



OVERCROWDING SURVEY —

Exercises in Mob Oratory?

The University of Auckland is overcrowded. Upon this premise is based the agitation for a reconsideration of the site of the University and the necessity for a sweeping extension of all facilities connected with the institution—student facilities, sports fields and gymnasias, administrative blocks and research equipment, as well as lecturing accommodation.

Yet it seems certain that the University of Auckland is still doomed to remain on its present site, a pawn of the "machinations of big business," party politics, and higher finance. This article does not propose to enter into the controversy of the University site, but rather to examine the position that will arise, and is already arising, as a result of the decision to retain the University in its present quarters for the foreseeable future.

A most important aspect of this matter is that of lecturing — its techniques, its problems, and its effectiveness — within an overcrowded University. As an example, the Department of English of the Faculty of Arts was chosen. This department is at present the largest within the faculty. Classes for Stages II and III have not yet reached a disproportionate size. In Stage I, however, it has been found necessary to divide the classes into two, for reasons of timetable convenience for the part-time students as well as the impossibility of lecturing to classes of the proportions that Stage I English has assumed.

Lecturers' Problems

Yet even with this arrangement the Department finds itself taxed. With one exception, the four weekly lectures in the course are delivered twice, to roughly one half (on each occasion) of the total roll of approximately 420; the average attendance at each seems to be about 180. These lectures are delivered in Room 19 and the College Hall, each of which has a capacity equal to that of the classes attending. In spite of this theoretical ability to accommodate the numbers required, Room 19, the largest in the Arts Block (excluding the Hall), is on occasions filled to overflow and students are forced to sit on the floor, in the aisles, and to the side of the lectern, in order to hear the lectures. This, it seems, occurs only when the more "entertaining" lecturers are speaking on subjects with greater or lesser universality of appeal. Thus the fluidity of student attendance in some way relieves the strain upon seating accommodation for part of the time, though the fact is not altered that the Department's accommodation is at present taxed to its limits; and the drastic increases in roll numbers forecast for the next decade will demand an increased number of classes if, as it now seems, accommodation will in no way be altered. Whether this will mean an increase in the number of lecturers (if such can be got with the existing salary scales facing increasing competition from those of the overseas Universities), or whether the present lecturers' burden will simply be increased, we cannot at the moment say. The divergence between what is desirable in the University, and what the University gets, has long been realized by all concerned, and at present there seems little prospect of any startling new appreciation of our problems by the Powers-that-Be.

The fact remains that increased roll numbers have taxed the accommodation of the Department to its limits. In order to find out what implications this held, Cracuum approached the staff of the English Department to get their feelings and opinions on lecturing under such conditions and to such numbers.

Mr M. K. Joseph considered that two factors were predominate. Firstly, there was the problem of physical discomfort. The lecturing facilities were overcrowded to such an extent, he said, that fatigue and restlessness were becoming important obstacles that the lecturing staff would have to attempt to overcome. Acoustically, Room 19 is almost inadequate, and the problem of "getting across to the back-row" has never been one of easy solution. However, the physical problems of voice projection and control of class attention varied with the individual lecturers, and had not, he felt, at present reached a stage where they seriously hampered the efficiency of most lecturers' teaching.

On the matter of differing standards, within the large classes, Mr Joseph was more explicit. These differing standards, he said, are caused by the twin factors of variable standards of attainment at the time of entrance (e.g. U.E., Higher School Certificate, Scholarship passes, etc.) and by the varying degree of experience of the students concerned. Thus while the majority of English I students are freshers with relatively little experience of University teaching methods, the smaller groups of second and third year students taking the subject could not be ignored.

Mr Joseph suggested that the class had to be treated as an essential whole, and this could be done by systematic coping with the arrangement of lectures and an adjustment of the teaching methods to the mental standard of the apparent "norm" of the class.

Though he agreed that the "intellectual streams" of the class can be roughly summarised as (a) "above average" (those who had obtained a pass with credit or higher in the Scholarship exams), then (b) average (with two years in the sixth form and Higher School Certificate), and a lower group whose education had not passed that of University Entrance standard, Mr Joseph stated that it was impossible to aim at either the highest or the lowest of these streams. His lecturing method was to aim at the "norm", taking "nothing for granted; making things plain, and getting the feel of the class."

"I suspect," he concluded, "it results in hitting somewhere about the middle of the class."

When asked 'what of the future,' Mr Joseph suggested that increased roll numbers would necessitate further streamlining. The new lecture theatre in the temporary wing would, it seemed, adequately accommodate classes of the size of English I, and if the proportion of staff to students kept pace numerically, further divisions, not only of full-time and part-time students, but also of Course A (non-advancing), and Course B (advancing) students would become practicable, with a possible further sub-

division of Course A into B.A. and non-B.A. students. A further problem might, however, be encountered in the arrangement of tutorial groups where small classes were necessary and where the number of teachers available was still limited.

In summary, Mr Joseph declared "if the status-quo is retained, lecturing should not be seriously impaired. Unless numbers increase disproportionately, they are not likely to affect preparation, planning, and presentation of lectures. But if classes grow too big, then subdivision, rather than repetition of lectures, seems to be the answer."



Typical of the classes in Room 19 is this English I group, where students are forced to "pack" into the available seating and at times to sit in the aisles and the corridors. The import of lecturing to classes of this size is discussed in this article.

Dr John Reid when approached, acknowledged that his position was slightly different from that of other departmental lecturers, in that his experience of lecturing was considerable and his memories of the post-war overcrowding of 1946-48 made many of the present-day problems seem pale by comparison. He considered that the large classes produced four main problems which may be summarized as follows:

From the lecturer's point of view the feeling of intimacy between lecturer and student is largely lost in a big class, and the speaker feels himself to be addressing a public meeting rather than teaching his class. This seemed a general criticism, which was also voiced by members of the Post-Primary teaching profession who echoed Dr Reid's earlier words describing such lecturing as "an exercise in mob oratory."

Secondly, the problem of discipline sometimes arises. This problem stems largely from what appeal the lecturer has for the students, but in cramped conditions Dr Reid acknowledged that it was easy for the student to become inattentive and "a bit restless".

Thirdly, there was the problem of the part-time students at evening lectures, said Dr Reid. He described his lectures to the part-time students in the Hall, where he was dealing with "people who had been working all day, who were tired, hadn't had a meal, had already at-

tended earlier lectures that evening, and who were trying to take notes on their knees", as "rock-bottom conditions for lecturing." The greatest problem here was knowing how to keep the class awake, a problem which, in all seriousness, calls forth all the resources of the lecturer, according to Dr Reid.

Finally, Dr Reid expressed his agreement with Mr Joseph's premise of "taking nothing for granted." The lecturing, he said, must be taken at "a fairly deliberate pace." Here Dr Reid saw the beginnings of a conflict between the theory and the practice of lecturing. His aim was "to attempt a deeper insight into the work and to suggest new approaches to already familiar material." In practice, however, it was impossible to apply this completely to a heterogeneous class such as English I; and he found it necessary to keep to "the deliberate pace," though this of necessity limited the amount of material that could be used, and necessitated reference and repetition, aimed predominantly at the "middle stream."

Viewed from a functional point of

view, Dr Reid said this meant that the examination standards of the candidates did not necessarily suffer. However, continued Dr Reid, though the examination standards may not be materially affected by the quantity or quality of the material processed in the lectures, it could not be denied that from the purely educational point of view this form of lecturing tended to lower the standard.

In this last statement is seen the basis of any criticism, other than the pragmatic, that may be levelled against our present over-crowded University. If the aim of an Arts education is simply the passing of examinations, then there is little cause for concern at our present conditions. If, however, the ideals of the Faculty of Arts, (and of all other Faculties, which find themselves faced with these problems) are of a higher nature, then Dr Reid's criticism, and the prospect of a decrease in the standard of scholarship at the University, must be viewed with more serious consideration.

Dr Reid's summary of the conditions of the over-crowded English Department were concise. "At the lowest level, conditions are uncomfortable. The best one can say is that they impair to some extent the efficiency of both lecturer and student." The import is obvious, and warrants serious thought from all those who should be concerned with the problems of the University of Auckland.



CRACCUM

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FURTHER LETTERS —

Apathetic students? Habit dies hard — such a loquacious collection of individuals as the contributors to this paper could hardly be called that. Children, you can see what's happened — our literary fanatics have written so much copy for this issue that our Editors have found themselves cold-shouldered — there's no room for the Editorial. Try to limit your enthusiasm — letters no longer than 300 words, articles no longer than 500 words. We'd hate our presiding spirits to fade away in frustration.

THERE GO I

Dear Sir,

An odd thought strikes me: the apathetic student is he whose interests differ from our own!

Yours,

SAM JOHNSON.

WORLD GOVERNMENT?

Dear Sir,

In the last issue of 'Craccum' Mr O. G. Gager advocated the abolition of war through "World Government." His article was interesting and important, because it illustrates the unscientific hysteria and impractical idealism which colours the reaction of so many people to the present world stimulus. Because of the widespread appeal of the type of thought exemplified in Mr Gager's writing, his commentary merits a close and serious analysis.

We are told that "the world has gone mad." But has not the world always been mad? Since the beginning of recorded history men have lived in fear that their civilization would be swept away by more powerful adversaries. And in every case their fears have been justified. The advocates of world government claim to have the answer to our problem. They say their method will enable us to maintain our way of life for ever. "As long as international relations remain what their name suggests, relations between nations, you will never have peace" they state. While nations remain *nations* we must live in a world of fear. Day by day we are "slowly and surely" being poisoned by pestilential vapours released by nations preparing for war. There is no agreement among scientists that we are being poisoned by this Twentieth century pox; but our world federalists have declared the possibility to be an accomplished fact.

The solution is, however, as pernicious and dangerous as the problem they seek to remedy. For this system of world government would be the greatest, most effective and most thorough form of tyranny known to man. Their "world government" would, they allege, feed the starving and, with its stock of thermo-nuclear weapons, "punish those nations who violate international law and order by attacking others."

Who would control the international

government? Who would decide whether a nation is "criminal" or not, and why should a whole people (for if thermo-nuclear weapons were used it is the ordinary people who suffer), be indicted for the "illegal" actions of its government? For the advocates of world government give no clear answer to these questions.

Indirectly they make their case very clear. They say such things as "when the criminality of nations threatens, as it threatens us," punitive action should be taken. So we of the West are to be the masters of the world. Hitler had a similar idea. It is a tragedy for the world governors that Hitler failed. Had he succeeded, their dream of a united warless world would have been realized.

These advocates of a united universe lament the condition of the "starving" and "undeveloped countries". They forget that the capitalist (viz., the threatened, uncriminal) West has done practically nothing to help these people. They forget that we, with our superior and endangered civilization, have waxed fat at the expense of these "starving millions." And yet they look to World government as the salvation of the West and the underfed.

The answer to the problems of the world cannot be found in the tyranny of a centralized universal police force. It cannot be found in the forcing of all nations into the same political mould. War may disappear if man adopts some universal ethical system, some common undivided belief (whether it be Islamism, Catholicism, Buddhism, Communism or some other all-embracing credo). But it certainly will not come through the use of force as the sole deterrent, through arbitrarily branding some nations as "criminal" and others "law-abiding". The advocates of such global repression would do well to contemplate the consequences if the organs of power they would establish fell into the wrong hands. They would also do well to remember that in the long run force accomplishes nothing that is of any worth whatsoever.

Yours,

RICHARD A. BENTON.

Dear Sir,

In your last issue of 'Craccum' appeared an article entitled, "Need for World Government," written by Mr O. J. Gager. The contents of that article are astounding, and altogether completely unbelievable. However, this letter is written not to criticise the actual subject matter but rather to examine Mr Gager's logic.

"The world has gone mad". A startling opening statement. Although I am not an honours student in philosophy, at least I realize that he means "all" the world — thus including himself. Now the action of a madman are not to be taken seriously, so therefore Mr Gager's last statement — "we must act" — is ridiculous, because if we do act, they will be the actions of a madman.

Let us now turn to Mr Gager's second paragraph where he states that today "the radio active debris is . . . spreading over the earth . . . vapours that mean death." Again let us turn to the last portion of the article where we see that "it is in our hands to" save the world. Apply your own logic. How is it possible to save a world that is already being poisoned by radio-active debris?

Under the heading "International Anarchy," Mr Gager says, "You cannot walk if you try to use your arms rather than your legs." That is perhaps the first logical statement made in the article. But then Mr Gager goes ahead and illogically tells us how to walk with our arms (even our fingernails). He envisages a wonderful state of Mr LAW with all the armaments and nuclear weapons. Would this bring peace? Of course not. Can anyone seriously imagine that all nations will willingly hand in all their weapons to one power?

Finally, in the mass of illogic presented, one further example may be taken. Mr Gager says "And it must be the people who act — the nations will not willingly decree their own abolition." Has Mr Gager forgotten such things as local customs, language, and traditions. Just who does he mean when he says "the people." I always thought that the nations consisted of people. Perhaps I am under a misapprehension. Perhaps the fallout IS slowly spreading its poisonous debris over the world. Perhaps I AM mad. At any rate, I would hate to be sane in Mr Gager's brave, new, socialistic, and utterly incredible world.

Yours,

J. L. HUNT.

UNSAVOURY REPUTATIONS

Dear Sir,

One news item which I think won far too little attention was the reporting of Mr Garfield Todd's resignation as Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia. Even conceding that it was a forced resignation, it would be unimportant in itself, though we do not like to see New Zealanders treated in this fashion. What was important was the fact the deposition illustrated: that the British after several centuries in which the North Americans, the Kenyans, the Cypriots, the Indians, the Burmese, the Guianians and the Irish have intimated that the British belong in Britain, this hard-headed race will not accept the fact. Todd wanted race equality. Todd was deposed. And yet we find British newspapers diligently and earnestly inquiring into the causes of such phenomena as the Mau Mau; the suspicion that a minority dominating the majority might possibly be the cause is far from their minds. In the same way the answer to the Cyprus problem is not complex — the island should be ruled by Cypriots. Likewise with Algeria: it seems probable that the Algerians would make as good rulers as the French soldiers with their unenviable reputation for sadism. For the historians of the future it will be instructive to compare the unsavoury reputation of today's three Imperialist Powers with that of the USA — probably the only power in history worthy of admiration and emulation. Britain could learn much in the art of civilised behaviour from the United States — let us hope that her awakening takes not too long.

Yours,

A.G.M.

Around the Campus

Student rolls at the end of the official enrolling period (Friday, 28th February) stood at 2,800 — 300 more than after the same period last year. However, this year, for the first time, the figure includes students doing engineering professional. At the end of the third week of term the figure had passed 3,400, which exceeds the final figure for 1957 by 160. It would be fairly safe to say that the final figures for 1958 will exceed 3,500.

The scheme introduced last year by the Warden of O'Rorke Hall, Dr W. J. D. Minogue, whereby students can become associate members of the Hall has proved very successful, and is commencing its second year in operation. Associate members are given all the privileges of permanent 'inmates' and can take meals etc. with them. One of the first O'Rorke outings in which they were able to participate was the annual barbecue at Motuihe.

For the 125 positions at O'Rorke there were 254 applicants for 1958, and although applications closed on the 2nd December, the Warden is still receiving enquiries for rooms. There are now 75 men and 50 women in the Hostel. This figure includes 55 new members of which 44 are freshers at 'Varsity'. The fact that only one in every three freshers was able to be admitted signifies the wide interest taken in the Hostel.

Friends and acquaintances of Mr G. J. (Pete) Fielding will be interested to learn that he has been appointed to the position of Junior Lecturer in Geography at the University of California, Los Angeles. Pete, who is a past Chairman of the O'Rorke Hall Residents' Assoc., graduated M.A. with Honours last year. When he leaves to take up his appointment in September of this year, he will take with him the good wishes of his many friends around 'Varsity'.

Negotiations to purchase the Mt. Pleasant Hospital are at present ensuing. If the College Council is successful in these negotiations, the plan will be to transfer the Administration to the Hospital to give more space for lecture rooms in the main building. Also to be housed in the Hospital will be such facilities as the Student Health Service, and meeting rooms, etc.

Tenders will shortly be called for the new buildings which are to be erected around the Football Training Shed. The building on the tennis courts is to accommodate the Physics and Chemistry Departments, while the Geography and Geology Departments will be housed in the building to go on the Cricket practice pitch. A third new two-storied building is to replace the staff accommodation prefabs, next to the cricket pitch, and this will relieve the pressure on the Arts Faculty.

The Graduation Ceremony is to have a musical touch this year. After the speech by the Pro-Chancellor of the University of New Zealand (Dr L. J. Wild) the Music Club Choir, seated behind the Academics, will render a Purcell anthem. The guest speaker for the ceremony has not yet been announced.

The numerous changes of name from Auckland University College to the University of Auckland which have to be attended to by Exec. and other student bodies are causing many headaches and loss of precious hours. Changes of name on everything from stationery to the name of the Students' Association itself are necessary.

The work at present being done to the Tower is to replace the rusted reinforcing of the superstructure and re-plaster the tower. It is happy that we shall not have pieces of tower falling on our heads for much longer. When the Maintenance Dept. finish the tower they will continue to repair the outer walls and roofs of the main block, and are not expected to complete the job before the end of next year.

COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Copy for the next issue of "Craccum" will close on TUESDAY, 15th April, at 7 p.m. Please place contributions in "Craccum" box on Men's Reading Room door.

LETTERS TO EDITOR



SOCIALISM FOR FRESHERS

Dear Sir,

"Conservatism" claims your correspondent J.L.H. in your last issue "is still a great force which embodies the rights of the individual." It would seem that on this definition J.L.H. is not a conservative, or if he is, he apparently considers that one of the rights of man is to starve and live in poverty. He argues that, merely because there is no longer any poverty in this country, socialism has no longer the task of raising living standards and "has now become obsolete". But because hunger does not exist in this country, that is not to say that it does not exist; because socialism has abolished poverty in one country, it does not follow that poverty has been abolished in all. Men and women are still dying of starvation in Africa and Asia, while we have full bellies and are surfeited with refrigerators and washing machines: is there not a case here for redistribution of income or does J.L.H. in the tradition of the Lord Beaverbrook of whom he is so fond, consider the "colonial peoples" in some way sub-human? The right of a human being to earn a decent living is still a human right, in spite of what J.L.H. may think; and the extent to which colonial countries in the glorious Conservative tradition, have exploited under-developed countries is one of the reasons why poverty is still a major world problem: and one that can only be tackled effectively by socialism.

Another correspondent in your same issue seems to feel much the same sentiments as J.L.H. What can one make of his idea that the right wing . . . remain the best governing class simply because they have been bred as such and retain the ability to deal with realities of "maundering idealism"? It seems a disguised form of the old Fascist Herrenvolk myth — that there is one class for government, and that their rule must be accepted by those ruled without protest and without criticism. If this is not what A.G.M. is saying it is difficult to know what he is getting at. (Elsewhere in your issue, he denounces the fact that "our publicised virtues stem from ignorance and apathy" and "His . . . listlessness" which has made us "one of the world's most backward countries" while denying implicitly in his letter the right of the Left to criticise the Right).

It is only logical that he should follow up his self-contradictory arguments by condoning the visit to New Zealand of Baron Krupp, and attacking the only worthwhile resolution that the Auckland L.R.C. has passed since its foundation. Krupp is certainly no more guilty than any other profiteer or business man. It is not so much Krupp we are condemning as the system that he represents: the system that hails as a "public-spirited businessman" a man who makes his money by manufacturing weapons for mass murder and using slave labour in

his factories. Krupp who has done more harm than any other man with the approval of his countrymen, is a symbol of the fundamental contradictions of capitalism. Can the working-class be blamed if they see his coming to New Zealand as a direct affront to all they stand for?

Yours,
O.J.G.

Dear Sir,

I wonder how many freshers resented the patronising way in which, in your first issue of the year, kind uncle J.L.H. condescended to let them benefit from his great wisdom. I wonder how many students were amazed at J.L.H.'s claim to know "the truth". Who is this paragon of wisdom? Why have the Students' Association Executive not long ago appointed him to some high position where his extraordinary talents may be of use to the whole student body?

J.L.H. questions the usefulness of a Socialist Club in University Life. Surely, he makes a grave mistake as to the nature and value of University Life; if a University student is being properly trained, he learns that all is not for the best of all possible worlds. The restless, inquiring, critical spirit which the University should develop in him, inevitably makes him very impatient indeed with the world he lives in. He is not satisfied with the mess his elders have made of the world, but regards his University training as equipping him to help build a better world. Is this not the spirit of Socialism? J.L.H., who sounds like a young man prematurely aged, sneers at noble ideals. Obviously he cannot understand the enthusiasm and confidence which make young students idealists, which make them want to live not on bread alone. J.L.H. apparently regards Socialism as a purely material movement, which, having given J.L.H. and his like, "Social Security, Pensions, and Unemployment Benefits," is now obsolete. Does he not realize that Socialism is much more than this, that it is a movement in men's minds, an urge arising from man's innermost being to achieve social justice and the brotherhood of man? It is astonishing and disturbing to find a student taking so materialistic an attitude.

Complacency and Conservatism should have no place in a student's life. Unfortunately Conservatism, in J.L.H.'s sense, is still a great force in the world. Perhaps herein lies an explanation for the apathy students are so often accused of. Purely materialistic, they can find no satisfaction in the life of the intellect, and a University career becomes a drab affair of swot and working for exams. Afraid to venture beyond lectures and coffee evenings, they accuse their more enterprising fellows, such as members of the Socialist Club of being "idealists," and cranks, or, as the last words in J.L.H.'s letter imply, they see in them objects for mirth and uncomprehending derision. Once the spirit of adventure

leaves students and they become complacent, as J.L.H. suggests they should be, then University life becomes dead and worthless.

Of course we are "angry young men", who take this attitude. We are angry at the complacency and self-satisfaction, the materialism and poverty of spirit which have made the world what it is today. We are not conservatives. We do not want to "conserve", but to advance.

Another disturbing feature of J.L.H.'s letter is his denial of what has always been looked upon as one of the main purposes of a University education; the development in young people of an open mind. Is it not far better that a student should attend a Socialist Club meeting and hear what they have to say than that he should hearken to J.L.H. and refuse to make the effort to understand one of the most important movements of the Century?

Intellectually, the decision to close the mind is the most degrading a man or woman can make. J.L.H. may argue that Socialists are intolerant and narrow-minded — and so they often are. But he is not helping his case by being equally so himself.

As for J.L.H.'s arrogant claim to be giving freshers the "truth", I hope they will treat that with the contempt that it deserves.

Yours,
D. A. HAMER

RACIAL PREJUDICE

Dear Sir,

W. S. Broughton certainly deserves credit for bringing up this question of "the insulting conduct of a few of our number towards the non-European students of this University."

I have not only heard some of these remarks but have also been a recipient of them. Whatever they are made purposefully or not, the fact that they are made shows a social immaturity not in keeping with a University training.

Offensive remarks, comments, and actions aimed against any student are never appreciated; when made to visitors from overseas and to other non-European students it becomes intolerable.

We feel that for our own self-respect we must ignore such remarks and trust that the people making them will learn better.

Again thanks to Mr Broughton for pointing out such behaviour, a subject which I was not willing to broach.

Yours,
PETER GORDON

ADVERTISING WORLD

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Is not this a worthwhile, moneymaking, objective? I leave the answer to you.

Yours,
—MAMMON"

ALGERIA

Dear Sir,

In June of last year, 300 Algerian men, women, and children who lived in the village of Melouza in Algeria were massacred — their only crime, to support a nationalist organization known as the Algerian Nationalist Movement. This was the beginning of a vicious campaign of murder, violence, and terrorism initiated by a semi-Communist political movement calling itself the National Liberation Front (FLN)—a movement which has the unqualified support of the General Union of Algerian Students, UGEMA. The so-called "Liberation Front" itself labels this action part of its "extermination campaign": a venial and immoral campaign to eliminate all those who do not agree with the political line of the FLN.

Throughout its history, the Algerian student organization has never in any way opposed the policy of the FLN, and has condoned its continued attempts to gain a political monopoly of Algerian affairs by terror.

Yet the FLN is not only responsible for the deliberate and planned murders of such well-known nationalists and

fighters for the working class as Ahmend Semmanche, Mohammed Nadj, Hocine Maroc, Mansour Bouali, Ancene Lahouti, and Ahmed Bekhat. It has the active support of the so-called "Communist Party" of Algeria. The arms with which it massacres Algerian villagers come from behind the Iron Curtain. Support in its persecution of the Algerian Nationalist Movement (MNA) comes from the Communist local bodies in France proper; the members of the French Communist trade unions have been and are involved in the assassination of MNA leaders.

It is significant that Mohammed Khemisti, the General Secretary of the General Union of Algerian Students, visited the Soviet Union last May — and gave an extremely favourable report on his experiences there. It is also significant that UGEMA is affiliated to the International Union of Students, a Communist dominated body with headquarters in Czechoslovakia.

There can be little doubt that UGEMA is a fanatically Stalinist, besottedly right-wing organization. Its condoning of the assassination of Algerian workers — some of them merely ordinary commonplace workers whose only crime was to have been active in the Algerian trade union movement, like Hocine Maroc — shows that it is more concerned with its own pipe-dream of nationalism than with the welfare of the Algerian working-class. Since what the FLN means by nationalism is the dictatorship of the FLN, it is easy to see that the existence of a genuinely proletarian, genuinely democratic working-class movement such as MNA has developed, constitutes a threat to the hangers-on of the FLN, of which UGEMA is one. The bourgeois nationalism of such organisations as UGEMA — who only assume a socialist camouflage in order to secure a few slogans to fire at the capitalist colonial powers — cannot but be affronted by the existence of an active organization like MNA, whose avowed aim is working class independence, and which will not subordinate itself in any way to interests foreign to the working-class.

Let us not be misunderstood. We do not oppose UGEMA because it condones violence. We oppose UGEMA because it unashamedly places the interest of the class it represents over and above the securing of Algerian independence in the shortest possible time — and every delay in obtaining such independence means more Algerians tortured to death by the brutalities of French imperialist troops; more "retaliatory" massacres carried out by French government terrorists in a desperate, despairing attempt to smash Algerian independence. We oppose UGEMA because its policy represents the trend exemplified recently in Cyprus of attempts to split the nationalist movement on the part of the bourgeoisie, who, although forced to enlist proletarian support for the conquest of power, nevertheless hate and distrust their proletarian allies. Such attempts only help the colonialists by dividing the movement for national liberation.

Yours,
—PRO-ALGERIA

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EXEC. NOTES



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Facetiae

Can you laugh freely and easily at all times? Or is your life weary, flat as last night's beer, unprofitable as Hauraki Whaling? Do you wake up tired and l*stl*ss?

Don't worry, my friend! You need a short course of 'FACETIAE' — yes, 'Facetiae', screwed up into a small pellet, and taken with paprika sauce just three times a day, is guaranteed to send you right back to that dull-eyed coma from which you can laugh so freely, so easily, with such, deep complacency at all those people toiling so futilely around you!

Try it! Tastes good, doesn't it? And it contains no injurious ingredients — printed on petal-smooth 'Craccum' newsprint and preservatives with SO₂, the fine ink is certified not to harm the most delicate stomach-lining. And here's where I'll let you all into a little secret! Would you like to improve the standard of this already fine product? Alter its taste for better or for worse?



Do you wake up—

You would?

Well that's FINE!

This is what you have to do. First decipher that word on the face of your packet of "Facetiae".

Done? Good!

Now, breathe in deeply. Mmm! There's your inspiration. And the final step — take a paper and a piece of pencil and go to it! Spill all those quips, those witty twists, that tortured satire out of the steaming Freudian jungle of your

brain, right on to that paper. Go grandiloquent in prose, lyrical in verse, let the cartoons be drawn with an unrestrained hand! Criticise and be damned! Unleash monsoons of lampoons! That's right, grind your teeth . . . you're doing marvellously.

Dishevel your choler, tousle your hair . . .

But, I say, steady on, chaps. Hold it! Let's not be too impetuous. We need subtlety in all that wit . . . a double-edged sword cuts better. So, be clever!

You've finished? Ah, good. Send your entries, together with 15 empty 'Craccum' packets, to P.O. Box 2553, Auckland, C.1.

And — of course, I nearly forgot . . . for every entry printed, we will allot you 5 points, with a pixie star for those of outstanding merit. When you have amassed 1,000 points, you qualify to go for a Bag. What more do you want?

—flat as last night's beer?



Tirade

Personal

No, it's fairly apparent that they don't come here to learn to read. He had his nose buried in a book. But perhaps he was assuming false virtues — the structure in Albert Park out of which our studious fresher (male) was wandering, was clearly labelled LADIES.

Shaggy Propositions

Overheard a piercingly accurate remark made by a matron on a city bus: — Heavens, doesn't he look like a cluster of floating corkscrews?

Object: a male student here who is aiming to imitate a yak by way of his haircut — or rather, lak of one.

Raisin Vert

Looking in on the Freshers' Dance: One very superior student, a "second-year senior" exclaimed in bored tones "But dahling, just look at all the little girls in their pretty pinks and blues!" Her own dress was GREEN.

Cafe au lait ole !

In the opening report made by the Women's Vice-President, the resignation of Mrs Ritchie from the position of Manageress of the Cafe was accepted with regret (and acclamation by a single facetious member). Mrs Ritchie is retiring for reasons of health, and it was agreed that the position had been, for some time, one of difficulty.

Mr Young, Business Manager, was then called upon to present his report of the Cafe situation. The motion to which Mr Young spoke, was "that the Association accepts Mr A. W. White's offer to operate the Cafeteria on a contract basis — the initial term of the contract to be for a trial period from 31st March until the mid-year break." In view of the history of the Cafe and the difficulty in obtaining a first-class manageress to replace Mrs Ritchie, the ideal solution seems to be to operate the business through an independent catering firm, especially as the A.U. Cafeteria offers a most profitable proposition for an enterprising firm.

As Mr Judd was to point out later in the general discussion, the organisation of the Cafe and the administration of its finances is, in fact, a matter which would occupy the full-time interest of an accountant and business manager, quite apart from the actual day by day handing-out of pies and pink cakes to the students. There is an annual turn-over of £10,000 in the eight trading months of the University year, yet only £300 of this is ever returned to the Assoc. as profit. It was agreed by all that inefficient operation in the past, has been primarily responsible for this, and the financial advisers of the Executive gave it as their firm conviction that with improved methods even the present system should be capable of yielding £1000 per annum.

Trial Period

At the end of Mr White's trial period of approximately eight trading weeks his books are to be open to the closest inspection by qualified members of the Exec., and thus it will be seen whether or not it is to the students' advantage to approve of the contract as a standing arrangement.

The one condition firmly emphasised by Mr White, when interviewed by the Cafe committee was that he flatly refused to make coffee of the type now produced. Mr White proposes to install his

own Coda machine (Note: the same as that in No. 8), which would mean raising the price of one cup of coffee (cream, etc. included) to 9d., however it was the general opinion that this would probably be approved of by the Coffee-Drinking Population.

Thus, the major advantages of the proposed motion are that, firstly Executive members in charge of the efficient and profitable organisation of the Cafe would be relieved of their incredibly onerous duties. Secondly, the Student association is guaranteed an end to all losses through the Cafe, and a set profit each year, and finally, through the increased efficiency in the administration of the food-preparation and so forth, the Students will very probably be offered better and more extensive services than ever before possible.

The meeting approved of the new move. After discussion of various other matters on the lengthy agenda, including the discovery that the £20 entered in the accounts report for Sports Council was the cost of "food for a party they held"!, Mr Mansergh presented his motion. Let it suffice to say that one gentleman gloomily proposed that motions on the agenda should not exceed more than two lengths of the cyclostyled sheets.

The Essentials

When the question of Advisory Censorship of Capping Book came up, Mr Crawley, it was agreed, was the most promising candidate, exhibiting these two essential virtues: broadminded enough to satisfy we vulgar children, yet eminently trusted by the "old boys upstairs". Should Mr Crawley not be available, Dr Sinclair, Prof Musgrove and Mr Maidment were suggested as alternative censors — all, presumably, possessing the abovementioned qualities!

A few more reports, an infuriated criticism of the flippancy of the President and his colleagues by Mr Liaison Officer, and the meeting closed with a Thought for the Week from Mr Maidment.

OFFICIAL VIEWPOINT

Bacchanalia on the way

Some of you may have noticed that the perennial question of student behaviour at Capping Ceremonies has been raised again in the Newspapers. It might be as well if the Executive made its own view quite clear on the matter. Last year, we wrote to the University Council telling them that we should support any move to make the ceremony a more dignified event. Since then, several members of the University staff and Council expressed the view that the top gallery should be closed. The Executive vehemently disagrees with this decision and has informed the University Ceremonies' Committee accordingly. In spite of this decision of your executive, a recent newspaper editorial stated that the action of the University Council had this report of the Students' Association. This is not the case. The Executive would far rather that the whole question of allowing admission to students were left in its hands.

Preparations for Easter Tournament, which is to be held in Christchurch are well under way — as you will see elsewhere in this issue. The representatives of your Association who will be going down to hammer out questions of policy are: Graham

Mansergh and Margaret Weatherly, tournament delegates, whose main worry this time will be the re-organization of the Blues Panel; Peter Gordon, Mick Freyne, Arthur Young, and Nil Maidment, N.Z.U.S.A. delegates, whose worries will range from senate representation to the report of the Sub-committee on University Education. The latter especially will be of particular interest to students who are in some measures dissatisfied with the present system of University Education. Finally, the Executive wishes a happy and successful tournament to all those who will be attending.

PRE-TOURNAMENT HOP

TUESDAY, 1st April

MCR-WCR

2/6 — Competitors Free

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NICARAGUAN STUDENTS

THWARTED!

The National University of Nicaragua, in Leon, was created by decree of March, 1947. The general rules and regulations for the functioning of the university were promulgated in 1948. All the schools of the university, except those of engineering and fine arts, which remain in Managua, are at Leon.

There is no restriction on admission of students to the university, and all those whose names appear on the lists of the general secretariat or of the faculties are considered as students. Among their obligations are absolute abstention from political or religious discussions inside the university. Infringement will be punished by reprimand, suspension from studies, or expulsion. One thousand students attended the National University during the Academic year 1956-57.

In the main building of the University, situated in Leon, there are the faculties of Dentistry, Medicine, Chemistry, and Pharmacy. The building although of modern design, is insufficient for the number of students. There are few classrooms. The dentistry apparatus is very poor, hence its limited use. The medical students have to go to the local hospital for their practical work, where the facilities are not at all adequate. The Faculty of Law is housed in an old building which is structurally unsound. The university does not have a student restaurant or its own means of transport for the students.

The professors receive very low salaries, in some cases the door keepers and beadles earn the same as the professors. E.g. the rector earns 1,300 cordobas (\$173) a month; the dean of engineering earns 1,100 cordobas a month; the rest of the deans 500 cordobas; an office secretary (female) of the Faculty of engineering earns 600 cordobas, and the beadle of the same 300 cordobas.

In view of the low salaries at the University, the professors have to practise their professions and do other work; lack of time prevents them having contacts with the students and, sometimes, preparing their classes and doing research work in order to improve the classes. The students complain that some professors just read aloud from their text-books.

There are many complaints at the high cost of studying in Leon, and students cannot work to earn money because of limited local work. In these circumstances, the favoured ones are those receiving scholarships from the government. If the University of Managua was re-established their financial problems would be solved, there being possibilities for part-time work in that town.

Student Organisation Strangled

The student organisation (CUUN) was founded in 1952. The projected rules and regulations of the CUUN have never been adopted because the originals were taken by the National Guard in a raid on the offices of the society. The

university regulations admit one student representative on the University Board, but he was rejected when the CUUN put forward a nomination.

CUUN has been negotiating, without success, to lower the cost of books, which are scarce and expensive and are not obtainable in the bookshops of Leon and Managua; there is one importer who is importing them at very high prices.

In order to maintain itself financially, the CUUN seeks assistance from the business world; it receives money from funds obtained from the university festivals and from the fee paid by students to get their university card; it does not receive financial assistance from the university or the government.

We reprint here extracts from three letters received by Colin Regan from DON NIELD of Cambridge. Don, who graduated M.Sc. in Mathematics at A.U.C. in 1956 is at present studying for his Tripos (three year Bachelor's course) at St Johns College, Cambridge, as part of his training for a Commission in the RNZN Scientific Defence Corps. Apart from his academic record, Don will be remembered by many as an enthusiastic member of Tramping Club, and we regret that space precludes our printing his comments upon English mountaineering and tramping.

Don, who flew to England via the East before Christmas last, makes the following comments upon English University education:

"Regarding the type of student, Cambridge is not what it was. Before the war, most men and women coming here had a Public School background, and the middle and lower-class families were poorly represented. But since the war it has been the British Government's policy to make University education freely available. Consequently there are now far larger numbers of Scholarship holders, who are, in general, poorer in wealth — and presumably in the social graces which wealth brings — and who have a more serious attitude towards work.

"As Cambridge, with Oxford, is the most expensive of the U.K. Universities, the State Scholarship grants are higher. The present scale for Cambridge has a maximum of £283, but the National Union of Students have proposed an increase to £450. Even the lower figure looks magnificent compared with the NZU Junior Scholar's allowance; that is, until one looks at the scale of fees. At St. Johns the basic fees run up to about £130 a year for an Arts Tripos, and £145 for Science subjects. Add to that rent for rooms, meals, laundry, gas, and electricity, none of which is cheap, and you will see that economy is still vitally necessary. Overseas students are recommended to have at least £600 a

The CUUN has no official publicity organ nor does it publish magazines or any other information booklets. According to the students, those who attempt to publish a newspaper are threatened with imprisonment.

The students assert that the Government was pleased to see the university removed from Managua, since in this way protest actions against its measures were avoided in the capital of the country. They add that by separating the Faculties of Engineering and Fine Arts the government is keeping the student community separated in order to avoid demonstrations of university solidarity.

The students feel that the government has succeeded in dividing the student community and that this is further aggravated by the granting of scholarships, since those receiving grants lend themselves to the manoeuvring of the government.

With regard to scholarships or grants it is not necessary to be poor, but friendly with and a favourite of the government in order to enjoy a scholarship ranging from 50-250 cordobas. It has been claimed that many of these scholarships were held by the sons of ministers and high functionaries.

year to make their stay worthwhile, and to allow for some travel in the vacations.

"Lectures are very much the same as at A.U. except that undergraduate gowns are worn and the standard of lecturing is more evenly high, while the students are more polite and restrained. Imagine the custom of applauding the lecturer on the completion of his course! At St Johns I have two hours of supervision a week, one in Pure Maths. and the other in Natural Philosophy (alias Applied Mathematics). As far as learning goes, I can only comment on the Mathematics Tripos.

"This, for the normal student, is a three year course, culminating in the degree of B.A. (Cantab.). Very few students fail to pass. However, a Third is looked upon as "unsuccessful," while a Second is considered merely "satisfactory." Not that Firsts are scattered around. Out of the hundred and thirty students who are sitting Part II of the Maths Tripos, only about twenty will get Firsts. This may be due in part to the fact that the Part II lectures are given over two years. At the end of the first year there is an examination — Prelims; and the normal thing is to sit Prelims, Part I, and Part II finals in three successive years. The work covered for Prelims is about the same as that for M.A., M.Sc. at Auckland, but most of it is done more thoroughly, while most of the Part II is (though the writer is an M.Sc. graduate) new."

Due to the influx of undergraduates, resulting from the reduction of National Service intakes, Don is not in residence at the College. He has taken "digs" a short distance away, but has his meals there. Incidentally, the College of St John at Cambridge is divided into several Courts, one of which, the New Court, is known to the students as "the Wedding Cake". It was from this Court that the design for the Arts Block of the University of Auckland was taken.

Of the Club activities, Don writes: "There are a couple of hundred clubs and societies, not to mention the College ones. I find that many of my Mathematics colleagues are just as apathetic as those in New Zealand. (It would seem that the standard social activity at Cambridge is the drinking of beer at parties). Though not active yet the most interesting here are the political clubs. The Conservative, Liberal, and Labour Clubs have a few hundred members each, while there is a much smaller Communist Club. The Union (primary purpose debating) is very strong, with Conservatives in the majority. Perhaps the most thriving political club is the Cambridge University United Nations Association (CUUNA) which has 1,750 members and is very active."

—W.S.B.

NASSER—
ARAB LEADER?

Colonel Nasser's rise to fame (or notoriety) has been meteoric, and it is the purpose of this article to determine how far he can go in the future. When he came to power in Egypt, he saw his country as an economically unsound unit and in order to secure a more favourable balance of exports he looked around for an easy source of income; it is not surprising that the Suez Canal presented itself to him as that source. At the same time he had other motives in securing the Suez Canal for Egypt. To assert Egypt as Arab leader: in order to outshine the oilwells of King Saud of Arabia, Nasser saw that to secure this leadership, there had to be an incentive. As it turned out, he proved very successful. We need not repeat facts already known in connection with the Suez dispute, but when it was finally settled, Egypt, although losing heavily in the military actions, scored a diplomatic triumph. The result of this achievement — for Nasser himself was prominent in the negotiations, and help that might have come from Russia was not evident — was to provide the Egyptian dictator with bait to catch the Arab fish. In February of this year, Syria announced that she was joining with Egypt, and latest developments show that the Yemen has also. In this situation in the Middle East one may perceive various spheres of influence growing up: first, there is the new Arab Federation; then, other states — particularly Jordan and Arabia, who both appear to have American sympathies, though still remaining neutral. Finally, there is Israel, and the Israeli people are in a dilemma. They are hemmed in on all sides by generally hostile states, and the Arab Federation is bitter towards them. The reason is obvious. Israel has a mobile and well-disciplined army which, in a war without nuclear weapons, would easily overcome the Arabs and Egyptians. They proved this in the Suez affair.

How have outside influences affected the Middle East? A broad generalisation can be made by saying that Nasser has relied upon armaments from the Soviet bloc, while the other Arab states (Jordan and Arabia) have been helped by the West, especially the United States. This leaves Israel, and I feel that this country is the one to study. The course of action Israel decides upon will be of vital interest to both East and West, as she could hold the balance of power in the Middle East in her hands. If Israel turns to the West, Soviet designs in the Middle East will be checked. The position could also arise where Jordan and Arabia decide that the menace of the Arab Federation is too great for them to remain independent and form an alliance, even admitting Israel as an unwanted, but necessary, addition. Although this last suggestion is perhaps fanciful, Colonel Nasser is, whatever the set-up, likely to have his diplomatic powers severely tested as leader of the Arab Federation; his true ability and whether his affections lie entirely with the Soviet Union may then be assessed.

—J.L.H.

Students

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EMLYN

By Vince O'Sullivan

Thomas and Williams — nothing could be more Welsh than that, and certainly nothing could have presented the hills and the men, the life and the Atlantic beaten coasts of Wales, as did this performance by one great Welshman of the works of another.

It is a little over thirty years since a shy Welsh boy with a singing heart embarrassed a minister ("once 'Amen' was over he went at the cold meat like a dog.") by reciting at dinner:

*Singed with bestial remorse
Of unfulfilment of desired force,
And lust of tearing late;*

Last week Aucklanders sat at the same table, heard the boy recite, and watched Mr Bevan's teeth in their evangelical eating. One event after another in the young poet's life or imagination (for Thomas confessed that he did not know where one ended and the other began) followed each other, and the whole narrative was as tousled and unruly as his appearance in life.

Without any props beyond a chair, and a screen behind bearing an enlargement of the writer's signature, Emlyn Williams conjured up an evening of fantasy and story-book reality. He carried the audience jolting along on a picnic where old men and booze mixed until they were synonymous, and over the rocks where the sea rubs Wales. The Celtic dream simmered on the stage and boiled over into the audience, until the land became as familiar as a life-time's knowledge in author and performer could build.

There is a world, as well as a century, between Williams presenting Thomas and his readings of Dickens. The beard is gone, and the English voice, and in place of the Victorian genius there stands a kind, amusing, white-haired man, all of five feet six and a half, ("above average height for a Welshman.") chatting and reminiscing in accents as genuinely and discernibly Welsh as the great rock

at Worm's Head or Gwilym's preaching.

The choice of programme met with occasional criticism. The entire selections told of Thomas' life from seven to seventeen in prose both easy to listen to and impossible not to laugh at. Mr Williams was honest in commenting on his choice. He found Thomas' poetry too difficult to understand. Emlyn Williams is an

Absent Guest



Freshers' Play

That co-operation and mutual respect can be achieved by mankind if one remembers that the hatred created by political misdeeds is a national and not individual responsibility: such was the theme of the Drama Society's recent production of "Cockpit" by Brigid Boland, staged during Freshers' Fortnight.

The three actors most worthy of mention are Ken Loach's Jiri, the frightened little man from Lidice; Jill Evan's moving interpretation of Claudia, a half-mad opera singer, and Till von Randow's English officer, convincing for its very sincerity.

This production by John Harre deserved far larger audiences and needed only a little more rehearsal to make it an unqualified success.

—N.M.

After the Funeral

*In the parlour sit the family
Fresh from the consoling homily:
Wearing, on familiar faces,*

*Wrinkles, in familiar places;
Hiding carelessly their eager
Wish to share the family sugar.
With rites of ashes and of dust*

*Parcel consigned — Care of Christ;
With due farewells now hymned
Mother's gently chimneyed.*

*The undertaker, obsequious, raven,
Presiding over hearse or oven,
Shares vicariously in death
With a commission on the wreath.*

*Her deathsmile twisting a blackened face,
Mother's gone, to the appropriate place;
With luck, we hope, and mourn her loss,
And guess the profit on the house.*

M.K. Jews-harp

M.A. (Oxon.) I have heard fellow students mourn the omission of the poetry. I have heard too that some people think the fire is not as important as the noise the bellows make.

The three final selections won my personal preference. Particularly in excerpts from "Adventures in the Skin Trade" Williams shone. His George Ring, the prancing dandy who knew as little about poetry as Thomas did about the world he had just burst into, was a performance quite as genuine, and amusing, as the local George Rings dawdling over their metaphysical coffees in various Auckland atmospheres.

The conclusion was brilliant. A single, intense light focused on an empty chair, as the voice of Williams receded with the fine lines "Death shall have no dominion," ended the evening on a serious note which should have given the audience more to think about than they had bargained for.

At least half of the evening's humour came from the actor's finesse and subtleties. His features adapt themselves to any character, and his range of voices was indeed a treat after being accustomed to the New Zealand Players presenting the exact intonations in, for example, Shaw's Captain le Hire, a Restoration balladmonger, and a Ventian Duke in "The Merchant of Venice." And this matter of presentation leads me on to what may be considered by some as heresy. Williams made Thomas' prose sound greater than it is. Generally, Thomas sounded as entertaining as Dickens. But read them together, and a chasm springs them apart. It is Williams who boosts Thomas, but Dickens can carry himself. This is not mentioned to disparage Thomas, but to emphasize the stature of Emlyn Williams as an Actor.

University Entrance

Welcome to the College, dear.

Come on, forget the floral clock.

Flowers ill attune with hours, I fear

They move with iron jerk and shock

See the quaint old mansion, dear,

Up the mock-mosaic path?

This is Pembroke—Law sleeps here

And Economics, and the staff.

Take my hand and hold your breath.

We'll take the plunge across the

streets

The traffic offers sudden death

Zooming through the haze and heat.

You see the pedestrian crossing here?

We used to paint them after dark.

They used to fail to work, my dear,

By ending in a question mark.

Look up, my dear, before you flit

Inside the hallowed halls

And notice each odd knobbly bit,

How crumbly seem the walls.

And see where that piece cracked

away

The ferro in the concrete shows?

A student fell from there one day:

Oh well, he made his mark, I s'pose.

And now at last we stand inside

It's most impressive, is it not?

You think it must inspire pride?

It's loved by students? Is it what?

Oscar Hammerklavier

POET AS COWBOY

Max Richards

We poets get small chance to air our views:

But any scavenger, on the reviews

Or on the B.B.C., can blow his trumpet,

And in each column has a tub to thump,

With endless time and quantities of ink

To misinterpret what we write or think.

— So says Roy Campbell. I have been warned.

A motor accident in May of last year brought to an end the life of one of the most remarkable men of letters of this century. Roy Campbell in 55 years had been not merely a poet, but hunter, artist's model, acrobat, fisherman, whaler, horse-breaker, bull-fighter, soldier, B.B.C. official, and a good many things beside.

In his two exhilarating, beautiful and eccentric books, *Broken Record* (1934) and *Light on a Dark Horse* (1951), Campbell tells the story of his life up to 1935. In his time he was struck by lightning, pursued by all the wild animals of South Africa where he grew up, had nearly every bone in his body broken at different times including his neck, antagonised first his fellow South Africans in the rumbustious verse satire *The Wayzgoose* (1928), and then the literary cliques of England in *The Georgiad* (1933) from which the above quotation is taken. To cap it all Campbell fought in the Spanish Civil War for Franco! The Second World War, in which he fought against Fascism, left him more or less crippled.

Through all his life Roy Campbell was prolific of verse, as poets go. But most of it is doggerel. True, some of his early lyrics are likely to be standard anthology pieces as long as English is read: *The Zebras*, *Choosing a Mast*, and so on. His first long poem, *The Flaming Terrapin* (1924), a vigorous myth of the regeneration of society, demonstrates Campbell's virtues and vices. He saw clearly the sordidness of modern industrial commercial society, which was typified in his writings by "Charlies" (shades of the Goon Show!): "Charlie Chaplin", he wrote in a footnote to a poem, "the clown, with his outsize feet, stands to the

author as the symbol of pedestrian commercial civilisation." The remedy was to return to an equestrian society where men herded cattle, made vigorous love and had no truck with shop-keeping and machinery. Such ideas Campbell expressed in roaring interminable couplets, exploding with technicolour imagery and extravagant hyperbole. Inevitably such stuff palls on the modern reader: the long poem is out of fashion.

Campbell was long sympathetic and finally converted to Roman Catholicism. He loved Provence, Spain and Portugal. It was natural enough that he should oppose a movement supported by Russian Communism when war broke out in Spain in 1935. But his whole-hearted devotion to the side led by Franco did not produce good poetry.

Volume 2 of his collected works is taken up mainly with doggerel on the Spanish War, principally *Flowering Rifle*, 117 pages long. It is amusing, for Campbell could always fling abuse well but oh the politics! He said "I have never had any political ideas."

The rest of the volume has a few pleasant short poems and a good many bores. Campbell began by celebrating well the life of the "Charlies." He ended it by celebrating the victory of a modern tyranny and by verbosely singing his own praises. (*The Collected Poems of Roy Campbell, Volume 2: The Bodley Head*)



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Athletic Aussies in Auckland

A cheerful Australian Universities' Athletic Team was farewelled on Sunday after a hectic but "fabulous" visit to Auckland. The full social programme included a welcoming party at Mr Colin Kay's, a scenic drive around Auckland in private cars, and a glorious day of swimming and picknicking at Waiwera. Mr and Mrs M. C. Robinson generously opened their home for a magnificent party after the sports meeting.

The climax of the visit was the floodlit athletic contest between Australian Universities, Auckland, and Auckland University, held at Olympic Park on Saturday evening. Outstanding performances were put up for the Aussies by Bob Joyce in the hurdles and Tony Blue in the half-mile. Barry Robinson and Morrie Rae had another thrilling tussle in the 100 yards, won by Rae, but Barry showed his brilliance by comfortably winning the 440 yards.

The visit went with scarcely a hitch due to first class organisation both on and off the field by the Athletic Club.

Australian Varsity (Aust.). Auckland Varsity (A.U.). Auckland (A.).

100yds: Rae (A.); Robinson (A.U.); Wilson (A.). 9.8 secs.

220yds: Barnett (Aust.); Wilson (A.); Dabb (A.). 22 secs.

440yds: B. Robinson (A.U.); Blue (Aust.); Abramovich (Aust.). 48.4 secs.

880yds: Blue (Aust.); Karl (A.); Aston (A.U.). 1m. 54 secs.

120yds Hurdles: Joyce (Aust.); Williams (A.); Bulcraig (A.). 14.9 secs.

220yds Hurdles: Norris (A.); Joyce (Aust.); Bulcraig (A.). 25 secs.

440yds Hurdles: Dallow (A.); McColl (Aust.); Hirst (A.). 53.4 secs.

1 mile: Halberg (A.); McColl (Aust.); Riddiford (A.U.). 4m. 8.9 secs.

4 x 110yds Relay: Australian Universities, Auckland University, Auckland.

Long Jump: Norris (A.U.); Williams (A.); Crawford (Aust.). 22ft. 3ins.

Shot Put: Mills (A.); Penfold (Aust.); Mottram (Aust.). 49ft. 7ins.



Barry Robinson

75yds: Weigel (A.); Brain (A.); Moran (A.U.). 8.8 secs.

100yds: Morgan (A.); Moran (A.U.); Dowe (Aust.). 11.5 secs.

Long Jump: Weigel (A.); Milham (A.); Babbage (A.U.). 17ft. 9ins.

Shot Put: Barclay (A.); Westbury (A.U.); Johnson (A.U.). 36ft 8in.

4 x 110yds Relay: Auckland, Auckland University. 49.9 secs.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

The Societies Representative of Stud. Assn. Exec., Mr Colin Regan,

chaired the first Societies Evening of "Freshers' Fortnight" in the W.C.R. on Tuesday, 11th March, at which about sixty freshers attended to hear addresses by representatives of the various Clubs and Societies regarding their activities for 1958.

Representatives of sixteen organisations spoke to the gathering. Those included SCM, the SII, Classical Society, Socialist Society, Tramping Club, Debating Society, Lit. Club, Field Club, Modern Languages Club, Music Club, Archaeological Society, IRC, Photographic Society, Maori Club, WUS, Drama Society, and "Craccum."

In each case Club policies and proposed activities were outlined in such a way as to leave the fresher convinced that there were at least sixteen Clubs and Societies which it would be essential for him to join. The evening was interrupted for supper at nine thirty, and this was followed by a recital of Arch. Club ballads and three genuine calypsos by Miss Sue Hirsh, TC and Field Club Slides from Messrs Murray Thompson and Charlie Watson, and readings by Max Richards of two extracts from the "picnic scenes" of Roy Campbell's "Georgiad" and of M. K. Joseph's "Secular Litany."

LIT. SOC.

Literary Society opened their 1958 programme on March 18th in the MCR, with an evening of recordings of items as diverse as *Façaade*, parts of the *Beggars' Opera*, the *Haydn Serenade*, and *Murder in the Cathedral*. Whatever one's opinion of Edith Sitwell's verse, the records played by Lit. Soc., featuring Dame Sitwell herself as the reciter, certainly brought out the amazing virtuosity in rhythm and imagery of the *Façaade*. For your reporter, the highlight of the evening was the reading of Coleridge's *Kubla Khan* by Robert Harris. Evenings of this kind, which offer opportunities of hearing works not usually available, are definitely worthwhile.

STUDENT VOCATION

So you feel you're in the right place, at Varsity. You've chosen your vocation. Now you've got to do the training.

Have you ever stopped to think about the word "vocation"? It comes from the Latin *vocare*, from the Greek *kalein*, to call. It means a call from God — in plainer terms, a knowledge of the particular function in the world that you were created to fulfil.

It has two obvious levels, of meaning and several subtler ones. There is the vocation of all men into the Church, either the ministry or the laity, accept-

ing their responsibility as "my brother's keeper." There is the vocation of each man to his particular function in the community — whether technician or garbage collector. There are special vocations within that again—your conscience may tell you to be a pacifist or a total abstainer from drink, or to serve in some voluntary welfare work. In every case the call is from God to you, an individual; and in every case it is a call not to privilege but to responsibility.

How does this affect you, as a student? It means you have a job to do. Perhaps you're not sure what it is yet, but you know you have certain abilities and you're going ahead with your studies in the meantime, trusting to find your vocation later. How will you know? The most sensible words I have heard about this put it quite simply — You see the need and you realize your ability to fulfil the need. Knowing where you belong gives purpose to your studies, so that you are not merely trying to pass an exam, but fitting yourself to be a better architect or teacher or industrial chemist. You have a responsibility to make the best of the abilities you have been given.

At the same time, remember that your professional job is not the whole of your vocation. God calls you to be a balanced personality, aware of your responsibilities in all spheres of life.

CATH. SOC.

We are open for business, so keep your eyes on the notice board. A circular should have reached all those who stuck a cross next to "Catholic Society" on the Student Association enrolment card.

IF YOU DIDN'T PUT YOUR CROSS ON THE CARD, DROP A NOTE WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS IN OUR LETTER BOX.

If you are a fresher, it will help the committee if you sport on your lapel some sort of insignia which classes you as Catholic:— old boy's badge, Pioneer badge, Holy Name and so forth. The shy can then be approached with all the vigour that the following officers possess:

President: Doug Thurston

Secretary: John Strevens, 11 Cliff Rd., St. Heliers. Ph. Home 585-257. Bus. 32-028.

Committee: Tui Walsh, Helen Gray, Ken Arvidson, Vin. O'Sullivan, Bryan Paynter.

Chaplains: Father Bernard Curran, O.P., Father David Sheerin, O.P. (Dominican Fathers, 40 Lucerne Rd., Remuera. Phone 25-286).

COME TO OUR FUNCTIONS. EVEN IF YOU ONLY COME TO MOAN, COME.

WE ARE, WE ARE, WE ARE ...

Well, life has once more returned to Ardmore in the form of Engineers who have come from far and wide to continue enviable tradition of an important branch of the Varsity. This year saw a record intake of 75 First Professional Students which has meant having lectures in two rooms simultaneously. The cream of last year's talent has also returned to influence further the progress of the School.

Parking space must be plentiful at Varsity nowadays because it appears that the Intermediate students have bought out half the Varsity cars and motorbikes. These same students were well and truly initiated at the opening Smoko on the first Wednesday of term. As in previous years there was much swilling for the swillers and little sleep for other "dead loss" members of the society (luckily in the minority because our drinking water has a peculiar green colouration).

Veterans' Bloods

The Interpro sports meeting was held on Wednesday last and it was as usual a fairly contested courageous battle with foul play playing a small but not negligible part in the final result. Bob Wakelin came in first in the one lap Grand Prix foot race. After numerous training runs in early morn, he apparently either didn't know the course or had learnt all the short cuts, for he won easily. As a result the veteran's bloods (being the blood of many veterans) was up. Second Pro won the Concrete Block Putt, Ardmore 880 (about ¾ mile) and 100 yard relay. 3rd Pro won the 4 mile bike race and Throwing the Survey Pole. 1st Pro won the Strip Race. The Grand Prix Relay

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at the end of the meeting was won by 2nd Pro to clinch the meeting. The final result was: 2nd Pro: 33; 1st Pro: 32; 3rd Pro: 19.

Tournament fever is stronger here than it has been for some time. This year the Engineers have 16 representatives out of 140 members.

We have 8 rowers, 3 yachtsmen, 2 athletes, 1 cricketer, 1 tennis player and 1 marksman.

The rowing boys have been training very hard and their success is well merited. At breakfast when they turn up in 2 or 3 cars after training, murmurs of "Lucky guys—their fifth party this week!" greet them. However this and their sleep-snatching in lectures has had its reward. Also a subject of controversy, Maxy (S—) Bosselman has been turning the plains of Ardmore into hills and valleys by shot-putting on the few grass patches around the place. Our 1 and 3 mile representative, John (Ridd) Riddiford, has been making his mark in a different way, not on the track, but on his motorcycle. For him as for most Engineers the speed limit of 15 mph would be more acceptable reversed.

Well that's all the news from Ardmore. Look out for the Engineers when they go to town for Capping!

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EASTER TOURNAMENT:

South with Scotch

We have the Winter Tournament Shield, we even won the congress Olympics. Now it is our turn to collect the Easter Tournament Shield. This is the only contest for which a trophy actually exists and it would be nice to see it back in Auckland again.

While bringing trophies back from Christchurch, I would suggest that you leave at least part of the city behind. There are people who are now getting most anxious over the activities of students at Tournaments. Although the police are pretty co-operative, some of the hosts are perturbed at the numbers that arrive at parties. We all enjoy parties but we must respect the wishes of our hosts and help to keep the numbers limited. Nevertheless enjoy yourselves. See you on the train.

—Graham Mansergh,
Margaret Weatherly,
Tournament Delegates.

Moider Da Bums !

Most teams seem to be approaching Easter Tournament fairly optimistically; at any rate, the attitude ranges from absolute confidence to sheer determination. Let us hope that by successful combination of the two, the various A.U. teams will once more show that Auckland is not at the top of the map for nothing.

Tennis

After last year's victory there seems little doubt that Auckland will again carry off the honours. Auckland and N.Z. players, *Brian Woolf* and *Bobby Wong*, together with *Graham Roberts* and *Alan Chester* constitute a formidable men's team.

One-time holder of the N.Z. Junior Singles and Auckland Doubles, *Jill Glenie* heads a strong Women's team, which includes *Gay Baigent* and *Joy Little*, with *Bettina Sisson*, who has had experience at three previous tournaments.

Swimming

Very much the same team as last year, the Water-polo team seems our greatest hope. *John Court*, in goal, played for the Auckland A and B teams last season. In the back positions, *Graham Mansergh* and *Jim Sneyd*. *Graham* is an old stalwart who is playing a solid game, while *Jim* is a N.Z. Surf Representative who has taken to polo for the first time this year. He is also swimming in the 440 yards freestyle, and the back-stroke races. As centres, we have *Mason Pepper* and *Richard Wheatcroft*, who represented us last year. *Graham Leach* and *Keith Boswell*, both members of the National Champion team, Waikato, are our forwards. They will also be swimming in the sprint races. *Graham*, who recently broke the National butterfly stroke record for 110 yards, appears to have a good chance of gaining a Blue.

The new-comers this year among the men are *John Robb*, a diver who represented Auckland at the N.Z. Championships in 1956 and '57; *Neil Akehurst*, an Auckland rep. in back-stroke and medley events; and *Buster Railey*, who has been turning in some good times in the backstroke events.

Athletics

Without doubt *Barry Robinson* is the key man of the team. After the increasingly improving times he has put up this season, we are sure of collecting at least one first place.

Tony Aston, again out of hibernation, should do well in the 880, while we are expecting great things from *Graham Riddiford* in the mile. *Graham* represented the Auckland Senior Athletic team at the N.Z. Champs. recently held at Wellington.

The Women's team is again a strong one, and includes versatile *Judy Johnson*, an athlete with lots of experience, and *Ngairi Westbury*, who should again do exceedingly well in the field events.

Basketball

Pamela Brand, a forward, has been to the last two Easter Tournaments, and was in the North-South game each time, so is perhaps the most experienced player in the team.

Diana Colgan, who went to Tournament last year, and who played in the Varsity "A" team for Club matches, is a strong and experienced forward. *Judith Dick*, a fresher, is a very promising player, and very keen. *Colyeen Sayegh* played centre for the Varsity "B" team last year and was in the Representative trials. She is always a very capable player.

Gay Griffiths went to Tournament last year and played in the Varsity "A" team in club matches as defence. She plays centre this year with the same vigorous style.

Norma Atcheson played defence for Varsity "B" last year and was in the senior B grade trials. She will be a terrific asset to the A team. *Jill Martin* played defence at last year's Tournament and in the Varsity "B" team in the Club matches. *Jill* is a very keen and reliable player. Another very promising fresher is *Alison Long*.

Rowing

The Women's Rowing crew has had difficult water for their training in the mornings, and added to this the original stroke, *Margaret Weatherley* sustained a bad hand injury, and is unable to row. However, although the crew had virtually to begin training over again, with *Mary Chamberlin* as the new stroke, there are signs of potentially good combination. With fond memories of last year's success, the team, with *Marie Lawton* as bow, *Colleen Elliott* as number two, and *Rosemary Jenks* as number three, should be inspired to give a really creditable performance.

This year the Men's Rowing team includes two roving fours, of unknown quantity.

A fast-stroking crew for its size and weight, this year's Tournament Eight has been training every morning for several weeks under coach *Ralph Tonkin*, and has developed a fine combination.

Last year at Tournament, the eight filled second place: this year we are confident it will go one better.

The double-scullers this year are *Brian Williams* and *Rip Jones*. Neither has much sculling experience, though *Brian* was a member of the Auckland Provincial crew last year, while *Rip* rowed in Tournament four. Together they form a very powerful crew.

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Gay Baigent
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