

Sallient

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

VOL. I, No. 9

WELLINGTON, JUNE 1, 1938

Price: Threepence

CAPPIDAYS ——— HAPPY DAYS

MUSIC MIRTH AND MAGIC

After being gracefully robbed of half-a-crown at the door, we were admitted to the Gym. to get back our money's worth—we drank sarsaparilla, ate hard and listened ruefully to inspired burblings from students and professors—the Undergrads' Supper, of course! Several thousand of those present had fasted all day in order to do justice to the eats, but unfortunately those said articles were polished off early in the evening, and many unfortunates were forced to resort to cups and cups of coffee which filled spare corners, and aided them in keeping awake for the proceedings which followed.

Mr. Edgley opened the drinking orgy by proposing solemnly and loyally a rather unusual toast—The King, gentlemen.

Mr. R. J. Corkill proposed the toast of the Prof. Board, and in a long eulogy suggested that the Gym., as an early piece of New Zealand architecture, with yards of sentimental memories and worship attached, should be transported to some place enabling it to be worshipped (when we get our new building). He also asked impertinent questions, e.g., where and why is the Prof. Board?

Professor Hunter confirmed suspicions we have long entertained, by informing us that the Prof. Board was the witless brigade, and himself stood there as chief representative.

To make us from torpor, Ron Meek sang one of his lewd, inevitably biological Extrav. songs, to wit, "Rollo, the Ravaging Roman." Everyone chorused lewd, long and heartily.

Mr. W. A. Morrison proposed the toast of the Graduands, and went school-tie-ish. Unfortunately, "Sallient" was mesmerised by a large picture of Mickie Savage hanging above the punch-bell, and didn't hear much.

Mr. Aimers, obviously suffering from the effects of lemonade or ginger beer, began in the true Omazim Grab fashion: "Unaccustomed as I am," and several bright interruptions made it possible to reproduce Adam Baba in bits. Mr. Aimers also perpetrated a pun—the cad—by referring to the programme compiler placing Aimers and Gaudeamus side by side.

Mr. Scotney, proposing the toast of the Exec., and full of morals as usual, gave us a story about the Muezzin; and informed us that women were superior in all but brute intelligence. Rather surprisingly, he said nothing nasty or alarming.

Bob Edgley was surprised that Mr. Scotney had not been rude about the Exec., and "Sallient" was busy calculating if two slips would mean an empty glass or no.

Paul Taylor, looking young and pretty, rendered "Treasure Trove" in a devastating fashion, and so the stage for Mr. Meek to propose "The Ladies." But before he did so, Ron gave us a dissertation. He told us he knows nothing of women. Not being a connoisseur, he had been forced to go to friends for information on the subject, with the result that ladies are "catastrophic: simply devastating." He explained female nature by doing one of his "magics" with three flags—Tommy, Sally and Jacky.

Helen Sainsbury, in reply, really said nothing, but she made it sound a lot of something quite successfully.

"Absent Friends" and "God Save the King" (after all that) released us to go downstairs for some singin' and dancin'.—V.E.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Addresses by Rev. H. J. Ryburn, M.A., B.D.

The Christian Faith and the Student.

Next Week in Gym. at 8 p.m.
Tues., Wed. and Thurs., 7th, 8th and 9th June.

HOUSE FULL EXCELLENT EXTRAVAGANZA

Extravaganzas, like many other Varsity institutions, are a law unto themselves. They can scarcely be judged by the standards that would apply to musical comedy or to drama. Let it be said right at the start that this year's Cappicade, though perhaps not the best of recent years, was well up to the high standard that the public has come to expect since the Extravaganza was revived.

I came away this year with the words and tune of "Rollo, the Ravaging Roman," running through my head, and still chuckling over "the voice that breathed o'er Eden" and "the nation of suckers." Indeed, the wisecracks that were scattered liberally throughout the shows were so numerous that I should need to see the scripts to recall most of them. The performers and producers were well served by this year's authors, both named and anonymous. The Extravaganza as a whole steered a very sensible middle course between the humour that would appeal to the general public and that more especially for student consumption. The reiteration of the appeal for the building fund, and the utterances of the professors were the only items which might have been lost upon people not familiar with University politics and personalities.

A BANNED ITEM.

The opening sketch was well conceived, but, at least on the evening I saw it, was not particularly well carried out. Intended as a promise of better things to come, it lacked the gusto in its final chorus which should have made the audience sit up in eager anticipation. Stage business, if it is to be effective, must be carefully rehearsed in detail and not left to the whim or inspiration of the performer as appeared to be the case, particularly in the antics of the professors.

SATIRE.

"Adam Baba and the Forty Leagues" was the tautest and most telling part of the show. This was no because the satire was direct, sustained, and, except for the strained puns in the sign-post scene, relevant to the development of the plot. The setting of the sketch was adequate architecturally, but its drab appearance showed it to be part of J. C. Williamson's old stock-in-trade. In this respect it was, of course, no worse than what we saw recently in "Victoria Regina" and "George and Margaret," but it was disappointing that better use was not made of the opportunities for the employment of

lighting and colour. The weakest point in the sketch was the chorus at the end of Scene II. Either the song was taken too slowly or, as I consider more likely, the tune itself was unsuitable for that point in the story. Where it should have been triumphant, martial and determined it was slow, mournful and resigned. The two highlights of the piece were the exposure of the leagues as disguised fascists and the final snatch from "God Defend New Zealand."

UNHOLY TRIO.

The three principals playing the parts of Mess-Tin, Spread-Well and Omay-Zingrab served the piece well, better in the spoken passages than in the singing, at the conclusion of which they showed too obvious signs of relief. Mr. Bliss, playing the part of Mess-Tin, is a natural comedian who exploited the humour of the piece to the full. Messrs. Morrison and Aimers, though not quite as spontaneous, pointed their remarks well and put over their lines in spirited fashion. The male ballet was a welcome splash of colour, and the dancing of the two performers at the ends of the ballet line was particularly sinuous and supple.

INTERLEWD.

The "Interlewd," "Port Nick Iniquity," was responsible for the best single item of the evening, the male ballet most attractively dressed and doing some particularly effective stepping. The song, "Treasure Trove," sung in true Crosby style by Paul Taylor, was one of John Carrad's best. It was a pity that John could be seen only by peering down into the orchestral well, for hearing him is only half the fun. Let's hope he will be on the stage, at the piano, complete with cigarette and new tunes next year.

"OLYMPIAN NIGHTS."

The final item, "Olympian Nights," called every stage aid to its production, feminine beauty, music, colour, lighting, movement, and it was on the whole a very satisfying spectacle. The music was a good mixture of

original composition with borrowings from Sullivan; the ballets were attractive and reflected great credit on Miss Cora Duncan, who trained them; the colourful picture that the stage presented was at times reminiscent of a more economical version of the Marcus Show. The main characters: Asparagus (R. J. Meek), Vanilla (Celia Dwyer), Scipio (Hamish Henderson), Furlus (F. D. Christensen), Polainus (T. E. Allan), Stallinus (H. E. P. Downs), Josephus (Cedric Myers), the Professors and others, all sustained their characters very well throughout the piece. The weakest point in the show was the end of Paroxysm I, when the curtain went down on an empty stage after the trite and obvious remark "They've gone!" The dialogue, commendably smart in places, dragged woefully in others, the speakers, instead of capping one another's lines, allowing pauses of seconds' length to come between speeches. This, and the rather prolonged and tedious, though ingenious, way of persuading the gods to go back to their pedestals, caused the show to be five or seven minutes longer than it need have been.

UNITED WE STAND.

The Extravaganza as a whole had the very great merit of being a co-operative and not a one-man show. It also had the merit that every word in the speeches and songs was audible. I was not lucky enough to have a full copy of the "Cappicade" magazine with the words of the songs, but I did not miss any during the singing. This is very creditable when I recall that it was traditional for Extravaganza choruses and speeches to be inaudible beyond the first three rows of the stalls; gallery patrons, particularly in the Town Hall, had to be content with watching wordless antics. While this year's show may not sway a general election or build a new students' block, judging by the size and enthusiasm of the audience it may do something towards achieving both of these ends.

RALPH HOGG.

CAPPING BALL

Hazy Recollections

Informal, jolly, and thoroughly friendly was the atmosphere pervading this year's Capping Ball, voted by most as the "best yet." All praise and appreciation is to be lavished on the committee responsible for organisation, (1) because of the smooth way everything came off; and (2) because we all behaved ourselves primly and properly (but whether that's their fault or ours, they may have the benefit of the doubt).

Professors trotted round mincingly in the capacity of chaperons, or abandoned themselves wildly to the cavortings of the destiny waltz. We gazed in awe and admiration at the daring couples who braved the glare of flash-lighting to record their clinging "unconscious" looking presence at this dance, on Seletochrome or whatever it was the enterprising photographers used.

We played peep-bo through the chrysanthemums on the arrangement in the centre of the room, collided with the stream coming in the door, and even used some rugby tactics during the performance of that wild dance, the military two-step. Henry Rudolph's orchestra was sparking on all four, and handed out some real swing music.

"Sallient" found a delightful corner with settees, chocolates and cigarettes displayed prettily, and after a while, at the generosity of the committee, sat down to enjoy. Along came Profs. Gordon and Rankine-Brown, both hilarious. Later, Prof. Miles, all smiles and shirt-front, arrived too.

Feeling a bit suspicious, "Sallient" made enquiry, and information was proffered (sorry) making it apparent that "Sallient" was in the professional parking area. "But," said one of those mighty men, "there is no need to move."

UNCAPPING AT CAPPING.

This was not featured prominently within the hall anyway, except legitimately at the graduands' tables, where sherry, wine, and such aristocratic beverages flowed like the Ruameke in flood. "Sallient" noticed many bound on expeditions down the street and round the corner into the dark unknown, and, being curious, investigated. It was found that not even bananas, nor yet cigarettes, were being purchased and consumed.

The supper was excellent, but "Sallient" never got any fruit salad—sore point—because a "young lady" grabbed the bowl, saying to her escorts, "Here, don't be weak, have a good plate of it while you can get it," and proceeded to serve it all up. However, that's a mere detail.—V.E.

WHAT, AGAIN?

Building Fund Deputation

"Sallient," accompanied by Messrs. Wild, Aimers and Edgley, attended the Victoria College Council meeting last Thursday evening. The object of their visit was to obtain the co-operation of the Council in approaching the Government with regard to the proposed Students' Union Building.

Mr. Wild, opening the deputation, broadly surveyed the subject, recapitulating the steps that had been taken to increase the fund since its foundation and impressed on the Council the necessity for immediate action. The students themselves, by personal sacrifice and constant activity, had done everything possible to swell the fund.

Mr. Aimers stressed the need for a structure which would be permanent and not fall into disrepair after 29 years as the Gym. has done. The enthusiasm shown by the students had been remarkable, but their ardour would be greatly dampened if the Council did not co-operate to the full with them in their endeavours to obtain a subsidy from the Govern-

ment. He particularised the various ways in which the fund had been augmented—contributions from clubs, donations, profits from Capping activities, increase in Students' Association fee—so that the fund had increased from £200 in 1928, to £3,300 in 1938.

The argument was clinched by Mr. Edgley, who emphasised the inadequacy of the Gym. for such functions as debates, graduation ceremonies, Plunket Medal Contests, and others which in most other colleges are held in the Students' Union Building. Accommodation in the Gym. is now restricted to 200, with the result that no more dances will be held at the College. The over-crowding of the Exec. room and the imminence of the Centennial Tournament, were also mentioned by Mr. Edgley.

Mr. Levi, Chairman of the Council, replying, said:

"We are very glad to say that we shall consider the matter later in the evening. You can rest satisfied that we are in full sympathy with your aims."

"Sallient" hopes to be able to print the Council's decision in the next issue.

GAUDEAMUS IGITUR

The Capping Ceremony was such a pretty affair. The platform was crowded with immaculately robed cardinals, prelates, and other dignitaries, including two treading; and before them, hushed in solemn silence, sat the year's graduands, clad in ill-fitting and divers gowns and third-hand hoods.

A smell of moth-balls hung round the Town Hall.

Mr. Levi, who was obviously enjoying himself immensely, rose and announced inaudibly that "Gaudeamus" would now be sung. As no one heard him, nothing happened. Dick Simpson, sensing a hitch, dashed wildly off in search of the accompanist, who shortly appeared through the curtains, looking for all the world like a virtuoso.

Mr. Hutchens (for it was he) played "Gaudeamus" very nicely. One or two people sang the words.

The Weir boys could think of nothing more original to do than to pull their shirts out and rustle newspapers during Mr. G. G. Watson's excellent speech. Mr. Watson knew exactly how to treat them. We have

a suspicion that at some remote period he rustled papers himself under similar circumstances.

Professor Hunter, Pickwickian and beaming, rose to bestow the Degrees. "I, Thomas Hunter," etc., etc. Rows and rows of nervous graduands slowly filed up, were beamed at and shaken hands with by the Vice-Chancellor, beamed at, bowed to, and handed Diplomas by another gentleman, and ushered to their seats in the choir by yet another. They did look pretty, sitting exalted and aloof. If only the organ had been playing!

Beam, shake, beam, bow, sit. So it went on, to the accompaniment of desultory and mechanical clapping and occasional bursts of brilliance from the Weir party.

And then the College song.

And, do you know, when we sang together:—

Oh Victoria, sempiterna,
Sit tibi felicitas!
Alma mater, peramata,
Per acetates maneas
—most of us felt quite serious. Because it really did seem to mean something to us.

Yes, it was such a pretty ceremony.

Says Jim Gentry:

Even Commissionaires at 'Varsity Dances find it hard to resist a glass of Ale—provided that it's the best..

Cascade Ale

Obtainable at—

REGINALD COLLINS LIMITED

"CASCADE CELLARS"

3 BALLANCE STREET, WELLINGTON



Telephone No.

46-111

FOR YOUR DANCES!

FOR YOUR PARTIES!

W. C. Cooper Ltd.

Bakers and Pastrycooks

248 MAIN ROAD, KARORI : : Phone 26-693

— FOR —

Black & White Cabs

WELLINGTON'S LEADING TAXI SERVICE

Dial 55-180

McGREGOR WRIGHT'S Modern Prints and Cards

ARTISTS' SUPPLIES - PICTURE FRAMERS

115 LAMBTON QUAY

Winter Time is Overcoat Time!

Cosy, Warm Overcoats, 75/- to £9/9/-

H. ALLENSTEIN'S

ALSO

Gloves, Scarves and Every Type of Winter Garment SUITS A SPECIALTY

Telephone: 42-050 (4 Lines)

The Empire Hotel

Management:

M. A. CARR

Telegrams: Empire, Wellington

Willis Street - Wellington (Fully Licensed)

Late of Hotel Cargen and Grand Hotel, Auckland

RENOVATED AND MODERNISED FROM BASEMENT TO ROOF HOT AND COLD WATER AND TELEPHONE IN EVERY ROOM

"I've treacle and toffee, I've tea and I've coffee, Soft Tommy and succulent chops, I've chickens and conies and pretty polonies, And excellent peppermint drops."

Thus sang Little Buttercup about her wares, but she might just as easily have been describing some of the things obtainable at

The Self-Help Stores

EVERYTHING FROM FIGS TO FLYPAPERS AT THE CHEAPEST PRICES.

FOR SUPERIOR DENTISTRY Consult—

H. W. Frost

ONLY ADDRESS:

H.B. Building, 278 LAMBTON QUAY (Next Kelburn Tram) Wellington, C.I. - - GORDON McCALLUM, B.D.S., Manager

TEA

IS GOOD FOR THE BRAIN — BUY THE BEST!

Wardell's

2/2 2/4 2/8 2/10

STUDENTS! Your housekeepers will get excellent service and you will get excellent meat from . . .

K. L. READ LTD.

56 Courtenay Place

Telephone No. 52-036

CURTAIN

Before Capping 1938 takes its final bow, it must be labelled "Successful." Viewed collectively, or as a series of events, it does not warrant the use of superlatives, but is deserving of favourable comment.

The Extravaganza is reviewed elsewhere in this issue and needs no additional comment here. The fact that the "House Full" sign had to be put up on three of the four nights indicates an achievement of no small order. It is estimated that a profit of £185 was made, which represents a notable addition to the Building Fund. The thanks of all students are due to the casts and producers of all the shows.

It would appear also that the entertainments provided after Extrav. each night, which covered a remarkably wide range of human activity, were thoroughly enjoyed by the large numbers of people who attended them.

At Undergrad's Supper we were pleased to hear from Prof. Hunter for the first time in his new capacity of College Principal. Most heartening of all was the indication he gave that he fully appreciated the need for a new Students' Union Building; a need the urgency of which was fully demonstrated by the fact that two stout supports had to be erected on the ground floor in order to make it possible to hold the supper in the Gym.

The brevity of nearly all the speeches was a feature subsequent generations should note and emulate.

What we saw of the Ball seemed to indicate that all was going well. The difficulty of balancing the finances of this event, occasioned by the large number of complimentary tickets, was successfully met by our Executive without undue parsimony, and a profit was made. This was by no means the smallest achievement of the week.

It was pleasing to hear a more robust singing of the songs at the Capping Ceremony. There is much room for further progress in this direction.

There are one or two observations one would like to make on the Ceremony. One doubts the value of singing once a year, in Latin, only vaguely understood by most of us. "The Song of Victoria College," to the tune of the Austrian National Anthem. 'Tis not anti-classical academic sentiment, nor anti-royalist political bias which prompts these remarks, but a feeling that the substitution of a song with original words and music, suitable for this and other occasions, which could be heartily sung and appreciated by all, would do much to brighten the Ceremony. Unless I am mistaken, such a song was the object of an unfruitful search some years ago. It is time this search was either commenced or recommenced with the idea of producing something neither as learnedly remote as the present College Song, nor as free in measure and thought as "Anchors Aweigh," but situated midway between the two. Is it too much to hope that the Executive or the Prof. Board may inaugurate a competition with this end in view?

Although there was no procession again this year, it would be a mistake were it allowed to be forgotten. In view of the decline in the quality and quantity of the humour displayed in the processions for the two years preceding the imposition of the ban, few will doubt the wisdom of the Prof. Board's decree; but perhaps the salutary effect of that decree has now had time to be felt and next year we may see a procession which will equal in quality those whose characters and speeches have in times past completely filled the Post Office Square with hundreds of appreciative Wellingtonians. This is an objective which the Men's Social Club, whose presence we were glad to observe at the Capping Ceremony (even if they were wrapped in newspaper) should keep in view.

Last in order, but far removed from that position in merit, comes "Cappicade." It was an excellent production, and its enormous sale must in some measure have compensated the Editor (Mr. A. T. Fussell) for the many hours of work he put into it. That its contents were not representative of the efforts of V.U.C. students is no fault of his. Frequent appeals in "Salient" and on the notice board produced a response which was, to put it far too mildly, disappointing to him. In this, as in far too many student activities, the initiative was left to a few, in this case mainly to one, who perforce had reluctantly to call in outside help. One would like to use heavy type, underlinings, and exclamation marks to impress on students that collective failure to respond to such appeals, whether they be for "Cappicade," "Salient," or "Spike," entails the moral loss of the most valuable privilege of criticism in connection with these publications. That is only fair, is it not? Surely no one wishes such a lifeless state of affairs to eventuate?

So now that the second term is beginning and this has been pointed out, let us hope to see a greater interest in "Spike" than we saw in "Cappicade." It's up to you to do something about it. —A.H.S.

NEGROES CAN THINK AS WELL AS SING

"The Jubilee Singers of Fisk University, followed by similar groups from other schools, have carried the Negro spirituals to the far corners of the earth.

"The work of Negro poets and writers has been translated into many languages.

"Paintings, sculpture and designs produced by Negro fingers have been exhibited in art museums throughout the world.

"Yet the ability of the Negro to express his mind on economic, social, international and inter-racial questions is known to only a limited circle, even in our own country.

"An around-the-world trip by a Negro debating team would reveal the intellectual power of the American Negro to thousands of people in every real way . . .

Thus reads the brochure issued by the Le Moyne College Debaters. At

present, Le Moyne ranks among the leading Negro Colleges in the United States. The Le Moyne Debaters are embarking on a world tour, and will arrive at Auckland on 27th June. The N.Z. University Students' Association has arranged as comprehensive an itinerary as time will allow. After three days in Auckland, the visitors will travel down the North Island via Rotorua, Wairakei, Hawkes Bay and Palmerston North. In the South Island the two University centres will be visited, and also one or two provincial centres. The team will spend three days in Wellington (including a visit to Masterton) before sailing for Australia on the 21st July.

Debates will be held with the four University Colleges and Massey Agricultural College. Lectures will be given to meetings of secondary school pupils, and public meetings will be held in the provincial centres. Radio talks will be given over the four Y. stations.

The tour is an ambitious undertaking, and the various sub-committees will need the co-operation and support of all students.

THE EIGHTH DAY OF CREATION

We are happy to note that the Cosmic Consciousness, acting on the advice of Messrs. Combs and Vogt, has agreed to begin all over again. In short, Training College has now a monthly organ—under the title of "Student Opinion."

On page 10, under the heading "Other Errata," appears the following:—

"To 'Salient,'—PS. This seems to us the most appropriate page upon which to inform 'Salient' of our advent on the literary horizon. Should we be inundated with MSS. we shall be glad to pass on all rejects."

"Salient" can only welcome such graciousness. Judging from the first issue of "Student Opinion" we would far rather accept the rejects than accept anything that it is seen fit to print.

OPINIONS VARY

Opinions about Olympian Nights vary. The show was full of quite jingly jingle and Gilbert and Sullivan always goes across, but was the show a good Extrav.?

The Extrav. is indigenous to V.U.C. Other Colleges show less enterprise, but "Extrav." at V.U.C. means bright, topical entertainment. The Extrav. can take liberties with drama, but only in order to fulfil its primary function of scintillating. Olympian Nights didn't scintillate, and its topical allusions might have been written twelve months earlier.

At the beginning of the Olympian Nights we felt we approved. Thorne Smith's Gods had Extrav. possibilities. But as the evening wore on we found that we had seen dictators on the stage before and we know all about the shirt problem already. Then we came to the same conclusion as the author. These god-dictator people had no entertainment value and the best thing would be to put them safely back on their pedestals. But what a pity to use a whole Extrav. to do just that.

Popular songs should be subtly, insidiously suggestive; we are afraid that Rollo and his Working Girl reminded us a little of the Magistrate's Court.

The male ballet belongs to the interlude item. The main Extrav. should not need to borrow it. And anyway, four male ballets in one evening.

We might mention that we consider the caricature on Prof. Adamson, who is a very sick man, to have been rather cruel. —E.S.

GLEE CLUB

Build up resistance to winter colds and ill by developing your lungs and chest—How?

Escape from exam boogie—How? The remedy is simple—Come along to the Glee Club.

We are holding a Community Sing in the Gym, on Wednesday, 8 p.m. (tonight)—and you are requested to join us.

If you can make any kind of noise, we would be glad to have you come to practices which are on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8.15 p.m.

WHO'D HAVE GUESSED?

The Wellington Repertory Theatre (Incorporated) recently presented Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice." It was pleasing to note under the heading of acknowledgments for the loan of properties, that the Society was indebted to W. & T. Avery (N.Z.) Ltd. for Shylock's scales.

STRICTLY INCOGNITO

"Large crowds were drawn to Albert Hall to see the pageant 'King of Glory.' . . . Law forbids the appearance of the chief figure of the story, and Christ had to be represented by a blue spotlight and an unseen voice." —"Weekly Illustrated."

MUSIC HATH CHARMS

During the vacation a very enjoyable musical evening was conducted by Dr. Keys.

The programme included a late Beethoven quartet, the Chopin Funeral Sonata, several Beethoven songs and piano pieces, and a number of Chopin waltzes and études.

All musically-inclined students are requested to watch the notice board for details of future recitals.

"It is fitting that tea of such flavour, aroma and quality, etc., should be introduced to N.Z. with gravity and respect. (Perpetrated by 22B.)

CUTTING FROM "AUCKLAND STAR."

Sheep Farmer, 42 comfortably placed, seeks Marriage refined Lad. "Refined, 6924 Star."

POLITICAL LESSON "MORALITY PLAY" TRUTH ON FASCISM

They might fool you
Unless you're awake and take
care.
Beware, take care, beware, take
care.

These concluding words of "The Leagues Song" in "Adam Baba and the Forty Leagues" were the pointer to the audience that that Extravaganza, just like oviopositors, have Meaning. Beneath all the silver paper and pink sugar there is a purpose. This is all very right and proper. What I want to do is to question very strongly the moral of "Olympian Nights." Mr. Meek has stated his case directly and ably in his Introduction in "Cappicade." According to Mr. Meek, the real trouble is individual. He says:—

Anyone who has sat out a Capping Show should, by this time, have realised in his "soul of souls" that Extravaganza, just like oviopositors, have Meaning. Beneath all the silver paper and pink sugar there is a purpose. This is all very right and proper. What I want to do is to question very strongly the moral of "Olympian Nights." Mr. Meek has stated his case directly and ably in his Introduction in "Cappicade." According to Mr. Meek, the real trouble is individual. He says:—

"You will change the world by changing the people in it, not by shooting them. If people can be made to think rationally, to reject, if necessary, de-based ideas and worn traditions which it is now considered blasphemy to reject, to attain the state described by Aldous Huxley as 'non-attached'; if they can be made to put service above self—then and then only will we know 'peace on earth and goodwill towards man.'"

DOCTRINE OF DESPAIR.

Such an argument is familiar enough—along with the circumstances that prompt it. As a doctrine of despair it has always risen into prominence side by side with an unwillingness to face the unavoidable inconveniences of social change. It has unfailingly been the gambit of the spokesmen of the propertied classes, who have never been able to reconcile justice with any lessening of their material power. Thus when, according to them, reform from without is clearly impossible, they satiate their uneasy consciences by insisting on reform from within. It is this situation which provides the ribald spectacle of plump captains of commerce (their week of exploitation through), who rest their india-rubber buttocks on the red-plush of church pews, offer up their vows to God, and assure themselves that wealth and poverty are only mental pictures, and that really the misery of the poor is just a rumour—and slightly funny.

CATCHING.

But the pastime is contagious. Today we often find this doctrine of "personal reformation" as the defence mechanism of individualists who, shrinking from contact with "radical elements" or disgusted with the hopelessness of "politics," take refuge in the hope that they themselves can remain uncontaminated, that they and their friends can at least save their spiritual skins.

Such a retreat has run riot in the mawkish revivalism of the Oxford Group. This "personal reformation" is seductive enough a faith—but what of its truthfulness?

First, the bulk of people are forcibly held in the thrall of traditional concepts. Their minds are socially conditioned. What with the coercion of newspaper, radio and school, they are quite unable to consider events outside of a system of traditional prejudices. This is why "personal reformation" leads to nothing but the delicate preening of one another's souls.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL.

Second, no one can deny that there are some circumstances more favourable to a rational and harmoniously developed life than others. Also it is certain that today the most favourable conditions possible do not exist.

For well-trained saints it may be easy to live in the worst of conditions. For the mass of men and women an improvement in material conditions—more money, a sure job, more freedom, less war and more peace—would be, to say the least, a great help towards living the good life.

"LET US—"

Let us talk sense and admit that a change in social and material conditions is essential before there can be any real flowering of the "palpable and obvious love of man for man."

And that flowering will be finally achieved, not by performing "spiritual exercises" amid the opulence of cushions but by active participation in day-to-day struggles. Inch by inch is justice gained.—J.D.F.

"A MOST DAMNING EXPOSURE"

ANDREW SMITH'S "I WAS A SOVIET WORKER."

This book has two virtues which the favoured publications of the Left Book Club lack.

1. It is unblatant. Smith, before he went to Russia, was a prominent member of the Communist Party in America.

2. It is written with insight. The author was a worker in a Russian factory from 1922-5.

Andrew Smith's facts will come as a surprise to propaganda-fed Socialists, especially as he himself was an ardent Communist. Recent events in Russia have borne out the conclusions he draws. "I was a Soviet Worker" is the most damning exposure of the rottenness of the Russian system yet made public.—R.W.B.

Dear Mr. Editor.—Often when perusing the columns of your little rag I have wondered whether you and your band of bawling heretics (who dish out this eternal "Left" dope) know the real reasons for the growth of Fascism, this terror you are always attacking.

Responsibility for the growth of fear and Fascism in Europe can be placed upon:—

1. The injustices and unrealities of peace treaties.
2. Debts and post-war inflation.
3. And most important, the refusal of Allies to co-operate with Germany when she was a struggling democracy.

Democracy there failed, because of the miserable inheritances of the war—and the reaction against the threat of Socialism. Fascism may have suppressed criticism and free expression—but so has the Soviet—for an example of the latter may I quote from a recent book review in "Spectator." Ivan Solonovich published his book, "Russia in Chains," exposing conditions at present in Soviet on 25th January; a week later a bomb exploded in his flat—it was meant for him, but killed his wife and secretary. The fact is proved there and in many other cases, that the Soviet will tolerate no adverse or unfavourable criticisms. And do not believe, sir, that Fascism is about to collapse—the Fascist philosophy is rising to replace the dying Marxist creed. The enormous experiment in Socialism in Russia is devouring its own children, shedding rivers of blood, and slowly but surely moving towards a dictatorship and Fascist regime.

Socialism, far more than Fascism, is the enemy of liberty and I feel that our military and economic forces should be pledged to come into step with the dictators and make war if necessary, to maintain security of personal interests and expression, orthodoxy and freedom from this nightmare of Communism breathing its vile influence on countries today. —VINICENT.

BOMBING CIVILIANS

(To the Editor, "Salient.")

Sir,—May one who appreciates the vigour, freshness, and directness of your editorials, make a comment on your article about bombing of civilians? You cite as something to which censorious Britons should give attention, the bombing of villages on the Indian Frontier. No doubt you are aware that this practice has been freely discussed and fairly widely condemned in Britain. It is one of the enormous advantages of freedom of discussion that such a thing cannot be kept secret or condoned by order. I should say there was precious little discussion in the press in France's territory of the morality of air raids on Barcelona. Nor, so I should suppose, is the Italian or German press allowed to discuss this matter freely. But there is a very important point about the Indian Frontier bombings that I don't think you mentioned. They are preceded by warnings to the tribesmen. I have seen the actual operation orders for British bombings in another part of Asia, and these made it clear that the authorities wished to give the "enemy" full opportunity to remove his women and children. There is no reason to suppose that those in control of the frontier operations are less humane. The contrast between this method and that in use in Spain and China is clear enough. Yours, etc., A.M.

THANKS

I wish to express publicly my grateful thanks to Miss J. Bacon, Miss G. Kean, and Miss K. Ross, who each undertook the costuming of one production in the Extravaganza. The credit for the success of the costumes this year must go to them all for their untiring work and enthusiasm.

And I have not forgotten our many willing assistants, who willingly gave up much time and relieved us of much of the hard work.

Thank you one and all for your excellent co-operation.

SUSIE SAUNDERS,
Wardrobe Mistress.

Write for "Spike"

"Spike" is the official literary magazine of Victoria College and has a tradition almost as old as that of the College itself.

This has been an outstanding year for Victoria College and "Spike" is to be outstanding also, YOU must write for it. It is the magazine of the whole college, not of a few of its students, so everyone who has any urge to write should WRITE FOR "SPIKE."

The Executive is offering prizes of £1 1 0 for the best literary contribution, £1 1 0 for the best photograph and 10/6 for the best cover design.



Cheap Travel by Train

CONCESSIONS TO STUDENTS:

The Railway Department has a special thought for Varsity Students. It makes very convenient arrangements for parties of them travelling together for Sport or other outings.

PARTIES OF NOT LESS THAN SIX MAY EITHER—

- (1) TRAVEL FIRST CLASS—
Single at Second Class ordinary fare.
Return at Second Class holiday excursion fare.
- or (2) TRAVEL SECOND CLASS—
Single at three-fourths of the ordinary Second Class fare.
Return at three-fourths of the holiday excursion Second Class fare.

(The Minimum Charge per Adult Passenger is 2/-.)

Certificates authorising these concessions may be obtained upon reasonable notice, from any District Manager, Stationmaster, or Business Agent.

May's Beauty Saloon

UPLAND ROAD - - KELBURN

Specialists in Permanent Waving, Re-Setting, Marcel Waving, Hair Cutting, etc.

Phone 26-311

Also at Palmerston North and Dannevirke

A call at 39 Willis Street will assure you of the finest selection of Overcoats and English Coatings in New Zealand

FRANK PETRIE LTD. — Stylists of Modern Men's Wear

Good Selection — Moderate Prices

SHOES LINDSAYS

Lambton Quay - Wellington

THE BEST BOOKS ON WINTER SPORTS AT WHITCOMBE'S.

"Rugby Football," by Capt. H. T. Wakelam, 7/6. "The Arts of Hockey," by Eric Green, 2/6. "The Par Golf Swing," by Alfred Padgham, 5/6. "How to Ski," by Vivian Canfield, 11/6. "Table Tennis," by M. A. Symons, 5/6.

FOR BOOKS OR PRINTING ORDERS.

WHITCOMBE & TOMBS LTD., Lambton Quay, WELLINGTON.

THIRSTS CATERED FOR

F. C. THOMPSON

KELBURN PARK

Phone 28-102

Have your

THESES

Typed Cheaply and Well by

Miss Dora Dillner

174B the Terrace

Phone 40-967

EILEEN DESTÉ

for

CAPPING PHOTOS

At Spackman's

KNITTED SUITS
IN ALL
WANTED STYLES

From 37/6

F. N. Spackman

Limited

5 WOODWARD STREET

(Opposite Midland Hotel)

42-353 — PHONE — 42-353

HENRY RUDOLPH'S DANCE ORCHESTRA

Phone 47-458

STEWART DAWSON'S BUILDING

S P O R T

Rugby Successes

At last it seems that Victoria College Rugby has reached a higher plane. Fast backs and hard-working forwards, ably coached by J. Parker, erstwhile All-Black, have co-operated to such effect that the seniors have strung together five successive victories, most of them by wide margins. Unless there is a marked recession in form or the team suffers from injuries, promotion to the First Division of the Senior A grade appears reasonably certain. Not for years has 'Varsity fielded so impressive a fifteen.

RESULTS:

v. Miramar. Won: 11-6
v. Pirates. Won: 12-8
v. Athletic. Won: 30-0
v. Wellington. Won: 11-6
v. Oriental. Won: 28-9

The game against Pirates was a disappointing exhibition. The forwards were lifeless and the backs indulged in wild and mis-directed passing, the ball seldom reaching the wings. This was largely due to the bustling and spoiling tactics of Pirates.

It was against Athletic that the team gave its best performance. Playing with plenty of dash, the forwards gave the backs a feast of the ball and the backs played brilliant football and staged many bright passing movements.

Wellington provided stronger opposition and their speedy forwards kept the heavier 'Varsity pack in check until late in the game. It was a very fine try by Wild near the end that brought victory.

Oriental also made things very interesting until the last 15 minutes, when we assumed the upper hand and overwhelmed them with fast passing movements, both back and forward. Russell and McNicol were conspicuous for fine play, especially in the line-out work.

Kissel's last two performances at full-back have been very sound, his

play being marked by sure fielding and line-kicking. Eastwood, although rather starved for opportunities, and Tricklebank are showing speed and determination on the wings. The latter's game against Athletic was undoubtedly his best to date. Many of the tries scored have resulted from openings resulting from Wild's speed and penetration. Wild has turned on consistently brilliant football, and, on his present form, would not disgrace the Wellington reps.

Bryers is a sound all-round footballer, fast and a sure handler. Palmer at first five-eighths has stood up well to a battering from opposing forwards. There seems to be some trouble at the base of the scrum. It may be slow healing or slow passing by the half, but often the first five-eighths is surrounded almost as soon as he receives the ball. Against Athletic, Larkin played the best half-back game, to date.

Thomas, who is improving with every game, usually heads most loose rushes. Hansen's return to the pack has helped to liven it up. Eade has the happy knack of anticipating trouble and is usually on hand when danger threatens. Meads and Blacker having to do the less spectacular work of locking the scrum are hard workers in the tight stuff. Meads, like Russell and McNicol, is outstanding in the line-out work.

BASKETBALL

Playing brilliantly, the Senior A team defeated Technical 26-4. Every one played well and the combination was good in each third. Poor shooting spoilt Technical's chances.

Although the Senior B team suffered rather a heavy defeat against Island Bay, play was not so one-sided as the score might indicate. Some of the players are shaping well and the team is really improving. Owing to anxiety in the goal third, the players shot too rapidly, thereby failing to score well.

WEEK-END TRAMPING JAUNT

It was a blithe and cheerful party that set out in the early hours of Sunday morning from Puhai Hut in the Orongorongo. By the time the Wharekaubau Saddle had been reached the morning, which had been slightly overcast, changed to a glorious day with a clear blue sky, and the party was greeted with a magnificent view of the Waitarapa, with the Kaikouras rising from cloud banks to the south.

Pushing on through leatherwood scrub, the party struck the blazed trail on the ridge. It then made for Boulder Saddle, but one trumper took it into his head to take a short cut down off the ridge into Boulder Creek without, of course, informing anyone else. When the saddle was reached his absence was noticed and immediately a search was instituted. No trace of him could be found, however, and after strenuous hallooing it was concluded that he had either taken a short cut down to the creek or had met with an accident. They accordingly pushed on and there, safe and sound at the hut, the prodigal was found. Only the general exhaustion of the party saved him from being the fatted calf.

The last boat had now gone, but a member of the party (whose father must assuredly have been a saint) picked nearly everyone up, and weary trampers were all safe in bed by midnight.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

The Women's Hockey Club is showing more signs of life this year than for some time past, having acquired a large number of new players, of whom some show promise. The general spirit of enthusiasm and good attendance at practices lead one to hope for better things for 'Varsity women's hockey, notwithstanding the heavy losses the senior team has already sustained this season. These may be attributed in a large degree to lack of practice and general fitness owing to the term holidays and the exertions of Capping week, and in not a small measure to the fact that 'Varsity met in its first games the two notably best teams in the grade.

Last Saturday's game, however, showed considerable improvement in the team as a whole, and particularly in the forward line, and although 'Varsity again suffered a defeat, the play was not wholly one-sided, as has been the case hitherto.

With consistent practice during the coming month before the Inter-Varsity tournament, the prospects of the Victoria women's team may be quite hopeful at Dunedin.

The Hockey Seniors only just scraped home against the Old Timers 5-4, in the match that preceded the inaugural Smoke Concert of the Club, held in Scott's Pie Shop on 21st May. The Smoke was so successful that another one is contemplated.

An Association Football Club has been formed at Auckland University, a team playing third grade. Soccer has a sound hold in some of the Auckland schools. The cessation of immigration was a severe blow to the progress of the game in New Zealand, although it is possibly holding its own at present.

Of interest to all followers of football is the proposed visit to New Zealand by leading Australian Rules teams from Melbourne next year. Thirty years ago "Aussie Football" was played a little in New Zealand—at Auckland, Wellington and Waikato in particular—but the average New Zealander knows nothing about it to-day. It has an amazing hold on the Melbourne public, who flock in tens of thousands to watch ordinary club games every Saturday. Last year 88,000 people watched the final on the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the largest attendance ever known at a sporting event (except racing) in Australasia. The game bears little resemblance to Rugby, although the ball is similar. The absence of an off-side rule, prohibition of tackling as we know it, huge grounds, goal posts without a cross-bar, and bouncing the ball every 10 yards while running with it are features of a spectacular code that is peculiar to Australia.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Hockey players must give more time to practice and training. Admittedly, 'Varsity players usually fare badly in the first two or three matches of the season, but the form of some of the teams has been so poor that it behoves the captains to insist on regular attendance at Thursday night's training.

With one win and two draws, the seniors have been the most successful team so far. F. L. Newcombe, the captain, retains his good form at centre-half, and has again been included in the Wellington representative team. Benjamin, in goal, and Dixon and Banks, the full-backs, have played in all three matches, but the selectors are still experimenting with the forward line. M. Christie, a junior last season, played in the first two games. He is keen and fit, and may yet prove that he is worth a permanent place in the side. G. W. Shaw at centre-forward is netting goals consistently, and should eventually join Newcombe in the Wellington representative team.

Captained by Ives, ex-Canterbury College, the Senior B.1 team has lost three games and drawn one. When it settles down it should hold its own. McMurray is a solid full-back, with a powerful clearing hit. On occasions, however, he is apt to hit out too much when a pass to his halves or forwards would be of more advantage to his side. A. Long is a reliable and sound centre-half who uses his head. At centre-forward L. Pitt is fast and dangerous in possession.

In winning two games and losing two, D. Good's Senior B.2 eleven has scored 10 goals to 8. The forwards are nippy and have good stick-work, but are inclined to bunch too much. Whitlam played an outstanding game against Hutt last Saturday when the team lost 0-3. He was probably the best man on the ground. Olive in goal kicks very well, and his judgment in rushing out is equally good.

Better things can be expected of the Junior, Third and Fourth Grade teams. They have been handicapped somewhat by lack of practice.

The Club will miss W. Johnston, who has been a useful half-back in the Senior team for some time. He is going to Christchurch. An enthusiast at hockey, "Johnny" is also a useful cricketer.—L.B.S.

Table Tennis enthusiasts hope to open the season at 'Varsity shortly. With E. G. Budge (chairman), E. I. Robertson (secretary), and Mark Hathorly (treasurer), backed by a sound committee, the new club will be well run. For opening night a Yankee Handicap Tournament will probably be held. The Club will have two tables and students will be kept informed about its proposed activities per medium of the notice board.

HARRIERS OPEN SEASON

Holders at last of the Dixon Trophy, emblem of Inter-College supremacy at cross-country running, the Club anticipates another good season. Following custom, Weir House was the starting-point for the first run, club members having their usual jog round Tinakori, and afterwards being entertained at afternoon tea by the Warden and students of Weir. Staunch supporter of the harriers, Mr. G. F. Dixon, president of the club, wished it well again, and his remarks were endorsed by Messrs. H. McCormick and G. C. Sherwood, vice-presidents.

The second run was from Wadestown, thence across the Kaitiaki Gorge, up old Porirua Road to Ngalo, and across country back to the starting point. This was followed by the Novice Race on 14th May. Establishing an early lead, A. R. Burke and F. D. O'Flynn ran together until a quarter of a mile from home, when Burke drew ahead to win by a good margin. A new runner, J. Palmer, displayed a fine burst of speed over the last half-mile, arriving at the tape on O'Flynn's heels.

A six-mile course from Wadestown over rough country was chosen for the run on 21st May. This run was perhaps noteworthy for the fact that several members of the slow pack, missing the trail, ran several miles further than other runners. This has happened on every club run so far this season.

WILL BE MISSED.

For years A. G. Bagnall and A. Horsley have been among the club's star men, and their decision not to race this year is much regretted. Their loss will be severely felt, but with its numerous new members, several of whom show promise, the club should make a bold bid to retain the Dixon Trophy.

Mr. G. C. Sherwood, trainer since the foundation of the club, is now living in Paekakariki and will not again be available until a more frequent train service is established. However, he hopes that he will be able to assist runners for a while before the N.Z. University Cross Country Championships. Victoria College Harriers are much indebted to Mr. Sherwood for valuable assistance and advice.

Harriers and others have admired the cartoon by A. S. Paterson which is now hanging in the Men's Common Room. The anonymous donor has the thanks of the club for his gift.

The Tennis Club is to be commended on having all its championship finals played before the end of the first term. Holders of the N.Z. University Doubles Championship, F. H. Renouf and B. M. O'Connor, were not expected to lose to R. Perkins and T. Ennis in the club final, 4-6, 4-6, a game in which Tom Ennis worthily supported his distinguished partner.

V.U.C. DEBATING SOCIETY

▽▽▽

Mr. FREEMAN says that

MEDICAL SERVICES SHOULD BE SOCIALISED

OH, NO! says Mr. TREADWELL.

▽▽▽

You have your opinion, come along Next Friday, 3rd June, and — SAY WHAT YOU THINK!

THE PLACE: The Gym.

THE TIME: 8 p.m.

THE JUDGE: Geo. Swan, Esq.

Club Secretaries—See that your committees buy from our Advertisers.

Students — We recommend our Advertisers; patronise them.

Chinese University Relief

h
i
n
e
s
e
B

KING'S BIRTHDAY,
June 6th, in the
GYM.

H
O
P
P
THE MYSTERY HOP
Mysterious Music
Mystic Supper
Mystical Hop

URGENT!

Will all those who owe for Cappicades or Tickets, please assist Treasurer by
PAYING IMMEDIATELY.

"SALIENT" STAFF

Editor: A. H. Scotney. Associate Editor: M. L. Boyd.

Literary Editor: J. D. Freeman.

News Editors: R. L. Meek, E. M. Brisco, V. Emanuel.

Sports Editors: R. Singleton, L. B. Sandford.

Circulation Manager: E. Robertson. Business Manager: J. Bullock.

Liaison Officer: H. W. Gretton.