

Salient

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

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The Left in Spain DEFENCE OF MADRID

"Salient's" policy with regard to news is clear; "reporting" in the usual sense of the word has been abolished, and what we may call "commentating" has been introduced. If a definite political side is taken by a lecturer, we hope to obtain the views of a "commentator" holding the opposite opinion, instead of merely stating: "Mr. So-and-so gave a highly entertaining and instructive lecture on Such-and-such, and a good time was had by all."

We are thus glad to publish the critical report of Dr. Sutcliffe's recent lecture on Spain and the subsequent proceedings which appears below. Let it be thought that the author speaks without an adequate knowledge of his subject, it should be stated that he is a V.U.C. graduate who has recently travelled extensively in Europe.

The Editor again wishes to emphasise that he will not be responsible for any views expressed in a signed article.

Last Friday evening the Dramatic Club sponsored a lecture and picture in aid of the "Save the Spanish Children Fund." This presumably, but not so ostensibly, was the reason for the receipt of moneys at the door.

THE STAGE IS SET.

The curtains parted to reveal the set. Front centre, Mr. Almers, seated. Back drop covered with posters which the veriest child could see were from the "Loyalist" group in Spain. The tragic-comedy began. Mr. Almers soon proved to be only the interlocutor—in the true style of Thucydides, or was it Simonides of Ceas? He cunningly tried to lead the assembled throng of the mass who constituted the audience to believe that this was to be an appeal for the destitute Spanish children—from both sides—torn from their families, now starving and homeless. Even the Training College girls in the third row didn't believe this for a moment, however, and every one eagerly awaited the real drama which was to come.

Soon the first principal appeared. A few chosen words, and the problem was laid before us. The staunch hearts of the students who stood for the Great Principle beat a trifle faster—and the moving, epochal epic was under way in its re-telling. As the Good Book says: "Proletariat aller hander verelugt euch"—which being translated is: "The faster a whale goes, the swimmer."—Now we students, by virtue of our Klassical education, are fully aware of this—and we must take our Responsibility in Both Hands.

SNAKE IN THE GRASS.

The villain, as always villains must be, was very, very bad. That is to say, he has no conscience, is in league with the Powers of Darkness, can call upon all the forces of magic, and almost but never quite vanquishes the heroes and heroines. These latter, who, by virtue of their nobleness of character and the fact that they are All Right and very Proletarian, must of course in the end win. Of else we'd demand our money back at the door, wouldn't we, children?

The heroes were not of your intellectualist brand—they were good honest miners from Asturia, mostly, who were frightfully brave. They had copied the good Americans in having an alphabet of politics so that no one would understand, and especially the enemy, who would be well fooled. The enemy was very dull in any case, they couldn't even read Spanish, not having wallowed in the wealth of learning.

MOVING MOVIES.

The story went "Onward and Upward"—as the second act carried on the tale. The introduction of the great modern invention of the movie, as the technical setting for the part, showed how the production staff was up to the minute. Now the heroes and the villains became quasi-flesh before our very eyes. No longer the remote play upon emotion, no longer the world-shy, doctrinaire, abstraction of the Issues. (Earnest apologies, my respected Oswald S.), but the realities. The heroes were now shown in their true colours (sometimes Technicolor) pushing home the bolts of rifles as if their very lives depended

on it. The villains, however, were still rather obscure, being portrayed only behind clouds of dust or aeroplane fuselage.

Of course they couldn't really be shown in the flesh as rather human-like men and women, because then where would we be? Or would we?

Already we sensed the close of the story, and reached for our reportorial hat, imagining a mug of milk at Gates's, when The Surprise came. The stark genius of the thing took one's breath away. Suddenly from the front seat in the audience he appeared. The Enemy? No! 'Tis but the wind. But stay. It is! It is! (Consternation.) That amazing freedom and liberalism which marks the student from his kind, or perhaps it was that same ferocity which the Romans displayed when another Ethiopean was tossed to the lions, or maybe just the vulgar capitalist desire to get a full bob's worth, each and all allowed the Enemy to move up on the stage. A magnificent epilogue. We felt sure all along that we were being fooled and that the villain would really be the misunderstood hero and the pretended heroes were really the Dinkum Enemy in disguise and had very good magic and were really (very hushed) Racketeers.

STATE OF THE LAND.

The Enemy (I still use the old name so as not to confuse our younger readers, bless them) in reality were very hard done by. They had had all their lovely land pinched—at given dates, this all being verified "de rigueur." The State, which had been influenced by the perfectly awful things which were being done by the State next door, actually wanted to educate the workers and peasants. They were too poor, however, having no land or anything, and that's why they "pinched" the land of the Enemy. The State, in order to hide its real plan, made the people believe that the Good Things being done by the Enemy were really bad.

This last master stroke left the audience dazed. Followed a "Quick Curtain," a word from the interlocutor again—in the true style of Thucydides, or was it from the "Book of the Dead"?—to the effect that there was an insufficient quantity of tea to go round and we knew the problem play was finished. "Here lies 'The Defence of Madrid'—the noblest problem play of them all."

JUST SUCKERS.

But, don't you see, children?—you have still been fooled! The real problem is not "Who is the Hero?" and "Who is the Enemy?" but what has all this to do with the price of fish in Patagonia on Saturday afternoons, or with the colour of Mary's eyes, or even with the camps to be set up in the Pyrenees to feed starving children and mothers? Now, you never thought of that, did you? But still it doesn't matter, because your shillings collected at the door are destined to help those camps—and after all, you did get your bob's worth of fun.—I wonder.

"And the Lord said: 'Feed my lambs.'"
But why on tripe?

—SANCHO PANCA.

ACTION Executive Wheels Revolve

They grind exceedingly slow and they grind exceedingly small. Being a cog in the executive machinery must be very wearing. Through a welter of motions and amendments with little and unenthusiastic discussion on any of the items, but occasional bursts of "efficiency" from the effervescent member, "Salient" watched a line of ticks creep down an imposing agenda list.

One cannot blame the mill hands for being apathetic about their grist. However, if the scheme of hiring a new hand who will be a young and efficient secretary-treasurer with a salary, goes into effect ultimately much of the gristier grist will be sifted out and being an executive member will perhaps be less like being an office orderly.

GRIT IN THE WORKS.

Picking over the scattered gems "Salient" discovered that the piano has been tuned for eightpence, that A. H. Scotney did win the Plunket Medal, that Professor Hunter is to be congratulated on being made Head Boy, that B.Com. Hoods are available for a deposit of 25/-, 20 of which will be returned on receipt back of the hood and that Susie Sanders is again to be the wardrobe mistress. Such is the scope and extent of Executive business!

The report of the corresponding member showed that the N.Z.U.S.A. were full of organised efficiency and enthusiasm and they had things to be enthusiastic about. Getting concessions—overseas in travelling and living facilities for students, making the Director of Broadcasting state his ideas on Radio debates, and compiling exhaustive reports on insurance schemes, debating itineraries and what-nots is all within their powers and they do it thoroughly.

POLITE PERSONALITIES.

Several items of personal interest were revealed. That Charlie Plank is recovering from his accident and sends best wishes for the teams at Easter Tournament will be good news to his friends, that Margaret Johnson is to be this year's editor of "Spike" is welcome news too, and "Salient" would like to have heard the bit about the Tournament Delegates but it was politely asked to leave the room.

Sporting people will be relieved to know that in its slow grindings, the mill ruminates on sports now and again. University Golf teams are a new enterprise and deserve the support of all those who are keen on the game. As yet it is only a tentative plan but enthusiasm could carry it far. When overseas Colleges can run tournaments why should New Zealand lag behind?

Perhaps the sports section which it is hoped to add to the Library will give impetus—and information.

The question of the safety of the gymnasium is becoming so serious that even nature adds her voice to the clamour. During the discussion on this point the wind howled and the stairs creaked, windows rattled and the roof leaked. But the wheels grind slowly.—E.M.B.

Students' Law Journal

"Salient" has been requested to draw the attention of all law students to the notices posted concerning the proposed publication of a Students' Law Journal. Articles of a legal or allied nature are urgently required. "Salient" is particularly interested to learn that the Journal will include articles of a sociological or cultural nature, especially with reference to the relation of the lawyer to the community," and also topical verse, examination howlers, short paragraphs, etc. The scope is wide enough, the object is a good one, and all that is needed is a little enthusiasm and hard work to prove that law students are no longer the slaves of precedent and tradition. Get busy, you law students!

Le Batiment en Danger

There was a sound of revelry by night. It was Freshers' Welcome. Wellington's capital had gathered then, her beauty and her chivalry, and bright the lamps shone o'er fair men and brave women. A thousand hearts beat happily; and when music arose with its voluptuous swell, soft eyes looked love to eyes which spake again. "All went" (if I may be permitted the liberty of a small quotation) "merry as a marriage bell."

But little did the happy crowd of people, so pleasantly and innocently amusing themselves at the dance, realise that they were each one in imminent danger, in deadly peril! We have always thought the gymnasium rocked rather violently at times, but then we thought it was meant to.

THE CRIME.

Apparently members of the Professorial Board who were present thought it wasn't meant to, for during the course of the evening, probably when the progress of an enthusiastic Maxima had imparted to the old building a motion usually associated with the more ticklish moments of navigation, two professors realised the possibility of danger and immediately summoned the College architect (not the one who designed the gym, but his great-grandson, I believe) to get his opinion on the building.

THE INQUEST.

The architect has yet to make calculations and give a full report, so that no official news has been released; but "Salient" has it on good authority that in the meantime attendances at functions held on the top floor of the gym, are to be limited to 150 people.

There is no need for anybody to be in the least alarmed. There is definitely no immediate danger.

"A DANIEL?"

The possibilities of this thing are tremendous. "Salient" throws off its disguise of an independent, unbiased publication and comes right out into the open, as the champion of the common good, and intends to expose fully this dilapidated tenement racket. We demand that the landlord be found and brought to justice. We demand that immediate steps be taken to ensure the public safety. We demand—

1. The installation of public loud-speaking equipment for regulating the dances.

Viz: "The next dance will be a fox-trot. A to M only, please!"

"Will gentlemen whose names begin with letters ranging from N to Z please take their partners for a Valse?"

2. The organisation of dances upon a cemetery basis.

We suggest that, where the attendance is large, Arts and Science should occupy the cemetery for the first half of the evening, while Law and Commerce occupy the dance floor. At 10 p.m. Law and Commerce should go down to supper, vacating the building at 10.30 p.m., assembling on the tennis court to avoid congestion outside the cemetery gates. At 10.35 p.m. those who had been forced into temporary exile in the sylvan shades of the cemetery should, pardon—MUST—return to the building, just to finish off the evening.

Unless adequate organisation such as this is immediately promulgated, "Salient" will take no responsibility for further ill-fates from the "Salient" room.

We demand further—

3. The provision of ground sheets for use in the cemetery.

The value of this step in safeguarding the public health will, we feel sure, meet with unanimous support from our readers.

4. An adequate system of super-heating the tombstones.

This, we are prepared to admit, may seem rather fussy, but its wisdom cannot be disputed.

5. The erection of stout oaken

beams at strategic points along the walls to hold the gym, erect.

It is also felt that, under the circumstances, the building should be kept well painted. At the moment the paint appears to be playing a large part in holding things together. We shudder to think what would have been the fate of those at Freshers' Welcome had the gym, not been given a good coat of paint fifteen years ago. This paint must not be allowed to decay.

We demand that these measures be taken immediately in the interests of public safety.

Did I hear anybody say "Fire?"

Although it was never thought that the gymnasium was actually unsafe, it has for a long time been realised that the present structure has outlived its usefulness. When the gym, was built the College roll was well under 500; this year the roll must be nearly 1,000. Thus, Victoria College at present lacks a suitable College Hall, a Social Hall, and adequate office accommodation for the Students' Association and the affiliated clubs. Moreover, the common rooms, cloak rooms and cafeteria in the main College building do not satisfy requirements. Apart from the fact that these facilities are not suitable, they occupy space in the College building which could be used to better advantage.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE?

The students have realised that their Association is working under unsatisfactory conditions, and by their own efforts have raised a considerable sum for the purpose of erecting a new Union building. In 1928 the fund stood at £228/1/8, while by 1937 it had risen to £2,334/15/9. It is only in the last few years that serious efforts have been made by the students. For example, the increase in the fund for the year 1936/37 was £747/10/2. By the end of the present financial year the fund should have reached the £3,000 mark. Last year the Students' Association fee was voluntarily raised to £1/5/0. This increase alone will result in approximately £200 being added to the building fund. Besides this amount, the fund will receive £100 from the compulsory transfer under the Constitution.

CLUB EFFORTS.

The most gratifying feature of the 1937 campaign was the support given by College clubs. During the session they raised approximately £100. It is to be hoped that the clubs will support the fund again this session; it is in their own interests.

BUT...

Student efforts alone will not be sufficient. As V.U.C. has no facilities at all, the new building will necessarily be expensive. Other Colleges had halls provided; V.U.C. has to make provision for halls in the new building. It is true that valuable additions to the College buildings are now in course of erection; it is equally true that V.U.C. has a lot to catch up on the other Colleges.

The building committee has been endeavouring to place the scheme before the Government, but it has had many obstacles in its path. The way now seems clear to do so. The gymnasium is now definitely inadequate; a new building is urgently required. The great danger to guard against is the erection of another building which will itself prove inadequate in thirty years' time.

Says Jim Gentry:

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THESES

Freshers may have heard of the word 'Thesis.' At the end of a student's scholastic career, he is, in all faculties with the notable exception of Law, expected to submit to the examiner the results of some original research work. This is called a 'Thesis.' It is intended to show the examiner that the student knows how to apply the knowledge he has gained in the subject in which he has specialised.

For many years now research has been conducted in a manner which is the reverse of scientific. No attempt has been made by the University Senate or other responsible bodies to group or classify the theses of students of the University of New Zealand.

Consequently it is with real pleasure that I saw that the Historical Committee of the Centennial Celebrations has caused to be collected and published a list of all historical and allied theses done by New Zealand students. Now for the first time a student wishing to write a History thesis can see what aspects of the history of this country have been covered and what have been neglected. Much duplicating of unimportant research is evident, while there are many dark unexplored spaces revealed.

Mr. McCormick (an ex-student of V.U.C.) and his committee are to be congratulated on the production of a valuable piece of work. It is only a beginning, and is as yet incomplete, but it is a hopeful sign. The work is not yet available to the public, but if it is made available, should prove of great usefulness to M.A. students. It is high time the same thing was done in Commerce, Science, and other branches of University research.

The one regrettable feature about the whole business is that the move was made from outside the University. The time has surely come when a student wishing to write a thesis, whether it be in History, or in any subject, can see what has been done in his field, in order that he may direct his efforts more usefully.

Is it too much to hope that the lead given by the Historical Committee will be followed by the tabulation of similar lists for other subjects? —A.H.S.

NEW HAEREMAI CLUB Exec. Members in Court

Organised on the lines of and with similar objects to the Hongi Club in Auckland, a club has been formed at Victoria incorporating the interests of the now defunct Haeremai Club.

The objects in the main are:—
To do all things calculated to increase public interest for the good of the College; to brighten up College functions and to promote inter-faculty comity.

The Club reserves the right to carry out its activities to its own interpretation. To the casual observer, however, our methods of attaining our aims may appear somewhat ill-advised and it is in such cases we will welcome constructive criticism.

A constitution has been prepared and is being finalised. Should the Club receive the support anticipated it should (as "Salient" put it last week) "give the public a chance to see 'Varsity' rags" without cause for complaint.

HELP THE COLLEGE.

As fighters for the good of the College it is our intention to assist the BUILDING FUND, and, if for this worthy object only, persons with the same desire should attend our meetings.

When properly constituted, Club membership will be by election only, and by the requirement of certain qualifications we hope to make membership a certain credit to the member.

Finally, should any Club require support for its own functions it is hereby invited to enlist the services of the New Haeremai Club. Any proposition to further the good of the College will be carefully considered, and if given reasonable notice, we will make an effort to be of definite assistance.

Incidentally, the Hongi Club in Auckland was directly responsible for the re-instatement of the Procession in 1936 and 1937, and when we can show the authorities that we, too, are capable of coherent thought and co-operative effort, steps will be taken to have a similar function in Wellington.

The Club, moreover, is to be a brotherhood, the bonds of which we hope to make strong and enduring. Members will be expected, under all circumstances, to conduct themselves according to our policy, and failure to do so will result in expulsion.

A suitable badge is sought for the Club; the design is to be competitive, as below:—

COMPETITION FOR NEW BADGE.

Any person may submit any number of designs of any size in green and gold and incorporate a suggested new name for the Club.

A prize of 10/6 is offered for the selected design. There is NO ENTRY FEE, and designs should reach "Salient" by April 30. The Club's selection will be final.

Ring B. Orchiston, Phone 42-403, for further information.

Express Your Views—

Write for "Salient."

NEW SPEAKERS' DEBATE

The Debating Club's series of new speakers' debates opened last Thursday with the well-worn subject, "That Women's Place is in the Home." The result was highly complimentary to the subject, most speakers showing great promise in their presentation of the arguments they had prepared. The usual fault of new speakers—being over-prepared and reading their speeches—was not too evident and it was obvious that most speakers could overcome it quite easily; for instance, Miss Johnston who was placed first, used notes overmuch in opening, but in reply she debated with ease in opposition to points brought up by her opponents.

Another happy feature was the fact that nearly all speakers from the floor grappled with points raised by other speakers, and usually with some effect. Obviously a greater background of knowledge was required but several speakers had hunted out a few facts on the subject. The motion possibly lent itself to feminine influence—anyway, the first five speakers included only one male, B. O'Connor, placed third. If all the speakers continue debating, the Club has good prospects. —A.R.P.

'S A FACT!

The "Salient" canvasser was working very hard. After several reverses he attacked a third year student.

"I suppose you've got your "Salient" subscription," said the worker.

"Look, boy," said the victim, "I bought a subscription to 'Salient' the day before 'Varsity' started." He paused a moment, and then—"Now I wonder: was it 'Salient' or 'Student'? I'm not quite sure."

Congratulations, Peter!

"Salient" is pleased to learn that Peter Wells has been awarded a post-graduate scholarship in Arts.

This is (so far) the culminating point of a very successful course of study in Languages at V.U.C.

We do not know when Pete proposes to go abroad or where, but whenever and wherever it may be, all V.U.C. will wish him the very best.

Congratulations, Peter!

DEBATING SOCIETY

The Debating Society has decided to dispense with its usual printed syllabus. Any students who are interested in future debates may obtain cyclo-styled copies of Standing Orders and general information concerning the Society.

The Committee feels that this step will allow it to raise more topical subjects than has been possible with a syllabus fixed at the beginning of the year.

UNIVERSITY MISSION

People are already talking about it! It is going to be one of the big things of the year!

A University Mission has been arranged for the second week of the second term when a clear statement of the Christian faith and of its meaning for Life will be presented to the University.

The Rev. H. J. Ryburn, M.A., B.D., a former Rhodes Scholar, is to be the speaker. A keen student himself, an excellent theologian and a man of varied and valuable experience, Mr. Ryburn will have much to say that concerns you.

Further announcements will appear later.

Two guards armed to the teeth brought in a beautiful young white prisoner to the king of the cannibals. "I think," said the potentate, "that I'll have my breakfast in bed this morning."

MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

A young teacher just out of T.C. has made a point of meeting the parents of her pupils, and on entering a tram recently, exclaimed in a most cordial tone to one of the passengers: "Why, how do you do, Mr. Brown!"

The man addressed looked a little dazed and evidently did not know her. The young lady saw her mistake and hurriedly apologised, saying: "Oh, I beg your pardon—I thought you were the father of one of my children."

College Principal

records the appointment of Professor T. A. Hunter to the position of Principal of Victoria College—the first to fill the office.

Professor Hunter needs no introduction to the students of this University. He has for many years occupied the chair of Philosophy and both in his teaching and his extra-curricular activities has at all times shown a real appreciation and understanding of students' needs.

The position of College Principal is a new one, having been suggested in the Atmore Report on Education in pre-depression days.

The position of Chairman of the Professorial Board of course lapses, and "Salient" wishes to convey to the retiring Chairman, Professor Miles, the thanks of students for what he has done for them during his term of office.

To Professor Hunter we extend our cordial good wishes, and express the hope that his period as Principal may be long and pleasant.

THE NEWSPAPERS

Students may have noticed that at the beginning of the month one of our senior professors was interviewed by the local press on his return from Germany, and he was reported as saying that from his observations, life in Germany was very similar to what it was elsewhere. He mentioned that there were certain shortages of food and that manufacturers were subject to certain restrictions, but on the whole Germany was quite a desirable place to live in and that Hitler was to be admired for what he had done for the country. In support of his statements the professor said that "English newspapers seemed to circulate freely. He regularly read the London 'Daily Telegraph.'"

It is to be feared that there is considerable difference of opinion as to the advantages of living in Germany, and one can but wonder what chance there would be of receiving the "Daily Worker," or even the "Daily Herald" regularly. In other words, the professor received his "Daily Telegraph" every day because it was a Conservative paper.

This brings us to the point that it is necessary to know something of the political viewpoints of the London papers in order to be able to interpret correctly remarks such as the professor made, as well as quotations from those papers in the local press.

Here are the more important ones with a few explanations:—
"THE TIMES."—Controlled by Major Astor and the Walter family; also subject to the control of a "National" trust of which the Lord Chief Justice is chairman. Conservative.

"DAILY TELEGRAPH" and "MORNING POST."—Lord Camrose (Berry Group), which controls the largest number of publications in Great Britain. Conservative.

"DAILY MAIL" and "EVENING NEWS."—Lord Rothermere. Ultra-conservative.

"DAILY EXPRESS" and "EVENING STANDARD."—Lord Beaverbrook. Conservative. Empire Free Trade and "Isolationist on Foreign Policy."

"NEWS CHRONICLE."—The Cadburys and Layton. Liberal with leanings towards a United Front.

"DAILY HERALD."—The Labour Party and Odhams. Odhams have financial control. Labour.

"DAILY WORKER."—Communist.

Even armed with this knowledge we cannot be certain of interpreting correctly public opinion in England, as the following quotation from the local "Evening Post" of the 18th of March shows. This statement emanated from the "Post's" London correspondent on the Eden resignation.

"Press opinion, likewise, is not always a true reflection of the mind of the public in England. Sectional interests are usually considered first. Often during disputes of this nature there is a tendency to suggest to the public what it should think rather than discover what it is thinking. English thought, by closer association with European problems, indulges somewhat more deeply in matters of foreign affairs, and is somewhat more complex on this subject than in New Zealand." On top of this we receive our cable news through the United Press Association, which undoubtedly has Conservative leanings, and consequently, in the choice of the news that is sent us, the Conservative viewpoint is more strongly emphasised; and as a result we seldom see the "Daily Herald" quoted, and never the "Daily Worker." This fact has been brought out very strongly lately by the arrival of American papers dealing with the Eden schism. Long before the resignation came American papers were publishing details, and correctly too in the light of subsequent events, of the differences of the British Cabinet. (One can also recall a similar position in connection with Mrs. Simpson.)

The moral of the story is, therefore, not to believe all that the papers say, nor professors either. —TAURUS.

REBUKE

Foreigners often sneeringly designate the British reputation for sportsmanship as existing only in the British imagination. After observing such an exhibition as "Salient's" attack on Count Von Luckner last week, one begins to think that perhaps there is something to be said for this view.

The essence of sportsmanship is respect for an antagonist, whether past or present, but such respect was noticeably lacking in the article mentioned, which was a childish burlesque, making no attempt to treat seriously of the Count's viewpoint, and merely exposed him to ill-considered ridicule. If, as stated in the article, the Count himself introduced the subject of Anglo-German relations, the least that could have been expected was a sober analysis of the question.

No attempt, however, was made to treat the matter intelligently. "Salient's" correspondent evidently considering (if a politically one-sided mind can ever be said to consider) that the idea of an amicable relationship between the two most powerful and racially most similar countries in the world, was beneath his contempt.

"Salient's" insulting treatment of a distinguished foreign visitor has seriously offended a large body of rationally-thinking students. May I suggest that, to avoid a recurrence of such an unpleasant incident, the correspondent in question refrains from allowing his immature political principles to lead him into another exhibition of vindictive childishness and appallingly bad taste. —U.G.H.

Dear "Salient,"—The title of your paper is qualified on the front page by the assertion that it is "an organ of student opinion at Victoria College." On perusing the articles and editorials it seems to me that so far all the opinions have been on the one side, being purely the views of a rabid group of socialistically-minded students.

It would be interesting, then, to know what steps are being taken by "Salient's" staff to awaken the body of politically "conservative" opinion out of its sleep in order that we may hear its views.

So—what are you doing about it, "Salient"?—I am, etc. —A. B. GORDON.

[I refer Mr. Gordon to the report of Dr. Sutch's lecture, which was written by the most ultra-conservative person we could find.—Ed.]

Wagner once bumped into a lamp post in the Maximilianstrasse in Munich—they still show it in the Pinakothek Museum.

"An accident, sir?" inquired an onlooker.

"No thanks," said Wagner, "I've just had one."

PLAY WRITING COMPETITION

During the past year, the Auckland Peoples' Theatre has produced Clifford Odet's two plays, "Waiting for Lefty," and "Till the Day I Die," to an audience of 2,000 members.

The success of these productions indicates the possibilities which the future holds for a strong and virile drama in our country. Such a development is dependent upon two factors. Firstly, the discovery and encouragement of writers of plays as vital as the two mentioned above, but dealing with our own problems and outlook; and secondly, the training of earnest and truthful actors to give life to such plays.

GET MONEY FOR IT.

In the attempt to realise the first of these objectives, People's Theatre is offering prizes for the best original full-length play, and for the best one-act play submitted during the coming season. In the case of the prize-winning play being actually produced, the author would receive in addition the customary royalties for every performance, which should constitute a considerable recompense.

While it is not anticipated that the plays submitted will be of outstanding dramatic merit, it is expected that their authors will endeavour to deal fearlessly and truthfully with problems of worldwide significance, in their special relation to the lives and happiness of our own people. For example, "high society" drama and "eternal triangles," however well they may be written, will receive scant consideration from the judges.

We are facing today a future of incalculable uncertainty, and it is the vital issues which affect us all and upon which our future depends, that must provide the material for the plays of today if these are to possess any real meaning and importance. We need plays which will make people think; which will help them to realise that however remote the trends and movements in the rest of the world may seem, nevertheless they have their reactions in New Zealand and must be understood if New Zealanders wish to cope intelligently with their own problems.

COMPETITION No. 1

Dr. Schuschnigg, while under "protective custody," decides to send Hitler a present of a Bible, in which one sentence is underlined. What sentence would you recommend for the purpose?

Entries close APRIL 7th. No prize.

CAUTIONARY TALES

Grown-up Children

No. 3.—HENRIETTA, THE LUCKLESS HEN. Some poets chant of noble deeds, Of handsome knights on sturdier steeds, Of lady loves and Tournaments, And Saracens in little tents; And there are some who sing with verve

"Blue" songs of "Baby" and their "Jerv";

And some whose maxim seems to be incomprehensibility. But I possess a Muse who cants Without such pomp and circumstance: I will demean myself, and sing Of rustic love like anything— Of Henrietta's tragedy, And Robert's infidelity.

Now Henrietta was a hen Of penetrating w-men, Combining with intelligence The maximum of common sense! Her neck was like the driven snow— (At least, her Robert told her so)— She knew that she was fair because Her Robert often said she was! "Her Robert" was a rooster who Would look about the same to you As any other rooster, though Poor Henrietta loved him so That in her eyes he would appear A veritable Chanticleer! Near them lived one Penelope, Regarding them with jealousy, A Leghorn of uncertain age And rather doubtful parentage. She worshipped Robert—when he crew, She loved him so, she tried to, too! And when he smiled, Penelope Would cluck in dreamy ecstasy, And scratch the ground, and wave her legs,

And lay an awful lot of eggs! But Henrietta did not see That Robert loved Penelope! (Of course, he couldn't tell this to His dainty Henrietta, who Believed that she was his elect, As Henrietta might object!)

Black Orpingtons and Leghorns too Brought other fowls of motley hue— Some black, some white, some dirty grey,

On Henrietta's wedding day. (They had no parson—I suppose They'd substitute a parson's nose!) And all the ladies squawked with glee, Excepting Miss Penelope! But oh, alas! Oh, deary me! Oh, what a dire catastrophe! The strongest love could not withstand The strength of Farmer Jenkins' hand! He snatched her from her Robert's side,

A palpitating, fluttering bride, And said that "She'd be nice for tea!" (What triumph for Penelope!) Shall I relate what happened then To Henrietta, luckless hen? The axe—the knife—the bubbling pot— Well no, perhaps I'd better not. And Robert—did he stay a poor And broken-hearted bachelor, And round the farmyard weeping go For little Henrietta? No! Forsaking promiscuity With pitiless alacrity, On matrimonial ventures he Embarked with Miss Penelope! R.L.M.

HOW A COLONY CHANGED HANDS

On the 12th September, 1914, the inhabitants of the town of Rabaul and of the country around were summoned to assemble in a large meadow at the foot of an extinct volcano. At this meeting a representative of His Britannic Majesty, after taking his seat on a stand, above which floated a Union Jack, read a solemn manifesto drawn up in pidgin English. . . .

"You look him new fellar flag. You savvy him? He belonga British, he more better than other fellar. British new fellar master he like him black fellar man too much. You look out place alonga with him. You no fight other fellar black man, you no eat man, no kill, no set fire, no be bad boy. No more 'up Kaiser! God save 'um King!'" —From "New Guinea Gold."

The New Brotherhood

These men drop bitter disillusion, Heavy, as tepid mud in a pool; Drooping, flopping, plopping, dropping

Their hate brittle and harsh, Bitterly purposeless, Singing talk of "slums and comrades"; Yet their own fate punches lined—"Oh branting love" said one.

Fools! Have they not seen The faded shadows lie boldly on the hills; Nor heard the glistening melody to sweep and soar; Nor felt the luminous poise of night? —E.J.

BOYCOTT

We believe they're looking for the chap that painted all those "Don't buy Japanese Goods" signs. Nothing political. It's simply that the paint lasted longer than the pedestrian crossings, and they wanted to know what the mixture is. See?



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GRAMOPHONE RECITALS

April. May

Tuesdays and Fridays at 1.15p.m.

April 8.	Schumann:	Piano quintet in E flat major, Op. 44 Songs.
April 12.	Mozart:	String Quartet in D. Quartet for oboe and strings in F.
April 22.	Haydn:	Quartet in F minor, Op. 20, No. 5. Symphony in D major ("Surprise").
April 26.	Mendelssohn:	Overture and incidental music to "Midsummer Night's Dream."
April 29.	Bach:	Suite for orchestra No. 3, in D major. Partita No. 2, in C minor.
May 3.	Beethoven:	Violin Sonata in E flat. Overture and excerpts from "Fidelio."
May 6.	Brahms:	Sextet for strings in B flat major, Op. 18. Songs.
May 10.	Salut Saens:	Carnival of Animals. Danse Macabre. Rouet d'Omphale.

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PLAY WRITING COMPETITION

PEOPLE'S THEATRE INC.

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Judges: Executive Committee of People's Theatre. Further particulars from:

THE SECRETARY, C.P.O. Box 1063, AUCKLAND.

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S P O R T

Need We Exhort You?

"We have to play cricket to-morrow."
That simple remark was made by the world's greatest cricketer when a bystander observed: "You fellows must be keen, practising so early."

Don Bradman and his South Australians had arrived in Melbourne from Adelaide two hours before. It had been a weary night-long train journey of about 500 miles in the hot Australian summer. But, on the morning, they had to meet the Victorians in an important Sheffield Shield engagement; later in the day they would have time for resting. So, immediately after breakfast, down to the Melbourne Cricket Ground went the whole team, and no one was keener than the captain.

TOURNAMENT IS LESS THAN A FORTNIGHT OFF.
These words are charged with the same significance as the six simple words of Bradman's.

We have good—very good—prospects this year. In every selection there is quality and the essential element of enthusiasm is not lacking. But there must be no resting on one's oars, no easing up now that the first goal has been attained, for that extra bit of improvement that every man and woman representative is capable of effecting between now and Easter Saturday may mean all the difference between success and failure.

We were NOT LAST in 1937; we do not want to be SECOND in 1938: OUR OBJECT THIS YEAR IS TO WIN.

Representatives

Last week we published the names of the Tennis and Basketball teams. Hereunder are given the names of our representatives in the other five sports:—

SWIMMING

Stewart (Massey)—100 and 220 freestyle.
P. D. O'Flynn—220 and 440 freestyle.
P. H. Ryan—100 freestyle and 100 backstroke.
R. G. Hall—100 backstroke.
R. L. Meek—220 breaststroke.
Miss S. Hefford—100 breaststroke.
Miss Hefford stands an excellent chance, but the opposition will be strong in the other events.

BOXING

Light-heavyweight—K. W. Barnes.
Middleweight—A. E. Arnold.
Welterweight—V. Carroll.
Lightweight—C. Trillo.
Featherweight—W. A. Armstrong.
Trainer—Roy Brien.
Quite a good team, but P. H. Ryan's broken thumb has deprived us of an excellent chance in his weight, and the defection of K. Coveney has further weakened the team. We will have no representative in the heavy-weight and bantamweight divisions.

SHOOTING

D. W. Oxnham.
D. H. K. Ross.
R. J. Corkill.
P. G. Pasley.
This year our riflemen will travel, hence the four-man team. Oxnham is an excellent shot, Ross has been consistently shooting well, and Corkill and Pasley have done well. If these men shoot up to form, we should retain the Haslam Shield.

ROWING

G. C. Broad (str.)
R. P. Hansen (7)
N. M. Rose (6)
J. H. Bullock (5)
R. E. Hermans (4)
T. S. Mahood (3)
G. T. Ryan (2)
A. R. Burge (bow)
P. L. Saunders (emergency)
F. Stafford (cox)
A crew with good prospects.

ATHLETICS

100 yards—C. V. Adams, E. H. Miller.
220 yards—C. V. Adams, H. G. Bowyer.
440 yards—E. H. Miller, H. G. Bowyer.
880 yards—G. J. Anear.
1 mile—D. H. Scrimgeour, G. J. Anear.
3 miles—D. H. Scrimgeour.
120 hurdles—E. M. Irving.
220 hurdles—E. M. Irving, D. Tossman.
440 hurdles—E. M. Irving, D. Tossman.
1 mile walk—J. A. Hart.

BASKETBALL CLUB

The annual general meeting of the Basketball Club was held on Monday, 28th March.

It was decided to ask the Wellington Basketball Association to arrange where possible, byes, and matches against Training College and Dental Clinic during the holidays, and these matches be played during the term at the convenience of the teams. This will save the teams from defaulting their matches.

The election of officers was as follows:—

Captain: Nancy Bullen.
Vice-Captain: Erice Overton.
Sec.-Treasurer: Pisle Higgin.
Fresher Member: E. Broad.

TRAMPING CLUB

Whakatiki Trip

Disembarking from the train at Upper Hutt, the tramping club climbed a low hill, proceeded north along the ridges, and descended into a valley. Having paused to retrieve two of their number who had strayed during the descent, an easy walk of three or four miles brought them to the Little Akatarawa Stream. They followed the stream up to a saw-mill, and climbing a low saddle, slid down a precipitous muddy track to the Whakatiki River.

ROUND THE CAMP-FIRE.

Tents rose like mushrooms in the camping spot by the river; a fire blazed up as if by magic; the harum bustled itself with slicing onions, carrots and potatoes; and very soon the party was reclining round the camp-fire, filled with good spirits and an excellent stew, singing Extravaganza songs and telling vulgar anecdotes with the heartiness which only Tramping Club members can produce.

It rained very hard during the evening, and the river rose slightly, so a fairly early start was made next morning down the river. It was not long before the party was compelled to swim in places; and the task of swimming in clothes, and the enormous boots and packs that trampers roam around in was productive of much innocent mirth, especially among the harum.

Notwithstanding much rain, a huge bull, an angry farmer, mud, and several aquatic episodes, the party reached the Duck-pond (a large pool in the Whakatiki River) in moderately good repair. Here a sumptuous lunch was consumed.

GORGEOUS SWIMMING.

When lunch had digested, the party left. Between the Duck-pond and the Hutt River is a long gorge, full of deep holes, waterfalls, and craggy cliffs, which half the party decided to negotiate, while Mr. Watson-Munro led the harum and a few others round the hill-tops. The gorge was quite thrilling. There was almost as much swimming as tramping, and, although the water was fairly warm, the party was relieved to see the Hutt River ahead.

Need we describe the numerous humorous incidents—the collapse of the bridge that precipitated three trampers into the Hutt River, Tony Chorlton's blanket, the leader's witticisms—and countless others? Similar things happen on every Varsity Tramping Club trip.

What do YOU do in the week-ends? Why not come tramping? —R.L.M.

SWIMMING CLUB

Final Meeting

Following on the very successful Carnival the week before, the Swimming Club's final club night for the season was rather an anticlimax. As the weather was cold and the sky stormy, the attendance was meagre, but the men's racing was good and some quite fast times were put up.

Maybe it is the lack of tepid baths in Wellington, maybe the lack of ability, and maybe just a lack of enthusiasm and a prevalence of apathy, which prevents us from producing any good lady freestyle swimmers. Miss C. Hefford was the only competitor in the two Club Championships decided, and although with training she will vastly improve, her times were very slow. Her sister, Miss S. Hefford, at a recent trial did 100 yards breaststroke in 95 secs., a time which, seeing that the event was won at Tournament last year in 96 secs., seems very hopeful.

O'Flynn beat Taylor by a yard in the 220 yards freestyle Club Championship. It was a splendid race, as both men were very fit, and the result was undecided right up to the last lap. O'Flynn should do well at Tournament, though his time for the 220—2.49—is not yet quite good enough to secure a victory. Remember—Mona Leydon can do 2.40!

AND AFTER?

And what of Tournament? Can we hope to lift the Swimming Shield? Well, we just might. If Miss Hefford wins the breaststroke, and Hall wins the backstroke, and O'Flynn wins the 440, and Meek gets a second in the 220 breaststroke—it's a big "if," but it's quite possible.

V.U.C. Debating Society

DEBATE:

"That the Professorial Board should allow Discussions on Sex and Religion."

Moved by Mr. J. B. Aimers. Opposed by Mr. McCulloch

JUDGE: PROFESSOR SHELLEY

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