probably more amusing. Apart from the hen whose mysterious disappearance was explained in rather unexpected circumstances there was nothing really upsetting to public opinion which was a great relief to Capping Controller Denis Howell. In fact most people seemed to have quite enjoyed it and I hear that people were lining up at eleven thirty to see procesh.

Looking into it to find out what made it tick we find the usual handful of hard-working people who devoted much time and energy in making the thing go. But what seems to have made it a little different this year was that there seemed to have been a little more response from students. In fact forty students or more handed in contributions for Capping Book.

"One per cent of the students" as someone wryly remarked but I gather that's one per cent more than last year. Financially everything was on an equal status and in several cases a great deal better than last year.

Capping Book made record sales by selling over 14,100 copies as compared to last year's 11,900 (which by the way was also a record). This was particularly due to Distribution Manager Andrew Morley who managed to arrange the sale of nearly all the Capping Books printed.

In fact everyone is so exalted by success that we might yet follow in the steps of our southern cousins who managed to sell up to 30,000 copies. Content of Capping Book, too, was more "University humour" as one student remarked. Well, 99% content and 100% work was due to editors "Specs" Julian and Ian Poole and their staff. We certainly take our hats off to them.

Procesh consisted of its usual amount of stunts, cracks and brilliant ideas. Stars of the day seemed to have been the engineers who not only produced a wild but entertaining haka party but also a tribe of milk-bar Indians the Friday before. The usual trouble of collection occurred in the lack of response from collectors, until the last minute, which meant difficulty of organisation. However, collection organisers Morrie Tetley-Jones and Roy McLennan persevered magnificently and the collection amounted to about £70. By the way, there are mixed feelings about the party in the table tennis room. Some of the equipment seems to have been knocked about. The idea is good but there is a college regulation which states that no liquor may be consumed on Students' Association premises. This will have to be borne in mind if the occasion is repeated.

Talking in the party vein, congrats to the organisers of Grad. Ball. The show ran very smoothly and efficiently especially considering the numbers there, and the mixture of rock-'n-roll and the old-timers helped us to remember that we are students of many parts.

Included in capping festivities is of course Revue, which surpassed itself this year. The script, written by Graeme Nixon, and the sets by Roger Hay, Max Moody and Lyn Maingay had at times the touch of professionals. Top honours of course to Tony Courtney, the hard-pressed producer. He tells me that there was an audience of over 1,000 every night, except for Friday when advertising unfortunately slipped up. On Saturday there was a full house. Everyone from chorus up worked very hard and they certainly put on a magnificent show.

Finally Capping Ceremony itself. I hear the background comment from the students' gallery was organised this year but everything went off very smoothly even though the continuous sound of whistles etcetera became very tiring.

The ceremony itself managed in spite of this to retain a great amount of dignity and I think most Grads thought it a fitting climax to their Varsity careers.

So all in all "A good time was had by all" it seems. Congratulations once more to organisers and if it's as half as good a show next year things should fairly rip along.

PETER W. BOAG—

Down But Not Out

The decision of Peter Boag, President of the Students' Association for the last two years, not to stand for re-election means that Auckland loses one of the most experienced student administrators ever. Peter Boag's connection with student affairs has been wider than most because of his work in international and inter-college, as well as local student affairs. Auckland's loss is not a complete one however, for at their last meeting the Executive appointed him the Association's representative to the College Council. In addition he has also accepted the post of Ways and Means on Winter Tournament Committee.

In the international field, Peter has represented NZUSA at the Sixth International Student Conference held in Ceylon last year, while he has also been selected for the Seventh ISC to be held at Ibadan this September. It is a tribute to his calibre as a student administrator that he has been twice chosen as a delegate representing New Zealand University Students' Association, and therefore, over 10,000 students at international student conferences.

Since 1953 Peter has been a member of the Auckland delegation to NZUSA, while he was also Auckland's Congress Controller in 1954, and, as a member of the Otago University Students' Association, Tournament Controller in 1951. These, together with the active part which Peter has taken in so many different aspects of Otago and Auckland student life, meant that he gained a very much wider knowledge of inter-college affairs than most College Presidents. The results of this experience have been Auckland's gain.

But most of all Peter Boag has been prominent in local student affairs. He took his M.A. in Mathematics at Otago in 1951 and arrived here the following

year. His entry into the student arena was almost immediate. In 1953-54 he was Editor of *Craccum* and also edited Tournament Programme. Elected to the Executive in 1953, Peter served as Chairman of the Publications Committee, Man Vice-President and finally President. Both before his election to the Executive and since Peter has been a member of most sub-committees. As President his record has been an impressive one. Because of the rapid increase in student numbers the system under which the Association was attempting to run efficiently had become outmoded, and thus reorganisation necessary. The new constitution, finally approved at the Half Yearly General Meeting in March, solved this problem. This was entirely the work of Peter Boag, and is but one instance of how much time and energy Peter has put into various matters over and above the general supervision of student affairs. It demonstrates too the difference between a successful and an adequate President. Auckland's loss with Peter Boag not standing for re-election is thus so much greater, but at least students can be thankful that the Students Association have not lost his continued interest and participation.

VISIT AUSTRALIA THIS CHRISTMAS

N.Z.U.S.A. is again organising an exchange with Australia. Under the new agreement New Zealand and Australia guarantee to fulfil certain obligations and if these are not fulfilled by a particular date then the scheme lapses. This will then give us sufficient time to make other arrangements.

A charter plane will be leaving about 16th December and returning about 16th February, presumably from Auckland. If the plane is fully chartered, then the cost will be less than £45 return. Besides the charter plane there will be group travels by sea and air, and with the concessions these will cost you £47 and £56/15/- return respectively.

On leaving New Zealand all students will receive a contact in Australia, information packets and they will be met and helped to find satisfactory accommodation. The Australian Students' Congress will be held in Perth, to which all New Zealand students are invited.

The Travel and Exchange Scheme provided cheap travel for those students who want to visit Australia and many who have already made the trip regard it as an experience not to be missed by anyone who can manage it. Particularly with the new arrangements we strongly endorse the scheme. The information and application sheets are now in the students' office and if there are any further inquiries then I will be only too pleased to help.

PETER GORDON,
Travel and Exchange Officer.

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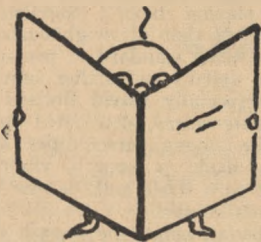
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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS —



ARE WE NOT ASHAMED ?

Sirs,

It has often been said that the spectator sees most of the game, and now I no longer hold official authority, my words may perhaps carry the greater weight.

No-one would wish that students should always be serious; indeed, if I were asked who was the greatest benefactor of mankind, I should, in some moods, be inclined to answer that it was he who made the greatest number laugh.

In this vein I would ask the intelligent and courteous majority of students whether they did not feel humiliated in the childishness of some in the upper gallery at the Capping Ceremony, and whether they were not angered by the discourtesy shown to a man who, more than any in this town, deserves respect and gratitude for all he has done during many years for the students.

I would suggest, in all modesty, that the views of the student body on wider



Professor Forder

issues would receive more attention if they first reformed their own household, restrained their unworthy and ignorant members, and replaced the open display of the uncouth manners of this minority by a general sentiment which forbade conduct that entailed loss of self-respect and invited public contempt.

Jerusalem, said an ancient writer, was a clean city because every man cleaned his own doorstep. This protest I make as a sincere well-wisher of a body corporate of which I am still a member.

—H. G. Forder.

Replies to H-Bomb Resolutions

Published below are extracts from replies received by Mr. Peter Wedde, President of the S.C.M., to copies of the resolutions passed at the protest meeting against the British H-Bomb tests.

● Rt. Hon. W. Nash, M.P.

"In general, I think the proposed tests should not be carried out in the mean time, and that the government of New Zealand should do everything it would, through its representatives at the United Nations, and at the Conference which is shortly to be held in London, to press for steps that will lead to agreement between the major countries for the non use of nuclear weapons, and other weapons of mass destruction and for the abandonment of the tests in the meantime."

● Hon. T. P. Shand, M.P.

"A responsible Government, before taking any action to destroy the defence efforts of the democracies, must satisfy itself not merely that those efforts in self defence have horrifying implications, but that they are more horrifying than the alternatives."

● Hon. J. R. Marshall, M.P.

"I am always interested to hear student views. Having been a student myself, and having been associated with similar resolutions in my own time, I have some sympathy for your feelings. I can appreciate your impatience and your urge to do something, even if it is only passing a resolution."

The Government has given much thought to this question and made what I believe is a realistic assessment of the situation, and its policy has been publicly stated by the Prime Minister."

● Nat. Council Churches

"For your information I would like to point out that while this Executive is not in any position whatever to speak for the member churches on such a matter as this, and while therefore the implication is that this Council at any rate cannot issue a statement in regard to the immediate bomb test proposals your resolutions have served to provoke a further examination of the issues that are involved."

It has been decided that our Commission which advises us in regard to these matters, be asked to re-examine them, for they have of course been examined before, and bring recommendations to our Annual Meeting in July as to the most effective action which might be taken by the churches."

● Other replies

Replies, stating that they had noted the terms of the resolutions, were also received from The Hon. R. M. Algie, M.P., the Hon. D. J. Eyre, M.P., the Hon. S. M. Smith, M.P., and Dame Hilda Ross, M.P.

Sports Tours NOT "A wee holiday"

Sirs,

I noticed in your last issue of 'Craccum' that Mr. Roach had questioned the value of sponsoring 'Varsity team tours. He referred specifically to the recent visit to New Zealand of the Australian Universities fencing team, and suggested that it provided but a 'wee holiday for a few people.' Although the comments I offer on the result of my experience during this particular tour, some, I think, could be applied to 'Varsity team tours in general.

Sport itself is widely recognised as desirable recreation for the University student, and this is illustrated by the interest currently shown to secure playing fields along with academic facilities for the Auckland University College — wherever it may eventually be. Sport flourishes in competition, and in the light of this applications for grants from sport's clubs towards tours are surely worthy of consideration. Auckland fencing students found that although the standard of the Australian play varied in this last tour, the stimulus derived from novel techniques employed by the visitors was of very great value in a sport not standardised by records as in swimming and athletics. Such competitive experience, as provided by University team tours in another country, is not otherwise found in New Zealand except where the teams are of national standard, e.g.

the All Blacks. On these grounds alone the tours are well justified.

While in Auckland, the Australians certainly worked hard at their fencing in an effort to represent their country well, and some members downed the very best of New Zealand's fencers. Nevertheless I hope they enjoyed 'A wee holiday' as well: I feel that University team tours are doing well if visitors such as these leave thanking us sincerely for the opportunity to see our 'lovely country,' for a new conception of friendly race relations, for the hospitality of 'kind people.'

—L.H.

THANK YOU

Sirs,

May I through your paper extend my thanks to all those people who prior to, and during Capping Week helped in many ways in the organisation of Front of House whether in selling concessions, as doormen or as programme sellers and usherettes. It is indeed gratifying to find that there are students who are interested in more than just getting a degree, who are interested in getting the most out of their brief stay at University.

—Colin Regan

Disarmament Impractical?

Sirs,

I doubt very much that complete disarmament is the answer to the problem of world-wide peace. Certainly few people want wars and many regard the testing of nuclear weapons as morally wrong in the light of their colossal destructive powers, but cessation of such experiments is an impracticable suggestion.

The use of such weapons as the hydrogen bomb as deterrents to war is an important contradiction when one reflects that the invention of the rifle was considered in the same sense. In the First World War, gas was found to be such an indiscriminate killer it was banned from warfare by mutual agreement of the opposing parties, and this presumably, is the purpose of the development of the hydrogen bomb: no country dares to use it when the other possesses such deadly power too.

If Britain and the United States should cease manufacture of armaments, Russia surely would not proceed to wage war upon the world! you might say. One would like to believe that everyone delighted in peace. Russia, however, showed last year when she terrorised Hungary that she does not desire peace unless it be under her own unaccepted terms of communist rule.

In this question of the lesser of the two evils, I stand by the development of nuclear weapons in the earnest hope that it may be a deterrent to war.

—M.L.

ODE TO A.U.C.

Oh A.U.C., in you I see
An adolescent varsity.

This adolescence shows in your
Having grown too big for your decor.
The businessmen say, which is right:
The perfect site, or out of sight?

They diagnose your growing pains
As juvenile-delinquent-aims.

The businessmen wish, to exile you:
They know your price but not your value.

You painful pimple on the bosom
Of Auckland's broad Philistinism;

You grain of sand offered the nacre
Of Hobson Bay's besewered acres,

Condemned for many years still
To boardinghouses on the hill.

—Oscar Hammerklavier



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Who wants a Festival?

by Ian D. Beattie

Here we are again in the middle of Auckland's Festival — the ninth produced by the Music Council or Festival Society. We should be proud to think that, in this new idea of festivals (other than those associated with particular aspects of particular arts), Auckland has taken an important lead. Edinburgh was the first to produce a festival of this sort, in 1947; since when the idea has become popular in numerous cities especially in the Old World. While patting ourselves on the back it is a good plan to look at some of the less pleasant aspects of our Festival.

In the 1954 programme a writer claimed that "it has become a fashion of our time for the various arts to get together periodically. One of the notions underlying such festivals is to encourage artists working in one field to become more aware of the work being done by artists in other fields. Equally important is the idea that the public should recognise the common source and purpose of creative inspiration, so that the gulf which often exists between the creator on one hand and the public on the other may be lessened. . . . The public may therefore with profit examine its conscience, for it, as well as the artist, has a responsibility in widening the horizons." I give this quotation in full because, amid the ignorant and sentimental rot written about festivals, this is a firm standpoint to work from. Does our Festival, in fact, measure up to these requirements?

The first question is what sort of festival do we want, and can we attain it? Is it the Edinburgh Festival we're trying to ape? That is an international festival in which the range of programmes is only slightly wider than ours though it includes more items in each field. For example in 1956 they had at least ten full-length feature films while we had one. As well they have shop and business decorations and special shows, and fairs scattered about. The whole is designed to create real richness of experience in all of the arts.

Other festivals

Or should we have an Aldeborough Festival in which local grown talent is used exclusively in all fields in order to brighten that drab city with its own glories? We have local talent approaching that of Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears, and poets in our past at least as good as George Crabbe. Would you prefer a Haslemere Festival, one of the older sort, in which only a certain type of one particular art is produced? Obviously this is not the answer even if we did have a Carl Dolmetsch. We are far too interested in the other arts as well. The same goes for such festivals as that at Salzburg because we have not Mozart in our midst. I suppose we could have a Hoffnung Festival, a fatuous delight, but we have quite enough of it really on the LP record.

Is the Festival, in its present form, worth while, and does it fulfill the requirements asked above? Consider again whether one artist can really associate with artists in other fields for the purpose of understanding the common source of inspiration. This may be done through the suppers at the Town Hall, and, it is hoped, through the newly introduced Festival Club (modelled on that at Edinburgh). These social amenities of course are only supplementary to productions themselves from which most people gain any warmth of contrast. But frankly, I do not feel such contact is possible without informality — which is undesirable in such fields as drama or chamber music. Nor does the public, in

Auckland anyway, really want its mind widened. We are on the whole a conservative lot who rush to hear rowdy detonations in the 1812 Overture but leave the wind to whistle desolately around a lonely pianist playing music by Falla. Is the Festival worth it, considering these rather doleful facts?

Auckland apathy again

Continuing the same question — are people really interested in having a Festival? I suppose one answer is that they'd soon moan if they didn't have one. It's just sort of cheering to know that you've got a National Orchestra playing to a handful of people in a gloomy Town Hall while you sit by a crackling fire turning up the Mozart and turning off the Britten as you please. But that does not cheer up the disconsolate artist either in state of mind or state of pocket. I know it costs money to go to Festival attractions, and also poses problems of transport, but surely these worries can be shelved for a fortnight even if it means three months penance on the rocks. On the other hand the Festival Society must do its share. The programme must be arranged conveniently both for artists and public; this year the programme is particularly well-arranged.

As well there is the problem of advertising — whether we should go all out in encouraging tourists or whether the Festival should remain local in artists and audiences. If the audiences are local as in past festivals, can extensive broadcasting, for the lovers of ease, be permitted? Yet the NZBS has a duty to present the best programme it can. Another problem is that of the touring of artists before and after the Festival. Again it cannot be stopped, for, as one writer on the Edinburgh Festival says: "Why go to Edinburgh in the winter to see or hear what you'll get in London in the spring?"

A N.Z. festival?

Would it therefore be better to call the Festival a New Zealand Festival centering on Auckland? That is one question it is possible to answer definitely. The whole of N.Z. could not have a festival for the same reasons as it could not have the Empire Games. In spite of despondency of facts it is true that within a city there can be more fellowship between artist and artist; artist and public; just because they all know that so much cultural activity is going on so close to them—tangible and exciting. They can venture out into early winter streets, apparently the same as yesterday and yet with the new significance that the Festival films are screening in that little theatre. Even the armchair fiend takes ghoulish delight in distorted sound brought him from the Festival. So, however deplorable the facts may seem, the Festival actually can do a lot for all of us. But I include here a special plea to *Monsieur Apathie* to try just a few concerts or plays and see if the Festival can't mean something to you. It's the

one first magnitude star in Auckland's rather dreary sky.

Anyway, come to the Youth Concert to look for some of the ideals you might expect in youthful enthusiasm. Interest was awakened in all sorts of music by the sequence of items and particularly the neatly rendered Trio Sonata No. 2 of Arne played by the Peak brothers.

Personal contact re-echoed throughout the hall with such infecting comments as "that's Jane in the third row" or "Peter's playing next"; together with such links as that of neighbourhood or university. The standard of performance sealed the spirit's supporting supremacy. Pianists, especially David Bollard in his Brahms *Intermezzo*, dominated the concert; while among personalities Michael McLellan made a superb violinist in Suk's *Un poco triste* and, despite falter, in Mozart's *Rondo*.

I shall not point the moral of this concert except to say that such a festive spirit undoubtedly *does* run through our Festivals as we should hope to expect.



Canterbury Cathedral, which was the scene of the murder of Saint Thomas Becket in 1170, became for many centuries the centre of a popular pilgrimage not only in England but all over Europe. Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* tell of such a pilgrimage. In 1935 T. S. Eliot wrote his epoch-making verse-drama *Murder in the Cathedral* which started a flow of modern Church-drama including Christopher Fry's *Sleep of Prisoners* and Anne Ridler's *Trial of Thomas Cranmer*. Eliot's play has often been produced in a church, and Aucklanders are seeing it for the first time in St. Mary's Cathedral, played by a number of AUCites and produced by Professor Musgrove.

« No Art-ache Here »

By rigorous selection and careful weighing of the merits of pictures against such demerits as poor technique and irrationality the Auckland Society of Arts hopes to help reinstate N.Z. art somewhere close to the standard in Great Britain and Australia. As a national effort, painting like literature has hitherto tended to be rather mediocre, even though it had a good start. The dominating European schools have been aped, and to no great profit. With its Festival exhibition the Society has realised these ideals in one of the first, if limited, showings we have seen in Auckland of late.

Even to the most bigotted these thirty paintings will all convey some sense of beauty, technical skill, or texture. In fact the outstanding aspect is texture. Crippen's *Dead Puriri* is a good example with its long streaks suited to grasses and palms, and square daubs suitable in the clay bank and background trees. Likewise Stenberg's *Pass of Leney* shows a beautifully textured water rapid. On the other hand Whitcock puts across the peaceful English scene in *Pendle Hill* by

his smooth and delicate watercolour.

Technical skill stands out in such as Dutch's painting (which might, however, be anything but) *Railway Yards*. Arthur Thompson fails to convince in his *Rocky Landscape*; but, using the same rocks, *Rocks and Dragons* succeeds because of its fantastic and pleasing pattern of scarlet dragons. Nan Manchester's *Cow Parsley* is also very good though it lacks unity as a composition. Composition is the most disappointing feature of this exhibition for at least five paintings have too much in them.

Nigro's brilliant painting

Some of the better paintings are Jan Nigro's brilliant pink and grey study of the *Sandhills at Kawhia*, Cartaret's *Colour Symphony* with its musical suggestions, and Kennedy's nightmarish *Night Shift*. I have praised Jan Nigro before, and, though her *Dancer in Red Tights* is not good, her *Kawhia* painting is perhaps the finest in the exhibition.

I.D.B.

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OPERA ON A "MEDIUM"-SIZED STAGE

by Brian McKeon

"One of the reasons for the failure of so much contemporary opera is that its music lacks immediacy of communication. Many contemporary composers seems to fear clarity and directness, perhaps they are afraid of becoming obvious." Gian-Carlo Menotti made this statement in 1955, when all his better-known works had been written and acclaimed by the musically-interested American public. Whether Menotti was consciously waving the flag of his own ideas is a matter for conjecture, but we can gauge the truth of the statement by the extraordinary popularity of Menotti's works (which are a practical working out of the ideals he upholds).

The popularity which he has attained may be explained by what some critics have called his eclecticism, and his 'cinematic approach.' Few, however, would deny his skill and strength however much these virtues may be admixed with lack of originality on the musical side. Arthur Benjamin has already said of Menotti, "he is not a great composer, but he is a great man of the theatre." His particular virtues lie in his handling of the story material and the manipulation of character and atmosphere. While he claimed that opera was basic theatre (in the sense that drama had been musical long before it was spoken), he might also have claimed, with respect to his own works, that opera is basically theatre.

In writing his own libretti, Menotti sets out to construct a plot heavily charged with dramatic possibilities, or as he calls it, 'tension.' In "The Medium" this tension arises out of the situation of a woman torn between the world of reality (which she understands in only a limited way) and the world of the supernatural (which she is unwilling to believe). Similar tension is built up in "The Consul" where the audience is forced to witness the unequal struggle of an individual against the inhuman and frustrating coils of bureaucratic red tape.

Melodrama or over-intensified opera

If Menotti's plays are to be described in one word it would probably be "melodrama." But the word is applicable in both its original, and its modern sense. The 'original' melodramatic element in Menotti's work, the association of music with the spoken word, dates back to Beethoven's "Egmont" music, Mozart's "Zaide", and Strauss's "Enoch Arden," but melodrama in the modern sense, is an ingredient which looms large in the Menotti operas, and is one which he himself does not deny. In fact he quite consciously aims at an over-painted, over-intensified libretto, which tends toward improbability and banality rather than over-subtlety. The libretti of his major operas possess a unity produced by an all-pervading, powerful atmosphere. In "The Consul" it is an atmosphere of deep despondency; in "The Saint of Bleeker Street," a deep religiousness and mysticism; in "The Medium" a supernatural eeriness.

From a musical point of view, Menotti has added nothing new to the tradition of opera. The idiom he uses is eclectic, to such an extent that the influences are confusing and difficult to trace. Menotti himself admits the influence of Puccini and Moussorgsky, both of whom solved

the problem of using the aria without interrupting the flow of story, but other authorities also see the shades of Mascagni, Verdi, Stravinsky, jazz, and Broadway. Critics who have condemned Menotti's eclecticism, particularly those on the English side of the Atlantic, should remember that Benjamin Britten exhibits a similar eclecticism in his use of liatonal, polytonal, and atonal harmonies. Menotti relies on this variety to provide the contrasts which are a most impressive feature of his work. Atonal

recitative or arioso bears the burden of the dialogue, making the occasional lyrical outburst, such as the orchestra's innocent little three-four tune in "The Telephone," all the more effective.

It is his music which finally determines that Menotti's works stand as opera rather than music-drama. Placed beside Wagner's "Tristan" or Debussy's "Pelleas and Melisande" the music of Menotti's appears limited in expression. It has moments of intense impressionism, at other times it heavily underlines the emotion, but it never takes the place of the narrative voice. Menotti, it would seem, is only conscious of one dimension of the music, as were the theatre conductors of the silent-film days.

Menotti in the festival

Those who see "The Medium" during the Auckland Festival may find themselves subject to a novel and not unpleasant experience. Menotti's operas are chamber operas: 'interludes' in the 'opera buffa' tradition. All questions of eclecticism, and music-drama aside, Menotti is a natural genius in matters musical. The spell which an opera such as "The Medium" holds over its audience, is a testimony to his genius and to his power over the musical powers of dark and light.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB

PHILIPPINES AND THE DOLLAR

Reporter: Corallyn Rae

Academic standards were not high in the Philippines although many young people had a college education, said David Stone at a meeting of the International Relations Club held during the May Vacation. Mr. Stone, a former Editor of *Craccum*, and New Zealand delegate to the Asian Student Press Conference, gave members some impressions he had gained of the Philippines during this conference.

There are twenty-four universities in Manila, most being endowed by religious bodies and one catering for 29,000 students. Although the importance of higher education is realised in the Philippines, and the students are regarded as important members of society playing a significant part in political life, many graduates do not use their academic qualifications to best advantage. For example, he met several taxi drivers who were qualified as lawyers. To a large extent this arises out of the economic situation. At present there is a great deal of unemployment in the Philippines, as the economy of the country is not expanding fast enough to match the population growth.

Students are an influential portion of society in Manila and very well organised. The President of the Philippines regularly met a student Consultative Council and explained aspects of government policy to them and heard their views on political affairs. Many students after studying in Manila return to the outlying districts. The Government keeps in touch with the students because it realises their political influence over voting in areas where there are few means of spreading political ideas.

At the present time there is much discussion in the Philippines as to the direction

in which future economic expansion should progress. Pamphlets upon economic development are pouring from the press and some were shown to the meeting. The Filipinos are now finding their tie to the dollar had disadvantages. One of the most discussed questions is whether the Philippines should trade with Communist China, although there is no feeling as far as Mr. Stone could ascertain in favour of recognition of that country. However, although there is violently anti-Communist feeling in Manila, the Filipinos realise their proximity to China and the necessity of living in friendship with her. American influence helps to explain the anti-Communist tendencies which are strengthened by the unpleasant memories of the 1949 rebellion which was Communist inspired.

At present there is little state activity in the Philippines although it is increasing, as reflected in the particularly high standard of government officials which he met. The government radio station in Manila is run by particularly hard working, enthusiastic people who were working under extremely difficult conditions and yet still producing a programme of high standard. This was in violent contrast to the programmes heard from the privately owned stations. Most of the press delegates were struck by this difference. The Philippines has a great musical culture which the government-owned station encouraged, unlike the privately owned stations whose programmes consisted mainly of American 'pops.'

Indeed, the most dominating feature of life in Manila was the strong United States influence reflected, not only in the shops full of American-made goods,

What is Federation?

To a very large number of students all over the world the word Federation stands for just one thing — the World's Student Christian Federation. Just what is Federation? It unites students in Student Christian Movements in over fifty countries throughout the world. Its badge is a small silver cross, and all who wear it know that they belong to a fellowship which transcends and withstands all barriers and conflicts which divide the world today.

What is the World Student Christian Federation? It is a missionary movement, witnessing among students in Bible study groups, in addresses and in worship. It is an ecumenical movement, an interdenominational group, where people may learn about and understand different traditions. The W.S.C.F. has been referred to as a junior World Council of Churches, and has always been closely connected with it. It is also a university movement relating student life to the Christian faith, and particularly as a service movement, working through World University Service in student relief in South East Asia, Hungary, Korea and elsewhere.

So the World's Student Christian Federation is all these things. But above all of course it is a fellowship of students all over the world, united by their common purpose. It is a very great thing to a student going to study in a foreign university to know that he has a large group of friends there already who will be glad to meet him and to show him their country.

Every year students in S.C.M.'s all over the world recognise one week as Federation Week. In that week they work to raise funds for Federation, they make a special effort to meet overseas students studying in the university, and above all they worship, thanking God for the Federation and its work. The week culminates in the World Student Day of Prayer, this year on June 23rd. On this day students are united by prayer throughout the world, one band of students drawn together by one great bond of fellowship, though scattered through more than 50 countries. There is no fellowship remotely resembling that of W.S.C.F. which can unite people across apparently insuperable barriers of political and social barriers.

but also in the street names, such as 'Florida Street', 'Nebraska Street' and 'Dulles Avenue.' The streets of Manila were full of American cars many of which Mr. Stone learned were assembled in Manila itself. Much American capital is invested in the Philippines, outward signs of this being the erection of large modern commercial buildings in Manila for the distribution of American products. In spite of the fact that American goods are now more expensive than the home made, most Filipinos "buy American," partly Mr. Stone suggested through habit or belief in the superiority of American goods.

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MOSTLY SPORTING—

Auckland Blues Standard Too High?

What is a college blue? What have you to do to earn it and what reward does it carry? So many times were these questions asked during Summer Tournament that the students could benefit from some statement on the policy adopted when the blues list appears shortly.

As far as can be gathered to be awarded an Auckland Blue you must have attained a standard at which level you are worthy of representing the province. For a NZU Blue you must be worthy of consideration for national representation. In some sports standards are set, but how is a national standard imposed upon a swimmer who has to swim in a slower tepid pool? How do you set a standard in rowing, basketball and rugby?

Another question so frequently asked, what is the importance placed upon a competitor's performance at the university tournament. Last year we saw the situation where an Auckland representative won the NZU harrier title and yet did not receive an Auckland Blue. Surely such an outstanding performance is worthy of recognition.

Liberal policy

During Summer Tournament an attempt was made to see what policy was adopted in other colleges. Victoria and Otago appear to hand them out liberally but Canterbury do not grant them at all. Only Auckland carefully debates the relative merits of the names submitted.

At present each sport appoints an assessor who forwards a list of names to the Blues Committee. This committee, composed of persons already holding college blues, does a worthy job. It is a pity to see them criticised by persons who, through no fault of their own, do not understand the policy adopted. It would seem that a lowering of the Auckland blue standard ought to be considered and that blues be awarded to a person once only in a university career. Only in this way can we avoid the frequent mistake of awarding too few blues in which there is a very high standard. Surely there should be some balance between the number of blues awarded and the number representing that sport at the University Tournament. Rowing for instance, has more representatives than any other at Easter and yet last year received no blue awards.

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Need for recreation Facilities

"Adequate recreation facilities are necessary in any proposed university plan," is the opinion expressed in letters received by the College Council from the Rugby and Hockey Clubs, and the O'Rorke Residents' Association. Gymnasiums and volley courts do not fill these requirements. We do not only wish to become physically fit, rather we would like to see men and women with balanced characters graduate from this university. This is best achieved through team spirit — not exercise administered in required quantities.

Sportsmen to the fore

It is gratifying to see one prominent College sportsman contesting the key position on the Executive. Too often sportsmen leave this responsibility to others. Such an attitude is deplorable. With the sports' clubs dependent on Exec. for the large portion of their finance it is essential that there be representatives who are capable of giving just consideration to their claims.

Club initiative

Several University clubs are sponsoring raffles. Such spirit is to be commended as Exec. Committee has only a limited amount to distribute. 'Craccum' is more than willing to publicise these efforts, so let's hear from you.

Help wanted

Winter Tournament is to be held in Auckland this year. Can you help? Officials of all types, shapes and sizes are needed so offer your services to the Tournament Controller, Grahame Mansergh.

Rest Cure in the Hunuas

52 trampers thought that a rest in the form of a four day tramp in the Hunuas was just the thing after a hectic Capping Week. Therefore on Tuesday, 14th May, two bus loads of students entered the Moumoukai valley to start a four day tramp, some going to the Mangane mines, some climbing to Kohukohunui, whilst others were content to get wet in the Mangatangi gorge.

Hut space was fully taxed on two nights, when three or four parties of seven trampers occupied a hut for 12, whilst others slept out under tents, or on the fine nights, under the starry skies.

WANTED! — Bright ideas

Are you dissatisfied with your course? Can you think of ways in which it may be improved? What are your thoughts on the granting of 'terms,' compulsory attendance at lectures, and so on?

I have been instructed by the Executive to form a sub-committee to review these systems and since this is a matter of concern to every student I would welcome suggestions and assistance from any student who feels he or she can make a contribution. The move behind all this is sponsored by NZUSA, and Colleges have been asked to contribute to the case NZUSA is building up to present to the Academic Board for the reform of our curricular and systems of higher education. I, myself, have a few ideas on this subject and would like to see several of the practices of overseas universities adopted here, but I want to hear your views also.

ALLAN COULAM, Vice-President.

SKI CLUB HUT—

Far From the Maddening Crowd

by John Stevens

The hut on Ruapehu built by the Auckland and Victoria University Ski Clubs will be ready, though not completed, for the coming season. This is the result of a long period of concentrated effort by both clubs. Since the founding of the Auckland University Ski Club in 1951 efforts have been directed towards establishing its own hut, and even at that early stage money was saved and tentative plans drawn up.

In 1954 the suggestion came from VUC Ski Club that the two clubs combine in building a hut. This idea offered the chance of a hut much sooner than if each club built its own and it was agreed to make a joint effort. In 1955 a Hut Committee was set up in Auckland under the chairmanship of Tom Turney, who had just come up from Victoria and was their representative on that committee. A prefabricated wooden structure was decided upon and Denys Oldham of the Architectural School drew up the plans. However before construction started the firm which was to supply

the prefabricated panels stopped making them and so the plan was changed to use concrete blocks.

Construction started in December, 1955, with Bill Hamilton of the Engineering School in charge and Denys Oldham helping him. Over the Christmas vacation the site was cleared and the footings for the walls poured. The walls of the main building were finished by Easter 1956, and by May the steel trusses for the roof had been erected. However the snow arrived before the roof could be laid.

Over £1200 spent

At the end of November working parties organised by Laurie Colebrook in Auckland and Ted Petrie and Jim Larsen in Wellington started to go down again to Ruapehu. By January the roof had been laid. The last part of the concrete floor was poured before Easter and during Easter the last windows put in. The frames for the interior wall were also erected at this time and since then the frames for the bunks have been added. Almost all the materials are now at the site and the hut should be inhabitable though not finished before July.

Up to now over £1200 has been spent on the hut and over 800 days of work put into it, mostly by past and present students. Some members of the club have spent much of their time in working parties. Tom Turney and Bill Hamilton for instance have both spent over 50 days working on the hut.

Home comforts

The hut measures 36 feet by 24 feet and such good use is made of the space available that it seems even larger from the inside. Along the front extending its whole length is the main room 36 feet long, with bunks at either end and the cooking facilities on the back wall. Behind this room are the men's and women's bunk rooms, the drying room and the washroom. An extension at the back of the hut is the more recently begun ski room, 20 feet by 8 feet. This is no wready for the roof to be laid.

Electricity will probably be installed this winter in which case the hut will have all the comforts of home. However, should this be held up through lack of finance then there is still a carbonette stove and kerosene lights. The hut will hold sixteen people for a week but an ingenious system of high level bunks enables 32 to be accommodated at weekends.

The Auckland and Victoria Ski Clubs have been fortunate in securing a good site with magnificent views of the country below and the mountain above. In fact it is well worth spending the week there just to see the scenery.

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