

Salient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington, N.Z.

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FRESHERS' PIE FOOD FOR THOUGHT

This College, Victoria, has been described variously as a venerable pile, a hotbed of radicalism and a cute little chapel. To accept any of these would be to accept an attitude, so if you are an enterprising Fresher you will walk about it for yourself, say nothing and see everything.

If you stand in the hall where the Big Dogs foregather and you can appear to be credulous and reverent they will look kindly towards you and you will join any of their clubs under patronage. And you are advised to join clubs—mental stimulation or College Spirit are the usual reasons given to support this advice, but, nevertheless, make up your mind to be enthusiastic about something. If you have any ideas and are prepared to back them against anyone's cynicism you will have a chance eventually to put them into effect, and Victoria needs people with ideas—maybe you have noticed that.

ARTFULNESS.

Have you looked into the Art Room yet? As a retreat from the Library, as a peaceful spot to ruminate or eat chocolate bars it is much appreciated, but to dig into the piles of reprints, the theoretical and practical books on all aspects of art and its applications is decidedly interesting as well as informative.

We saw you creep into the Library and stand awed by the mounting shelves of important and dull-looking books, and put a tentative hand out here and there to discover whether it was geography or religion that looked so dusty, and we noticed your rueful eye when you discovered a few of the "missings." Occasionally a blank is filled, so keep one eye always turned towards the New Books shelf as you pass in and out—the other, if you are wise, will be smiling at the librarians. Persistently smiling thus may lead to a little climb up a ladder and the following of an elaborate ritual which will reward you with the privilege of reading James Joyce or Havelock Ellis, who rank, of course, among the "condemned." As an enterprising Fresher you will need every bit of your enterprise to get the value of your guinea from the Library. Study the plan on the end of the centre table and go whether your enthusiasms lead, but gird yourself against disappointment.

ASH AND TRASH.

In the common rooms are magazines—old, very old, but you must be grateful for the works of Foundation Members—they did set the pace. That it has lagged horribly is just too sad. If you are an enterprising person maybe an experiment with cigarette ash once or twice may arouse action. Try it.

The Notice Boards are a free art display occasionally, but an eye for them and a smile for Brookie as you enter the vestibule will assure you of a safe career at V.U.C.

FOREWARNED.

Incidentally, if you feel an urge towards romancing, avoid the stairs, because the click of Brookie's wise and disillusioned fingers will shatter your moment. You may try the art room, the stairs and the hall—even the cafe as a locale for Romance or Argument, but you will, of course, be hounded out of them all—and then you will ask brightly why there is no common common room, which may, or may not, provoke the raising of some amused or bitter eyebrow. And by and by you will find that through the din of a dance or the ribald flippancy of a debate it is possible to hang on to your intelligence and talk or to parade your charm and flirt. Anyway, there is always the cemetery—a promising site if explored with enterprise.—E.M.B.

"INTELLECTUALLY POT-BOUND"

—says SHELLEY

"FREEDOM OF SPEECH ESSENTIAL"

—says NASH

Freshers approach the University with an almost pitiable veneration for ancient institutions—the sight of a Professor fills them with religious awe; the library is like a cathedral; Brookie remains an insoluble enigma; and putative graduates listen open-mouthed to the sonorous utterances from the lecturers' pulpits, convinced that they are being educated. "Salient" has interviewed the Minister of Finance and the Director of Broadcasting, in an attempt to disclose to freshers the truth about the University.

THE PROFESSOR

"Salient wants the opinions of some competent outside men on the New Zealand University system, Professor," said our commentator.

Professor Shelley smiled. "I suppose you think I ought to be able to speak both as an outside and inside man?" he asked.

LECTURES LASHED.

"What do you consider the proper function of a University?"

"One of the primary objects of a University is to safeguard and hand on the accumulated knowledge of the ages, and at the same time, to develop the technique of further pursuit of knowledge."

"What do you believe is the most effective method of ensuring this object?"

"The ideal method of developing thought and understanding, of ensuring the integration of knowledge with human life, is by the free interchange of ideas, and the sharing of points of view by people meeting together in small semi-formal groups."



"I regard the lecture method as inadequate and uneconomic in relation to the educative functions of a University. The best method is for a group of six to twelve people to interchange their views in easy relations with one another, in the presence of someone who is supposed to have learning at his disposal, and who will bring arguments and thoughts back to the path of fact. This method would be more profitable in every way than the lecture method. The lecture method does not sufficiently stimulate intellectual activity in the minds of the listeners, who are necessarily in the attitude of mere absorption."

SEXUAL SELECTION.

"What are your views on the subject of free speech at a University? You will remember that public discussion on sex and religion has been banned by our own University authorities."

"Freedom of speech depends upon the discipline of the minds of those entering upon the discussion. It is not sufficiently understood that there are two sides to a speech—its delivery

and its reception by the listeners. Freedom depends mainly upon the relation between the person who is speaking and his auditors. Where an audience is carefully selected, as in a University classroom, there is no objection at all to free discussion on the subjects you mention, but where the audience is indeterminate, as in a radio broadcast or at a public meeting, the position is entirely different. Freedom of speech is relative to the listener."

"Do you think University students are qualified to speak on international affairs or hold definite political opinions?"

CLASHES SHATTERED.

"They are not qualified. Their disqualification does not arise from any intellectual disability, but from the fact that they are not intimately enough in touch with the various facts involved. We are so far away that it is very difficult for people to understand the values of facts outside the actual environment where the events take place. Things which are accepted by another nation as natural and obvious in their cultural setting may be looked upon by our own people as ridiculous. I am not questioning the intellectual capacity of the students—I am simply saying that the best intellects cannot with any great value discuss such matters unless they are in intimate touch with the social setting of the facts. I think that University students should be more concerned with the discussion of the great principles on which international relations depend rather than the day to day moves that are made on the world's chess-board. I think the attitude of mind of the University students should be open and free, not holding anything in the nature of hard and fast views, otherwise they tend to become what I call 'intellectually pot-bound'—that is, if they circumscribe their thinking with a particular doctrine and try to cram all the roots of human life into it—I fear I am muddling my metaphor—those roots will not be free to grow."

See next week's "Salient" for further interviews.

"The University should be mainly occupied in developing the free and open spirit of enquiry. I know that the tendency is for a person with a limited knowledge of the world—in which category I include the University student—to think that human problems can be solved very much more easily than they really can be, and therefore to plunge into some ready-made panacea for the ills that flesh is heir to."

"If a perfect system were set up in a particular country, the young people of the next generation would inevitably try to overthrow that system, in order to satisfy their innate craving for action and adventure. In each generation the life tendency can be seen expressing itself in a different form, and the politicians of a particular era must become sensitive to the form it takes during their regime."

THE STATESMAN

"What is the Government's attitude towards the University?" asked "Salient."

"The Government's attitude to the improvement of the educational system in general and the University in particular is that all facilities at our disposal will be provided, but so that the maximum amount of freedom will be given to the University authorities."

UNQUALIFIED FREEDOM.

"Certainly they should. The object of the University is to get people to think, and if they cannot say what they think, the whole work of the University is nullified. I would qualify that statement, of course, by saying that if a speaker uses language the expression of which is an offence against the obscenity law, he should be stopped, but this is the only qualification."

ET TU, NASH?

"Are University students qualified to hold political opinions?" Mr. Nash laughed.



"Well, what opinions can be held other than political opinions?"

"There are religious, social and philosophical questions, and problems of conduct. One of the objects of the University is to provide the environment, together with the material, for the mind to function. Upon the functioning of the mind depends the good or ill of the community. The opinions of University students, however, should not be respected merely because the holders of those opinions are University students—although they may have more facilities than the ordinary man—but should be valued according to their own intrinsic worth."

STATEMENT, NOT STATUS.

"It is my belief that the weight of a certain person's statements should be judged not only by his status but by the value of the statement itself. But University students are potentially more qualified than the average man in that they have more information at their disposal. However, book-learning is only one of the factors; life and experience are important in the formation of political beliefs. I do not, of course, mean that all a student gains from a University is book learning."

Cautionary Tale FOR GROWN-UP CHILDREN

No. 1.—PERCIVAL, THE MATHEMATICAL PRODIGY.

Oh, let unbidden tears drop fall!
I sing of little Percival.
An infant of a mighty brain
Too complicated to explain!
When little Percival was born,
He looked around with utter scorn,
And murmured: "If Infinity
Were multiplied by minus three,
Would you get nought, or slightly
more?"
The Doctor fainted on the floor,
And, hurling Percy on the bed,
The Nurse precipitately fled.
When Percival was nearly three,
They sent him up to 'Varsity.
And students loved to look at Perce,
In little pants, with his Nurse,
Discussing Z, and Y, and X.
With old Professors of his sex.
The freshers often watched with glee
The infant, perched on Brookie's knee,
Explaining to him carefully
The gist of Relativity!
And sweet freshettes would blush to
see
His nappies in the Library.
Where Percival would think his
thoughts,
Raised up on piles of Law Reports.
The table round him often strewed
With safety pins and baby food!
And students used to talk of "That
Aburd, precocious little brat."
Expressing a desire to smack
The lower portion of his back.
Of knowledge he got a grip.
They gave him a Professorship;
But one day in his class there rose
A student, spectacles on nose.
Who said: "I've often tried—have
you?"
To find the root of minus two?"
Professor Perce gaped vacantly.
"We will resume at half past three."
He hissed, and sought to find a clue
To solve the root of minus two.
He pored at night on musty tomes,
And visited Professors' homes
To see if any of them knew
What was the root of minus two!
Then, in despair—what do you think?
—Professor Percy took to drink,
And hiccupped, steeped in beery
brow.
"Hi! What's the root of minush
two?"
When on his death-bed, students
came.
Who knew his transitory fame.
To see if the Professor knew
What was the root of minus two.
"Is there a root," they cried, and faint
Was his reply—"Alas! there ain't!"
They raised a tombstone o'er his head,
Which, speaking of the infant, said:
Of too much X and XXX.
—R.L.M.

EXHORTATION

Whether you be rich man; poor man; beggar man; thief.
Whatever obsesses you, be it dress reform, deep sea diving, or darwinism, tell us all about it.

Fill yourself full to bursting of Divine Afflatus with 50 horse power apparatus and write for "Salient." Be assured, all your troubles will vanish as the mists of morning if you pick up your pen, dip it in the ink and write.

LET "SALIENT" BE YOUR SAFETY-VALVE.

At the University every great treatise is postponed until its author attains impartial judgment and perfect knowledge. If a horse could wait as long for its shoes and would pay for them in advance, our blacksmiths would all be college dons.

Old lady, approaching two University students lounging on the front steps in the sun:
"So this is the University?"
Student: "Yes."
Old lady, gazing at the worm-eaten gymnasium: "I suppose that is the Training College, then?"

Says Jim Gentry:

Students may be radical in their politics but they are conservative in their choice of Ale—they never change from the best—

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ENTER THE "SALIENT"

"Smad" is dead. With it is gone the policy which guided it for several years.

The change has been made not because that policy was undesirable but because it was felt the spirit of the times demanded that any suggestion of Olympian grandeur or academic isolation from the affairs of the world should be dropped and should be replaced by a policy which aims firstly to link the University more closely to the realities of the world; and secondly, to comment upon rather than report in narrative style the activities of the College Clubs.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an expression of the opinion that students are not qualified to hold political opinions. The whole policy of this paper is founded upon a diametrically opposite view. For it seems to our staff that unless a sufficiently large and well-informed mass of public opinion can be formed the world over, and formed within a period of months rather than years, the very academic detachment so forcibly and so often placed before us as the "correct" attitude of the student mind, will—along with most other things that make a university what it is—be lost forever. Every day things become more critical. The international situation grows worse, not steadily but by leaps and bounds.

New Zealand is only a small place and Victoria College is only a small part of New Zealand. But the influence of a compact body of opinion amongst the students, alive to the significance of events, would be far from small.

It is hoped therefore, that free use will be made of these columns by all who wish to do so. The sole qualification of any article necessary to ensure its publication is its literary merit. The name of the paper is not without significance and we hope that as the weeks go by and "Salient" begins to take its destined place amongst the other College activities, it will prove no empty title.

It is your paper. The Editor and the whole staff will be at your disposal for the purpose of interviews in connection with the journal at definite times each week. Please have no hesitation whatever in calling upon them. Those who do so will find a transformation in the surroundings formerly associated with the College weekly. For the provision of these pleasant quarters we wish to express our gratitude first to those members of the Students' Association Executive who worked to effect the transformation and secondly to the Executive as a whole who have co-operated keenly in getting the new venture under way.

For the rest, its success lies in the lap of the gods, and to no small extent in the hands of the students of V.U.C.

FOR FRESHERS ONLY

Freshers, we bid you welcome to Salamanca, the place where some of you will continue your education and others will begin it. For it is safe to say that on account of the requirements of the University Entrance Examination, the school life of many has been given a hopelessly academic bias, when it should have been concerned with developing in the widest possible fashion, their interests in non-academic things. In your 5th and 6th form years when you should have been learning how to paint, to write verse, you have been learning Latin verbs. When your emotional development urged that you should spend considerable time listening, say, to the "New World" symphony, you found it necessary to listen to "geometrical illustrations of algebraical identities"—about which no one really cares—or to the subtle intricacies of "sine a" or "tan theta."

But good people, the point is this. You now have the chance to restore the balance. You will find up here activities which go far beyond the process of learning and which provide for your full development. Those who played all the usual games—Rugby, Hockey, Basketball, Cricket, Tennis, Swimming, Athletics and so on—who are interested in the physical side of their education, will find clubs to cater for their needs.

For those who incline more to the outdoor life, the Tramping Club (which at the present time, thanks to efficient management, is enjoying a successful period) offers an excellent form of activity. The Dramatic and Debating Societies should receive your patronage; and you should lose no opportunity of using the latter to air your grievances and voice your contents.

Thanks to Mr. Andrew Carnegie and Dr. J. C. Beaglehole, you will be able to listen to some excellent music on the College audiphone.

Last, and we are afraid least upon the scale of educational media, comes the lecture system—that is, the inculcating device used within these walls. A lecture has been defined as "The name for a fifty-minute process whereby the notes of the professor become the notes of the student without passing through the minds of either." Whether that is true or not, you will soon be able to judge.

In the meantime, we would point out the difficulty of making a pre-arranged division of your time. Experience alone will enable you to discover what attention you can afford to pay to other activities beside "swot."

One thing, however, is certain, and that is that if you are to resist successfully the fossilizing effect of your studies you will, for your own sake, need to take part in as many different activities, and to lead as full a life, as is possible.

If you need information, or to talk over unofficially with an older student who might help you, questions related to your life at V.U.C.—anything from lectures to "digs," call over to the "Salient" room and ask for the Editor. He'll be only too glad to help if possible.

Now that you are here, "Wikitoria" bids you welcome. Its resources are at your disposal. Go to it, freshers!

"NOW IS THE HOUR WE LONGED FOR."

The tall grass fidgeted greyly. Inundated, with moonlight, the hill sloped heavily to the inexorable sea. The air was gently and bewilderingly alive. He and she sat close together, couched deeply in the grass, and stared at the sea as it flooded in past the dark brooding rocks who always seemed to be pondering about things, but who really didn't because they were only rocks after all.

Just above stood the trees—thick and viscid against the impalpable sky.

And as they watched they saw him turn, his eyes wide with wonder like a child's, his veins tense with a deep unaccountable ecstasy.

But the trees were not in the least surprised and only looked on in the off-hand kind of way that trees have for they had watched this sort of thing ever since the time they were old enough to see over the heads of the grass and, through the years, they had grown to accept it for what it was, which shows that trees are far, far wiser than you or I have the wherewithal to imagine.

As his eyes widened she lifted her smiling face to the skies, and was glad when the stars laughed back and shone more brightly for their sake. She knew that soon all would be one soft annealing flow as when Solomon sang to Sheba and kissed her Arab eyes.

She waited, her heart pounding as hearts sometimes do. Then he took her and kissed her lips defiantly, to show the moon that the earth was made for youth and for love.

And the trees nodded as they heard him whisper—"Dearest, just think. We never would have met if you hadn't gone to Freshers' Welcome."
—J.D.F.

"Salient" Points

The attention of all students is drawn to the following points:—

1. Staff will be available—
During the day—Mr. E. Robertson.
Evening—7 p.m. onwards on Thursday.
2. All articles, letters, etc., must bear the signature of the writer. Pseudonyms permissible with Editor's page.
3. Articles, etc., must be in the hands of the Editor by 7 p.m. Thursday prior to issue.

CAPPING WITHOUT FEARS.

"Salient" has been informed by the Hon. Sec. of the Students' Association that a letter has been received from the Registrar intimating that the Professorial Board has agreed to refrain from holding any terms examinations during the last three weeks of the first term.

It is unlikely that exams. will be held in the few days after Easter.

The moral is: "Don't be afraid to participate in Capping week functions."

Afflatus.

The fact, that those who talk incessantly of the soul should find it imperative to perform primary physiological functions, reassure me, and I am comforted, almost a little.

STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

A University Service has been arranged at St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral for Sunday, 13th March. The Bishop of Wellington will preach and members of the Professorial Board and Students' Association will assist in the service. A cordial invitation is issued to all students to be present at this College function.

'S A FACT!

A "Salient" worker was coaxing a graduate to purchase a year's subscription. After ten minutes' work, the graduate at last gave in, and handed over his 3/-.

"Anyway," he grumbled, "why call it 'Salient'? What does it mean?"

"It means 'outstanding,'" replied our worker.
The graduate snorted.
"I wish my subscription was," he growled.

IS GOOD FOR THE BRAIN — BUY THE BEST!
TEA Wardell's
22 24 28 2/10

CELLULOID ESTIMATE

FOREWORD: Film reviews are intended this year to take their place as a regular ingredient. The inter-relation of cinema and society is so inclusive that it is almost entirely overlooked. (Generally it is thought of (if at all) under the head of Entertainment, which means the titillation of jaded senses by brainless coquettes like Joan Crawford or by vulgar ape-men like Clark Gable (who played Parnell without his beard lest it should mar his manly looks).

It is high time that genuine and fearless film criticism became the function of a university paper. What we read in the commercial press is almost always the reprint of blurbs sent in by the makers of the films themselves! Each company is given a free hand to boost its own goods—provided it pays the newspaper proprietors advertising money. And the review space given is directly proportional to the amount of advertising. No wonder every third-class film is hailed as an outstanding masterpiece.

It is hoped in the next issue to publish an article discussing the cinema as an art form and stating a few critical canons.

MIRACLE.

Ever since I saw "Dead End," I have been ransacking my brains for the reasons that prompted Samuel Goldwyn to produce it. Why should someone who for years has been pre-occupied with photographing half-dressed Jezebels with million dollar legs suddenly turn out a first rate piece of realism? A change of heart perhaps. Unlikely. Well maybe someone did it while his back was turned. Maybe. Still it remains as inexplicable as the duck-billed platypus.

For the first time in my experience, a Hollywood camera man was permitted to use his camera dialectically. What I mean by "dialectically" is the presentation on the screen consecutively of opposed graphic ideas (i.e. thesis and antithesis).

For example—in "Dead End"—a blowsey old char pinches a half-eaten biscuit from a kid—while next shot, a 12 year old snob in a stiff collar tips his morning milk on the ornamental shrubs.

The meaning (i.e. synthesis) is implicit but surely to a wide-awake mind is as obvious as a roman nose.

The plot retains all the strength and indignation of the stage play. Closely-knit and never descending to sentiment, it is splendidly realistic throughout; e.g. tenement interiors, "Baby Face" and his girl friend.

LINES THAT TELL.

It had lines which were more revolutionary than any I have heard in a Hollywood picture before.

For the first time picketting was seen in its true light.—Remember, Dreena pulls back her hat and says: "See that bump—one of your dirty cops did that today while we were picketting the store and three more girls were hurt bad."

FRESHERS' WELCOME DANCE
FRIDAY, 11th MARCH.

Items and community singing from 8 till 9. Address of welcome by President Edgley and then dancing till the early hours of the morning.

Dress strictly informal.
FRESHERS FREE. SEE NOTICE
BOARDS.

D'ANNUNZIO-ITIS

What a pity! Really it would have been far more romantic if doddering old Gabriel was killed in a chariot race or had arranged to fall from a flag-pole. Anything to keep up the sorry sham.

The famous Quian described him as "that refined little fair-haired rhymer who listens with his eyes and thinks with his ears." (cf. "Evening Post" obit. notice.) He was an idealist, naturalist, a Nietzschean, a symbolist and a mystic in turns. But throughout these mutations he remained a patriot and eventually developed into a jingoist and a fascist, who found in Mussolini a Redeemer and in his lap-sided self a hope for the world.

No wonder he died of cerebral hemorrhage.

ADVICE TO OLD MAIDS:

Be good sweet maids and let who will be clever.

Advice to young maids:

Be good, sweet maids, and let who will. Be clever.

Positively: Means being mistaken at the top of one's voice.

A copy-writer is a lost literary soul withering in eternal torment because magazines have to be paid to print his stuff.

Dave, speaking of the kids, says, "Enemies of society the papers say. What have they got to be so friendly about?"

And "Baby Face" to his girl—"Why didn't you get a job?" Fransi—"They don't grow on trees."

Still I suppose one has to hand the show to the six kids—brought over from the original stage show.

These six boys hold the picture to their own little destinies giving it colour and vitality all too seldom seen in latter purified days. Their speech has been cleaned up, of course, in the transition from stage to screen, their mouths have been washed out with the soap of Legion of Decency, but even under these handicaps the boys manage to make "Dead End" a vivid piece of dramatic literature.

Altogether a memorable show.

EMPTY EPILOGUE.

As I was being submerged in the avalanche of picture-goers who crowded the exits I heard one stolid little middle-class matron mumble—"Well how'd you like it?" To which came the reply—"It wasn't very edifying, was it?"

It just shows you how things are.

But as Tommy says: "It all comes from learning." —J.D.F.

ZENITH OR ZERO.

The Zola Film.

A film that has for its aim the portrayal of Zola's struggle for truth yet which flagrantly distorts what actually occurred.

A film which is dripping with sentiment like a leaky spout.

A film with some fine sustained overacting.

A film whose emotional crescendo is dependent upon the numbing of the onlooker's critical conscience.

A film which will be a box-office prodigy because people like "Uplift," especially when it's made-to-measure and wrapped up in pretty paper.

DIGS—

We met in the Hot Dog. He was devouring, with the appetite of a half-starved animal, one of Angelo's large grills. The rough edge of his collar had made a red mark on his neck, and his shirt had the off-white appearance in vogue with the big laundries. His discoloured eyes and unhealthy complexion were those of one hopeless and depraved. But something about him showed he had once been a man of culture and refinement. "A regretfully frequent type," I reflected. The face was familiar. I was looking into a mirror.

Boarding in Wellington is hard enough for one on a good wage, but for a Training College student like my vis-à-vis it is gruesome. Years of stuffy "singles" and squalid "shares" had done their work, and had broken what had once been a gloriously independent spirit. I thought of the hundreds like him, and of their hideous, hunted lives; of the pathetic shifting from place to place in the hope of retaining some last shred of decency; of the waning of that hope, and of the final state, the nadir of degradation, when one settles down at last to a boarder's lot, the chief characteristics of which are:—

(1) Absolute subservience to the arrogance of landladies. One must crawl to live. Boarders nowadays are a race of crawlers, despicable outcasts who will descend to any depth of flattery and servility for "that second piece of pie." The old hands never grumble: their cynical motto is "What do you expect for thirty bob a week?"

(2) Putting a penny in the gas-meter for a shave, or threepence for a bath.

For Embryo Dons

This young man with flaxen hair,
Laid out like a city square
Or garden,
Loves leaning gently on his cane
Behaving as though he's the swain
Of Arden.

His hat and coat are bottle green,
His strides the nattiest ever seen
Or sat in,
His eyes are coloured turquoise
blue,
Like seas the Ancient Mariner knew
And spat in.

His cigarettes are Turkish blend,
The brand designed to always send
A wench
Off into lists of breathless love,
Where Virtue's cast off like a glove
Or stench.

He reads the "Monocle" and
"Man."

And drives an over-powered sedan.
What ho!

He votes "Ra-form" like all his
tribe.

For Hamilton's a "pukka sahib
You know."

Beware lest you should grow like
him.

Be watchful in the interim,
For fear

You wake one morning in your bed
And find that you are he instead,
My dear.

—J.D.F.

Weathercock

MOTIONS PRESENTED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE UNIVERSITY DEBATES LAST YEAR.

That Training College is a menace to V.U.C.—Carried.

That the time is ripe for the abolition of the monarchy.—Carried.

That Britain should actively support the Spanish Government.—Lost.

That the legal profession deserves the disrespect of the community.—Carried.

That freedom in the British Empire is a hollow pretence.—Carried.

That social violence is necessary in human affairs.—Lost.

That the establishment of Weir House has been of no benefit to V.U.C.—Lost.

That Commercial Broadcasting is a menace to N.Z.—Carried.

That the N.Z. press does not reflect public opinion.—Lost.

That organised sport in N.Z. is a racket.—Carried.

That the Labour Party is justifying its mandate from the people of N.Z.—Carried.



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S P O R T IT CAN BE DONE

In little more than a month, the big event of the 'Varsity year will be upon us and our teams will be preparing for the Annual Inter-University Easter Tournament held this year at Auckland. Last year, by a supreme effort Victoria managed to get rid of the Tournament Wooden Spoon, some of the teams, notably the Basketball, Rowing and Shooting teams, performed excellently.

In spite of some successes, the standard of performance of the V.U.C. teams has been regrettably poor. If it is to be improved this year—and it MUST be improved—it behoves every person who has the remotest chance of "making a team" to get into training right away.

There can be little doubt that the teams would be strengthened if all those who were eligible to play for this College were willing to do so. Unfortunately there are always a few who find stronger claims to their services than the claims of Victoria. We would urge upon Freshers that there CAN be no stronger claims than those of your College.

It would be a mistake, however, if everyone played for their Alma Mater (old woman) merely because they felt it was their duty to do so. There is more in it than that. Apart from the fact that sports activities generally are as necessary to a student as a yolk is to an egg you will find that one of the things of greatest and most lasting value which you can get from your years at V.U.C. will be the friendships you make with other 'Varsity people at Tournaments, and above all, with other Victoria people in your Saturday games.

Here's hoping that this year will see, not merely better things in sport, but the Tournament Shield in our glass case, and at least three Club Championships. **IT CAN BE DONE.**

CRICKET

The most notable achievement of the Seniors was the defeat of the hitherto unbeaten Kilmirnie team. Tricklebank, Dean, Ongley and Stephenson have shown all-round form. Wilren, Wilson, and Harpur have scored runs consistently. Wilren being the only century-maker. Knowsley has bowled well in his first season in Senior grade. Tricklebank secured a place in the Wellington B reps.

For the Second XI, Cornish and Johnston have scored centuries, with Sharrock and Fitzgerald also batting well. The all-rounders, Parkin and Drake, have taken most of the wickets. Parkin did the "hat trick" on one occasion. Fitzgerald and Kirkham have also bowled with some success. Three new members, Whiting, Jarrett and McPhail, proved their worth in their first game.

The Junior B team is a well-balanced side, with all members doing well at times. Macrae, the captain, has bowled well and has received good support from Walker and Taylor-Cannon. Palmer and Sweeney have batted consistently, and Bray is developing into a stylish batsman.

The Junior C team confounded the critics recently with a meritorious win over Institute, the leaders of the competition. Centuries have been scored for the team by Campbell and Wells, and Wilton reached the 80's on one occasion. Moore and Porteous have taken many wickets, and Roberts, with shrewd variation of length and direction, has bluffed out a few. Edsley, staging a come-back, has batted and bowled outstandingly well.

TENNIS

All things considered, it can fairly be said that this season is proving a better one than 1936/37. A good indication of enthusiasm is the activity of the ladders, while it is likely that the finals in all the championships will be played before the end of March. In inter-club matches, despite the improved standard at 'Varsity, the club is faring only moderately well.

Results:—

	Won	Lost	Position
1st Grade Men	1	2	4
2nd Grade Men	4	2	2 (equal)
2nd Grade Women	4	2	1 (equal)
3rd Men	1	3	5 (equal)
3rd Women	1 draw	3	bottom
4th Grade	2	4	

TOURNAMENT.

Tournament prospects are brighter than last year. Trials are beginning

immediately and, with N. A. Morrison, B. M. O'Connor, H. J. Hartley, P. H. Renouf, L. B. Sandford and B. W. Brock eligible, the selectors should be able to choose a team capable of extending Canterbury. The girls to play in the trials are S. Philipps, E. MacLean, L. Mete Kingi, K. Pears, P. Edwards and M. Fletcher.

TENNIS SPECIAL.

A. K. Quist, Captain of Australia's Davis Cup team and in 1936 ranked as the fourth best player in the world, discussed tennis with representatives of "Salient" and Tennis Club officials after his exhibition matches at Miramar. See next week's issue for the report of this exclusive feature.

SWIMMING

Every Wednesday night during the Summer season, the University Swimming Club disports itself at Thorndon Baths at its weekly club night. Owing, no doubt, to the splendid weather, and the work of an efficient committee, the weekly nights have been the most successful for years, with an average attendance of about forty, good fields in all events, and races to please all tastes from that of the learner to that of the putative Weismuller.

MEN ARE GOOD.

The men of the 'Varsity Club are uniformly good—although none are yet up to Tournament standard. More steady training is urgently needed. Since the departure of Mason, Carlyon, and other good swimmers, the younger members have had a hard task to attain to the old standard of excellence, but already a substantial improvement can be noticed, especially in the swimming of Ryan, Rawson, Hamilton and O'Flynn, who are all shaping well in sprint and distance races.

NO FAST WOMEN.

The women are another story. With the exception of Miss S. Hefford, who should win the Ladies' Breaststroke event at Tournament this year, and Miss M. Ongley, who is improving, they do not approach the average Wellington club standard. Again lack of training is the chief obstacle to their improvement.

WATERBALL.

The C Polo team has been defeated once only in the matches this season, and next year should easily win its grade. As the result of practice and increased fitness, the team is now beginning to combine well. The A team met with some overwhelming defeats at the beginning of the season, but the number of goals by which their opponents win is now steadily decreasing. The challenge game be-

tween the A and C teams at the Annual Inter-Faculty Carnival, to be held on March 16th at Thorndon Baths, should prove very interesting.

OUR BIG NIGHT.

The Inter-Faculty Carnival will provide some thrilling races. Besides special handicap events for freshers, two Club Championships will be decided, an interesting novelty event will be included, and an attractive subsidiary programme has been arranged.

Another unique attraction will be the appearance of Professor Ah Mihk, a Yogi Professor of Occult Science, who will perform a remarkable under-water escape from a sealed and examined sack. This miracle, which rivals the effects of the great Houdini, is entitled: "A Challenge to Death."

SWIMMING CARNIVAL.

The date—March 16th; the time—8.15 sharp; the place—Thorndon Baths (off Murphy Street). The admission is only 6d., which includes entry fees for the various races.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The V.U.C. Women's Hockey Club last year entered two teams in the Wellington competitions—one in the A grade and one in the C grade—but it cannot be truthfully stated that they distinguished themselves.

The A team lacked combination, especially the forwards, who were also too slow in seizing opportunities of shooting. We had some very good players among the backs and half-backs, but the team as a whole showed great need for improvement and enthusiasm.

The members of the Junior team were for the most part new players, who improved greatly during the season. Towards the end the team was combining well and showing much more enthusiasm than the Senior team.

POOR TRAINING FACILITIES.

The Club is definitely handicapped by its small membership and by its difficulty in practising. A training night was held once a week during the second term. This was quite well attended but unfortunately was almost always held inside, and though we were able to practise stick-work we had no practice in combination.

There is a possibility this year of having a portion of Kelburn Park flood-lit for practising purposes. If we can use this ground there should be a definite improvement both in practices and on the field.

With plenty of practice and enthusiasm the Women's Hockey Club can achieve anything. Let's hope that this year it will do something worth recording.

MEN'S HOCKEY

The G. F. Dixon trophy for 1937 has been awarded to the Juniors, captained by D. Good. Besides having a creditable playing record, they developed team spirit to a high degree. The Fourths cannot have been far behind, for their playing record and enthusiasm were also good. A member of the Fourths, O'Donnell, has been awarded the Hain Stick for the most improved new player.

The Annual Meeting of the Club will be held on the 21st.

BASKETBALL

We started the year well by winning the Basketball Shield at Tournament, chiefly through the enthusiastic support of the Haka Party.

In the Association matches we had our "on and off" spells. We entered a Senior A and a Senior B team, and both teams were well up in their grades in the first round of the draw, but owing to absence of players during the holidays and poor attendance at practices, we lost our place in the second round.

THE FUTURE.

This year we hope to do really well. Many of the players who deserted us last year in favour of Training College are back among us. For the latter half of last season we were lucky to secure the services of Max Riske as coach, and he has kindly consented to coach us for the coming season. Under his guidance, the teams have livened up considerably, and we feel sure they will continue to improve.

The Basketball Club deserves your support. Freshers! Play basketball and keep fit! Don't risk losing that "School girl" figure!

REWARD!!!

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