

RABBLE

WITHOUT A

CAUSE

On Monday the 21st of July, 1958, in the Auckland University's Hall, at 1 p.m., there was held a "protest" meeting against the landing of armed forces by the British in Jordan, and the Americans in Lebanon. A meeting of such importance deserved serious attention from all students, whether they were for the protest or against the protest being sent to the New Zealand Government.

This writer, as the Student-Chairman of the Progressive Conservative Society, was invited to co-sponsor the meeting, but declined because he felt that members of his Society could better serve the interests of students by coming along and offering constructive criticism in the form of comments made at the end of the speeches of the two speakers, Dr Martin Findlay, and Professor W. T. G. Airey. Members of this Society, including the Student-Chairman, felt that the meeting was ill-timed and that a policy of "wait for a while" would have been more expedient. However, when the Student-Chairman and Secretary arrived, they found to their surprise about 220 students gathered to hear the speakers.

But instead of being pleased at this contradiction of the omnipresent politically apathetic student, they were soon shocked at the hissing and shouting, combined with such stupid tricks as placing drawing pins on the speakers' chairs, when the two speakers, along with Dr Parnaby, the Chairman of the meeting, walked down the aisle to the stage. Here the imbecilic fools at the rear of the Hall and upstairs almost alone in their glory, betrayed themselves. For had they come to listen intelligently to the speeches? To offer fair criticism at the end? No, they probably did not know the meaning of the word "criticism". Instead, they showed that they were out to destroy the meeting at all costs, to abuse the democratic principle of free speech by constant heckling and rude interjections, and to prove once and for all how "clever" they were. They succeeded admirably, even before the speeches began.

Dramatis Personae

Just who were these louts who made the wildest bodgie gangs looks mere amateurs at the game? It can be said safely that they were nearly all from the Science Faculty, interspersed with a few toffs from our noble Law Department. That might not have been all, but it accounted for nearly everyone. They showed politically they were ignorant of the most basic maxims, culturally, their manners had not advanced beyond those of a child of two (apologies to all children of two reading this) and they had not the intelligence to say anything except "Boo", "Hiss" or sing lewd songs while two experienced and sincere men were speaking on a most serious and

grave subject. One wishes that if a Third World War comes, they are the first of the cannon fodder fed to the other side.

Did I say all? No...

Oh! I forget, there was one gentleman who had a little less crass stupidity than rest. He at least put forward a point, but alas, also proved to be devoid of anything except the minimum intelligence required to pass the University Entrance Examination. When asking two men who obviously knew their international affairs inside out, whether Russia had anything to do with the intervention of the troops — pointing out the visit of Nasser to Moscow, and when he was told that Russia did not enter the picture here, he had the temerity (or let us say "light brigade" audacity) to infer that Dr Findlay and Professor Airey did not know what they were talking about. Further, the moronic vacuums in the rear actually cheered him and hissed the Professor when Professor Airey continued with his sincere exposition. Thus, we had firstly nearly 100 examples of the immorally fearless (and with a correspondingly noble lack of grey matter).

Baltic Interlude

Next may be mentioned the half dozen or so East European refugees. They had a genuine case for grievance against Russians and were obviously sincere in their outbursts, which was more than the over-nourished Welfare-State products were. But unfortunately this meeting was neither the time nor the place to bring up such subjects. The meeting, and I quote all the posters, was "to protest



against the armed intervention of the United States into the Lebanon". Yet there were placards of the hecklers reading "Remember the Hungarians". Surely this was a case of people arguing against themselves. The Russians intervened, the Americans intervened — why support one and not the other? Why bring up the subject of Russia at all? The invasion of South U.S.A. by the North in 1861 was not mentioned at the time of the Russian intervention in Hungary — nor was there any need for it. Yet perhaps we may excuse our "scientific exceptions to the law that man is the most superior of all animals in intelligence," as they knew little better.

Apologia?

This article has been written because the writer objects to the usurpation of the right to speak freely by a gang of incompetents. Professor Airey, especially, but also Dr Findlay, spoke with great sincerity and forthrightness, and to be treated as they were, when discussing a subject which both speakers described as "most serious" is a disgrace to the whole University. That is the reason why the writer of this article declined to speak against the "protest" motion and instead seconded it. The reception of harsh criticism of the speeches would have been tremendous — cheers and pats on the back and even offers of "shouts" in the bar, but the writer of this article, and the members of his Society, prefer to win any applause from slightly more advanced minds. The protest itself was not one

which could be met with serious criticism by the Progressive Conservatives, as it couched a protest in most general terms and virtually asked for negotiation rather than armed intervention. And yet the whole of the upstairs save a couple of Ishmaelites, voted en bloc against a motion they had most likely never even heard, so great was the noise they made. To have voted the same way as these irresponsible hooligans would have been to lower oneself to the depths of University life. A genuine feeling of embarrassment crept over this writer and many more around him, rather than any other sentiment of revulsion or hatred. Yes, embarrassment and disappointment. If the main product of a University is a mass of non-thinking, ill-mannered, and crude dissemblers, why waste the country's money with the expense of a University?

—J. L. HUNT.

editorial—

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CRACCUUM

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' PAPER

MULTIPLE MOTING

One of the funny stories of the last election campaign was that used by Sir William Jordan to open meetings which he was chairing. It was about the outraged citizen screaming at his M.P. regarding the stupidity and incompetence of half the Parliamentarians, and the punch line was the reply that, after all, it was a House of Representatives he was attacking. Actually this is a case of many a true word spoken in jest, save that the estimate of a half being useless seems very conservative.

One of the basic problems of the Western World today, but one which is far too touchy for the politicians, the class it directly affects, to handle them is summed up here. A country gets the government it deserves. Ours is sincere, down-to-earth, and certainly not corrupt by overseas standards. It also much too often deals in trivia, and it is not sufficiently intelligent to hold its own in the world today. Unfortunately too, it does not have the public interest in its proceedings which is given to, say, sport. Cabinet Ministers are unknowns while All Blacks are familiar to all. The habit of reading newspaper editorials is unusual, and writing in correspondence columns on anything weightier than water heater restrictions is thought distinctly odd. In a week's ATB travelling, the writer heard not a single discussion of the Western intervention in the Middle East. Admittedly the rights and wrongs of beer prices and quantities were freely mentioned, and doubtless this is politics, of a sort.

The Worker

If the nineteenth century desire of all was to be middle-class, surely what everyone wants to prove today before his fellow-men is that he is a Worker. It is one of the contemporary politician's dearest wishes that people are able to see just how ordinary he is. He succeeds completely. Hence the nauseating folksiness of American campaigns; Mr. Holyoake touring the nation exhibiting his allegedly work-gnarled hands; and outraged cries in the 'Daily Mirror' that a number of current British cabinet ministers actually had the audacity to go to a Public School and even (the final straw this) to a University as well.

If ever we needed strong and above all intelligent leadership in the Western Democracies, it is now and in the foreseeable future. We are not getting it. We need our most able men to govern, and they should not have to pretend that they are not able. Government is not adequate because the governors are not adequate, and the governors are not adequate because those who choose them are not quite adequate. The position, let it be emphasised however, is by no means hopeless or irrevocable. But it is bad and deteriorating. A vicious circle develops. People listen to bits of Parliament, quickly hear an undignified row and notice few signs of brains from the men they elected, and turn off in disgust, none the wiser about their country's affairs. Some, quite understandably, do not make further attempts to learn through this channel, which surely should not only be a show-place of democracy but a great educative medium. No appreciable section of the community yet talks of abolishing parliament. But if the present degeneration continues, people will become in time totally disrespectful, cynical and then hostile towards parliamentary government, and it will surely fall within the lifetime of every 1958 A.U. student.

I do not advocate or support the overthrow of Western Parliamentary democracy. On the contrary, I wish it to improve and be fortified, and to this end present the concept of the Multiple Vote as a likely means of saving it if it be put into practice.

Through last century and the early part of this, the electoral franchise was widened step by step in English-speaking and most European countries until all persons over twenty-one apart from criminals, lunatics, and American Southern Negroes had one vote. When this had been reached, it was thought the final step had been taken. It seems a satisfying, arithmetically obvious place to stop. It fits neatly with our extreme egalitarianism. What is now heretically proposed should be regarded as a further extension of the franchise. Under it, all would retain the present or Basic Vote, while other votes would be allotted to

those qualified on bases such as those suggested hereafter.

The most obviously arbitrary aspect of the present set-up is the pretence that on one's twenty-first birthday one suddenly acquires the maturity necessary and hitherto not available to wield a ballot slip. This is nonsense, though it is obvious that a line has to be drawn somewhere. A rather more rational proposal would surely be to grant the vote to the nation's youth when they had reached some level of intellectual maturity, and the passing of the School Certificate examination seems close at hand and fairly satisfactory. The School Certificate holders would collect their basic vote *additionally* when given the key to the door. In other words, they are to have a vote earlier, and in adult life to have two.

An extra vote would be given to people who had themselves served on governing institutions for a nominal period of two years. Bodies on which qualification for the vote could be gained would range from Parliament itself through all the Local Bodies down to School Committee level. Clearly, people with practical experience of governing, in however humble a capacity, should have a greater insight into the problems of ruling than those without such experience. Further, as it is hoped that the system as a whole will attract men of greater capacity to offer themselves for election at all levels, so this particular provision can be expected to have an effect in the same direction, if men can see some reward for their services in prospect.

Another, a Family Vote, would be awarded to both husband and wife who have raised two children to the age of fifteen without divorce. (Those who on starting to read this 'realised' the scheme was devised by a crank and have just been given final confirmation of the 'fact' may now split their sides if they wish). This is the nearest equivalent to a property qualification in the scheme, the argument being that such people are likely to be settled and responsible as compared to the single twenty-one-year-old with no ties, and that as such, having a 'stake in the community', will be more likely to vote carefully and with deliberation.

Egalitarianism

May I anticipate and attempt to rebuff two lines of attack on this type of scheme. Egalitarianism in New Zealand is very strong, and clearly all are not to have an equal say. One active and normally unusually intelligent student at A.U. went so far recently as to attack the normal provision in a society constitution for a chairman's casting vote as 'fundamentally undemocratic', and through his efforts an amendment deleting the offending portion was passed at the meeting by a heavy majority. Apart from the technical difficulties, thus bequeathed, there seems to be a confusion here in the meaning of 'democracy', which is 'government by the people, direct or representative', according to the Concise Oxford. The true democratic goal is surely not a mere featureless equality, but equality of opportunity, to which criterion Multiple Voting measures up completely. School Certificate is an advantage or required in all professions and trades, and no-one is therefore to be excluded from his extra vote by the dictates of his chosen career. It is meant to be passed not only by the intellectual elite, but also by the conscientious worker of less ability. Encouragement is given not only for gifts but also for effort, and surely this is a valid basis for any method of democratic voting and government.

It is also to be expected that some will say the whole thing is not high-minded enough, makes merely mechanical adjustments, and the non-democrats will assure us that it is anyway just shoring up a rotten system. This proves nothing. It simply shows the characteristic difference of outlook between Radicals, who are for complete and sudden changes of regime, and Conservatives, who prefer to give every opportunity to existing institutions, and would rather adapt than eliminate. The assumption here made is that democracy is not hopelessly weak but simply needs strengthening. The scheme is not thought of as Utopian, either in practicability or results to be gained, but as an important and necessary measure to the existing system.

—T. POWER.

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Portrait of the Artist as a young Acid Thrower

Since A.G.M. has taken it upon himself to criticize and condemn the world and its works, I feel that we should try to examine both him and his works in an attempt to discover what manner of man we have in our midst.

His field has indeed been extensive to cite a few of his more recent attempts, he has ranged from the Australian attitude to the "Glorious Dead" through such ever controversial themes as the University Site, to one of man's greatest fields of endeavour — that of literature.

In his feature article "On Yokels" (*Craccum*, April 3rd, 1958) he, a university student, declared that those it nurtures are fools. If he consider himself average, then, in his own words, he came from school intellectually arid. If he is average, he believes that mating and beer-drinking are the greatest pleasures the world can offer. Must he, as a product of this university, join the "vast and turbid stream of blank-minded, plump souled, featureless and undistinguished", not to mention "uninteresting and uninspired" men?

Does he consider himself average and equal to his fellow students in this condemnation? Of course not. He alone, is superior to them.

It is obvious that A.G.M. considers himself superior to his fellow-men. This is admirably illustrated by the tone of his recent letter to *Craccum* (June 4th, 1958) entitled *The Solution?*, which concerns the University Site. In this he bows down from his lofty height and superciliously concedes that Auckland City's reaction to the problem is "scientifically interesting".

One thing we must concede to A.G.M. is his consistency. His varied articles are indeed consistent in that they all proclaim or imply A.G.M.'s superiority. A.G.M., alone, according to A.G.M., is correct, and the world, minus A.G.M., of course, is wrong.

It is safe, I think, to say that any man who considers himself superior enough to take the stand he does against modern literature and condemn not only modern works but also the modern author, the modern reading public, and the modern critic, (as he has done in his article, *Down Goes The Novel*—*Craccum*, June 18th, 1958) who constitute most of our world, must indeed be either a greater genius than we think or an inconceivably stupid imbecile.

Thus we of this University are faced with two alternatives and we must ask ourselves this question, "Have we indeed in our midst a superior genius, capable of taking his stand against the world in whatever controversy, great or small, he chooses to create, or are the valuable pages of *Craccum* being pirated by the exhibitionistic outpourings of stupidity personified trying to cover its acute inferiority complex with apparent superiority?"

To be true to form, A.G.M. must openly renounce this last alternative, but it would be interesting indeed to see whether there are any of his fellow students who would support his views. There may be some, but none have yet appeared in these pages, and I think that A.G.M. will remain alone and aloof in his convictions and will continue to darken the pages of *Craccum* with his dogmatic print.

—R. A. HADFIELD.

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Sir,

I chaired the meeting on Monday as a member of one of the sponsoring Societies — the S.C.M., believing the subject to be of urgent human concern, and hoping for an expression of responsible student opinion on it.

However, it was soon evident that a large group of students had come merely to demonstrate, with only the vaguest notions of what issues were involved. We have seen this happen before in other countries — gangs of unintelligent youths used to break up political meetings and stifle reasonable, enlightened public opinion — and with what disastrous results for human welfare.

Of course students at political meetings should be boisterous and lively, but also intelligent and informed. Perhaps we need more student political meetings in Auckland to provide an outlet for students' high spirits, and to give them an opportunity to develop the art of intelligent, witty, interjection, and to learn to discriminate between things that deserve to be treated frivolously, and questions which call for serious consideration.

On Monday the students' answer to the events in the Middle East seemed to be, "Let's have our political demonstrations; let's shout our slogans; what does it matter if all ends in a nuclear war?" — or perhaps that didn't occur to them.

—DR. PARNABY.

It came as a shock to find that there are some students who do not read the newspapers at all, and a large portion who have not bothered to concern themselves with even the facts of the present Middle East crisis. That the present system of education allows students to go out from the University in the same state of ignorance of world affairs as they entered, must be a cause for some concern. Mature men and women should be aware too, that, whatever one's political leanings, a display of bad manners is inexcusable and convinces no-one. Had the occasional logical interjection been supported by a little less bestiality, Monday's meeting might have been more enjoyable and instructive for all.

—M. E. R. BASSETT.

There was once a time when a University was a seat of learning, when a University was expected to lead the thought of the country. However, it would appear from the recent meeting held to protest against the Anglo American intervention in Middle Eastern affairs that this is most definitely no longer so. One would have expected that at such a meeting the question would have been discussed on its merits. But no, from the very first word spoken by the Chairman, Dr Parnaby, it became obvious that it was to be dominated by utterly irresponsible fools, who not only had no thought about it, but also considered it an excellent time to show the rest of Auckland (the Press) how smart and intolerant they were.

It was pleasing to hear a sincere opinion from those students who had been in countries either near or behind the Iron Curtain. They were to be praised but it was unfortunate that they tended to become associated with the shouting screaming rabble who were trying to wreck the meeting.

There was also a time when a University meeting had not sunk to the level of a second grade political meeting. At such meetings interjectors were expected and therefore Dr Martin Finlay (a one time Socialist member of Parliament) would have addressed similar meetings, but no, from the shock he showed, even the most violent voters were as nothing compared to these so called University students.

And then when someone whose sincerity cannot be doubted, I refer of course to Professor Airey, for is not only insulted, but is sung at in the most infantile manner; then, it ceased to bear any relation to a joke and became very like the sort of conduct that passers-by experience outside the New Majestic theatre.

Now there were those who sincerely supported the intervention, they, however, due to the interjectors, had no opportunity to present a case. The whole idea of this meeting was for the case against the intervention to be presented by the speakers and then for the meeting to be thrown open to the floor. But the noise and general misbehaviour spread out the time taken by the speakers and there was little time for the audience to speak.

The whole result of this meeting in my eyes therefore was to change entirely a fond opinion of mine — that university students were able to reason for themselves. If those at the meeting represented a cross section of university students then I must agree with A.G.M. in his article entitled "Yokels".—P. D. LANE.

I stood in the gallery of the University Hall, and was a witness of behaviour I would not have thought possible among students of this, or any University. A gang of 40 or 50 young cowards and exhibitionists had collected there. The intention — or should I say group psychosis? — was that a meeting should be wrecked: a meeting called to hear speakers on the worst crisis in international affairs since the Munich Conference of 1938. I have nothing, here, to say about the particular stand taken by those who called the meeting. It was sufficient for me that they had called it, and by doing so had shown themselves more responsive than most, to world events which concern the lives and hopes of us all, as members of mankind. I heard Professor Airey, a man whose integrity of mind and personal sincerity must be known to the whole University, mocked and jeered at, yelled at by a pack of mongrel youths who expect this University to confer degrees upon them — this University, which they were disgracing by their behaviour. None attempted to listen. None interjected with the point or good timing of an attentive opponent of the views expressed by the speakers. Most yelled abuse indiscriminately. Some threw things at the speakers. All wore the expression of excited, mindless apes. I was ashamed to be a member of a Faculty in a University whose students could display such open signs of intellectual demoralisation. I could hardly meet the eyes of one or two foreign members of the staff who were too evidently shocked and bewildered by this display of coarseness and ignorant buffoonery. I myself am 'foreign', to the extent of having come to University after years of employment in another profession. I have heard a National M.P. in one of the hottest election contests ever fought in New Zealand baited by a hostile audience at the Addington railway workshops. His Labour audience, compared with our student gang, were intelligent, rational and even humorous. A chairman of their own party, and their own sense of decency, secured the speaker a fair hearing. I have come to a University to hear the worst display of audience barbarity I have heard in my life. The only conclusion one could reach, about the 'mind' of these young men, was that they were prepared to fight something they imagined to be 'Commie' to the last drop of anyone's blood but their own. Their conception (if any) of the international situation appeared to date from the Boer Wars. Their mentality was a little lower than that of a Queen Street shopkeeper; behind a counter that might not matter, but to the University it is a question of some concern.

I would like to make one last comment. It is that I feel sure there exists some other prompting behind the display at that meeting. Something which has little or nothing to do with the question debated there. May I suggest, for what value the suggestion has, that this University has fostered within itself a kind of antibody to the true University spirit: something mean-spirited and hostile to the very conception of intellectual humility and free inquiry upon which a University must rest. Ill-governed, overcrowded, understaffed as it is, the University must at least be aware of this sooner within itself; perhaps a cure may be found. I am dismayed to think that some of these young bores may some day snugly receive their diplomas, and take them away and cash them in what market they can find for their unimproved abilities. As I watched the last stages of that meeting — as the motion was being put — several Teddy-students pushed me to leave. I asked them if they were not staying to vote. One said, foolishly: "Oh we don't know enough about it". Yet they knew enough to attend as a loud rabble and display their contempt for liberty of speech. Maybe if they had known more, they might have won an opportunity to move and pass a contrary motion. But was that really their intention? I doubt it. From my observation, this was less a genuine opposition on political or any other grounds, than a manifestation of loutish hatred — a chance (most shamefully taken) to display resentment against the very University itself, against the very ideas that there exists a knowledge which men must work to attain.

I have attached an importance to this unhappy affair beyond the deserts of those who set it on. I have done so, because the University is more important than they, and I think these signs are a warning which needs noting.

—A. CURNOW.

As one of those who felt sickened when the news came to New Zealand of the atrocities perpetrated by the Russians in Hungary, I was heartened to see that there were some at least in this University who did not forget too quickly the crime against humanity on that occasion, the lesson to be learnt by it, and the threat to world peace which it constituted. It was heartening to see a meeting with banners on sticks and pinned to the curtain, calling upon us to "Remember Hungary". For some reason, I felt, as one of those not anxious to forget too soon the crimes committed there, that I was criticised for lack of seriousness at an important meeting. But I can assure those who were there, and who might have had feelings of intellectual superiority to those who bore witness with their lungs to the sincerity of their hearts, that I did not allow the emotive content of the news from Hungary to affect my judgment. I was, as were no doubt all who voiced their disapproval of those events, and showed it by throwing darts at the platform, in spite of possible professorial censure, — as well able to distinguish between emotion and reason as any at that meeting. It was not against atrocities committed in Hungary that we voiced our protests, perhaps they were inevitable once the revolution had begun, we protested on a purely intellectual basis, at the principles involved. Hungary, was governed by a minority, — supported by a large external power, ready at any time to support this tottering government by military force. The Revolution occurred, the Hungarian Government called for assistance from outside. It was given, and this initial action was carried to its logical conclusion, with the result that some of us, at least, have not forgotten.

Now another revolution has occurred, against a government supported from outside; a government like that of Hungary, which was kept in existence so that the country could be subservient to the political interests of a large external power. There the revolution was rapid, and there was no chance of another Hungary.

But now, yet another revolution threatens in another small country, and there too, the tottering government, warned of an impending plot by its efficient secret agents, has sent for aid to a large power whose political interest would be served, it is believed by maintaining the status quo. In the face of growing nationalism, how can the status quo be maintained, unless more armed forces are sent, and the country is placed under the military domination of an external power?

There is a principle which was violated in the case of Hungary and of Jordan, and by the presence of forces in Lebanon, of Iraq. It is that nations have a right to self-determination. They have the right to amalgamate with other nations, or to retain their independence, as the majority in the nation think fit. In the case of Hungary, the West was occupied at the time in a "counter-offensive" operation against Egypt, and nothing was done to prevent intervention in the internal affairs of Hungary. Now, Russia is occupied in nothing except manoeuvres on the borders of Iraq and is perfectly capable and perhaps willing to prevent interference in the internal affairs of the countries of the Middle East. In these circumstances, by the standards of either Christ or Machiavelli the intervention in the Middle East by the Western powers is wrong.

Unfortunately, at the meeting which met to discuss these events, there were some who did allow emotion to confuse their thoughts, who would have us believe that as there has not been a mass murder in Jordan, the principal involved was right, while in Hungary, where there was mass murder — there always is in wars — the same principle is wrong. Their efforts at the meeting proved that the University like the world, could be influenced by a mob if it appealed to emotion, not to reason, and did it loud enough.

—JOHN YOUNG.

It was sobering to realize at the protest meeting against western intervention in the Middle East the irresponsibility of people who will be voters at our next election. Have we lost all sense of proportion, that we can consider a matter which may ultimately mean survival or extinction of our civilisation merely a subject for derision? At least it is a comfort to know that if we ever are wiped out, we will go down nobly in a flurry of paper darts and orange peel.

—F. MAIDMENT.

OH!

If human beings are distinguished from animals by the gift of reason, then there was a predominantly animal element quartered in various sections of the audience at the Lebanon meeting. The speakers were learned men, willing to listen to learned and reasoned arguments, and openly conceded the value of opinions opposing their own. But, apart from one or two isolated constructive criticisms, the platform was treated to the vile reflection of the working of a collection of gangrenous minds. We sympathise with both gentlemen in their painful discovery of the Kindergarten Faculty of the University.

Animals: no doubt your peculiar sense of values makes you proud of your display. You have your names recorded on the roll of this University, but please do not have the presumption to call yourselves students.

B. G. FAVILLE.
M. G. BLAMIRE.
F. W. WORN.

I want to protest against the hooliganism of the organised clique in the gallery who prevented me from hearing the speeches at the meeting called by the Socialist Society and the S.C.M. That the clique was organised I deduce from notices chalked on the blackboards of some of the lecture rooms. I left the meeting within five minutes of arriving with the horrible feeling that I was in the presence, not of rational people hearing and evaluating arguments, but of a mob of the kind that baited Jews in Hitler's Germany, or lynched negroes in Georgia or (to quote one interjector at the meeting) poured petrol over an East European and set him alight.

For schoolboys who haven't adjusted themselves to being treated as adults, there may be a sense of emancipation in throwing orange-peel at a man older and wiser than themselves: when that man is an associate-professor and one whose integrity is generally respected, wonder if such students are not inviting us to believe that the future is not worth caring about.

Fundamentally, the irresponsibility of these hooligans is the same as that of bodgies who tease the police and the public outside the Majestic Theatre. Fundamentally, it is H-Bomb neurosis and its philosophy is: Have fun today for tomorrow we may be evaporated. The only rational way to cure such mental disorder is to cope with the threat that causes it. It is a pathetic thing to see men of rational age cheering on events that may lead to their own death: it is like an adolescent speedster playing chicken; like picnickers urging on the blaze of a forest-fire that will trap them; or so different from a man chuckling as he plunges into a bath of acid.

It would be bad enough if these people were the only ones who would suffer from the war that this meeting was designed to help prevent. But these students were acting irresponsibly in the face of developments that may involve the sudden extermination of millions of men, women, and children, the agonising and helpless slow death of many millions more, the bewilderment and despair of those who survive; the extinction of all the major cities which have been the centres of transmission of civilisation and the genetic future of the human race who will have had no choice in their predecessors. Such irresponsibility in me claiming to be the most educated section of youth in the country, makes one wonder about the state of health of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of truth by reasonable means.

—W. H. PEARSON.

WHEREFORE ART THOU, APATHY?

It was ironic, in the extreme that it was with cries of "Freedom" that two distinguished speakers should be prevented from putting forward their point of view at the recent fiasco on American intervention in the Lebanon. I disagree with much of what the speakers put forward (that is of what I managed to hear), but I do not deny their democratic right to say it. It is the privilege of New Zealanders to believe what they want: it is the right of those who disagree to be able to express their interpretation of the facts without being subject to the insults against personal character and physical attributes and being the target for the meretricious throwing of refuse.

We must not condone the tactics and actions of those who throughout this century have tried to deprive us of our freedom. It is interesting to remember that the first thing the Communists and Nazis did on achieving power was to deny the right of free speech. The obstructionist tactics of certain less democratic students is reminiscent of the jack-booted louts of Mosley's fascists as they broke up opponents meetings in Britain prior to the second world war. Many of our fathers fought and died so that we their children would not exist under a tyranny which would deny us, among other things the right of debate and difference of opinion.

For twenty-nine years Professor Airey has been on the staff of the University, a fine scholar with a widely respected reputation. Dr Finlay, a brilliant barrister and vice-President of the New Zealand Labour Party is also a man whose interpretation of world events demands at least a hearing. Nobody can object to constructive interjections and later discussions from the floor. But the blind and unreasoning disruption of the meeting was an insult to the speakers and chairman and a blot on the responsibility of our University which it will take a long time to forget and which will never be entirely eradicated.

If we disagree with the speakers then it is our privilege and our duty at such meetings and through the medium of our students' paper to put forward our case with logic — not by drowning out the voice of other speakers by unintelligible sound and gutter-bred abuse.

We must never be afraid to fight for and support that in which we believe. But let us examine all the evidence lest by an uninformed personal emotion we carry posterity as well as ourselves to destruction. It is too late to listen now to Professor Airey and Dr Finlay. But in the future we must apply certain basic scientific principles at student meetings. We must examine the evidence calmly and logically, putting aside our personal prejudices and then draw our conclusions. Let us not like some Stage I Science students(?) appeared to do at this meeting draw our conclusions first on preconceived supposition and then try to twist the evidence to suit our interpretation. The answer which is gained in this way may be the right one, but it may also lead us tragically astray.

Had the subject been discussed fully the vote that would have been taken after the debate of both sides of the argument would have been truly representative of student opinion. But under the circumstances the defeat of the motion by 120 to 80 only reflects the bias of a large, vociferous, unthinking, and disruptive group who by their actions drowned out their hypocritical cries of "Freedom".

—B. S. GUSTAFSON.

Although I agree with the storm of protest against the unwarranted heckling at the meeting on July 20th, I do think that the organizers positively asked for it by advertising a "Protest Meeting". A protest meeting seems to imply a meeting to gather student support for a predetermined opinion with no opportunity for discussion, where only the group who support the organisers' resolution are welcome, to present in protest to the Government what would be the decision of a minority of students. Naturally those with strong opposite views, not expecting any intelligent discussion, will come along in loud protest against the meeting.

Much more could have been achieved by holding a meeting to present the whole case from various points of view, not sponsored by societies with definite political leanings. Students would then have had a chance to express an intelligent, representative opinion without any emotional demonstration.

—J. D. BEGGS.

At Monday's meeting on Lebanon and Jordan my mind went back to a similar gathering at Oxford when the Suez operation was about to start. This was an occasion when world war was not obviously imminent, when the U.S. was not ranged against Russia, when her troops and fleet were absent from the Middle East. England was divided on party political lines, there had been and were to be bitter exchanges in Parliament.

The meeting was tense and orderly. The political inertia that had gripped youth since the war had given way to concern over the consequences of positive military action in a world with the power to destroy civilisation, if not the world itself. The Suez debate among youth showed that concern and a generation passed into political maturity overnight. My mind went back to these days when I heard and saw the contrast on Monday.

Apart from the gross bad manners, in particular to a man who has given forty odd years of his life to this university and whose devotion to it must have made the orange peel and baying irresponsibility of the yahoos of Monday cut very deep, apart from this, can it be considered that the meeting was an occasion for mayday antics. There was room for opposition, the sincere, dignified and arguable opposition of the Eastern Europeans who deserved applause from better than the mindless bravos of the balcony. There was room for discussion and for thought. Room to take stock of a world situation where the miscalculated provocation of a ruthless dictator could lead to disaster of a hideous and summary nature. Room to consider whether Eastern Europe might one day be freed or might one day be burned with the rest of the world.

We cannot do much, although public opinion had its small part in ending Suez, but we ought to realise the problem and the danger.

We ought to be better informed than to cite Nasser and the Arabs as Communists. We ought to give university opinion the colour of intelligent thought and not the sickly hue of diseased and decaying minds who can find no better reaction to that prospect of world destruction than songs, paper aeroplanes, and zoo roars.

If the world must end with a bang and a whimper let it be at least the whimper of intelligent distress and not the drooling cry of idiocy. We owe that to our heritage.

—W. F. MANDLE.

Remember Hungary!, said the banner on the wall in the University. Yes: remember the men who fought for freedom of speech; who died for freedom of political expression; who fled their country rather than live in a nation which systematically denied its citizens the exercise of democratic liberties: then remember the protest meeting on Lebanon at Auckland University and see how excellently freedom of speech and opinion is tolerated in this country. Remember, too, the student who praised the United States and Britain for taking vigorous, immediate action: let us act, act, act, if we stop acting we may for one moment think about what we are doing. Of unthinkable procedure in a democracy! Such a heinous attitude may even make us change our minds: how uncomfortable when the newspapers have already made up our minds for us. For goodness sake, leave us in peace to contemplate the infinite beauty of the figure of Marilyn Munroe, the price of beer, and these other world-shaking profundities in which our daily newspaper immerses us; but do not question, never, never, a word the newspaper says, lest for a time we sink into doubt of the potency and efficacy of the divinities which our daily tripe rags extol; O most perilous; O most iniquitous blasphemy! If we for a moment cease to believe in the infallibility of the newspapers; if we admit that even on such important matters as the possibility of a third world war, those shining beacons of mediocrity in an increasing intelligent world may possibly be misled as to their facts and incorrect as to their meaning; then we shall have to renounce entirely and irremediably the entire world picture, which enables us to consider important such eternal verities as the worship of the All Blacks and the ogling of barmaids — O catastrophic loss of faith! For as the collapse of our religion, the belief in mediocrity, would entail the dissolution of that social cement which alone binds together those divergent idiocies and ignorances which make up the content of this our well-fed state. Whatever works is true: our mediocrity is necessary, therefore it is correct. Those who question it in the name of something abstract and unconnected with sex or beer like reason are as much traitors as are paid spies: it is only the trahison des clerics all over again. Those who attempt to advocate such subversive theories as independence of thought are the opposition. We must break up the meetings of the opposition purely because they are the opposition; we must never listen to the opposition (not that we ever do listen to them) purely because they are the opposition. Surely it is logical that we should soon organise private armies against the opposition, and shoot the opposition, purely because it is the opposition. The man who always advocated swift, effective action and exalted it above all things, Adolf Hitler, did precisely this: and his state was more efficient in harassing subversive intellectualism than any other. Faith is what society needs, not reason: let us declare, finally and irrevocably: Reason is the Ultimate Crime.

—O. J. GAGER.

At the protest meeting against the American and British Intervention in the Middle East today I felt ashamed, for the first time, of being a student of the Auckland University. Over a question which is of the greatest concern to the very survival of the human race and at a meeting addressed by two distinguished speakers, one an outsider to the University, a large section of the student audience produced a display of profound ignorance and utter boorishness, that any group of boddies would have been hard put to surpass.

For the most part there was little reasoned argument or clever interjection produced in opposition to what the speakers said. Instead a large group of students apparently from the science faculty in the main, yelled, screamed, and threw paper darts in a fashion reminiscent of a fourth form. If this is the attitude of the typical science student to a serious matter lying outside the range of their own specialized knowledge, it is my opinion that the science faculty could well be shifted out to Ardmore with the Engineers, where scientists could amuse themselves, throwing darts at their lecturers and making radioactive bombs without interfering with those who come to University to be educated.

—J. HOLT.

As Mr Curnow said, the immature schoolboys who created such a disturbance at the Protest Meeting on Monday are fortunate enough to live in a country far from the probable scene of war. Perhaps they would be more willing to listen if they realised the danger of a nuclear war to the world as a whole.

It is remarkable that the most vociferous group was comprised of young science students who are known for their dislike of anything but fact. On Monday they had the opportunity of hearing two extremely able men give their interpretation of the situation. However not one of these interjectors was willing to listen to the facts as put forward by Prof. Airey and Dr Finlay, but booed and slow-clapped in a disgraceful manner — an example of mob emotionalism. Though the speakers' views may be wrong, it is most presumptuous to dismiss such learned and sincere men without the courtesy of a hearing.

This was in fact a denial of the right of free speech by a group of students who no doubt pride themselves on belonging to a country in which all may have their say. That such a respected man as Prof. Airey should have been subjected to a barrage of abuse and missiles is all the more disgusting. These gangsters we supposed to be the future leaders of New Zealand, a poor omen for the success of democracy which ultimately depends upon the responsibility of the voters.

—M. R. STENSEN.

Having been requested to write on the scenes which I witnessed in the Hall the other day I wish to make it clear that they have in no way seriously impaired the very favourable opinion I had already formed of the students of this University, since it is not altogether logical, if regrettably frequent, that an institution should be judged mainly by the behaviour of a minority.

Although these manifestations were doubtless conceived in a spirit of normal exuberance and devoid of disconcerting intention, nevertheless the manner in which they were carried out could hardly have been more ignoble, and the majority must not therefore, by keeping silent, endorse such behaviour.

As I see it there are two main points: firstly Mr Finlay is not a member of this University, he was our guest, and common courtesy demanded that he be given a better reception than that which he in fact received, and that since he had been expressly invited to speak to us, common decency demanded that he at least be given a chance to speak. The reception that was accorded to him will doubtless have the unpleasant (for us) consequence of making outside speakers hesitant about accepting future invitations, and also of making responsible students and members of staff think twice before they issue invitations in the future. In view of the fact that the Societies in this University stand in great need of speakers from outside, the reception accorded to Mr Finlay was a great disservice to the University.

Secondly: Universities are generally regarded as being the bastions of Freedom of Speech, today, from Lima to Warsaw, students are fighting for the right to express their opinions freely, here a certain number of students were fighting — intentionally or no — against that Freedom, and that makes a very ugly contrast.

—W. POLLARD.

This University has traditionally shown a healthy and vocal division of opinions on matters of public controversy. Yet while the skill of the rabble-rouser and the meeting-breaker may have no serious consequences in a University debate or a local body political meeting, the spectacle of unthinking bourgeois hysteria venting itself in a way that is more reminiscent of Eden Park or the Coliseum is a tragically portentous one when seen in the University Hall.

We are no longer dealing with local political machinations. We are now confronted with a situation, described by one writer as "the most serious since 1939", in which the world is on the brink of war, in an age when the word "war" has become synonymous with "suicide". What opinion is held is of lesser importance than the way in which it is expressed but no opprobrium can be too strong for these unthinking irresponsibles who dare to call themselves University students and members of the intelligentsia of this country, and then behave as they have done at this time of universal crisis.

—W. S. BROUGHTON.

AND NOW LEBANON

All over the western world reasonable men are surrendering their remaining hope in rationality. Having lost faith in controlling the gadarene rush by employing the democratic process, which has again and again been ignored, they are steadying themselves to watch the few men of power set about extinguishing a great civilisation, if not this time, then in a crisis or two.

We endured the risks of Suez, though the majority of the Western world turned out to be opposed to that operation, since they grasped at once that it could only do great harm to our economic, strategic and moral position, as indeed it did. Now, without warning, debate, internal consent or international agreement, four men have poised the west — and with it that two-thirds of the world's people who live in the path of the nuclear clouds — on the crumbling edge of the final abyss.

It is worth enquiring what is the prize for which we risk London and New York, Rome and Delhi, the accumulated achievement of five thousand years of human effort.

It cannot be access to oil. When Suez was closed we drew on South America, the U.S.A. and Canada. It cost some pence per gallon for a time, but the Middle East was keen to restore supply because their standard of living is dependent on selling oil to us. Right through the Iraqi revolution the pumps have clanked on for precisely the same reason. They are getting out oil for the West to earn the dollars and sterling without which the young officers' regime has no chance of succeeding in its long-term objectives.

Oil the Key?

Admittedly there are powerful oil lobbies working on and in the U.S. Congress. Their operations are the subject of studies in political science. And it is likely that a gallon of petrol supplied from a unified nationalist Arabia might be as much as sixpence a gallon dearer in a few years time. But the U.S. oil companies are not so stupid as to think it is worth pressing Congress to risk a world war to prevent an ultimate rise in crude oil prices. For the Arab proportion of the revenues from oil is due to rise soon in any event. The U.S. companies got into the Arab area by outbidding the British with more oil money for the local rulers. Already the Japanese and Italians — on our side remember — are entering the bidding with offers of a 75% share of the crude price for local sovereigns. To stay in the Middle East the U.S. companies will, quite apart from the occupation of Lebanon and Jordan (which produce no oil), have to match competitors by raising the Arabs' share. The oil companies always add their profit to the final cost, providing the oil keeps flowing. And it must flow, and flow West, unless our actions overturn common sense and economic self-interest. As for control of Middle East supplies in the event of war: they are commanded by Russian rockets; they could not be protected against sabotage by five times the ten thousand troops; and they are not indispensable. So it is not access to oil in peace or war nor a low price for the oil that is the prize.

It cannot be to hold the Middle East against Communism. Nasser has been moving diplomatically Westward for months. He was hobnobbing with Tito, the ideological enemy No. 1 of the Krushchev camp. He had completed the settlement over the canal dues and compensation, and was looking for western economic entanglement in the form of loans. As would be expected by the most obscure third secretary in a neglected consulate, the immediate result of the occupation of the Lebanon and Jordan has been to force the other Arab states and all the Arab peoples towards seeking Russian assistance, not to lead them away from the influence of Moscow.

When the London "Times" said the alternative to the Dulles-Macmillan action was to see the whole existing position slide, they were plainly correct. But slide towards what? Jordan and at least the Moslem half of Lebanon would, inside six months, have been parts with Iraq of the United Arab Republic. And there the United Arabs would have been, face to face with their poverty and our markets to alleviate it. They would also have been face to face with the Russians who could exercise imperialism in that region only by attacking the fierce independents of the new Arab Republic, thus driving the Arabs wholly into our camp.

Admittedly there are men in the Foreign Office who have been so consistently wrong since 1917 about the way to hold the British position in the Middle

East that they have altogether lost it; and they are capable of having promoted this last and greatest blunder. They failed in regard to Palestine, Farouk, the evacuation of Egypt, the Jordan legion, the Suez operation, and in Cyprus. The only times their planning has produced the result aimed at was, first, when they evacuated the Sudan, and trusted to Sudanese desire for independence and, secondly, when they set up independent Libya.

But this Lebanon-Jordan adventure was inaugurated by the Americans, not the British. At the time of Suez, the State Department showed how little it was influenced by that obstinate, persistence in proven errors which haunts the Middle East Section of the Foreign Office. It was not the policies of "The Public School Arabs" at Whitehall which inadvertently helped the Soviets this time. Whitehall merely carried on. It is the U.S. government, in the persons of President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles, who have so grievously blundered that, instead of the West waiting for a United Arab Republic to follow its exports to the West with overtures for economic and political aid, we must watch Nasser going East, cap-in-hand, to Krushchev. It certainly cannot have been the preservation of the Middle East from Communism which was the prize.

Uninformed Public Opinion

Instead we must look nearer home for a major part of the explanation for the precipitate action by the American and British Executives; look, indeed, at the political position in those countries, and at the climate of opinion there.

The major political event of the last ten years in the U.S. was the hounding of the Democrats from their secure hold on power. They lost the Presidency in 1952 to the taunts of the Republicans crying that Truman and Marshall had lost China to Communism in 1949 by refusing to intervene. General Marshall's phrase, "wait till the dust settles", was used by McCarthy to damn the Democrats' inactivity. The American people have never been asked to face the unpalatable truth that, whether the Chinese in 1949 wanted what they were about to receive or not, they certainly preferred it to Chiang Kai Shek. The American people do not blame Chiang Kai Shek's corruption, inefficiency, and unpopularity. They have been taught to blame their own government's diplomatic and military passivity. "Too little and too late" they said and were about to say it again of the Middle East.

Most of the U.S. press over the last ten years has interpreted the neutral third of the world, the whole tremendous upsurge of Afro-Asian nationalism, and all who do not agree with Secretary Dulles, as being agents, dupes, or about-to-be-victims of Communism. Convinced that they were terribly menaced, the taxpayers of the U.S. have been persuaded to aid and then to arm regimes that were in being all round the perimeter of Russia. The lessons that "all who are not for us are against us" and "all who are for us must be propped up" have obscured the historical truth that some change is inevitable and not all change is ultimately hostile. It simply is not true that all who desire changes — like the Arab masses and their young officer-leaders — are now Communists. It simply is not true that a United Arab Republic would, given a friendly reception, be again for the forces against the West. The reverse was obviously to be expected; and could still be expected after a cooling-down period if we reversed policies now. But the Republicans, the Democratic Congressmen with voting records to defend, Secretary Dulles, and President Eisenhower, all must ponder to the great illusion they have fostered. They have to

try and make the real world resemble the image in the distorting mirror of a decade of "public relations engineering."

The Republicans have mishandled this recession. They could certainly have expected to lose the next election if nothing had turned up to take the popular mind off the unemployment figures. If the Democrats could add to Republican unpopularity by jeering that the Eisenhower regime had lost the Middle East without lifting a finger, then the electoral landslide would probably have buried the Republicans as deep as the overturn of 1932. The party of bigger business might well have gone back into the wilderness for a further twenty years.

Too late

To have let the dust settle in Iraq, waited for Chamoun to be constitutionally replaced, permitted the imminent collapse of the Jordanian regime, and then watched while Nasser was joined by all three, such a policy would require two things the Republicans do not have — balanced and informed public opinion on world affairs, and time. Instead, they have the readers of *Time* and *Newsweek*, and congressional elections this November, and the Presidency in two years. The enlarged United Arab Republic might have been in being in six months, the oil is flowing now, but the re-orientation of the Arabs towards the West would have been too slow and subtle to allow Eisenhower to present it to the U.S. people as proof that what seemed on the face of it a disaster had become little by little a triumph. So, right from the day of the Iraqi revolt, the cry for "Action, any action" went up. And still this is the aspect the Americans are pleased about. Something was done; even though the quotations end by adding that no-one can see where we go from here.

The precarious position of the Macmillan government is so widely known and the pressures they are subject to from the Suez group are so generally understood that it is no puzzle that the British executive followed the American, thus compounding the error of Lebanon by adding that of Jordan. The most important figure in the Macmillan government after the Prime Minister, Viscount Salisbury, resigned because of "undue weakness" over Cyprus. Subsequently Macmillan's Chancellor of the Exchequer resigned over the softness in financial matters. Macmillan has seen a phenomenal row of by-elections go against him. What is worse to him, in blue-ribbon Tory seats the vote has dropped. The Daimlers and Humbers have been leaving it to the Morris Minors to get out the vote and contribute to party funds. Everything, therefore, pointed to colourful action to please the hard-policy Conservatives and activate the loyal feelings of millions who are half-persuaded we did the right thing in India and Ghana and half-persuaded that we threw away an Empire. And it is worth recalling that Macmillan and Lloyd were in the Suez operation cabinet. There they learned, not that Suez was in every way foolish, but that the U.S. should have been in it too. The fault lines of political calculation, party pressure, self-justification, and outmoded training met, and the troops flew off along the easy way out. It is a way out which could have been, and still may be, a way of existence for hundreds of millions.

Is there anything that can be done? Using the United Nations and going to Summit Conferences both maximise reason and compromise. They should therefore be urged by governments like ours and urged by citizens like you. But such methods — and they are simply methods — don't themselves constitute wise aims or alter the approach of the millions in the U.S., and the U.K., and New Zealand, who wanted "resolute action" even when it was patently stupid action. Going to the U.N. or its opposite, the U.S. acting in spite of the U.N. observers, does not temper and inform the men of power, who risked our world.

Probably the most that can be done is to let the U.S. people and the Conservatives in the United Kingdom know by resolutions and meetings that men outside their closed system of ideas see that some change is inevitable and that the outsiders can point to better ways of handling it. If New Zealand and Canada had cried, "Halt, it is madness to throw potential allies into the Soviet camp" that might have helped a little. If the smaller countries of the Commonwealth had co-operated year-in, year-out to press for saner policies than those of Mr. Dulles, this latest blunder might have been avoidable, precisely because the Eisenhower regime could have said to the voter: "Yes, we agree with more action, but we couldn't carry our allies with us and look, it's not turning out too badly anyway."

Too little and too late

Right now we could urge a withdrawal under U.N. auspices and urge the U.S. and the U.K. to accept the predictable enlargement of the United Arab Republic. We could urge that our governments welcome this development because it must in the long run yield a more stable, friendlier Middle East. The process will be longer because of the acts of the last few days. We will find it harder to tell Nasser that we mean to protect the only population in the area — the Israelis — which doesn't want to join him, because we have now intervened once for the wrong reasons and subsequently had to withdraw. Our guarantee of Israel, which we must give and intend to fulfil, will slow the process whereby the Arabs lean back towards us. But a unified nationalist Arabia, busy building up its new life under new management, will not have the same need of competition in Chauvinist belligerence as the shaky regimes of the old patchwork Middle East.

More probably it is all too late. The forces of reasons have been properly routed this last few weeks because of past years of defeat, public apathy, and indifference to the democratic process by executives everywhere. Perhaps next time the cry in the Auckland University Hall, "we don't mind dying" will be answered. The chances are we will see our civilization end for some such pathetic cause as the bundle of blunders, precipitancy, and short-term self-interest for which we went to the brink this time. You brave, clever young men of the balcony, I salute you on behalf of my family and myself who share the risk you wish to take. You are led by men of your own calibre who will destroy what they have never appreciated and do not wish to understand.

—R. CHAPMAN

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Ardmore letter:

Western Education For Asian Students

In reply to Rusiate Nayacykalou's article (Craccum, June 4th) Chei Boon Poh, a Colombo plan student doing engineering, puts forward his views on western education for south and south-east Asia.

We have often asked, "Is it the type of education we, the Asians, need?" However the question is not untimely, partly because of some widespread criticisms and doubts expressed currently regarding education in the Western countries and partly because of a strong impetus to the flow of the ever-increasing number of Asian students to the Western countries for the purpose of acquiring Western education.

It has been over quite some time that the alleged weaknesses of the western education, such as the predominance of vocationalism, the reign of the narrow expert and the cult of materialism have been voiced and discussed for and against. But more recently, again the western education has been forced into a fundamental self-examination by the launching of the Russian sputniks. The impact of that dramatic example of Russian achievement in the field of scientific technology has left it seems the western people stunned and confused and at the same time has made them realise vividly the crucial role played by education in the Russian successes. Indeed the stir and ferment has spread far beyond the boundaries of professional circles. Nowadays, education, especially scientific education has become front-page news as never before.

Consequently the public concern for sheer survival and the realization of the immediate necessity of institutional planning to meet the changing conditions have brought into sharp focus the nature, contents, and goals of western education in the recent sputnik reevaluation of of "Where the people of the free world stand".

Conscious of the fact of these happenings and the significance on their own future, especially in this so-called ever-shrinking world of ours, which is torn by strife and disturbed by conflicting ideologies, most sensitive Asian students must have often wondered with deep concern whether or not the Western scientific and liberal education is adequate to enable them to meet the diverse and urgent needs of their own countries.

In almost all the Asian societies, it has been a common phenomenon in the past few decades for their members to come to realise that they have been living in "the old ordered society" with an under-developed economy which is incapable of meeting the demand and the challenge of the modern nation-wide state system. This awakening experience has led to a deterioration by the Asian people not only to reappraise their past, but also to learn the new Western culture, a knowledge of which is considered one of the important steps in their advance towards modernization.

Thus the burning issue with many Asians is how to modernize their society, to mould a free and united Asia; to build up new industries, to wipe out grinding poverty, unemployment and under-employment, hunger and diseases, to assert human dignity and to challenge the marked contrast between their lot and the wealth, prosperity, and the industrial development of the western nations. And the fact that the majority of the Asian students are enrolled in the fields

of science, engineering, technology, and commerce in their studies abroad reflects the needs, wishes, and determination of many Asian nations to cast off the dubious distinction of being "under-developed".

The technological know-how and skill acquired in the western countries should therefore be able to meet the needs of those urgent tasks even though returning Asian students would have to mobilise the last of their ingenuity, resourcefulness and perseverance in applying the advanced skills to various and unique situations in their own home environments.

"Is it the type of education we the Asians need?" I am convinced that it is so. Although their environments differ, on the other hand sharp contrasts in certain aspects can be envisaged. Still we can find many similarities between the East and the West. Western people built up their countries through their own creativeness. The Asian people, many facing problems left over owing to new constitutional status, and owing to the ravages in their economic system made by the years of war, are also determined to stand on their own feet. The great necessity is therefore, to build and to build as quickly and as soundly as possible and to tailor things according to their own requirements without the involvements of the basic concepts. People in Asia need practical and applied knowledge urgently, and then a continuity in that. This the Western education can offer in abundance. The responsibility therefore of finding a way to bridge, to make up, to adjust or adapt, falls entirely on the Asian people themselves.

Because of the abundant resources and of the prevalent faith in education, the Western countries with their numerous great institutions of higher learning have been the centres of advanced studies in all frontiers of human inquiries. Western scientific education for the people in Asia, meets and will meet the needs of we Asians of today, tomorrow and in the coming years.

And yet the issues facing the Asian nations are indeed far more complex than the mere matter of catching up with the West in industrialization. Now Asia can and should improve the material condition and achievement, build up nation power, but at the same time may NOT be able to cope with the moral and intellectual problems that confront the Western nations and indeed, the world, as a whole. It would be a tragic irony of the world's history, even just to think of it, that if another Asian nation runs the way Japan did — from a total feudal nation to a world menace in half a century or so. In their worthy effort to gather the fruits of the machine and atomic age, Asian countries may also slip into the pitfall of regarding applied sciences and technology as an end in itself, rather than seeing them instrumental to the service of larger ends.

This no doubt brings us to the next aspect of our question, that is to say whether Western liberal education or features underlying Western education as a whole meet the needs of Asia today. Here indeed a straight forward answer

is rather difficult owing to the complexity and diversity involved in analyzing both Western liberal education and the needs of the people of South and South-east Asia.

Nevertheless, the educational activities within a society always reflect in many ways the character of the society as well as its dominant ideals. The Western education offers deeper and wealthier things for the people of the South and South-east Asia than mere technological know-how. Such things as the faith in the power of knowledge, in the free flow of ideas, in the ability of intelligent citizens and educated leaders to shape their destiny through peaceful means and the efforts for the avoidance of dogmatism for critical yet co-operative inquiry, charity in intellectual disputes, concern for others and the elimination of bias in all its forms, the dignity of labour, and social justices are perhaps a few corner-stones of a free and democratic society. Western education at its best therefore offers Asian students such a credo to guide their own nations and such ideas to live by.

The new East is conservative in tradition and actual life but is young and ambitious, full of ideals and ready for material and spiritual adventure. This is so because most of the nations in Asia have emerged from Western colonial rule and have become independent only in the last few years. They have now reached the age of adolescence. Adolescents are at once realistic and idealistic. They are full of new aspirations. They are the flowers of youth.

Undoubtedly Asia hopes for and needs many things. Such needs are directly related to political and economic conditions of most Asian countries. The people of Asia have come to realize that poverty and hunger are not God-given, but rather are the responsibility of man. To alleviate the pains of poverty and hunger they need sympathy and guidance the necessary technical training and help.

What New Asia wants also is to construct a new fabric of social relationship out of the old traditions of life and value. Everywhere in Asia today there is an experiment at synthesis of the old and new values with a view to arriving at the best combination that will preserve the best part of the old tradition while at the same time provide a firm basis for the concentration of new democratic industrial societies.

Insofar as Western society is democratic and dynamic and insofar as Western education retains its broad and liberal training Asian students will have an ideal opportunity to learn and observe at first hand the actual mechanism and functioning of modern society and experience which will lead to better understanding and planning of their own societies. It reveals to us once more the potential benefit which can be enjoyed by Asian students in their learning from the Western countries.

Moreover under the stress and strain of international politics and inevitable progress of the human race the Western contributing countries of the Colombo Plan, UNESCO, WHO, etc. have indeed shown an active interest in the problems of the different countries of South and South-east Asia by providing them with the capital aids and technical education for so many Asian students studying in Western countries. This no doubt provides the kind of sympathy and helping hand that these newly independent countries need, and it makes them feel that they are not alone in their struggle to achieve a better standard of living.

Does the Western education meet the needs of the people of Asia? In the final analysis education, it must be remembered, is not mere acquisition of a few formulae or a "panacea" which enables the educated to solve all those intricate and troublesome problems automatically, be that education in sciences of humanities. But the most important thing is that the kind of education needed in Asia is not to cultivate intellectual passivity but to develop in the Asian students active, critical and inquisitive minds and diffuse a spirit of free intelligent inquiry and ability to interpret and discuss the part of the mass of the people of Asia. It rests largely therefore, in the hands of the Western educated Asians themselves whether Western education will meet the needs of Asia or not. This will no doubt bring to the fore the vital function of the Western universities in contributing to the advance and the development of Asia.

University Rugby Report

NORTH ISLAND v.

SOUTH ISLAND

On Wednesday July 16th at Eden Park on a firm ground and before a crowd of over 4000, N.I. Universities defeated S.I. Universities by 25 points to 14.

Fiery play in the first few minutes by South's backs and good defence by North opened the game which soon settled down to good, open rugby. For North: Clark (2), Graham, Trow, Davies scored tries, and Tony Davies converted two and kicked two penalty goals.

For South: Tuppy Diack scored all 14 points, two tries, one conversion, and two penalties.

In the North Island team: Osborne (Victoria) was a cool efficient fullback, making only one mistake. Land (Auckland) lacked sufficient speed to make him brilliant but was always keen. Millar (Vic.) was hard to fault on the other wing. A. Clark (Vic.) tackled determinedly at centre and scored two excellent tries. Tony Davies (Auck.) shone at second five-eighth, scoring 13 of North's points. He kicked very well and has now been selected as fullback for Auckland. Wood (Massey) excelled at first five-eighth, his handling, covering defence and backing up being brilliant. At half-back Henderson (Vic.) was another Ponty Reid. All of North's forwards, Nepia, Graham, Hutchinson, Webb (Auck.), Tremaine and Brown (Massey), Trow and Winiata (Vic.), deserve mention as all to a man toiled exceptionally well in the tight, loose and lineouts.

In the South Island team Diack (Otago) was outstanding on the wing. Crichton Prian (Otago) tackled hard and swerved determinedly at second five-eighth, while Edwards (Otago) made one or two good runs at first five-eighth. Of the forwards All Black Irwin (Otago) and Dunne (Canty) were very strong, especially in set play.

Although the South's backs never combined well occasionally they shone individually whereas North had the luck of a happy combination and that little extra liveliness that is vital for a good backline.

In conclusion, the score was a good indication of the run of play, North's superior backline causing the win although the forwards were evenly matched.

AUCKLAND v.

NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITIES

N.Z. Universities defeated Auckland on Saturday July 19th on a very heavy ground at Eden Park by 14 points to 6 in an enjoyable game.

The Varsity Forwards won the day by over-running and out-running the Auckland pack but the Auckland backs were superior. For Universities Tremaine and Prian scored tries. Diack converted one and kicked two penalties, while Lineen and Carey scored for Auckland. Of the University backs Osborne at full-back was the star with his coolness in line-kicking and tackling ability. Henderson at half-back deserved praise. Prian and Wood both shone at the first five-eighths while the centres tackled well, especially Diack who was again in form at goal-kicking, scoring 8 points. Of the forwards the captain, Hutchinson, was probably the hardest worker. Tremaine played a good game in the loose while Dunne and Nepia battled well. Did winger Dalton, instrumental in scoring Auckland's first try put his left foot over the terrace touch-line?

Although both teams scored two tries the Varsities were too powerful as a team for Auckland and their combination especially in the forwards was the deciding factor in the well-fought match.

A CANCEROUS GROWTH?

they said

"We go to gain a little patch of ground."—*Hamlet*.

Can the University not claim to be one of the great institutions of this country? And can it not, therefore, claim to have buildings not only affording adequate accommodation but also presenting to the eye a symbol of the greatness of the institution?—*Kiwi, October, 1905*.

If someone has to travel to the suburbs, we hope we should not be accused of selfishness in urging the convenience of students the year round, as against that of visitors to Government for the short periods during which the Governor is in residence.—*Kiwi, June, 1910*.

If the student can see past the confusion of his own University, he will see a greater confusion beyond; that of dilapidated boarding-houses stretching down Grafton Gully towards the Domain — over land that could accommodate the University now and for many years to come.—*Craccum, August, 1952*.

it's the truth . . .

When the University of Auckland was first established, in 1882, it was intended that the whole of the Government House Grounds should be set aside for the College. One of the first Professors, then about to leave England to take up his duties here, in conversation with Sir Frances Dillon-Bell, then the High Commissioner of New Zealand, was shown a photograph of Government House. "That" said Sir Francis, "is your future University." When, however, the professor reached New Zealand, he found that the intention had not been carried into effect, and, owing to a request of the City Council, the intended transfer was never made.

The site dispute has raged for sixty years. It must not continue!

hobson bay dreamers . .

The Hobson Bay site is nothing but a red herring seized upon by the City Council and dangled temptingly before the University Council, the student body, and the citizens of Auckland. Its disadvantages have been enumerated too many times to make them worth repeating at any length, but the main points are these:

The difficulties of travelling to Hobson Bay for any student living in the Western or Southern suburbs of the city.

The amount of time necessary before Hobson Bay can be put into a fit state for anything at all to be built on it.

The complete disruption that would be caused by having the University split for some years between Hobson Bay, Princes Street, and any other obscure parts of Auckland to which it may be forced to spread before practical action is taken on the site question.

Regardless of which site is to be chosen, however, would it be too much to expect a considered decision to be made, and, once made, abided by?

Phil. Crookes.

VLTIMATVM SENATVM CONSVLTVM

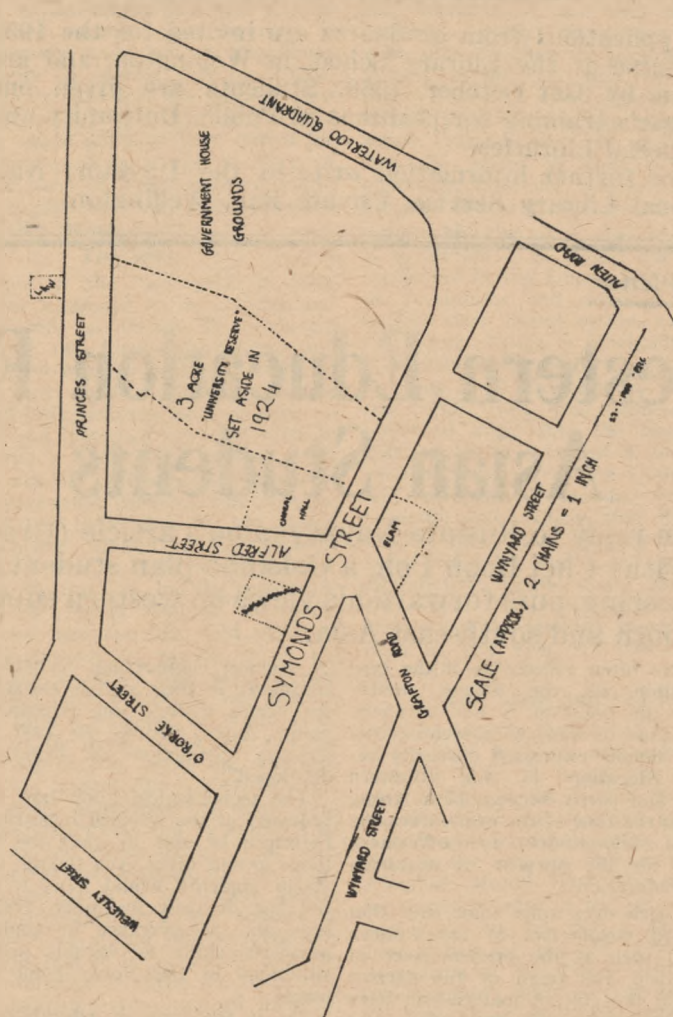
On Monday, 21st July, "Craccum" reporters Bill Broughton and Phil Crookes attended a meeting of the City Council. On the agenda were a number of points bearing upon the University siting question, all of which gave ample opportunity for the Council members individually to reiterate their long-standing opinions regarding the future home of A.U.

Arthur Young's letter concerning the Executive's opinions on the requirements of a University (reprinted opposite) was received. Much favourable comment was heard later, notably from Councillors Robinson — "one of the finest short summings-up I have ever heard. It gives a global picture (sic) of the needs of the University" — and Carpenter — "a very dignified summary. My sincere congratulations to Mr Young." Debate in the Council was stopped by the Mayor as soon as it threatened to become an axe-grinding session and the Council passed to more important business. The assurance that the Council would assist Stud. Assn. in its endeavour to obtain a University that would "be worthy of this city" was not officially forthcoming, and was apparently not considered of prime importance, since the Agenda made reference only to the submitting of "certain views which the Assn. considers should be taken into account when selecting a site for the Auckland University".

Later in the agenda came a letter from Professor McGregor, containing an invitation to the Town Planning Committee to view a series of slides collected that had "direct application to the question of the siting." This seemed to cause Councillor Robinson some concern. In a

spirited speech beginning "The Council should not fall for this one. It's an attempt to embroil the City Council in the Varsity's hot controversy," Mr Robinson moved an amendment to the motion of acceptance, reading "that the Council thank Prof. McGregor for the offer and inform him that this is not a matter in which the Council can express an opinion, and that any councillor can take advantage of the offer if he so wishes." Councillor Bradley, supported by C's Savory and Bloodworth, lead the counter-attack, remarking that Mr Robinson spoke with two voices, "those of a coloratura soprano and a basso-profundo." Councillor Bradley was ruled out of order and the amendment was lost.

A reply to the Minister of Education regarding a decision on the site was passed, following the discussion of the previous meeting. The Council remained adamant on the subject, as was shown by Mr Robinson's remark, "We're not telling them where to go; we're just telling them where they won't go." Later Councillor Savory introduced the new projected Town Planning Scheme, maintaining that it had been passed clause by clause over the previous two years. While the desirability of ratifying it without inspection was being discussed,



The above plan shows, in dotted outline, the present site of the University, and in its entirety the site described in the Town Planning Scheme.

town planning schemers .

There is in existence in this city a thick (150 page) document called the "District Planning Scheme". It has been prepared by the Town Planning Division of the City Council, and merits close attention from all who are interested in the future development of the University. Although the scheme has been presented to the City Council piecemeal over the past two years, the Councillors, at their meeting on July 21st, refused to approve of it, claiming that they had had no time to examine it. At the same time, certain Councillors showed a remarkably accurate knowledge of its content by going directly to the paragraph referring to the University (reprinted below) and making such comments as "We must oppose this to the limit of our legal powers".

Elsewhere on this page, it has been shown that the Council's antagonism to the University goes back as far as the 1880's, and it has been carried on continuously to the present day.

The Councillors strenuous objections were to the following paragraph: "Land for University extension within the blocks bounded by Wellesley Street East, Princes Street, Waterloo Quadrant, Alten Road, the proposed new motorway and Wynyard Street excluding St Andrews Church and excluding in addition a section of Crown land below St Pauls Church and a further section adjoining thereto and fronting Symonds Street."

sixty years of struggle for a site

Mr Carpenter, perusing the document, appeared to find a clause that left a rather unsavory taste in his mouth. Clause 23 on page xv of Appendix A (quote above) regarding the siting of the A.U. on a block bounded by Princes Street, Waterloo Quadrant, Wellesley Street, and the Grafton motorway, when revealed to the Council, caused an immediate blocking of the report. In the ensuing discussion Mr Carpenter declared, "It's a shame that this sort of thing should be allowed. We've torn down everything worthwhile. Government House will go . . . even the old windmill had to go due to lack of money." Later in an interview with *Craccum* he stated, "We dispute that the Town Planning Scheme went through Council. We were unaware of it. It is contrary to the majority of the decisions of the Council." In view of the earlier reply of the Council to Mr Skoglund, the constitutional acceptance of a scheme embodying the Princes Street site could well have proved a most embarrassing situation for the Council, a contingency thwarted only by the vigilance of Councillor Carpenter, who later to our reporter expressed his deepest devotion to the Varsity, citing as a tangible proof the fact that he held Badge number four from the old Hongi

Club.

At question time Mr Carpenter attempted to put nine questions for ratification as a questionnaire to the Minister of Education. The point was ruled out of order by the Mayor, and the two-thirds majority needed to force discussion under the Standing Orders was not available. The text of the questions dealt with the desirability of a campus University, the undesirability of approving a valuable area for future A.U. development, and asked most significantly, (5) "why permit the over-riding of Auckland's town planning as laid down for the Symonds Street area?" and finally, in question (9) "Is it reasonable to turn a deaf ear . . . to the pleas of . . . the influential student body's request . . . which make it abundantly clear that the Princes Street site will be inadequate right now for an integrated, full-scale University . . .?" In view of the division of opinion among the students at last year's unofficial poll, Mr Carpenter's implication might deserve further clarification.

The ruling against the questions concluded the Council's discussion of the University site. Further developments will be found in the local Press following the next City Council Meeting.

THE NEW EXECUTIVE TAKES ACTION

The following is the text of a letter sent by the Students' Association Executive President, Arthur Young, to the Auckland City Council. The letter was received at the last City Council meeting, Monday, 21st July.

Dear Sir,

The Auckland University Students' Association, through its newly-elected Executive, has instructed me to put this letter before the Auckland City Council in a sincere effort to assist the clarification of the issue of Auckland's new University.

We wish to make it clear at the outset that we do not presume to enter into any debate on the question of the site for the new University; not only are we unqualified to assess many of the financial, geographical and other aspects involved, but, further, such student opinion as exists is divided.

We feel strongly, however, that we are qualified to express an opinion upon the aims and objects of a University, the components of which Auckland's University should, ideally, consist, and the facilities it should, ideally, contain.

We feel that we can speak with authority in making such a statement of the ultimate for a University in Auckland for two reasons: firstly, because the present students are living and working from day to day under the present organisation and are therefore immediately conscious of its deficiencies, and, secondly, by the same token, we have a close appreciation of what would be ideally desirable.

The aims and objects of a University are, broadly, two-fold: on the one hand, to further the acquisition of knowledge in particular fields by study and research, and on the other, to promote the association of those studying in different fields in order that one's knowledge can be applied with greater understanding and to the best effect.

Ideally, Auckland's University should eventually contain on one site, with provision for expansion, at least:-

- (a) A Faculty of Arts.
- (b) A Faculty of Science.
- (c) A Faculty of Law.
- (d) A Faculty of Commerce.
- (e) A Faculty of Music.
- (f) A School of Architecture.
- (g) A School of Engineering.
- (h) A School of Fine Arts.
- (i) A School of Divinity.
- (j) A School of Medicine.
- (k) A Teaching Hospital.
- (l) An Administration Block.
- (m) A Students' Association Block.
- (n) Residential Colleges.

The facilities of the University should, ideally, be capable of ministering to the needs of the full University population. They should therefore be capable of expansion and should include on one site at least:-

- (a) Fully-equipped lecture rooms, laboratories and studios in sufficient numbers and of sufficient size to meet all teaching and research requirements.
- (b) An adequate Library with room for private study.
- (c) A Hall capable of containing the entire University population.
- (d) A well-equipped theatre.
- (e) Adequate facilities for the Staff.
- (f) Sufficient common rooms for the whole student body for relaxation, social activities and society meetings, and an adequate cafeteria.
- (g) Sports fields, tennis courts, gymnasium and other sporting facilities including adequate shower rooms, changing rooms and locker rooms.

We do not suggest that these ultimates would be immediately practical, but we feel that in selecting a site consideration must be given to what is ultimately desirable.

Insofar as the Students' Association considers that these aspects are those towards which we would aspire in our quest for a new University, the Executive would respectfully ask the City Council, as representatives of the Citizens of Auckland, to assure us that the Council will assist the Association in endeavouring to obtain a University that will incorporate these as far as possible and be worthy of this City.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. Young,
President.

A.M.C.

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THE HAPPIEST OF ALL LITTLE POEMS FOR HALF
THE FAMILY

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Yes, he's stirred again with his greasy spoon
And spat in the city's scum.
The Dark Lord in his ivory Tower
Has tallied another sum.
But there's more to it than this Consort thinks
With his Widow of Princes Street.
There's the salt of the earth, those bastards by birth,
The students beneath his feet.
The Site's the thing. And it's so severe
On the lecturers in their huts.
They look at the knife, and they dip in the blood,
But they never think of the guts.
So long as there's nooks for their self-praised books,
And silver ash-trays for their fags,
The students can rot in the Black Hole they've got,
Dame Learning's children in rags.
But you've never been taken in, I suppose,
By that shrewd Professorial Bawd,
Whose fingers of hope play with the rope
That will strangle those students ignored
By the Government ghouls, and their newspaper tools,
And the varsity staff, and the firms
That ride their track on the student's back
With the smug satisfaction of worms.
You'll do your tricks, boys, in an empty hall
(But the Papers still pay for your leaders.)
You have your pub, and the social call.
We're in luck that not many are breeders.
Your still-born thoughts can lie unwept,
And students, that's the caper.
They can lie in stacks, intellectual racks,
But not embalmed in our paper.
Oh yes, my Poet, we toss you thanks,
As we add our praise to your own.
But do you know of the patience we show,
As we sit and hear you groan.
We have our little burden too,
Though the College Council laughed,
At the students' plea, that for their fee,
The Council should get staffed.
The staff we've got—oh you'd scream if you heard,
Droops from A to Z.
There's the mid-Victorian splintered crock;
The historical newly-wed;
The lecturer with his mayoral eye;
The cultured Hens on the wing;
The corpses they forgot to box,
Sans mind, sans everything.
There's the ones we have on foreign loan
And another who won his gown
While the country's best, at a Flag's request,
Died for the British Crown.
But that's not all in the gilded cage;
There's even some who think!
And the bravest of all with his back to the wall
Blushes a Kremlin pink.
And the bible beetles in their Sunday black.
Oh honest men are rare
As a lecturing needle in a staff haystack,
Or essays marked with care.
At the city, Allen, you chimed your rhyme,
But think of the bell I've rung,
In the grief that all these stumble past,
Unmourned, unseen, unhung.

-D.K

MIDDLE EAST AGAIN

I voted for the defeated motion. No one is more heartily on the side of the Western Democracies than I am in their struggle to survive, and I still do see some hope that they may triumph 'while this terrible, strident century hammers on', as Drew Middleton has put it so well. I therefore oppose Middle East military intervention, not because I am habitually at loggerheads with Anglo-American policy on principle, but because the policy itself in this case seems to me to be in our side's long term interests. Yet I think the British Labour Party's policy in deliberately dividing the House of Commons on the issue, after the Amman landings and after it had let the American Lebanese intervention the day before be approved without a division, as it did before at the height of the Suez crisis, to be thoroughly irresponsible. The party can at present do nothing to help: it may have that chance after 1960. The only purpose such action serves is to split the British nation at a time when it is the duty of all especially those with power over public opinion, to sympathise with the elected government. Sympathise, not necessarily support: if that support cannot be in good conscience forthcoming, then the Labour Party should bide its time, resolve to do better if it can if its opportunity is given, but in the meantime shut up.

But, as I said, I oppose the interventions as bad policy. Unless Britain and America intend to be in military occupation semi-permanently, and presuming that no world war breaks out as an immediate result of the present crisis, they are going to have to extricate their troops from Jordan and Lebanon, probably this year. To put it mildly, their withdrawal is going to suffer in comparison with the glory of the Mountbatten exit from India in 1947, the last comparable occasion in Asia. In a rather longer term view, the West's prestige and goodwill in the area will completely disappear. We must understand the great, and if we turn it against us fearsome strength of Afro-Asian and more specifically Arab nationalism. Let us try to conceive its magnitude. Every now and then, there appear in the press letters or reports of speeches in which the existence of a small number of R.N. officers on loan here is deplored. Why can't we have a completely Enzed navy, we are asked peevishly. Now, no two countries have ever been more sentimentally attached to each other than twentieth century Britain and New Zealand. Yet even this tiny intrusion is a considerable irritant to our national pride, it appears. If this is so, what stinging indignation must Arabs feel at the spectacle of British and American troops invading the heart of their territory? Not only are these foreigners with different languages and

skin colours but they are the very ones by whom most Arabs feel they have been cruelly exploited. The reaction against colonialism has been violent and, the next generation of historians will probably agree, quite exaggerated, for this force has done tremendous good to all the countries it has affected. But that is not the point. The point is that the more the West seems to be unsympathetic to their aspirations, the more the Arabs are likely to ally themselves with the Communist bloc. 'The enemy of my enemy', they say traditionally, 'is my friend'.

What, then, should be the West's policy? For the next twenty years at least, until atomic energy becomes the major source of industrial power, the Western nations depend on the Middle East for oil, which is quite indispensable to them. Oil has brought great riches to some Arab people, but the very fact of foreign pipelines stretching over tracts of country is a continuous and irritating reminder to them of white men's exploitation, and we are so utterly dependent on the Nasser-controlled Suez Canal for an artery. Both are appallingly vulnerable to attack; in fact they are technically quite indefensible. Over the last score or so months, the tendency has been to build super-tankers, too large to use Suez, especially constructed for the journey around the Cape. This movement should be accelerated with all possible speed, with the goal of finishing the frightening reliance on the pipelines and the canal. These tankers can venture up the Persian Gulf to the actual centres of oil production, and back by the longer but safer route. Pipelines from inland production centres should be re-routed to these ports as far as this is practicable, instead of as at present across several potentially actively hostile Arab states to the Eastern Mediterranean. And what will this achieve in the positive direction? Briefly, we may hope that the dictum "absence makes the heart grow fonder" will apply. The purely physical presence of irritating marks of foreign interference will be removed, and this in itself is tremendously important to an uneducated populace. Our strategic problems in the region will be greatly simplified. The Arabs should quickly realise how much their economic welfare is dependent on co-operation with the West, as well as vice-versa. It will be very surprising if the Arabs do not find out smartly that Communist policy is far, far less sympathetic to nationalism than the West's. And the great democracies will have the chance to prepare and execute a vitally necessary master plan for future relations with all the Afro-Asians, based on realism (for instance, the fact that they outnumber us by about three to one) and the entirely new outlook required for the late fifties and all the foreseeable future.

—T. J. Power

Science Soc:

CANCER RESEARCH

It is always very interesting for a student in pure science to hear of the problems of a research worker in an applied field. This was so on Tuesday 1st July when Dr Burton, Cancer Research Specialist at Cornwall Hospital, addressed the Scientific Society.

He first gave a summary of previous attempts to treat cancer by chemical means — these were in the main unsuccessful as there was no effect on the cancer carcinoma which it was desired to destroy. Following this was a description of the work being undertaken at Cornwall Hospital at present. The experimental animals used are specially inbred mice, which are very susceptible to cancer and in general develop a carcinoma within six to eight weeks of birth. These mice are then injected with a sterile preparation of the chemical which it is desired to test. They are then regularly weighed over the next week or ten days and at the end of this time the

size of the carcinomas is compared with their original size, a decrease of 50% in its size being considered significant.

The talk was excellently illustrated with a number of slides giving illustrations of the test animals used, of the type of results obtained, and of the chemicals, mainly organic, known to have a positive effect on cancer growths in test animals.

However, there is a long road from a successful experiment on mice to a good cure of cancer in humans and a great amount of work will be required before this Chemotherapy can be applied by the general medical practitioner.

—A.R.P.



Modern Art

The term "modern art" has become a conversational "seconds out of the ring" whereby any aesthetically inert, uniformed moron, may register his opinion with the authority of an expert. While every man may have the right of free speech, it does not necessarily follow that he has the right to be listened to. Egalitarianism universalises bad taste and not good, for even in the welfare state, good taste does not come with the family benefit. I have often been told that one should not have to know anything about "modern art" to appreciate it, in fact, if the painting is a good one, the dumber you are about painting, the better you should like it.

This attitude is utterly wrong. If you were not to know that, of thirty uniformed men running amok on a paddock, fifteen were trying to get a ball past one end and the other fifteen trying to get it past the other, you would wonder what the hell the fuss was about. In fact one would not blame you for laughing your silly head off. In other words, in painting, as in football, you have to know a few of the rules of the game. Here I wish to suggest tentatively a few rules for looking at abstract paintings.

It is inclined to be forgotten that all paintings are in a sense optical illusions: they are not, and cannot be, imitations of the physical world but expositions of the relationships to nature of an integral part of nature. For to demand of a painter to paint "nature" is simply asking him to paint. The difference between academic naturalism and abstractionism is one of style. Both styles create a reality by improvising upon rhythms consisting of the relationships of form and colour in space. The denial of abstract art is an emotional disturbance of the general public who, to quote Mr Tomory, "find it difficult to stomach anything painted since 1914". However, this is no defence of something that needs no defending, suffice it to say that public taste has always been fifty years behind the times.

The essential difference between the abstract style and the naturalist style is that the former is a product of the twentieth century. As such, the importance of criticising the painter bearing twentieth century criteria in mind is paramount. This does not mean that the subject or the object of painting has basically altered but that the painter's environment has. Man has always seen the world in terms of himself and when the relationship of man to the physical world changes as much as it has changed in the last hundred years, it follows that the terms in which a painter views the world will also change radically. All art is the product of its age and the abstract style is the only style that the twentieth century can faithfully sustain.

Never before has man been quite so conscious of his own achievements for, in the main, he exists in a man-made environment. It is logical, therefore, that he should view the world more as a man-made world than ever before. Man has created symbols which are developments of symbols implied in the natural world. The most characteristic of these are the straight line, the rectangle, and the square. It is to be expected that the urban man in particular should see his

whole environment in relation to these symbols and consequently the predominance of geometric symbols in modern art is right and proper.

That abstract art is a product of the twentieth century is not difficult to illustrate. The post-impressionists can be regarded as a reaction against the advance of crudity and ugliness in the form of the machine age. Early industrialism stood as a betrayal of nature and man and it appears certain that Van Gogh in particular expresses this reaction in his work. But this was escapism (although not an altogether unpleasant variety) from a world that was inevitably changing. The cubists — Cezanne, Picasso, and Braque — began to see that the natural world in terms of man's creations and their work represents abstractionism in embryo. They realised that the natural world no longer dominated man; man dominated it. However, the abstract movement is not an expression of the new materialism but rather, it is the readjustment of man to nature herself: a search for a more explicitly human expression of nature: in fact, a new humanism.

Consequently, the painting of today is predominantly introspective and its philosophical content is greater. The Dutch painters, Van Doesburg and Piet Mondrian represent "neo-platonism"; Jackson Pollack and his "tachiste" disciples, "nihilism"; Jean Miro: "surrealism"; Paul Klee and Wassily Kandinsky: a new "spiritualism". The new "spiritualist" painters are perhaps the most mature and developed school. For them, the subject of painting is the human mind itself, not regarded so much as an intellectual element of the natural world but, as an utterly unique part of nature belonging to man and being the essence of man. Of course, the trend of development has puzzled, and therefore annoyed, the layman, who feels that philosophy should be as far removed from painting as he thinks it is from literature. However, although the philosophy of art will, as always, remain obscure to the general public, as abstract motifs become increasingly vulgarised in advertising, fabric designs, and interior decoration, the "story" of a modern painting will become readily acceptable and intelligible to the general public. But to those who regard the faculty of intelligent application a prerequisite for the appreciation of a poem or a symphony, this article may persuade or provoke them to do the same for an abstract painting.

—W. CURNOW

weary... stale... unprofitable...

Meeting No. 2 of the Exec. revealed that the gift of the gab did not belong exclusively to its predecessors and in spite of President Young's efforts to keep people to the point, this meeting lasted ten hours.

Discussion on the Revue trip to Hamilton next year became very involved because although no definite arrangements can be made until the cast has been chosen the Theatre has to be booked now. All of which seems relatively simple but as Exec. were not slow to discover there are many things hidden in such a situation. Unfortunate incidents over Capping make it imperative to be more or less definite about the tour when booking the hall so that a cancellation will not be necessary for any other reason except casting difficulties. Discussion following this naturally quickly shifted to the financial aspect in which Mr Millers determinedly pessimistic view of the inevitability of such a venture being a financial loss cast an air of gloom over the meeting. However certain more cheerful souls pointed out that the probability of breaking even and of even making a profit was just as likely. Another more serious difficulty was raised by Mr Bayley viz. if Revue tour does come off will the cast be handicapped, i.e. if two people are in the running for the one part would it be likely that if one of them could go to Hamilton the balance would swing in his/her favour. However Mr Bindon assured the meeting that script, cast, etc. would be organised with Auckland principally in view. Nobody could think of any reason why Revue should go to Hamilton at all until at last Miss Snook pointed out that if Revue were enthusiastic enough to be willing to organise the thing their enthusiasm should be aided.

Mr Miller's Shylockian streak caused him to question the capping accounts brought forward for ratification. Some of them certainly did seem a little extraordinary, and although nothing can be done about them now I can see a movement in the air to keep a much closer tag on what Capping Committee is doing in the future.

Mr Bayley's letter to the City Council (see elsewhere in this issue) setting forth the ideals of a University and expressing the hope that the Council in its consideration of a site was taking these things into consideration, dazzled by the detail, i.e. Mr Bayley reveals a capacity for work that is truly amazing. Needless to say when the question arose of who should take up the position of Public Relations Officer (which is a new scheme on a trial basis the general idea to keep the University in touch with what goes on in the city and vice-versa), Mr Bayley was elected.

(Final note: although Mr Bayley's peppermints didn't do much to prevent people repeating each other's statements two or three times it certainly made a world of difference to Yours Truly).

"Ardmore Rumpus"

The orderly tranquility with which the meeting began was somewhat strained with the outline given by the engineering representative, of the recent domestic troubles at Ardmore. Mr Cowley sketched in the background of the strife and divulged the latest information on the subject. Following the lifting of the ban on engineering students to associate with Training College students, the Vice-Chancellor visited the School and imposed disciplinary action on the Engineering Executive as retribution for the alleged libellous article in their magazine. Each member was fined to the tune of £5 a piece. Gasps of horror reverberated around the Executive Room, and it was decided to ascertain all the facts of the situation from the Vice-Chancellor. It was also decided to journey en bloc to Ardmore to gain first hand information on the difficulties.

A string of financial measures were then passed in rapid succession. Apparently these were quite commonplace manoeuvres to a financier, but Mr Maidment was visibly impressed and was moved to ejaculate admiringly; "bloody ingenious". Later in the meeting, Mr Maidment spent a fascinating 40 minutes fighting a long, arduous (and wholly imaginary) battle against the Massed Forces opposing the purchase of a Second Executive Typewriter. He won a notable victory.

A further display of ingenuity was revealed by the novel extortion methods developed and used with effect by Mr Bayley to raise presentation funds. Apparently he inveigles his current lecturer to deliver a short propaganda talk at the end of the lecture urging support for the particular cause, and Mr Bayley collects the loot at the door as the students stream out.

The appointment of the N.Z.U.S.A. delegates brought to light what suspiciously seems like a domestic suffragette movement. Several members opposing the appointment of Miss Snook as delegate to N.Z.U.S.A. Educational Sub-Committee, claiming that, as she was the first Auckland woman delegate for some time, she should be installed permanently at the Council Table. As Miss Snook was elected Chairman of A.U. Ed. Sub-Committee an hour before, the objection did seem contradictory.

Amongst discussion on several measures of capping administration was revealed new dramatic evidence in the paint-throwing case in Proceh. The student accused, alleges that he was definitely sober and that he saw quite clearly a Post-Primary School Pupil

hurl the paint, and he has the support of a business-man who was standing nearby. The business man was also sober.

After some rapid discussion on societies and reports, the meeting slowed to a halt, leaving one amazed at the intricate problems involved in administrating.

correspondence -

Sir,

I heartily agree with Mr Gager that a society founded on a lie cannot stand. Nor is any lie more damnable than the lie that man can work out his own salvation.

God has saved the people, when He has been allowed. Will Mr Gager deny that reformation of the employer is much preferable to a revolution organized by employees? England after Wesley's revival, whatever abuses may have been permitted in the name of religion, was a much preferable place to France after the Revolution. The reforms effected by the Clapham Sect — Christian men, be it noted, of strong evangelical convictions — left a far better taste in the mouth than the reforms of any "mass" agitation have ever done.

Religion has often been used as a cloak for evil; but such religion is a far cry from Biblical Christianity. Cloaks for evil are many and varied, and most effective when the evil can be done in the name of that which is good. There is no guarantee that any good movement will not be used to evil ends unless the power of God through Jesus Christ works in the lives of those who direct it.

But above all, let us remember that not temporal salvation, but the salvation which is eternal, matters.

—J. H. MAINDONALD

Sir,

May I heartily support the sentiments expressed by your correspondent "Pitcher" in your last number. It is good to see that at least one reader is not prepared to swallow the peculiar brand of "sugar-coated arsenic" which is continually waved temptingly before our eyes by the vociferous left-wing minority in this University. Unfortunately, the democracy so much worshipped in the western world enables such minorities to be as vociferous as they please. It seems to me ironic that the free world should continue to embrace a political system which allows its enemies freedom to work within that system for its destruction.

I suggest that Mr Gager in the latest of his seemingly endless propaganda articles, is opposed to de Gaulle because he feels that the General's government may impede or frustrate Communist attempts to undermine the Western Alliance and the freedom we now enjoy. His own admission, "that French democracy was leading France to bankruptcy", why the communists, or for those who appears to me to be the obvious reason prefer the euphemism, Socialist, desire to maintain the bankrupt political system of democracy just until it has enabled them to overthrow it for their own ends.

Unfortunately, this vicious minority, which would appear to be prepared even to stab its own people in the back in the interests of an unavoidable ideology and a foreign power, is often able to secure the support of a sincere but gullible group which is beguiled into believing that the Communists really want peace, instead of merely a military truce to enable them to effect world domination by subversive and underhand means. We may at least take consolation in the result of the recent protest meeting, sponsored by the misleaders and the misled, which shows that the members of this University are not prepared to sit passively while they are bombarded with this subversive propaganda, or to swallow Communist "sugar-coated arsenic."

—C. C. HAYDEN.

Sir,

Most of your readers will I think agree with me in objecting to the current monopoly of journalism in Auckland. The establishment of an independent newspaper is long overdue. I should, therefore, be grateful to you if you would publish the following prospectus which has been tentatively suggested as a basis for discussion at the public meeting which will be held when a sufficient number of replies to the prospectus have been received.

1. A limit to the number of shares to be held by any shareholder or group of shareholders.

2. The company to have the right of refusal of any shares a shareholder wishes to sell.

3. A 'Forum' to be one of the main features, anyone being eligible subject to conformance with law and reason and the normal standards of the paper. The volume of correspondence, free or purchased, to be kept in reasonable proportion to the bulk of the paper, this in the discretion of the editor.

4. The directorate with power to elect its chairman, to be elected by postal vote of shareholders.

5. A provisional directorate to be appointed to act until the paper commences operations.

6. To be non party politically and non sectarian.

7. Profits, if, any, to be at the discretion of shareholders, used for expansion and/or reserves or dividends.

8. Articles to be paid for but syndicated articles of the propaganda sort not taken.

9. Strict selection of articles to avoid the modern trend of professional journalism, superficially informed.

10. N.Z. literature to be encouraged.

11. Strict supervision of advertisements and other matter to exclude those with a demoralising effect such as some films. Suppression of the more unsavoury items of police court news so that the paper may be safely read by children.

12. A strong rural section to be built up to encourage national interest in the industries which provide the main proportion of our bread and butter. Catering for advertisers in those industries and observing a sense of proportion on the question of public demands on national expenditure.

13. A graduated scale of charges for advertising space, advertisements demanding conspicuousness as to size of print etc. being charged accordingly. This being to provide space for essentials.

14. To be a morning paper.

15. When shares allotted a proportion of each to face value of shares to be decided say one fifth on a £5 share. The balance to be called later.

16. Any intending subscriber to pay 1/-, or small sum and will sign an undertaking to take one share or 2/- for 2 shares and so on up to the limit allowed. If sufficient capital is not promised, the subscriber will not make any more than this initial payment. This initial payment will go into a fund for preliminary expenses such as advertising and to be administered by the provisional directorate who will employ legal methods. Unless the public will undertake to support the project with about £500,000, it will not be wise to proceed.

Those interested are urged to write to Mr Robert L. Wilson, 4 Valley Rd., Henderson. When enough people have written to him saying they will attend, he will call a daytime meeting in Auckland, probably at Newton.

—MARY BURN.



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IN MEMORIAM

—Student Responsibility.

For crass imbecility, stupidity and irresponsibility, the kindergarten element at this 'University' has shown its inestimable worth. Here, in the University of Auckland main hall, on Monday, 21st July, we had the spectacle of physically-mature people acting with all the symptoms of wilful, complacent children throwing a meaningless tantrum. The noise of this childish action was just a little frightening — two hundred voices raised in a vacuous roar of what can only be regarded as blood-lust are inclined to have this effect on the most phlegmatic of spirits. It was the occasion of a meeting to protest against Anglo-American intervention in the Middle East called by the Student Christian Movement in combination with Socialist Society — an unholy alliance which is, perhaps, the reason why so many came 'just for the laughs'. The tragedy of the situation is that those who came to laugh, stayed. To say that all of them stayed to laugh would be a grave distortion of the truth: suffice to mention that perhaps 5% of them had considered the issue seriously before the end of the meeting.

Dr Parnaby chaired this session of the gladiatorial games. Dr Martin Finlay spoke first; he was shouted down, and subjected to every insult a gang of yokels could possibly offer an educated man. He spoke against the intervention, but his reasons and opinions were lost in the 'jolly-jolly, let's have a laugh, let's prove we don't know or admit reason and courtesy' roar from the plebs. It is impossible to report much of what he said because of this, this iron-curtain of smart, uninformed remarks and off-colour songs, not to mention fruit and lunch-papers hurled. This bombardment was, at one stage, so heavy that a responsible-minded person, (or was he a mere showman goon?) brought a waste basket in and placed it in front of the hall, near the stage. A comment from Dr Finlay on this raised a howl from the travestied intelligentsia. Later, when he answered a question very honestly and said that he was afraid to die, he was mocked by a chorus of 'ohs' and 'ahs' — an implication of cowardice where he should have been credited with a forthright courage. Presumably the people who raised this howl had no qualms on death, a matter for earnest speculation. Pity, you stones, these tender babes immured within your ancient walls.

When Professor Airey rose to speak, he too was greeted by a braying growl. A quiet flaying with words even they could understand soon silenced the cavorting asses, and gave him a more restrained hearing. What he had to say, a truism, that the United Nations Charter did not sanction the intervention, was heard by the majority of the audience.

During the speeches, a small faction of Balts who had experienced a Communist regime, and who were, unhappily, backed by the mob, expressed their anxiety over supposed Russian intervention. Although every thinking person in the audience felt sympathy for their anxiety, and appreciated their warning, the appeal was too emotionally phrased for many to

realise its sincerity.

The speeches over, a resolution was moved by Mr Denis Taylor, and seconded by Mr Jonathan Hunt. The gist of this resolution was: 'that this meeting do protest to the United Nations Organisation through the N.Z. Government over the American intervention in the Lebanon and against the British intervention in Jordan'. Then the beasts were loosed once more, for the discussion. There was some surprisingly valuable comment forthcoming, despite a goon attempt to move a directly negative amendment; Mr Allen Curnow spoke for the resolution, and very ably pointed out that those who opposed it, because they believed the Lebanon and Jordan to be in danger of Russian domination, had no shred of factual evidence on which to base this belief. (It is apparent, however, that history justifies their doubts on the ultimate fate of the Lebanon and Jordan. The point is simply that they cannot demonstrate Russian influence except by parallels). Unfortunately, Mr Curnow's remarks were marred by a very non-U comparison of Auckland newspapers with Fleet Street newspapers, activated by personal bias, but this did not much detract from their worth.

When Mr Tony Steemson spoke neither for nor against the resolution by telling us that he considered Arab nationalism and its extensions dangerous, he showed us that he had looked at the problem sanely; this puts him on a far higher intellectual plane than the mouth-ing rabble. Mr Macauley Hamilton showed a (previously latent) responsibility that well became him. In speaking against the resolution, his points were clear, and well and sensibly put; they were not, however, relevant because he, too, was obsessed with the bogey of Russian influence. There was no other speaker of any consequence against the resolution — unless such remarks as 'Send him to the salt mines!' are to be regarded as intelligent comment.

And the final irony — the vote. Scrutineers were appointed, and the resolution was put: it was LOST. While there was a minority of serious and thoughtful people who registered a valid dissent, that resolution was LOST because the inane majority HAD to vote against it as a matter of debased principle, LOST because they HAD to protect themselves against the frightening wound of a serious issue which demands calm, deliberate attention.

LOST BECAUSE THE HERD OBEYED ITS ANIMAL INSTINCTS, BUT WAS TOO FRIGHTENED TO CONSIDER ITS SURVIVAL.

— Ed. K. Saul

For our young-er fri-ends.

Did you en-joy the pro-test meet-ing? Was it not jol-ly good fun? Did you run a-way and tell all your fri-ends a-bout it? Did the litt-le girls pat you on the back and tell you what clev-er boys you are? How nice it is to be told you are clev-er! How nice it is to have such fun! I do hope you told your fri-ends a-bout it so that they can see how clev-er you are.

Do you re-al-ize that the Press saw you en-joy-ing your-selves, and that they are sure to tell ev-ery-one how clev-er you are? How nice for ev-ery-one to see how clev-er you have gro-wn? I am sure they will say you are very clev-er.

What do you want to do when you are gro-wn-up?

Do you know what a **Jun-gle** is?

Music Club Concerts

In the hope of eventually creating a Conservatorium at this University, the Faculty of Music, in keeping with the revival of culture apparent in this city in the past two years, has begun the second of their lunch-time series of concerts. Dr Nalden is to be congratulated, as head of the Faculty, in guiding these most interesting concerts by University students.

On Friday, July 4th, at 1 p.m., in the College Hall, a semi-contemporary programme was heard. *Sonata for Violin and Piano*, by Garth Clemson, a student at this College, was competently played by David Nalden (Violin) and a last minute substitute for Mr Clemson, himself, who had just left Auckland. Although the work itself was musically immature, it provided an excellent precedent, and it is to be hoped that more contemporary University composers' works will be heard, as surely the basis for establishing a Conservatorium in Auckland should rest on composition as well as exposition. Then came the *Intermezzo for Violin and Clarinet*, written in 1934 by Bentzon. This was played consistently well by Coralie Leyland (Violin) and Gail Jensen (Clarinet), but if any criticism is to be made it must be of the work, rather than the playing. After a rather satisfying first few bars, the remainder of the piece was rather unattractive and uninteresting, musically. Finally, on this programme, came Menotti's Buffa One-Act Opera, *The Telephone*, and here an amazing standard of competence was reached, from the admirable scenery of Reid Douglas through the piano playing of Philip Verran, the acting of Max Cryer and Joan Cochrane, to Vincent Ley's production. The actual play seemed to be rather outdated to the audience, accustomed to the telephone as a necessity, but this did not make the piece any the less enjoyable. Max Cryer was perfectly cast as the exasperated lover, having a peculiar ability to portray the slightly obscene with a mere raising of the eyebrow. His singing was good, as was the soprano's, Joan Cochrane. It was not surprising to learn later that both had gained the Walter Kirkby Singing Scholarship. Joan Cochrane was extremely versatile, and her facial contortions, like Mr Cryer's, were worth a good laugh, which

unhappily did not eventuate from a rather lethargically minded, but at least large, audience.

The next programme was held on July 18th, but here, the high standard of the previous concert was not attained. In the first work, *Brahms: Piano Quartet Op. 25*, Tertia Boon (Violin), Jocelyn Garvin (Viola), Mary Bramley ('cello) and Lynette Burry (Piano) frankly found the work too much for them, and coupled with a "first performance" nervousness, the playing was not of a very good quality. The essential unity of the four instruments, so necessary in Brahms (or in any other Romantic) was simply lacking. The other work, *Piano Quintet Op. 34*, by Brahms was much better. Dawn Innes and Maxine Moller Jocelyn Garvin (Viola), Denis Forrest ('cello) and Philip Verran (Piano), combining better as a group. But once again, perhaps the work was too much for them or else they had not had enough practice as the general standard was below that which is usually presented. The first violin showed a tendency to be sharp on one or two occasions, and once or twice especially in the slow second movement the playing became a little ragged. The Piano was a notable exception, outplaying the rest of the quintet. The next concert is to be held next Friday, in the Hall, at 1 p.m.

—SEMIBREVE

The Bogy Men

The first meeting of the Golf Club for the year was held at the Maungakiekie Golf Club on Sunday the 13th July starting at 9.30. 21 members participated in the Stableford which was held in the morning and despite the small numbers attending a very successful day was held. In the late hours of the afternoon about 8 members played skinnners and considering the time factor and circumstances beyond our control the scoring was amazing.

The Stableford was won with 35 points by Graham Gardiner with Charlie Burridge runner up with 33 points.

Tournament Selection this year will be made on the 3rd of August so all members interested in competing must watch the notice board for details of the open day which will be held on this date.