



CRACCUM

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' PAPER

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Mandle on Varsity Reform

New Zealand universities could profitably be reformed to bring their teaching methods much closer to those prevailing in the major British varsities. This was the major conclusion drawn by Mr W. F. Mandle, A.U. History lecturer who leaves for Adelaide next month, in an interview with CRACCUM. Mr Mandle, who gained an Oxford First just before coming to New Zealand in 1958, outlined the way students at his alma mater were taught, comparing and contrasting this with what he considered the gravely defective local brand.

Our unit system is bad, he thinks. With such a wide variety of subjects to be studied, knowledge gained of each discipline must tend to be superficial. What is more, the subjects themselves are all too often unrelated one to another, and so there is no feeling at the end of it all that one has received a balanced and integrated education.

But above all Mr Mandle stressed the serious weakness inherent in an system which had annual examination as an integral feature. There was constant, unremitting pressure on all students to stick closely to the syllabus on pain of failing finals. Thus the wide reading which should be so essential a part of a liberal education was actually discouraged in New Zealand universities.

(PPE), 800 each Greats (Classics) and Modern Languages, and smaller numbers Oriental studies, Theology and Geography. In the fields of History, English and Modern Languages, Oxford is recognised as the leading English university. On the other hand in her second largest faculty, Science, she lags well behind Cambridge. Law, Medicine and Music are also taught, but not Commerce.

After two terms at Oxford during which he has been doing work of a broadly similar nature to New Zealand Stage 1 units, the student sits a preliminary examination. Failure means the abrupt termination of one's university career, but two attempts to pass are allowed, and in fact fewer than 10 per cent. are stopped at this stage.

From there on there are no examinations until Schools (Finals) at the end of the course. Thus one has seven glorious uninterrupted terms during which to gain a real university education. Mr Mandle stated that it was not a valid objection to the Oxford system to say that the absence of exams means the student has no real idea of how he was progressing, for with the individual teaching which is possible where the staff-student ratio is about 9-1, tutors were able to submit comprehensive reviews of each charge's work at the end of each term. The close relations between don and student are very important in the success of the system.

maintained, there are two important points which keep this from being as serious a matter as it might appear to New Zealanders. First the subjects are much wider in their scope than they are here. The branches of History taught range from military to ecclesiastical, and a History course contained papers in our subject Economics and Political Science. Furthermore—and this was a theme to which Mr Mandle returned vigorously later—the young Britisher, unlike his Kiwi counterpart, was properly prepared in his public or grammar school sixth form for a university education.

"Appalling Teaching"

Before major changes can be made in universities, Mr Mandle believes, there will have to be drastic reform in the secondary schools. 'The new Commission of Education must do something about the appalling teaching in the upper school,' he said. First of all, the dictation of notes should be banned as a means of instruction.

It should be insisted that each teacher taking a Sixth Form have an Honours degree. If this were not immediately practicable, the universities should conduct 'serious and regular' refresher courses, and pressure should be placed on teachers without this qualification to attend them. Mr Mandle sees the need for much closer liaison between school and university as regards the methods of teaching. He suggests that a good way of achieving this end is by pursuing a policy of letting young teachers just down from the university teach sixth forms. This is done regularly in Britain, Mr Mandle says, without older masters assigned to junior forms feeling that a blow is being struck at their precious seniority.

Undergraduate Honours Course

When reforms like these were underway, university students would not have to waste the first year of their course learning techniques which should have been taught at school, and Honours degrees at Bachelor level could be introduced.

Mr Mandle feels that there will always be some students who will survive any university teaching system, and emerge as intellectually mature

Continued on Page 4.



Auckland University ...

EXEC. NOMINATIONS

The final date for the receiving of nominations for the officers of the Association is May 6th, the last day of term. (Note: Officers include President, Man Vice-president, and Woman Vice-president).

Nominees will be expected to make policy speeches to those members of the student body who are interested enough to come along and listen on June 1st at 8 p.m. in the Hall. Voting will take place on June 2nd and 3rd.

Nominations for the rest of the positions on the Executive must be in the hands of the Students' Association Secretary by June 4th. Prospective Exec. members will state their platforms at a meeting on the night of June 14th, and voting will be on June 15th and 16th.

Nominators are expected to provide Craccum with a blurb about their candidate, which will be printed before the elections take place. These blurbs should be given to Craccum as soon as possible, and none will be accepted after the closing date for nominations. If you want to do your candidate justice, make sure you get this blurb in on time. Please supply a photograph as well, preferably showing head and shoulders only, but we can cut down larger prints without damaging the photograph if necessary.

An atheist is one who has no invisible means of support. — Sir Wyndham Lewis.



Merton College, Oxford

B.A. equal to our M.A.

Mr Mandle explained that at Oxford a B.A. Honours course occupies three years, and he thinks that the British young man or woman receives as good an education in that time as New Zealanders do by the time they have completed a Master's degree. In a total of about 8,000 Oxonians, males predominate 7 to 1, and the Arts claim nearly 6,000 students. Of this latter figure, roughly 1,200 are taking English, 1000 each History and the Philosophy, Politics and Economics trips

Narrow Range, Wide Scope

Oxford students do not attempt to cover a large number of subjects in their degree but concentrate on one or two. Mr Mandle agreed it is a notable defect in the system that it is necessary to choose one's course before having had any experience of varsity life. It is not possible to change subjects during the course to cater for new interests which develop during the university career. But Mr Mandle

All Students Should Read . . .

● NO MAORIS NO TOUR, a booklet presenting a brief history of the controversy and the case for the Citizens' All Black Tour Association.

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RACE, RUGBY, THE UNIVERSITY AND YOU

The action of the Rugby Union in excluding Maoris from the South African tour on the grounds of race has been condemned by Churches, academic bodies, labour organisations and many prominent people, as being morally evil, and socially and politically short-sighted. Last year, students and staff of the University of Auckland expressed their opposition to this policy by means of a petition, a march, and A. G. M. motions.

The University Rugby Club, however, made no public protest and with the other University Rugby clubs accepted a gift of £600 from the N.Z.R.F.U. At the same time, the Club ignored a request made by the Executive, to express the disagreement of students at a meeting of the A.R.F.U., but accepted their Students' Association grant and made use of the facilities offered by the University.

This places students in a curious situation. The action of the Rugby Club involves the student body in the support of a policy which is anathema to many. Whether any university club, affiliated to the Students' Association should be affiliated to any outside sporting body which does not accept the Olympic principle of no race discrimination in sport is something which students must decide.

On February 6 the President of the A.U.R.F.C., Mr. C. T. Keegan, was quoted by the press as saying that the Club would not consider disaffiliating from the N.Z.R.U. "We have complete confidence in the manner in which the New Zealand Union has handled a most difficult situation. The university football clubs feel that they are closer in touch with this matter than are other student bodies." This reflects a curious attitude towards Stud. Assn. and other university bodies on the part of a Club, the Committee which includes only four students out of a total membership of seventeen, and whose A.G.M. refused, on the motion of a non-student, to discuss the matter, although the Executive had specifically requested them to do so. One other interesting point arising out of this meeting was the statement pointedly made by the Chairman of the A.R.F.U., Mr. T. Pearce, twice, in case we missed it the first time, that "of our game, we can say with pride that there is no distinction of class or creed."

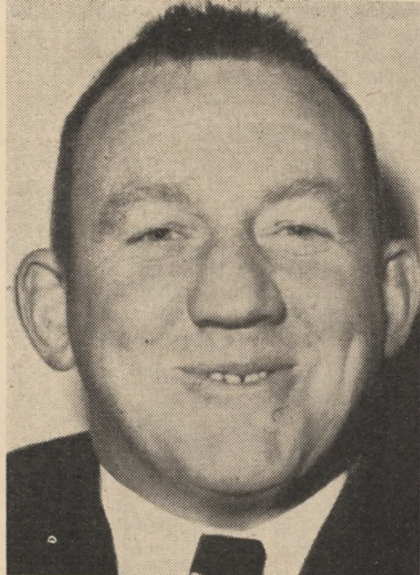
Mr Keegan's statement suggests that the Rugby Club owes its first allegiance to the Rugby Union rather than the Students' Association. Where such a clash of loyalty arises it is customary to acknowledge the situation and to remove oneself from one or other camp. What the Rugby Club does in its private capacity is its own affair. What it does as an integral part of the Students' Association and as a representative of the University in Rugby is a different matter—it is your affair. The Rugby Club is free to establish its independence of student opinion by dropping the reference to the University from its title, and by disaffiliating from

the Students' Association during the 1960 season.

Two features of the All Black controversy place students under a special obligation.

First, our willingness to weigh the evidence and to put our views to the test. In general it can be said that members of the Rugby unions have prepared to discuss the issue amongst themselves, rather than test their views in open debate. Mr. B. J. Drake, President of the N.Z. Referees' Association, is an interesting case in point. A man of great ability, a past president of the Canterbury Students' Association and an experienced barrister—he is capable of assessing evidence when he desires to do so. His public silence is interesting.

Second, the South African government has recently limited the freedom of its universities, and forced apartheid upon the once open Universities of Cape Town and Witwatersrand in defiance of university opinion in general, and the National Union of South African Students in particular.



By Courtesy Auckland Star

TOM PEARCE

The issue of academic freedom now being fought out so painfully in S. Africa makes an especial claim on our sensitiveness to appeals by liberal European and non-European South Africans.

What one does about the situation created by the N.Z.R.F.U. and the university Rugby clubs must depend on one's individual conscience. It is impossible to remain detached. This issue should reveal as never before just how much we really care about racial equality.

—Bob Cater. Abridged from "Ikthus."



CRACCUM

The views expressed in this paper are not necessarily those of the A.U.S.A.

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Tea for Whom?

Monday, April 11th

The vexed question of the Exec. Dinner came up and went through amid a storm of protest from Messrs. Hunt, Cater (and Gustafson in the spirit) and Miss Mason. As things stand at present, the dinner must be held, because there is an A. G. M. motion to that effect, and the Executive cannot rescind A. G. M. motions. If students do not want dinners to be held in future, they should turn up to the A. G. M. and move accordingly, instead of sniping at Exec. members.

The form which the dinner is to take, however, is up to the Exec. and this proved a source of controversy. The crux of the matter seems to be this: either the Association pays close on £100 for a slap-up dinner at the Northern Club, to which are invited some forty outsiders who are being softened up with a view to raising funds for the new £500,000 Student Union building, or else, as Messrs. Cater and Hunt moved, we pay out £35, £8 of which is to be spent on liquor, for the Executive and a very small number of guests to have a dinner at the Royal Hotel, as a gesture of thanks from the Association.

Craccum, having attended Exec. meetings fortnight after fortnight, would not for a moment deny that the Executive is a very hard-working body. Nevertheless, so are a number of other groups that work for the association, Craccum included, and a thirty-five pound dinner seems a needlessly expensive way of saying thank-you. Furthermore, we must admit that, rightly or wrongly, we are none to popular after the Government House Protest Meeting, and the very people who were offended then are likely to be the ones whom we will want to touch for money. But if there is to be a dinner at all, it must be a first-rate one, and not 13/7 a head at the Royal, or at will not impress anybody. The Executive seems to have realised this, because invitations have been sent out for a dinner at the Northern Club on May 6th.

PRESIDENT NOT ALLOWED TO SPEAK

The Executive turned down a request by the Auckland Citizens' All Black Tour Association that Owen Miller, president of Stud. Ass., should speak at a protest rally held in the Domain on Anzac Day. The Executive felt that it would not be right to link the Students' Association so closely with the A.C.A.B.T.A. when there is a strong minority of students opposed to the protest. If that is how the Executive feels, it is difficult to understand why they supported protest motions at N.Z.U.S.A., sanctioned the A.C.A.B.T.A.'s petition, sponsored Colonel Awatere's talk, contemplated the disaffiliation of the University Rugby Club, and offered the A.C.A.B.T.A. their support for further protests before the team leaves in May. Surely the Students' Association is so far committed to the protest that an address by the President on our behalf is the next logical step.

CIGARETTES IN THE CAF.

The cigarette machine in the cloisters has proved such a financial burden that the Executive has decided to return it to the distributors, and ask Mr White to sell cigarettes in the Caf, instead. Apparently considerable amounts of money have been going astray between the time when the shillings are put into the machine, and the time when they are handed over to the Students' Association.

GIFT FROM CARTOONIST

The New Zealand Herald's cartoonist, Mr Minhinnick, has presented the Students' Association with the original of a cartoon on the Government House controversy which appeared in the Herald on April Fools' Day. The Executive sent a warm letter of thanks to Mr Minhinnick for the cartoon, which will be hung in Exec. room.



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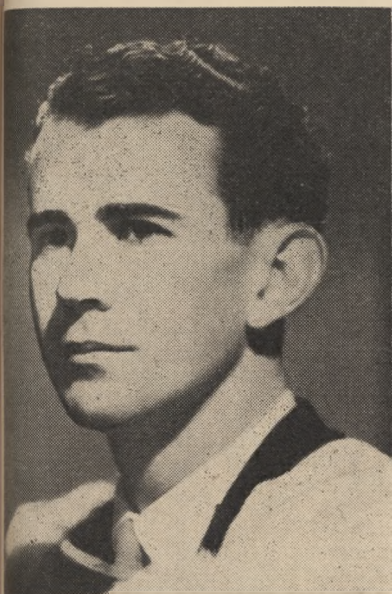
A.U. STUDENTS WIN OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS

Because of a delay on the part of the British authorities in announcing the new Commonwealth scholarships, which are the most generous awards available to New Zealand post-graduate students, the University of New Zealand has been unable to release publicly the names of the winners of its Post Graduate Scholarships in Arts and Science.

These scholarships were decided last February, but since the Commonwealth Scholarships will pick off the cream of New Zealand students, the University of New Zealand will probably have to adjust its list when these are announced.

However, of the awards which have come to hand so far, Aucklanders have managed to gain a fair number.

Last year's top Arts Graduate, Vincent O'Sullivan, was awarded a later resigned, the Shell Bursary, which was re-awarded to Law Graduate Jim Davis. Vincent was then granted a Research Fellowship



By Courtesy Auckland Star

VINCENT O'SULLIVAN

for overseas study by the University of Auckland, but had to resign this too on being awarded a Post Graduate Scholarship. Vincent, at present a junior lecturer, did his M.A. in English last year, with a thesis on Oscar Wilde, and gained first-class honours. He edited Capping Book in 1958, and wrote last year's Revue, 'Zanyopolis.' A past president of the Literary Society, he has had poems published in University magazines as well as in 'Landfall', and for the past year or so has been drama critic on the Auckland Star. He leaves at the end of July for Merton College, Oxford.



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One of this year's Rhodes Scholarships has been awarded to the Ardmore President, Bob Aspden. Bob, who has been a member of A.U. Exec. for the last year, and a member of Ardmore Exec. for three years, completed his B.E. with first-class honours last year, and has found time to play for the Senior Rugby team for four seasons. He will leave New Zealand in August for University College, Oxford, where he intends to study for a D. Phil. On his return to New Zealand Bob will fulfil his obligations to the Ministry of Works (he has been on a M.O.W. bursary) and then hopes to become a University lecturer.

One of the two Harvard University scholarships available to New Zealanders has been awarded to Art student Jim Holt. Jim, who completed his B.A. last year, majoring in History, has been doing History honours this year. An active member of several societies, he was a section editor of *Craccum* last year, and student chairman of the International Relations Club.

The President of Stud. Ass., Owen Miller, has been awarded a Rotary Scholarship, which will enable him to study for a year in Europe. Owen, who teaches at Mt. Roskill Grammar, gained his M.A. in French in 1957, and is at present



BOB ASPDEN

doing a Diploma of Education. Elected Chairman of Men's House Committee in 1957, he acted as Student Liaison Officer on Exec. in 1958. The Executive recently made him a life member of the Association.

Today's Enemies

Annual manoeuvres for 1960 have taken longer than usual, and at time of writing are not over. The general pattern of strategy and tactics however, is now clear:

ENGLISH, long in the forefront of the battle for readers' seats, has been given a spell and sent to the rear, downstairs.

To keep it company, its old companions, the current periodicals, have been moved with it and are more comfortably billeted now than ever before.

Brought out from the gloom of nonentity and shelved in brightness in the cloister downstairs, the SCIENCES, pure and applied, and including ANTHROPOLOGY and ACCOUNTANCY, have once more a little elbow room.

Meanwhile, the NEW ZEALAND COLLECTION, for many years separated from that part of it called in the catalogue "New Zealand collection. Glass Case" has come down from the gallery to the old English room where all N.Z. books, both open-shelf and rare ones, are together again.

Where, in the dim back of the Reading Room, the sciences moved out, the SOCIAL SCIENCES have moved in; now under brighter bulbs, Economics, Law and Education may expand there.

At present all books to be re-shelved downstairs have to be carried by hand, but in the May vacation we hope to have installed a book-lift which will release the 24-step staircase for the heavy use that readers will give it in the second and third terms.

Our great need continues to be readers' seats; and though eight seats have been placed, and now well lit, in the little gallery high above the public counter, we could do with another 100 at once. With a possible fairly high priority for a new library

building, it may not be easy to get such space in the future, and students are recommended, when they do not have to use library material, to con their notes and work on test problems in any empty lecture room.

The extension into Room 19 downstairs and the one we made last year into the entrance foyer may seem considerable to those who knew the Library 5 to 10 years ago, but in fact they have not kept pace with the growth of the University in other ways, especially in numbers of students and teaching staffs, books and periodicals needed, or new courses and options offering. With 50 new seats downstairs, we have exactly the same proportion of seats to students as we did last year—one seat for every nineteen students.

None, NONE, of the Parry Report recommendations about libraries has yet been put into effect; so we must continue to press for action on those concerning staff salaries, specialisation among institutions, money for books, periodicals and duplicate copies, staff training and adequate buildings. Students' associations, as well as other bodies, can urge that these matters be attended to at once. Meanwhile, users of the Library should note, as a reminder of the present changes:—

DOWNSTAIRS

Periodicals, English, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Anthropology, Botany, Zoology.

BACK OF READING ROOM

Economics, Law, Education.

OLD ENGLISH ROOM

New Zealand Collection, including "N.Z. Glass Case" material and Official Papers, now all in one sequence.

—F. A. SANDALL,
Librarian.

Our Association

Societies Council's structure is extremely simple, consisting in theory at least of one representative from each of the non-sporting clubs affiliated to the Students' Association, with the two Societies' Representatives as its two principal officers. It is when one tries to examine what the Council does that things get harder.

The Council was in the first place the idea of Miss Dinah Fairburn when she was the Societies Secretary in 1958-1959 and this year its 'activities' are the responsibility of Jon Hunt and Andy Begg.

The organisation does not seem to have justified its existence.

It was originally proposed that it should run a new venture, a *Star* 'University Column'. Under the name of 'Student Newsletter' this is of course now appearing, but responsibility for it is vested not in Societies Council but in Public Relations Committee, whose activities were described in the previous article in this series.

The Council was going to try to organise an A.U. Arts Festival last year. This did not eventuate and there are no obvious preparations in hand for the holding of one at the next suggested time, August 1961. And if one is going to be held a committee set up for the specific purpose of arranging it appears a better prospect than Societies Council, many of whose members could not conceivably have any connection with such an enterprise.

Another half-baked scheme was for societies at Council meetings to tell Societies Representatives how to act in given matters. 'Directives from the Council' said the Draft Constitution, 'shall be taken up by Societies Representatives at Executive meetings.' Messrs Hunt and Begg later modified this provision to get rid of the implication that the Council would exercise control over the actions of the Representatives. In any case societies do not use this channel, and are not likely to while easier ones, such as writing a letter, exist.

Once, a worthwhile idea was put forward. It was decided that, to help avoid meeting clashes, a book was to be bought, and all societies holding meetings were required to register them therein. This time progress was made. The books *was* duly bought and lodged in the Students' Association office. It is doubtless still there, utterly ignored. No disciplinary action has been taken to force offending societies to take such simple measures as the scheme required.

More recently, the Soc. Reps have thought of having the Council nominate some of the members of Grants Committee, with the obvious object of getting more money for societies. This has not been acted upon, and here again it would seem that, presuming this is considered by the Executive a good idea, it would be simpler for that body to approach new members directly.

At the time of writing no meeting of Societies Council has been held for over seven months, and there was no indication of one being held in the near future.

In view of its failure to find any adequate employment, to generate the slightest enthusiasm for itself, or to carry through efficiently even the simplest proposals, serious consideration should be given to the council's abolition.

In a comparable situation, the *West Coast Times* put it like this eighty-five years ago:

"Suicide is seldom noble and often dirty. But it is sometimes useful because it rids the earth of those who are unworthy of it. As with men, so with political bodies. They are sometimes better dead than living. The Council could do no better than cut its throat, or stab its guts if it has got any."

—T. J. P.

Politician, Pianist & Prose Writer

Recent Activities in Literature and Music

The Maori King by John Gorst. Edited by Keith Sinclair. Paris and Oxford. 1959.

Sir John Gorst (1835-1916) lived amongst the Maoris of the Waikato between 1860 and 1863, a period in which Maoris and Pakehas were at war in Taranaki and the outbreak of war was imminent in the Waikato. He had come to New Zealand in May, 1860, as a young educated Englishman, interested in the "management" of "half-civilized peoples" and apparently in search of adventure.

"The Maori King" was published by Gorst on his return to England in 1864, and deals not only with his personal experiences in the Waikato, but attempts to present a history of the King movement from its origins to the outbreak of war in 1863.

After his New Zealand adventures, Gorst entered British politics where he played an important part in the organization of the Conservative Party. Although he was knighted, made a Privy Councillor and so on, his independence and outspokenness prevented him from obtaining the highest offices.

"The Maori King" is an important historical document and this edition has the advantage of an introduction and notes by Professor Sinclair in which he points out where recent research has led to revisions in Gorst's narrative and analysis.

The most serious deficiency in Gorst's thinking lay in his over-emphasis of "lack of government" and his under emphasis of the land question as factors leading to the rise of the King movement. It is true that enlightened individuals such as Wiremu Tamihana (whom first Gorst came to know well), were perturbed at the anarchy prevalent in the Waikato and looked towards the setting-up to a Maori King as a remedy. But there is little doubt that the chief impetus to Maori nationalism in the '50s and '60s was the fear among Maoris that the rapid alienation of their beloved lands to the Pakeha would lead to their eventual submergence as a race.

Gorst thought that the King movement would not have arisen if the Government had made greater efforts to spread law and education among the Maoris. But Maori nationalism would seem to have been the inevitable result of European pressure on their lands, and good government would not have mitigated this pressure.

Gorst appears to have taken the typical 19th century, imperialist, Christian view, that European culture was in every respect superior to that of the "barbarous" natives and that a desirable solution to racial conflicts would be for the natives to adopt European ways and become "amalgamated" with them

as one people. However, he has the highest respect for the intellectual ability and various virtues which he discerned in the Maoris, and he is highly critical of the racial prejudices and rapacity of the settlers, and he slates the colonial government when he considers that it had acted unjustly or unwisely.

Gorst is at his best when he is dealing with the events in the Waikato while he was actually living there. His descriptions of the Maori leaders, their debates, their actions and the warning of the King's government in practice are very valuable and most entertaining. His intimate knowledge of his subject matter and his real sympathy for the Maori point of view enabled him to convey a very vivid picture of a proud, defiant people about to make a last desperate attempt to defend itself against the encroachments of a more powerful adversary.

J. HOLT

Barre Short Stories

Book Review: The Stone and other stories. O. E. Middleton. Published by the Pilgrim Press and distributed by Paul's Book Arcade. 12/6.

I find this book most difficult to assess. The style is dry, bare, matter-of-fact. The pictures the author paints are exact, naturalistic, yet often his scrupulous realism lacks vitality. At times a slightly barren quality and a dull, depressing air appear. "Active, throbbing life" seems to be lacking in these stories. Yet what to one reader seems a rather negative style of writing might appeal to another as a series of simple, careful, unpretentious impressions of New Zealand life.

To me the author seems to present realism without purpose. This is seen in his descriptive technique—as for example in this passage from the opening story: "It was a long ride to Mr Hansen's house and if it had not been for the long line of sandhills they would have been able to see the

wharves which stuck out into the sea only a mile further on. They leaned their bikes against the ake ake hedge and went up the concrete path to the back door." This short paragraph shows a meticulous but lifeless detail typical of the volume. There are undeniable flashes of sensitivity and understanding (particularly when the writer is dealing with children) but the stories as a whole lack depth and actuality. The characters do not always seem to spring directly from life. Thus we meet Dan Muller, a farmer whose reading includes Virgil, Homer, Kant, Kierkegaard, Schiller and Nietzsche, or again a corporal who dies in the crater of volcano leaving behind him a copy of Mathew Arnold's poem marked at "Empedocles on Etna." Both possible, neither wholly convincing. We are too conscious of the author's invention. Another harsh tale tells of a father burying his own child which died at birth. The central theme of love and death is strong and simple and the author reveals real sympathy but the total effect of the story is Zealand life with competent accuracy, left unsatisfied.

There is nothing uplifting about Mr Middleton's material. He conveys little that is positive. He records New Zealand life with competent accuracy, suiting his language to his characters, and faithfully noting the physical details of the countryside. The result is a bare colourless sketch. The drawings skiful, but the book lacks compulsion, warmth, and any capacity to enrich thought and feeling.

—S.A.S.

MANDLE ON VARSITY REFORM

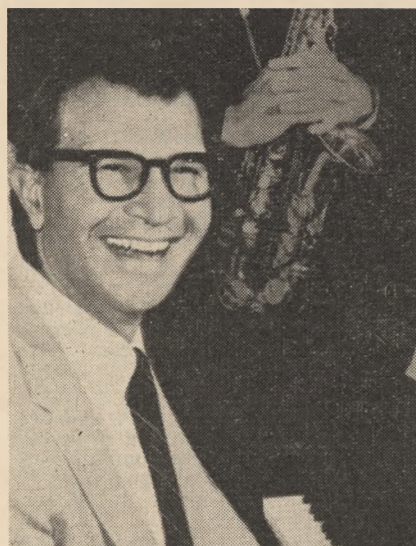
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young men and women whatever academic disadvantages they have had to overcome. The situation has not in the past reached critical proportions because there has not been the great pressure of numbers which there will be in the next few years. Unless reforms along the lines he advocates are adopted, Mr Mandle is afraid that an ever-increasing proportion of students

will not receive a real university education, and supply of graduates will simply not meet the demand for them.

—T. J. Power.

Someone stated recently that though the modern girl may not be as good a cook as her mother, she can certainly sew. Sew what?



By Courtesy Auckland Star

DAVE BRUBECK

Probably the largest, and warmest, audience in Auckland ever to listen to the cool strains of Jazz, enjoyed 2½ of almost continuous delight in the Town Hall on the 29th March. Dave Brubeck, most widely known of all jazzmen, and his quartet took charge of their audience from the first chorus and did not release it until the last.

The secret of the Quartet's success with most people was in its novelty, personality and command of instrument. While acknowledging these assets, the jazz enthusiast could appreciate also the never-ceasing swinging qualities of the group, even when Brubeck was far out rhythmically or building up to some choral climax and its ability, especially Brubeck's of seeking, and finding, new and exciting patterns of improvisation.

Brubeck's imagination, the most fertile in jazz today, was proved in his encore "Blue Rhondo", both in the composition itself, a Brubeck original, and in its execution. This number, the highlight of the evening, demonstrated Brubeck's preoccupation with experiment in time and consisted for a large part of 4/4 superimposed over 9/8 which, as we are informed, was "kinda different".

Paul Desmond on saxophone lacks the scope that Brubeck has on piano, but makes up for it in his feeling, his melodious and fluid line, beautiful tone and technical ability. He showed us how well he could swing in several choruses of "Blue Rhondo", where he was without the background assistance of Brubeck. Lacking the stage personality of the others, Desmond is the most listenable if one wants to hear jazz. Gene Wright, personality man of the group without trying to be, demonstrated a fine understanding with the two front-line instruments, and is the best bassist to visit these shores. As a soloist Wright shone also, especially in "The Wright Groove", where he demonstrated his personality and a sense of humour in a sequence reminiscent of the harpist in the National Orchestra. Drummer Joe Morello kept the group swinging nicely throughout the concert and we saw in his solo that his talent does not lie merely in his rhythm support. This solo, intended to demonstrate Morello's technical ability, wholly succeeded and Morello for many remained the hero for the rest of the night.

It was only to be expected that this renowned group should overshadow the supporting Crombie Murdoch Octet. But the local musicians came through a difficult task with much credit and it was evident that a great deal of preparation and rehearsal had gone into their performance. Outstanding in the Octet was saxist Colin Marin, while Lew Campbell showed that all good jazz pianists are not from the United States. One could perhaps criticise the number of short solos in the arrangements. Many people would prefer to hear fewer, more extended solos, giving the instrumentalist a real chance to show he has something to say. Vocalist Patti Brittain demonstrated genuine jazz feeling, but also a distressing tendency to lose pitch on a sustained note. And if it was essential that she should sing three numbers, the third should have been up tempo.

This was a highly interesting and, for many, an enlightening evening's entertainment. If anyone went away disappointed, the fault did not lie with the musicians.

K. H. WHITE

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THE SCHIZOPHRENIC PROF.

Lecturer Turns Entertainer

I ache for the touch of your lips, dear,
But much more for the touch of your whips, dear.
You can raise welts
Like nobody else
As we dance the masochism tango.

It is a difficult assignment, writing an article about the American entertainer, Tom Lehrer. It's tempting to jog aimlessly along the "sicknik" trail pioneered by *Time* magazine. It's harder still to find an alternative. *Craccum* was lucky enough to meet Mr Lehrer while he was in Auckland, and questioned him about his act, and his views on topics at present popular in university conversations. These were his answers:—

The first Lehrer disc (and the only one as yet released in New Zealand) was made seven years ago. At the time, none of the big recording companies showed any interest in it—"they could have had it for a song"—and the first records were for a strictly limited Harvard market, but soon more people began to want copies. It's too late now for the larger groups to buy this profitable venture, for Mr Lehrer has formed his own company, and controls releases.

And are his songs often played by American radio stations? Not generally, although they are sometimes heard on late shows. As American radio is primarily an advertising, not an entertainment medium, a sponsor must make certain that his featured artist will appeal to a wide audience.

He would scarcely welcome letters declaring vehemently: "If you don't get rid of that fellow, I'll never buy another tube of your tooth paste," Mr Lehrer finds New Zealand commercials very like those in the United States.

In general, Mr Lehrer has found his audiences pretty much the same wherever he has played. He maintains that those who come to see him are largely prepared for the kind of entertainment they will get — "They're hardly going to pay 17 bob a seat for something they don't know anything about." He is quite ready to use current controversies and incorporate them into his show, but basically all his performances are the same. However, he expressed some surprise that the song which had been by far the most popular in England—The Masochism Tango—had not been over-enthusiastically received in Australia or New Zealand.

"Sicknik": This is an unfortunate and, generally, incorrect label applied by *Time* magazine to those comedians who refer to all slightly to the American way of life and by extension to the government and the Eisenhower regime. Basically, a "sick" joke is one which gives the impression that mutilation, dropping bombs, and any form of blood-sucking or massacre are essentially humorous. *Time* it seems has lumped all these comedians together simply because it doesn't like them.

And is Tom Lehrer a sicknik? Yes, if one accepts *Times* premiss and its implication. No, if one still has the ability to laugh at one's self, and to realise that his act is not the manifestation of any morbid philosophy.

Why does he write the kind of songs he does? Because, he says, he found he could do them best, so why should he change?

Mr Lehrer admitted that Danny Kaye has always been an idol of his: "I know all his songs by heart." But it's a Danny Kaye of ten years ago, not the film actor we know today, who, Lehrer considers, is one of the greatest contemporary comedians.

And does he mind being compared with Anna Russell? No, although her field (satirising classical music) is a little different from his own: But she is a fine artist in her own speciality.

Are there other comedians in America with shows similar to his? No, said Tom Lehrer, there is nothing exactly comparable to his act.

He seemed quite unconcerned by the banning of several songs in Australia, principally in Adelaide. "Adelaide," he said, "is notorious for that sort of thing. It is a city which prides itself on its 'culture'." Any fuss was made by over-zealous journalists, not Tom Lehrer.

Is Mr Lehrer really a lecturer in mathematics? At the moment, no. He was a teaching Fellow at Harvard, however, and intends to return to the university in September. But for the last few years he has been a full-time entertainer—"It's a good way to see the world."

Rugby: Mr Lehrer has gained the impression that the only people who are in agreement with the Rugby Union are the Rugby Union. Everyone else is united against the Union.

Beatniks: They are mostly in San Francisco, although, of course, anything like that spreads. "But this nihilistic attitude is merely an excuse. They're a magazine writer's dream, naturally."

Is the off-stage Tom Lehrer any different from the on-stage? Part of the charm of his act is its relaxed, easy atmosphere, and off stage he is just the same. He talks quietly, and uses very few gestures. But there the similarity ends, for the complex macabre, at times ghoulish, often ironic tone of his act is missing. Instead, Mr Lehrer impresses as pleasant, well-read, and a far cry from the semi-Dracula he presents to his audiences.



By Courtesy

DON . . .

GRADUATION BALL

Graduation Ball, the social highlight of the year, will be held in the sumptuous surroundings of the Peter Pan Cabaret on Friday, 6th May.

All students are eligible to attend. Tickets will be £2 double with a concession available to graduands. It is advisable to book a cubicle. These will accommodate parties of two, four, eight, ten, twelve and twenty. Make up a party and delegate one person to purchase the tickets. No pencilled bookings will be accepted as many were not honoured last year.

The Cabaret has been licensed for the evening, but only holders of cubicles can avail themselves of this service. Please note: All refreshments must be delivered to the cabaret between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. and be labelled with your cubicle number. No liquor will be allowed in after 6 p.m.

The duration of the Ball will be from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. The supper will be better than ever this year, and we have some surprise floor shows for your entertainment. (The Peter Pan can afford to put on acts like ours). If you have any queries, contact me via Exec. Room. Phone 47-781.

Ray Moorhead,
Social Controller.



Auckland Star

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To make room for pater.
Aye, diff'rent t'old days,
When I be own keeper,
When summer come but once a year,
'N coffins sae much cheaper.

RUSTIC LAMENT

Should nae ha' tarried sa wi' Nellie Gray,
Should nae ha' pained her sore.
Should nae ha' kept her out last Shrovetide day,
Should ha' buried her twa months afore.

ASIA IN FLUX

At the time of the Bandung Conference five years ago it would have been safe to make generalisations about Asia. Once an Asian country was free from unequal political, economic or military ties with Western states, one could be reasonably sure it would be neutral in the cold war and anti-colonialist.

The Bandung Conference itself proved with what surprising unanimity Asian nations held these anti-colonialist and neutralist attitudes. Now, generalisations about Asia are impossible, and to speak about Asian unanimity has become absurd.

This is largely the result, in the South-East Asian area, of the changing policies of the Peking Government, and in West Asia, of the Iraqi revolution. China has seriously affronted India over the border dispute. Indonesia has been offended by China's over-zealous protectiveness of her nationals in Indonesia.

In Arab lands, the Iraqi-Egypt split is still wide. All these disputes are leading to revisions of policy. Iraq and Egypt are looking to foreign powers for support. India and Indonesia seem to be becoming more and more anti-Communist; Burma already is anti-Communist. Ceylon, on the eve of a rather dramatic election, seems to stand at the parting of the ways: her Lanka Sasamaja Party, the main opposition group, seems to offer the only chance of maintaining a neutralist outlook.

Aggression as Escape

What does seem to be the only safe generalisation about Asia at present is that concern about foreign policy has replaced the earlier concern about industrial development. Indonesia has a government of almost unparalleled corruption which is focussing attention on racial divisions and the West Irian dispute to try to make Indonesians forget the appalling chaos in which they live. China appears to be acting similarly in publicising her disputes with India, Burma and Indonesia and Laos. Nehru's government is not acting in this way yet, though a large section of the Congress Party would like it to. The present Five Year Plan has not yet completely failed. There is, however, little doubt that the Plan will fail, and when this happens it will be difficult for Nehru not to swim with the tide. He is, after all, only one man. In Egypt and Iraq, too, attention is being focussed more on Israel than on such projects as the Aswan High Dam. In Ceylon, the disputes over language and religion also serve to divert attention from the privileged position of an entrenched bourgeoisie.

Not by Policy Alone

There is an obvious reason for this change of policy emphasis which is so greatly bedevilling Asian unity. Asian countries are not concentrating on their industrial development because they are unable to. The Soviet Union

has industrialized itself successfully mainly because it had a fairly highly-developed industry well before the 1917 Revolution. It has also had a more favourable ratio of population to resources in 1917 than any Asian country has at present. Asian countries, who find that they must industrialize if they are to raise their living standards, are discovering they simply cannot do it the Soviet way. Stalin, after all, could not pull Russia up entirely by her own bootstraps. He found himself, in 1945, in need of a military occupation of most of Eastern Europe if he was to obtain markets for his goods. Asian countries know now that in industrializing they cannot do it on their own. They are resorting to the imperialist stage of industrialization in one country before they have got half as far as Stalin. The Soviet Union could not industrialize on its own; they, with vastly fewer resources, certainly cannot.

What then, is the way out? Perhaps the answer lies in the major policy dispute over industrialization that took place over thirty years ago in the Soviet Union. It was accepted by all participants in this controversy that only socialist planning could raise a country from underdeveloped to developed status. This is something that is now accepted by most Asian countries. All that is in dispute is the area of the economy that such planning should cover. The real issue at stake in the Russian dispute was the question of whether socialism, with concomitant industrialization, could "be built in one country" as Stalin put it. The other controversialist, Trotsky, declared that it could not be, and that

Mr Nash's long-awaited, carefully prepared statement on the Rugby tour revealed a contempt for national and inter-national opinion, a pathetically ludicrous attempt to deceive the public, and a bland indifference to a profoundly important issue. Recent events in South Africa have swelled the ranks of those who oppose the tour — the number is now far greater than the 160,000 who signed the petition protest. Mr Nash chooses to ignore public opinion. He attempts to appear as a staunch defender of Maori rights by flailing the air with the entirely irrelevant statement that it would be an act of the greatest folly and cruelty to allow Maoris to go to South Africa. Few would dispute this. These seemingly significant words ignore the basic issue — the



By Courtesy Auckland Star

MR NEHRU

aid from sympathetic Western nations was necessary. Otherwise, industrialization would take place at the price of such an amount of human exploitation that it would threaten popular support for the socialist experiment. That is the position now in Asia. Industrialization is proving too harsh a process. Jingoism alone can make governments popular. If Asian living standards are to be improved, a socialist government in the West must develop which will aid these nations to industrialize. The alternative is an Asian Hitler. Already, as we have seen, the Ceylon Lanka Sasamaja party is working towards this end. We, on our side of the world, can help this group and others to see that living standards are improved in Asia. —O. J. Gager.

COMMENT

tacit sanction of South African policy involved in sending an all white team and the jettisoning of our principles of racial equality in the sacred name of sport. Mr Nash's comments merely reiterated his earlier refusal to commit himself.

☆ ☆ ☆

It is interesting to note that a representative Maori gathering at Tauranga pointedly recommended that Maori members of Parliament should be independent. This probably implies a regret that Maori members (with the exception of Mr Tirikatene) have not made a strong stand on the tour issue and recognises the fact that there is little hope of party politics allowing any such stand.

☆ ☆ ☆

A lordly pronouncement by Mr Boord recently shocked me. He stated that "the Maori news broadcast is not a forum for controversy." (Controversy, I presume, is defined as anything which the Government wishes to ignore.) The Minister was answering criticism directed against the broadcasting service for its refusal to include Mr Tirikatene's comments on the All Black Tour in the weekly broadcast to Maoris. In fairness it must be admitted that we cannot judge the excuses offered for the non-inclusion of the important statement by this Maori leader (Mr Boord said the material was submitted too late) but officialdom's ban on controversial matter is surely inexcusable.

☆ ☆ ☆

Particularly distressing was the report that delegates at a Rugby

Overseas Student News

German Student Jailed

An East German student, Bernhard Wolfram, has been sentenced by a Gera court to three-and-a-half years' imprisonment for demanding free choice of where to study, and less emphasis on politics in East German university education.

Aid for Coloured Students

A south African committee at Oslo University is trying to arrange a programme to enable coloured African students to study abroad.

Anti-Imperialist Demonstrations

The Uruguayan student union FEUU held a demonstration against imperialism coinciding with President Eisenhower's recent visit to Uruguay. The General Secretary spoke of the need for the liberation of Latin America from dictators supported by North American capital.

New Hong Kong University

Plans for a Chinese university in Hong Kong have been tentatively approved by the Hong Kong government. At present there is only an English university.

Proposals for Nigeria

The National Union of Nigerian Students has adopted a series of resolutions on the attainment of Nigerian independence. It recommends a sound education system with Nigerian background, strong defence measures, attraction of foreign capital, and a neutral foreign policy.

Protest Against Call-up

The French student union UNEF summoned all students to a protest strike, 16th-17th March. Students were opposed to large-scale drafting of students to the French army in Algeria.

☆ ☆ ☆

Our Mayor, Mr D. M. Robinson, made two noteworthy comments recently. One concerned the university site controversy. He stated that Professor Kennedy's refusal to debate the issue "seemed to be in line with the thinking of those people who felt that the public had no right to be fully informed on matters of great public importance." The absurdity of this petulant statement is obvious to those who remember the provokingly one-sided meeting on the retention of Government House, a meeting whose meaningless conclusions were reached by the novel expedient of calling for votes which supported the speakers' motions and ignoring those which opposed them. Mr Robinson's other interesting comment—a most admirable one—was made during a City Council discussion of the advisability of spending money on art rather than public works. The mayor clarified the issue by stating—“If we are going to consider drains and roads first always, then there will never be time for cultural life.” This was a clear-sighted and thoughtful appraisal of the problem.

PROTEST MARCH against the ALL BLACK TOUR

Sunday, 8th May, 2.30 p.m.

Assembly Point—Ferry Buildings

March proceeds up Queen Street
to Public Meeting in Myers Park

THE LOCAL SCENE

N.Z. Poet and Playwright

"The Living Countries," by M. K. Joseph. Paul's. 10/6. 1959.

Little ecstasy, little anguish, flower in these poems: rather the tone is moderate, the mood elegiac. Seldom does any sense of urgency or compulsion communicate itself.

Indeed, more than a dozen poems of the thirty-four in the book strike me as academic exercises, highly intelligent doodles: the dead hand of traditional forms is almost the only shaping force—poems become catalogues, wander, trot out predictable images, predictable adjectives:

No cunning brushman swift enough
To image this my mercurial
creature
Unless it be water's transient
stuff.

Yet there are poems where Mr Joseph denies himself the stiffener of strict metre and rhyme without profiting from the expected freedom. "The Man who stopped the Clocks" is just such a poem. Into its one (fairly gimmicky) idea Mr Joseph tries to infuse compassion and develop tension but all through it remains prose, very good prose, the rhythms slack, the language precise, resourceful, but never going beyond itself into

significance expressed vigorously:

How could he have missed it so
so long, the glitter
In dark water the song in the
mouth of the storm
A singing off the land.
Filling his lungs with seastung
air, he shouted,
A dolphin brushed his thigh and
a great white bird
Drove straight as a stone towards
the invisible land.

I am a great believer in the landscapes of poetry being localized. Mr Joseph seems to be so much at home in a variety of countries as not to have made any one landscape his own. So we are given generalized, cardboard scenes; and in one poem the New Zealand landscape is treated almost patronizingly:

The odd

Remote and shabby peace of a
provincial town . . .
. . . Chemically pure of course
(No foreign bodies here) but to the
taste

Tasteless and flat.

And through the Tory Channel
naked hills
Gully and slip by, monotonously
dramatic
Like bad blank verse . . .

Mr Joseph has not learned, like Mr Charles Brasch, to "lie with the gaunt hills like a lover," though he is moved by the "snowed Kaikouras."

There is also, in the beautiful "Mercury Bay Eclogue," the landscape of Whitianga, but intellectualized to the needs of the poem, abandoned for the concerns of Europe, and returned to only with the "celestial medicine" of Mercury, the "hands serene" of "Sweet Venus, mother of men and beasts." Few poets in this remote country have such an acquaintance and such sympathy with the cultures of so many peoples in so many centuries as Mr Joseph has shown in both his books of verse. It is our good fortune that he is here to welcome them,

Where Mercury and Venus hand in
hand
Walk on the waters this auspicious
night
And touch to swift love this forgotten
strand.

—M.R.



M. K. JOSEPH

poetry that we feel. The same is true, I think, of the "Fragment of an Autobiography" and the "Epilogue to a Poetry Reading." In "A Saint Christopher Meditation," however, the tension and lift of poetry reaches me; the scene is actualized, the human struggle with its more than human

NOTES ON A TEXTUAL SCHOLAR

His honest heart would beat and frisk
Each time he dared to asterisk.
He flushed with joy, and blessed his soul on
Days he found a double colon.
Till one day over Chapman's Homer
He lapsed into a semi-coma.
He heard the beat of heavenly rackets,
Crushed to death between square brackets.
(But had he lived, he'd been demented.
Next paragraph was not indented.)

—D.K.

Dreary Drama

"So Laughs the Wind". A play in three acts by Claude Evans. The Pegasus Press. 1959. 12/6.

It is not surprising that New Zealand plays are generally so much poorer than New Zealand novels and verse when our playwrights allow themselves a technical incompetence and an inadequate grasp of theme which they could not hope to get away with in another form. Certainly writers like Allan Curnow and James Baxter are far better poets than dramatists for this very reason. "So Laughs the Wind," by Claude Evans, is a particularly banal little job, unrelieved by imagination in either plot or dialogue.

Mr Evans is an antipodean Barrie, with Akaroa replacing Thrums, only where Barrie had a sense of background and atmosphere, Mr Evans has none. The setting comes across as that dreary non-existent New Zealand that is merely England in clumsy disguise with a few She's jakes thrown in for local colour. There is even a heroine whom the locals call Miss Annette in the grand tradition of the Big House and the fore-lock tugging peasantry.

The plot is women's page stuff: there is the Barrie-esque dream-child, the tragic youthful love affair,

the unromantic but devoted admirer, and an astounding volte-face on the part of the heroine to end the play with a happy marriage. It has all been done too many times before. The characters are over-simplified to the point of becoming incredible, and the dialogue is generally competent but uninteresting, except in moments of stress when it is hopelessly inadequate. For instance:

ANNETTE (apprehensively).
What is it?

DR. FLEMING (moving slowly down). Lou. He rang to say that—that Jim—(He stops).

ANNETTE (Shocked). Is he—?
DR. FLEMING Yes. Drowned.
ANNETTE (tragically). Oh no!

"So Laughs the Wind" was produced by the Christchurch Repertory in 1958, and the publishers state that "a new play by Claude Evans is now a recognised theatrical event in Christchurch". So long as plays of this calibre can find producers and audiences without anyone asking for more, New Zealand theatre will never find its way out of the backwoods.
—F.J.M.

Increased Enrolments and Text Books —

Owing to the unforeseen large increase in students in some subjects, some of the prescribed text books have sold out. Students are assured that further supplies have been ordered from the publishers by air-mail and will be coming to hand in a few weeks time.

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What's Wrong With Our University System?

MEDICAL OFFICER REPORTS ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

The annual report of the student medical officer, Dr D. B. Gash, received by the Auckland University Council last week, outlines many of the problems relating to the university and to the facilities available to university students. The most startling information from this report is the evidence that one in five university students is suffering varying degrees of psychological stress.

This disclosure, of a 20% university population with abnormal conditions of mental health, proceeds to cite examples where stress-ridden students have been found to be on the verge of major breakdowns. A situation such as this must surely indicate that there is some deficiency in our educational system.

An obvious refutation of this fault-finding lies in the suggestion that attention should be directed towards the shortcomings of the individuals within the organization, rather than towards the organization itself.

However, there is no evidence to suggest that high degrees of stress manifested in a person correlate with a lower intelligence and that a person who is not subject to a great amount of stress, and would, in consequence, respond better to our university system is necessarily the person of higher intelligence for whom the university is looking.

It is believed that different personalities are sensitive to various stresses in relation to the actions of different biological and psychological systems. This being the case, the causes and effects of psychological stress on the student must be examined and any possible remedies advanced.

Need for Counselling

According to Dr. Gash, many of the conditions conducive to stress situations arise from study, home and health problems, problems of adjustment, and pre-examination anxiety. He advocates the need for counselling and psychotherapy and emphasises the insufficiency of the number of present hostels.

My intention is to elaborate on the effects of pre-examination anxiety and suggest a possible solution to this problem. Attacking this from a psychological viewpoint, various experiments show that intellectual control, attention and concentration are all lowered if a person is under great stress. Similarly, it also seems that reasoning and conceptual thinking are impaired. In addition, the greater the complexity of the task and the more it requires systematic and original thinking, the less likely is the successful performance of the anxious person. Too great anxiety results in the complete breakdown of any form of organized behaviour.

Worry Affects Work

There are various levels of anxiety. At low levels, the person under stress is generally alert and discerning, with his attention focused keenly on his undertaking, but as the stress increases, he is less capable of mastery and clear-thinking.

At levels of acute stress he becomes completely ineffective. His disturbed equilibrium is affected both psychologically and physiologically. If the stress is shortlived the organism may maintain its equilibrium, but in cases of chronic stress, the organism is unable to respond adequately, thus resulting very often in the acquisition of one of the many psychosomatic diseases.

The university examination system can hardly be bettered in its capacity to provoke stress situations. The work of a year depends on two or three three-hour examinations. The student suffering stress is in competition with the student who responds favourably and works best

under the strain of an examination. A recent upset, a headache a simple feeling of off-colour must all be disregarded. This, surely cannot be a just or reasonable method for detecting ability.

Mass learning of all material before one examination leads to less retention and a defective understand-

ing; whereas material absorbed methodically over a period of time and tested at regular intervals throughout the year would be better assimilated and understood.

Therefore, the solution to the examination problem lies in a series of minor examinations conducted during the year to assess the overall capacity of the student. This would have all the advantages of systematic learning and lead to the reduction of too great levels of anxiety.

It would have sufficient consequence to promote stress on lower levels which will alert and elicit improvement, without producing the devastat-

ing effects of entire disorganization. Furthermore, experimental data has shown that in a series of tests conducted on students registering high and low status of anxiety, the highly anxious group, which at first performed badly, in comparison with the non-anxious group, tended to improve and produced better results as the tests advanced.

The present examination system, with its questionable form of measurement, needs obvious attention and modification. It is imperative in the face of such information as that contained in Dr. Gash's report that measures be taken and that the administration of university education embrace modern medical and psychological findings.

—CHRISTINE DAVIS

THE WISDOM OF AMERICA

Within a kaleidoscope or unrelated impressions, occasionally a few pieces of the coloured glass merge together. To form a unity from a land vast, diverse in the origins of its people and confused in its cultural aspirations, adds only to the already too-great pile of inaccurate generalizations.

But a thin woven cord — a feeling, a consciousness — of a form of identity can be seen in the development of American society above the once small national units.

American society is a mass one, no-one is more acutely aware than the Americans of the dangers implicit therein. There is a conscious questioning as to the submergence of individual values, of the death-in-life of a man in a society that demands orthodoxy and acceptance of mass standards.

Even at high-school level, surely the most conformist period in an individual's life, a newspaper from a school in Illinois ran a series of editorials on the question of individuality in the school and society. But a part of American tradition is a belief in the validity of the judgment of the people. To be understood fully, one must appreciate the very real influence of the history of the foundation of America in the contemporary belief in the society. To most Americans the ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence—those inalienable rights—are ideals to be actually achieved, to be the actual base in the movement of society. The saturation of the past in the people's present awareness of their traditions is inescapable—it is a feeling, almost indescribable, found even in the more imperfectly-assimilated groups.

From my own experience I can only draw on the mid-west towns, called by many the most typical of a non-typical country. Here is a predominant puritan element, here the rat-race of the consumer persuasion is least. I have never seen such beauty as in these towns; heavily tree-lined streets and cool houses even in the heat of that dry summer. It was here I found what is possibly the only national characteristic, that well-known optimism, naivety and abounding self-confidence. Here were the last vestiges of the "frontier," the zest for adventure and discovery that were the springs of America's technology. Here I found that trust in reason and discussion, and an active faith in the Providence of God.

America to me means the practical creativeness, the transference of idea into fact. Technologically, America is supreme. But technology, that is

inordinate concentration on material prosperity, can be achieved at a high price: at the submergence of the

into the general concept of education, but it is fast being driven out. is valuable. This attitude infiltrated Awareness of the looseness of curriculum "as it has become under the pressure of a consumer approach to public education," has re-emphasized



"Heavily tree-lined streets."

original spirit which in its sources was apart from the materialism. But this primal spirit has not yet been submerged. It exists in the excitement of living, a self-awareness behind its achievements.

Now that spirit is one of idealism. It is a personal idealism involved in national and political aims. Americans can never be described as apathetic. I have talked to many high school students to whom the resentment felt against American involvement overseas was a personal hurt. It is clear that even in New Zealand there is such resentment, hidden in a cloud of cynicism. There is no understanding of that zest for living that is her spirit underneath the superficial levity.

Americans are conscious of their faults, aware of criticism such as has been directed at the so-called "adjustment to society" policy that has evolved in education. Admittedly there is much at fault in such an emphasis. But it was a practical and direct attempt to teach what we expect to rub off, the values of the society. For low-stream students such an adjustment of the curriculum

the instruction of the mind of the student.

Perhaps fundamentally there is a feeling of tension. For their way of thinking and life is torn between two violently opposed influences: that moral puritan righteousness and the necessarily competitive materialism. Such are incompatible with the consequent tension in everything, big and small. But I hesitate to go any further to state any possible consequences. To me America has a great deal to offer if we would listen. "Freedom, independence, democracy, technology, action, these things belong to the wisdom of America: a real positive wisdom. The rest of the world must understand that this is part of the total meaning hailing them from this side. It is a much-needed tonic, a fresh breeze of hope." I ask you to understand the proud soul of America.

—JUDITH MUSGROVE

People who deliberately encourage the sale of alcoholic liquor should be behind bars, says a reformer. Obviously!

New New Zealand Players?

IMPRESSIVE PLANS FOR FUTURE

A new artistic director, designed, leading actors and outlook by the Board of Trustees spells a period of good fortune for the New Zealand Players, and provided these ingredients conform to the recipe, they should convert many more young New Zealanders to making a regular habit of theatre-going.

The advent of a new cinematic techniques such as Cinerama and Todd AO and the impending commencement of TV, albeit on a limited scale, has presented a challenge to far older and better-established theatre companies the world over.

This challenge, being in the main economic rather than artistic, is exceedingly hard to meet. No other country in the world apart from New Zealand, has a national theatre company which manages entirely on its own resources.

Either by direct Government subsidies or by Arts Council grants and municipal assistance, theatre companies in the United States and Great Britain manage to hold their heads above water. The day of the theatrical entrepreneur is over; the legitimate theatre is not a good business proposition, for star recording artists and Ice Folly shows are now the outlets for investment in the entertainment world. How hard then is the task of the New Zealand Players Theatre Trust when viewed in this context! In a country which,

If professional theatre is to exist in this country, the public will have to be educated to like Ibsen and Chekov, Arthur Miller and Anouilh. One way of doing this is to urge the Education Department to broaden the scope of drama in the secondary schools, not always to concentrate upon Shakespeare and Shaw. The other way is for the Players to take on the job themselves and face the unpleasant fact that they will probably go on losing money for another two or three years.

Two things however prevent this policy being carried out: there is a limit to every bank overdraft and the Players have few securities, and next year the Trust Board has to face the problem of paying off the first instalments, including interest, of the £20,000 debenture campaign which was held in 1956. At the moment, the achievement of the latter seems to the outsider to be impossible, unless the Trust Board pulls some scheme of financial guarantee out of the hat. The only way out of this situation would appear to be an approach to the Government, backed up by strong public opinion, for high permanent subsidies on the scale that the National Orchestra enjoys, and sponsorship by big business firms such as has been tried successfully by the N.Z. Opera Company.

So far, the Trust Board has obtained the services of various new artists as mentioned at the beginning of this article and this is a good sign of adventurous thinking. Roy Hope, the new producer, is a young Englishman in his late twenties, married with two children. He has come fresh from the job of producer of the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury. Quentin Hole, the new designer, is a big bluff Australian with a flair for colour and imaginative sets that we have not seen since the days of Raymond Boyce. A new leading actor of distinction and wide range is Thane Bettany, originally from Sadlers Wells and then with the Stratford Memorial Theatre, who has come out to New Zealand to try his luck in the new world.

The Players' programme for the rest of the year is Arthur Miller's "A View from the Bridge" with Antony Groser and Thane Bettany, followed by a musical (as yet unnamed) and a Shakespeare, probably "Much Ado about Nothing," late this year or early 1961. In addition to this will be the usual Drama Quartet for the schools, the second company touring provincial towns, the Workshop doing new plays at the Players' headquarters in Wellington.



By Courtesy Auckland Star

THANE BETTANY

These many activities, combined with possible amalgamation with the Opera Company, will entail the spending of a great deal of money, which in its turn requires able and careful administration. One of the pitfalls the Trust Board will have to avoid is the functioning of Parkinson's Law of increase in administrative staff in proportion to the activities being undertaken. The Players, with the usual office staff, plus Publicity Manager, Advance Manager, Touring Managers for each Company, Promotions Manager, Foundation Manager, Assistant Secretary and a General Manager are nearing the limit.

—N. MAIDMENT



By Courtesy Auckland Star

WILDE . . . not wanted

relatively speaking, is unused to professional theatre, the proportion of theatre-goers to those who seek other forms of entertainment is low. The occasional slice from the Art Union profits is a drop in the bucket to the Theatre Trust who have to spend nearly £30,000 even before a major tour starts on the road. With these staggeringly high costs it is easy to understand why the Players have no competition in their field and are unlikely to get any.

If, on the other hand, the Trust was to go into liquidation as the result of diminishing box-office returns, the outlook for the future would be dismal. It would be some years before any other organisation would be foolhardy enough to attempt the same thing with such an awful precedent before them, and in the meanwhile the public would be forced to exist on the occasional artificial West End money-spinner, interspersed with gargantuanly amateur Light Opera Club shows restricted to pre-First World War musicals.

To stay in business then, the Players' Board has to answer that controversial question, "What does the N.Z. public want to see?" Ustinov? Anouilh? Shaw? Oscar Wilde? The answer to all these, based on box-office returns, is no! Julian Slade? Shakespeare? Yes. But Slade has written only two musicals and these alternated with a gamut of the Bard would soon meet up with a stern sales resistance.

New Library Books

Among recent additions to the Library those of general interest have been selected by Ted Hamann, a member of the Library staff:

Alexander, John Hood (1919-).

Historic Wellington, illustrated and written by John H. Alexander.

Bateson, Charles

The Convict Ships, 1787-1868 (1959).

Hell, Henri

Francis Poulenc (1959).

N.Z. Committee on New Zealand Universities.

Report of the Committee on New Zealand Universities, December, 1959.

(PARRY REPORT) (1959).

Spencer, George Ernest

Apartheid as seen through the eyes of a Bantu (1959).

Taylor, Nancy Margaret (Wheeler) 1919—ed.

Early Travellers in New Zealand. (1959).

Tindall, William York, 1903—

A Reader's Guide to James Joyce. (1959).

Thomas, Daniel H. ed.

Guide to the diplomatic archives of Western Europe. Edited by Daniel H. Thomas and Lynn M. Case. (1959).

Wright, Harrison M.

New Zealand, 1769-1840. (1959).

Zachner, Robert Charles ed.

The concise encyclopedia of living faiths. (1st Ed. 1959).

The Shell Scholarship for Science has been awarded to Alan Stamp, a junior lecturer in Physics. Alan, who completed his M.Sc. with first class honours last year, was a Senior Scholar in Physics and held the Sir George Grey Scholarship in 1958. He will be leaving for Oxford at the end of the second term, where he will study for a doctorate under Professor Wilkinson.

Form in Jazz

Chico Hamilton Quartet:

Chico Hamilton, drums; Fred Katz, cello; Paul Horn, alto flute clarinet; John Pisano, guitar; Hal Gaylor, bass.

"Plays South Pacific in Hi-Fi".

As the drummer in the original Mulligan Quartet, Hamilton failed to impress, as did most of the work of his '55-'57 Quintet. This latest record, surprisingly enough, is a very good one, one in fact which exhibits many of the best qualities of modern jazz.

Roger's material is admittedly good, but it takes arrangers such as these to reveal its quality. These versions are completely free from the sentimentality one inevitably associates with Hammerstein's lyrics. "Younger than Springtime" attains a depth of feeling one would normally not attribute to it. "There's Nothing Like a Dame" is delightfully handled, its original vulgarity being replaced by a brand of quiet whimsy.

The most important feature of this record is its tackling of the problem of form in jazz, for there is a problem. The development of jazz as an art form tends to be hampered by the clash between the freedom of the solo improvisator and the demands of the composer-arranger. The problem has too often been avoided. Ellington has shown how the clash may be resolved through long-standing, intimate co-operation between soloists and arranger-composers. Whether this co-operation is simply an informal yet profound understanding between the members of a group, as in the Miles Davis Quintet, or is expressed in written composition as in the modern Jazz Quartet, the Gil Evans big band and the Chico Hamilton Quintet, it is essential to good modern jazz

Intricate arrangement

Every track of the record shows an unusual awareness of form, and while in many instances structural effects are "borrowed" from "classical" music, at no stage is the jazz idiom lost. The tracks and the solos are short, and there is no danger of overstatement, each soloist confining himself to brief but succinct developments of the melody. The arrangements are, as I have suggested, brilliant, and grip the listener's attention with their variety and intricacy. Changes of tempo, of rhythmic accents, changes from a swinging to a non-swinging beat make this a rhythmically exciting record. Well-directed riffing, excellent use of breaks—note Katz's 'cello break in the opening ensemble of a "Wonderful Guy"—and the use of the counterpoint show the range of the group voicings available to the quintet.

—W. Curnow.

Gustafson Needs You!

If you are a person of unquestionable morals and unimpeachable integrity, then you are the man for Gustafson. He has been appointed Returning Officer for the forthcoming Exec. elections, and he needs a team of reliable people to man polling booths. Give him your name (c/o Exec. Room) and he will scrutinize your political affiliations and your sex life. BE IN NOW!

Remember !
DRAMA
SOCIETY'S
PRODUCTION
SCHOOL
May 13, 14, 15

“... in corpore sano”

CLUBS AT PLAY

Defence Rifles

Just making the deadline with their team write-up for Tournament issue, the Defence Rifles are nevertheless not going to be a sluggish body this year in the rest of their activities. Tournament line-up had a solid core of veterans, many of them from Ardmore, but there were enough newcomers to ensure continuity of experience. Although the club has been somewhat dormant over the past season or two, Nelson Proctor and his cohorts are determined to restore the sharpshooters to their pristine accuracy. If you have cleaned up the local rabbits and blackbirds, think about joining Rifle Club. With good rifles and cheap ammunition available, it's a sport relatively easy on the pocket and Nelson Proctor and Jim Cooper, inmates of O'Rourke, that den of line-shooters, will be glad to meet you.

Tennis Club

With Table Tennis and Badminton in the University both flourishing, another game that calls for real guts (Ouch! !) is in a feeble state. Tennis Club sent a moderately strong team to Wellington, but it is a club which, like Boxing, exists for Tournament only. Would it be worth approaching the Auckland Club, which uses the back courts at Stanley Street, with a view to establishing a Student membership? The courts are not too far away to forbid a brief lunch-time knock up, and we might even see the old Staff-Student match revived and doing battle on court one.

Canoe Club

Feel like a long sea voyage? Already? Next best thing might be a trip with Canoe Club during the May Vac. After recent reorganisation, in which a large non-university element was ousted, the club is now essentially student in composition with a new and it is hoped more workmanlike attitude towards the Auckland Canoe Club.

University organisations should retain their essentially student character, could we go as far as to say, undergraduate character?

Canoe Club, anyway, are doing this, with Herb Romaniuk (Pres.) Ken Smith, (Secretary) Gary Bowen, (Treasurer) and Tony Knight, (Commodore) in official positions, and a capable committee which includes former president, Jim Mason, a really experienced river man. For the future plans are well under way for a canoe-building programme, and several interesting trips have been mooted. Contact one of the officials if you are looking for a different sport.



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Judo Club

Indications of sound and fury from the M. C. R. suggest that the Judo Club is definitely “on the mat” We were told at the beginning of the term that membership totalled about fifteen enthusiasts; it seems that the fresher intake included a large number who positively enjoyed falling flat on their faces or going head over heels, as numbers attending have really rocketed.

Originated in 1957 by a lively bunch which included Miles Maxted, Herb Romaniuk, Ray Loneragan, and Ken Smith, Judo Club is coming of age this winter in Christchurch as an official tournament sport. Club Captain is Chris, Blackman; his photograph was in issue one, but he is now unrecognizable! Still try to contact him if you are interested in throwing your weight around.

—L. Nash

SOCCER FLOURISHES

Sex again rears its ugly head !! We know of at least one fresherette who put a bold X on her Stud. Ass. card to show her interest in Soccer and/or Soccer players, and sideline inspiration like this is certainly welcome.

In addition, though of course less importantly, some forty soccerites signed up for the 1960 season, and it was indeed a great moment for university football when for the first time four teams were entered in the A. F. A. competitions.

But many more members are wanted. If you feel like a gentle jog on Saturday afternoons, if you feel you cannot bring yourself to wield the big stick at Hockey, or associate with the Rugby Union, then Soccer is your game. For the skilled enthusiast both the first and second elevens offer extremely good play, and the chance

of promotion to the first division. For the less skilled but we hope no less enthusiastic, the third and fourth sides give a solid team spirit, good companionship and of course the possibility of promotion to higher things. The way these lower grades approach their football, their combination, keenness and team spirit have sometimes been an example to the Senior sides. The man to see is Club Captain Hugh Chapman,



HUGH CHAPMAN

(O'Rourke or Architecture School), Mick Elley (Secretary) or Jock Irvine, (ex Club Captain, now usually lurking in the Exec. office) Leave a note on the soccer notice board in the Cloisters or in the downstairs letter rack.

—Dauphin

America's Dorothy Parker was asked by a board of investigation what she had learned from her years at college. After some thought she revealed that she had imbibed the valuable knowledge that if you spit on your pencil it rubs out ink.

“Some doctors have a perfect genius for wrong diagnoses.” — Auckland Star.

An infinite capacity for mistaking pains?

“Craccum” is published by the Auckland University Students' Association, Princes St., Auckland, C.I. and printed by A. D. Organ Ltd., 29 Union St., Auckland, C.I.

World-wide Friendship

Y.O.A.N. are the initial letters of Youth of All Nations (Inc.), which is described by its founder, Miss Clara Leiser, as “A membership organization . . . an independent, non-sectarian, non-profit-making intercontinental correspondence agency; not a bureau only to distribute the names and addresses of pen-pals.

Each person joins as an individual. He is introduced to members in other countries who have been carefully selected as likely to be congenial letter-partners for him or her; and through the Y.O.A.N. plan he can enjoy the benefits of all the members' global letter-writing.”

The purposes of Y.O.A.N. are, briefly stated:

—“to help the world's boys and girls and young adults to understand and appreciate other nations and cultures, thus deepening insight into their own.

—“to help make strife-breeding ignorance, fears and prejudices give way to peace-serving universal friendship.

—“to enable “YOANers” to share the fruits of their correspondence in “Mirror for Youth” the official YOAN publication.

—“to realize YOAN'S member-elected motto — “Through Young Understanding Toward Lasting Peace”.

At present YOAN has members in about 100 countries and on various islands. Once a member, one feels that Miss Leiser, the founder of YOAN, is interested personally in one as an individual and in the fruits of one's correspondence. After applying to join YOAN one receives an application-blank to fill in asking which countries one would prefer to write to, hobbies and other interests, what languages one can write in (only English is essential) and how many pen-friends are desired. YOAN then does its best to find congenial letter friends. Of course, those who are less restricted in their choice of countries will have a shorter wait before receiving the names and addresses of their new correspondents.

YOAN gives each new member preliminary hints on how to begin a correspondence, and if your friendship does not develop, YOAN would like to know why—simply to help you to have more fruitful pen-friendships in the future.

Anyone from 14-25 years may become a member of YOAN. Those over 25 may become Associate Members. Those who pay the annual membership fee (\$1 (7/7) for students, \$2 for others) are also entitled to receive four issues per year of “Mirror for Youth”, a magazine in which members express their views on subjects ranging from racial

segregation to the future of Germany, as well as may of a lighter nature; try to correct any wrong impressions which they think foreigners have of their country; and write articles of general interest on various aspects of life in their native lands.

There is already a considerable member of “YOANers” in New Zealand, and Miss Leiser has described them to me as “Quite an outstanding group”. YOAN welcomes every new member and would be particularly pleased to receive applications from more young men and boys in New Zealand as the demand for them far exceeds the supply.

All those interested in joining this worthwhile, stimulating and inspiring organization which is striving to create friendship and understanding among the young people of the world, should write to:

Youth of All Nations (Inc.),
16 Saint Luke's Place,
New York, 14, N.Y.,
U.S.A.

—Treve Lewis

The fallacy of Socialism is that it presumes that nobody except the capitalist is ever greedy.

Notice in the Caf:

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