

Salient

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THE NEWSPAPERS

WORDS—WORDS—WORDS

Throughout our waking lives we are unceasingly bombarded with words. One of the deadliest sources of this bombardment is—the Press. Nowadays, true enough, a half-formed distrust of the press is widespread—"if you see it in the newspapers it can't be true." Yet few people realize the force of the indictment to be made against the "newspaper traffic."

The "great mouth-pieces of Democracy" are of course privately owned. The newspaper proprietor sells us words, in the same way as the butcher sells us sausages. It need not be considered wholly an accident if some of these words are true.

But not only are the newspapers owned and controlled by people with large property interests at stake, but the bulk of their income from advertising comes from powerful trusts and industrial and commercial concerns. And one never offends a friend. Does one?

There are one or two things worth remembering next time you pick up a daily paper.

"ADVERTISING," as a copy writer and the Maori Wars" this newspaper might say, "is a newspaper's life-blood." It is from "advertising income" that the share-holder's lot is lightened.

EDITORIALS.—People buy the

The news, the articles which find daily newspaper because, after all, it

THE PRESS AND IMPARTIALITY

Mr. W. J. Scott, lecturer in English at Training College, has recently conducted an investigation into the amount of space given by the "Evening Post" to speeches of Government and Nationalist representatives. Reports of Parliamentary debates were not included in the inquiry, which covered only the election campaign, thus making the numbers of speakers taking part almost equal. No letters in the correspondence columns were counted.

Mr. Scott found that between 22nd August and 29th September the amount of space given Government speakers totalled 1,720½ inches. The Nationalist Party speakers were given 3,114½ inches.

During this period Mr. Savage was given 140 inches (excluding statements on the International situation). Mr. Hamilton was given 208 inches.

The space given to the speeches of candidates in the Wellington electorate is also interesting. Covering the same period of time, the average num-

A NOBLE CALLING?

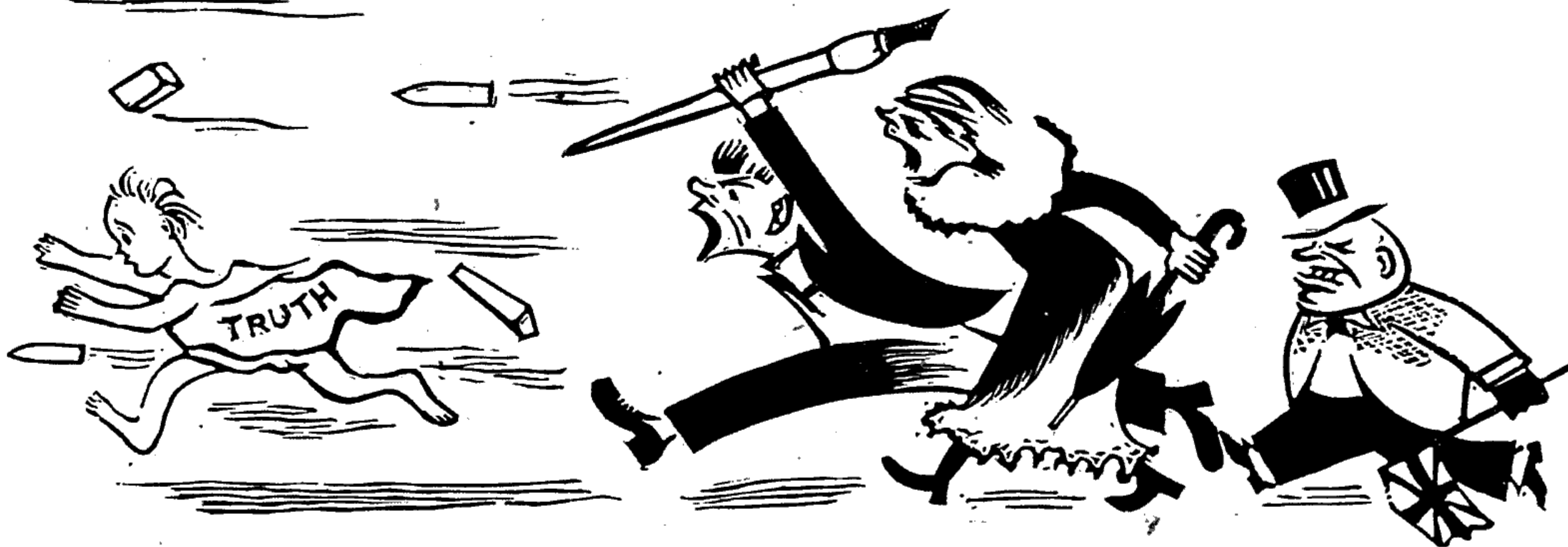
"You ought to go into a newspaper office."

The speaker inserted a glottal stop before the last word, as her daughter studied elocution. I replied that journalism was my main goal in life. I longed to write, to publicise my ideas, to see the world, that only a reporter sees. I revelled in the words of Arthur Mee and Low Warren. . . .

Then one morning as I stood on a dray and pushed off swedes, my brother came running with a letter. My application for work on a city daily had been accepted. Next evening I sat at a desk in the reading-room, learning the difference between a shriek and a half-double. I was a journalist at last, and would not have changed places with the archangel Gabriel.

Four years later I left, as a chance had come to me (as to few journalists) to become an honest man, or at least to be dishonest at my own discretion.

For while there is no nobler calling than a journalist's, there is no greater social evil than the Press. Whatever his feelings of responsibility to humanity, the journalist must, to obtain experience, lend himself to an industry that damages society for profit. He may report social chatter, sport,



their way into a metropolitan paper, are not there primarily by their own right. They are there to carry the advertisements. For without these every daily newspaper would be bankrupt before election day.

The people who spend large sums of hard-earned money on advertisements, although they are pure-at-heart, not unnaturally often influence a paper's contents.

Most of you when you intend to spend an evening at the cinema, look up the newspaper reviews. Have you ever realised that all you read is a reprint of the blurb sent on by the makers of the picture? And the length of the notice depends not on the worth of the film, but on the amount of advertising space that has been paid for.

Truth, when money is involved, is forgotten. If any newspaper dared to oppose the interest of its advertisers (Big Business) it would be starved out of existence.

Literary work of any kind is not the concern of modern newspapers. Sex, scandal and crime sell so much better than good writing. And they cost much less.

Here is an extract from the New Zealand News, London, July 5th, which should bear this out.

"The dangers arising from newspaper monopoly in New Zealand are worthy of serious attention.

"We are able to give details of what the 'New Zealand Herald' (with a circulation of 70,000 two-penny copies daily) considers a reasonable rate to offer for serial matter. For the rights of printing 80,000 words of 'England

is the only available source of information. No doubt anyone has the theoretical right to set up a daily paper of his own—if he has £500,000 to spare.

Actually, the newspaper owners have a complete and effective monopoly of both opinion and news. This means that a limited class of property owners can foist their opinions on the whole population—merely because they have enough money. In short, they have a pecuniary interest in truth.

Naturally enough they are prepared to support their privileged position irrespective of its justice.

This is why the newspapers are so antagonistic to the Labour Government.

And in their struggle for the retention of their privilege, any falsehood, any deception, any distortion, will do. (See article in this issue—Swinging the Vote.)—A.

PRESS METHODS

We should hesitate to go as far as this ourselves, but here is the opinion of the press held by Earl Baldwin, of Bowdly:—

"What are their methods? Their methods are direct falsehood, misrepresentation; half-truths; alteration of the speaker's meaning by putting sentences apart from their context; suppression."

—Earl Baldwin, speaking in 1931.

ber of inches per issue in which they have been reported is as follows:—

Wellington Central:

Hon. P. Fraser 17 inches.
Mr. Will Appleton 20.6 inches.
(Nationalist)

Wellington East:

Hon. R. Semple 13 inches.
Mr. W. L. Barker 17.7 inches.
(Nationalist)

Wellington Suburbs:

Mr. H. E. Combs 13.8 inches.
(Labour)

Mr. O. C. Mazengarb 17.3 inches.
(Nationalist)

(Mr. Mazengarb's average, if his speeches outside his own electorate are included, is 24.2 inches per issue.)

Wellington South:

Mr. Howlett 14.5 inches.
(Nationalist)

Mr. McKeen 13.1 inches.
(Labour)

Wellington North:

Mrs. Knox Giller 18.2 inches.
(Political species uncertain)

Mr. C. H. Chapman 14.5 inches.
(Labour)

Wellington West:

Mr. R. A. Wright 10.2 inches.
(See Mrs. Knox Giller)

Mrs. Stewart 14.7 inches.
(Labour)

Up to the 29th September, Mrs. Stewart had been reported only three times against Mr. Wright's eight times, and the total space given her was 44.25 inches compared with Mr. Wright 81.5 inches.

The accuracy of these figures is vouched for. You can draw your own conclusions.

form what has been called the "lowest common denominator," to which the Press directs its appeal. Analyse your daily paper, including the advertisements and society notes, and see how these instincts are played upon. No reporter can avoid being party to the crime. "Public interest" is the only criterion of reporting; the public good is of no concern. Let us consider the effects of these standards on the reporter.

He enters the profession only because he loves writing—the pecuniary reward is low. Contributing to this love of writing is a desire to see a great deal of life. He finds himself among men like himself, sensitive but unsentimental, who know society better than anyone else. But they are bitter and pessimistic men too, and he soon discovers why. I did.

A newspaper rarely tells deliberate lies. The reporter is not asked to lie, or even to suppress the truth. The latter is done by the management when his material is sub-edited.

"*Suppresso veri, suggestio falsi*": I soon saw that this is one process, not two. The proverb is elliptical.

The reporter soon learns not to write what will merely be blue-pencilled.

For instance: in 1937 I saw something of the work of the State Placement Service. The success of such a service depended on wide publicity—obviously a job for the Press. I mentioned this to a superior officer, who said: "No. We're not giving them much space. They pinch our advertising. But you can write a par, if you like." I did, and my paragraph

fires, court cases, and anything that makes no demands on the understanding. He may also write about religion, politics or sociology, but unless his views suit the directors, he won't get them printed. He is like a musician who loves his art, but is engaged to play only commercial jazz.

So, if you meet a reporter, be kind to him. Shout him a drink, for he is an unhappy man.

And if you meet a newspaper director, shoot him. You will be hanged, but you'll go straight to heaven.—H.W.G.

PARALLELISM

Like most people who are too high-spirited to work for stated hours at a weekly wage, he drifted into journalism, which may be briefly but accurately defined as the most degrading form of that most degrading vice, mental prostitution.

Its resemblance to the less reprehensible form is striking. Only the more fashionable cocottes of the dual trade make a reasonable income.

Both require suppleness in a supreme degree, and in both the fatal handicaps are honesty, modesty, and independence.—Richard Arlington.

Algie made a League
The League was bilgy
The bilge was Algie

G. & A.

Says Jim Gentry:

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

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FAREWELL TO ARMS

War has been averted. The world breathes again. Mr. Chamberlain has become a terrific figure. Our natural feelings of thankfulness and relief should not prevent us, however, from examining calmly just what the whole crisis means. Incidentally, if you keep your old "Salients," look again at the article on British foreign policy on page 2 of No. 16. It might help.

In the first place, Hitler has been given what he wanted. That much seems clear. The "shock tactics" with which the world is now becoming familiar have succeeded once again, and one more capitulation has been made by the democracies under the menace of force.

If the elaborate Czech fortifications are in the ceded territory (and from a study of maps it looks as if they are) the most serious military obstacle to the Nazi drive to the East has been removed without the loss of a man and without firing a shot. The effect of this in Germany will no doubt be to strengthen Hitler's prestige, and to encourage further aggression.

It is extremely problematical whether the Führer ever intended to use force for other than show purposes, for no matter how well forged a weapon the German army may be, German national economy is in a precarious condition. As Nazi General von Fritsch recently remarked, "You may be able to end up a war on ration cards, but you can't start one on them." It may well be doubted whether the alternative to Hitler's demands really was war. Nevertheless, the bluff succeeded.

The effect on the French Popular Front may be disastrous. French strategic dependence on Britain was never more clearly shown than it was during the Czech crisis, when M. Daladier, leader pro tem. of the Popular Front, a man whose political philosophy differs widely from that of Mr. Chamberlain, was obliged to toe the line, and to run all over Europe after the British Premier, signing away his only reliable European ally in the process. It would not be at all surprising if, after the failure of Non-Intervention in Spain, the French Coalition failed to survive this surrender to Fascism. Should such be the case, it would mean the end of the Franco-Soviet Pact, and the isolation of both those countries, thus rendering each more vulnerable to a Nazi attack.

Two points remain for consideration: the four-power talks and the prospects for the future.

With regard to the four-power talks, the absentees were almost as remarkable as the invited guests. "Deserted by all the States of Europe" the Czechs undoubtedly were, and decisions taken were taken without them and against them. If ever a nation could claim the unique experience of having its own head brought to it on a plate, that nation is the Czechs.

And then there was the other empty chair—Russia. This is easier to explain. Russian statesmen have a habit of speaking in plain terms. This has often been somewhat embarrassing to statesmen who like their diplomacy subtle. Plain speaking at the present time would have been awkward. Further, Russia must at all costs be isolated. How else can she be attacked?

The outlook at the moment is one of intense relief, combined with deep misgiving for the future. Every step he makes brings Mr. Chamberlain closer to the point at which he will be able to say to anyone who disagrees with his policy, "Either you must follow us in agreeing to the Fascist domination of Europe (which no doubt would ultimately include domination of Britain) or you must demand war." As Fascist power grows unchecked, both in armaments and in the occupation of strategic positions in Europe, that alternative begins to become more significant. The point that he is actually aiming at no doubt is to be able to name as warmongers anyone who refuses to become an ally of Fascism.—A.H.S.

A LONG FAREWELL

This is the last issue of "Salient" for the year. Exams draw close and lectures will soon be over.

Most of you will agree, I think, that the general policy or line adopted in this paper at the beginning of the year has been justified. The events of the last few days surely prove it. It was not to be expected that every student would agree even in general terms with all that has been said, yet you should all have known where you stood with regard to the opinions expressed, for you have been able to see who wrote them and to know what importance to attach to them. You were not asked to believe that the editorial policy was unbiased. Yet you have not seen in these columns, advocacy of any particular point of view. The nature of the paper, of course, makes that impossible for any reasonable person to do. In the rest of the paper, however, articles of a more constructive type have appeared: Whenever there have appeared forces, political or otherwise, making for peace instead of war, for freedom instead of injustice, for hope instead of despair, we have given them their share of attention. But you haven't had to put up with any nonsense about "impartiality."

This general attitude is not confined to "Salient." Students of Victoria have for years subjected the existing order of things to a running fire of criticism which is almost invariably well-informed and couched in moderate terms. It is somewhat surprising, then, to find two "gentlemen" apparently so excited by the political campaign in which they are engaged that they have lost all sense of proportion, seek to gain support for their cause by attacking Victoria College as "a hot-bed of Communism." We could excuse Mr. Barker. Indeed, those who know him could excuse him almost anything he says. But Mr. Appleton, however, is old enough to know better.

Still, we do not forget that an attack on "Communism" is becoming the orthodox method of excusing an attack on all kinds of freedom of speech, and of suppressing all opinions critical of capitalism. We have come across statements just as misleading as those of Mr. Appleton and Mr. Barker before. The voice may be the voice of Appleton, but the sentiments are the sentiments of Hitler—or, some might even say, of Hitler. The party to which these two gentlemen belong is fast developing an unenviable reputation for reckless misrepresentation. To one who attaches any value to the best conceptions of British honesty and justice, such misleading and hysterical outbursts cannot but cause painful surprise. It is only to be expected, however, that the representatives of a party which, during its unhappy period of office, took only a repressive interest in Education, and in whose platform now Education barely finds a place, would adopt this attitude. Who knows, it might even be used as a good excuse for limiting burlesque.

So much by the way. In spite of our ill-informed critics, it has been a successful and pleasant year for V.U.C. Most of you will no doubt be more prepared to give a frank answer to that after November. At the present time the library is full to overflowing with students trying, as usual, to do a year's work in a term. Most of them will succeed. A few (don't be alarmed, gentle reader, this doesn't mean you) will fail. Whether you fail or succeed, you will carry to the Winter Show Buildings the good wishes of the staff of your paper, and their hope that you will then forget all about "swot" until next March. Good luck!—A.H.S.

EXECUTIVE MEETS

FREE DISCUSSIONS CLUB

The motion that this club be re-affiliated stirred a discussion. There seemed to be an idea on the one hand that the recently developed enthusiasm for reforming a free discussions group would have lapsed again by the next session, which would mean yet another club limping through the year. However, the argument was raised that the enthusiasm is not new but is the outcome of a steadily growing feeling that the need for such a club is urgent and wholly necessary. The motion was carried, subject to the approval by the Executive of the draft constitution.

BLEDISLOE MEDAL

The N.Z.U.S.A. representatives revived the argument in the matter of limiting the subjects for orations in the above contests to a "ten years' dead" qualification. The view expressed was that every living subject should be open to discussion. Obviously the fear behind the raising of the limit was the old bogey of Propaganda, but it was pointed out that any "innocent" topic could be made the basis of political propaganda in any direction. So the freedom of speech ideal gained a point and a motion of opposition was recorded.

BLUES

Two matters of interest: Graduates will be eligible for Blues for three years after graduating but for not more than eight years after matriculating at a University.

Hereafter a Blue will be a recognised standard of attainment and will be awarded once.

WINTER SPORTS TOURNAMENT

There was an elaborate report on this matter giving the opinions of more than a dozen of the active sports bodies—each had some support to lend to the idea, but the general opinion was that a winter tournament was not practicable owing to difficulty of getting leave except at Easter—the double burden of billeting, which would be a tax on the managing committees, and the problem of getting permission to use grounds at the end of winter.

However, many felt that the idea was good in that it would give fresh importance to some of the lesser sports bodies—and to the attractive suggestion of a golf tournament. Discussion on this topic is not yet closed.

TIME MARCHES

The Executive is going to hang an electric clock among the faculty groups.
—E.M.H.

FINAL DANCE

Special Notice.—Owing to the Architects' Report on the Gymnasium only two hundred couples can be allowed admittance to the Final Dance this year.

Double tickets only will be sold up to two hundred in number, and these may be obtained in the Executive Room for 6/-.

No one without a ticket will be admitted to the Gymnasium, so get yours early.

SMOKO

"Future capping processions will be organised at least a month before the actual date," said "Andy," President of the Haeremal Club at their annual smoko. "Each person taking part will know definitely which float he is on and what he is expected to do. In the past the procession has been a rather haphazard and rushed affair; the present committee is determined to place this important event on a sound basis."

The importance of the club, not only in view of this event and the Universities' Tournament, but also from the lasting friendships and associations gained, was also emphasised. Too many students pass through the College in a daze of swot without realising that they have within their grasp a very wide variety of pleasant social intercourse. In view of the president's remarks it is apparent that the Haeremal Club has become, and will be in the future, a live and active factor at V.U.C., with every justification of everyone's support, including you.

The Smoko proved to be a most enjoyable evening for the thirty-odd students who attended. Here's to the continued success of the Haeremal Club!
—M.L.B.

A CORRECTION

In a recent leading article on Weir House it was stated that the purpose of raising the board to 35/- per week was to create a reserve fund. Professor Hunter has since told us that this is not correct. The increase has been made in order to raise the revenue derived from the establishment nearer the annual expenditure, as there is at present a gap of several hundreds of pounds.

SWINGING THE VOTE

As polling day approaches, the Press will be found attacking, with unparalleled fervour, the present Government party, and prophesying disaster to the country if it is not defeated. In a word, we are faced with an Election in which the forces of reaction will use all their tremendous power in an attempt to restore that condition of organised stagnation which they appear to look upon as the normal condition of human society. In this attempt the press will be their chief weapon. They will use it to create a "fear psychology" among the electors. This is by no means the first time such a thing has happened.

Let us turn back the files of the "New Zealand Herald" to the year 1893.

We choose that year for a particular reason. In 1893 a situation existed in New Zealand that was rather similar to that which confronts us now, in 1938—forty-five years later. After a period of depression, during which the conservative Atkinson Government had imposed harsh measures of "economy" on those least able to bear such burdens, that Government had been defeated. In 1890, by a combination representing, broadly, Liberal and Labour interests.

In 1893 this new and progressive Government was put to its first severe test—its First General Election, after being Three Years in Office.

WHAT DID THE "HERALD" SAY IN '93?

The following extracts are all taken from leading articles in the "Herald," and the dates are attached. Listen! This is what it said:—

23rd Nov., 1893.—"First, we must remember that the great expansion of our exports has not enabled us to settle and dispose of our difficulties once for all. It has extricated us from all immediate financial peril, but we have still that fearful debt of somewhere about forty millions hanging over us, which has lately been added to by various methods of sly borrowing...."

27th Nov., 1893.—"Our chief anxiety is for the sake of the colony, to prevent rash and wasteful legislation, to enable the colony to make a complete recovery so that there may be no fear of being compelled to borrow, so that the burden of taxation, which is exceedingly heavy, may be lightened, and that the colony may make steady progress...."

25th Nov., 1893.—"To the elector who has no love of State Socialism, and no taste for incessant experiments with the social machinery, it is... a simple matter to place the guidance of the ship of State in the hands of Mr. Rolleston." (Read Mr. Hamilton.)

23th Nov., 1893.—"Mr. Seddon's platform provided 'that there should be a State bank of issue... that State farms should be established all over the country.'"

24th Nov., 1893.—"We hear from the South, on very good authority, the Ministers are by no means so sanguine as they were that the general election will give them a triumphant majority...."

The painful uncertainty, the uneasiness and anxiety, of the Government (if they ever existed) must have been dissipated easily enough by the result of that Election, which was held on 28th November, 1893. Here are the figures:—

Government	49
Opposition	16
Independents	5

That Election marked the beginning of a period of nearly twenty years—the greatest period in our history, when unexampled prosperity and contentment ruled, and the eyes of philosophers and sociologists throughout the world were turned on New Zealand. The "rash and dangerous experiments" of the Seddon Government excited the envy and admiration of other countries. People came to New Zealand from all over the world to settle down in the new land of promise.

(Taken from "WHO SAID RED RUIN?"—An Examination of Newspaper Methods.)

ON THE DEATH OF A JOURNALIST

Angela received his dying breath. This last kind act his spirit survives; He has done more good by his death Than could a saint with fifty lives. —Itoy Campbell.

DOMINATION

Dear "Salient,"
On Wednesday, September 28th, I wrote to the "Dominion" criticising the attitude of Mr. Appleton and Mr. Barker towards the University. Naturally enough it was not published and so I decided to send into "Salient" a copy of the letter I wrote—reproduced as correctly as I can recall it.

"As a University student I desire, through the columns of your paper, to deprecate the statements made by Mr. Barker and Mr. Appleton that the University is a 'hot-bed' of Communism. It seems hardly fair that these men should be allowed to make such statements so glibly and get away with them. Apparently these gentlemen misconstrue the liberty allowed in the expression of ideas and opinions as Communistic utterances. They would do well to study our paper "Salient," in which all types of opinion are published. Why, in numbers of issues they will find the good points of the Nationalist Party put forward. Of course, quite naturally these are argued out in the next issue from the other point of view, but surely neither Mr. Appleton nor Mr. Barker would wish this to cease, as their party stands for the Freedom of the people. Hoping this will clear up the idea that some people may have gained—that we are a crowd of 'Boishies.'"

L. W. BURGESS.

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Applicant for post as literary critic: Here are my credentials, Sir!—

Editor: Er—quite. But—er—biologically? Have you been fixed?—

Applicant: I'm afraid I don't. Editor (sternly): Have you been made safe for the great British Public? Has everything objectionable been removed from you?

Applicant: In what way, quite?

Editor: By surgical operation. Did your parents have you sterilised?

Applicant: I don't think so, Sir, I'm afraid not.

Editor: Good morning! Don't trouble to call again. We have the welfare of the British Public at heart.

—D. H. Lawrence.

SANITY IN POLITICS

Dear "Salient,"
Now, more than ever, is it apparent that stability is vitally necessary throughout the world. And obviously this stability can only be obtained by:

- (a) Imperialistic Ideals.
- (b) A benevolently despotic monarch.
- (c) A monarchic landed aristocracy.
- (d) A solid, prosperous bourgeoisie.
- (e) A loyal, contented artisan class.

Therefore, let us of Victoria University College do our utmost, in every way possible, to support the Imperial British Commonwealth of Nations, and to oppose the disruptive and dangerous influences now at work in New Zealand, as elsewhere. —A.

COMPETITION No. 4

To be opened, March, 1939. Answer briefly:—

- (1) Who will be:
 - (a) Prime Minister of N.Z.?
 - (b) Leader of Opposition?
- (2) If a European War has broken out will troops have been sent from New Zealand?
- (3) In whose hands will the following be?
 - (a) Madrid, Prague, Barcelona, Hankow, Singapore, Polish Corridor.
- (4) Will a Popular Front Government still be in power in France?
- (5) Who will be Prime Minister of England?
- (6) Will there be any issue to the marriage of the Duke of Windsor?
- (7) Which of the following will still be alive?
 - (a) Stalin, Benes, Henlein, Hitler, Roosevelt, Mussolini, any Jews in Austria.
- (8) Will Uncle Scrim still be giving his Social Justice Session?

"From small beginnings, mighty ends,
From calling rebel generals friends,
From being taught at public schools
To think the common people fools,
Spain bleeds, and England wildly gambles
To bribe the butcher in the shambles."
—Edgell Rickword.

THE PRESS GANG

You cannot hope to bribe or twist,
Thank God! the British journalist.
But, seeing what the man will do
Unbribed, there's no occasion to—
—Humbert Wolfe.

WOMEN'S CORNER

Darling,
The most exciting news—I'm going to be a journalist. All the lovely little bits of gossip that float about this Grand Old Alma Mater are going to be whispered in my little ear and I'll tell you Everything that I hear about Everyone; and I'm going to spy with my little eye and find red hot news. (I don't really mean Red, darling.) You know this University has an awful lot of nasty people among the students—communists and that. Of course I never mix with them because one can't be too careful, can one? and they say even the professors are dangerous. I don't take any night lectures, though, so I don't really know about that. I asked somebody what a Communist looked like, but he just turned round and sort of laughed at me.

HEART TO HEART.

I've got a new frock. It's gorgeous. You slide into a purple sheath and then drop a mass of pale green frills over it, and the effect is marvellous. So sweet, and it gives one that "air." I'm going to wear it to the Final Ball in November because there will only be two hundred couples there and I love being in an exclusive crowd. You know.

Oh—that nice John Hatherley, you remember him, I'm sure; well, he has been at some conference in Glasgow—I forget what it was, but I'm sure he was important. C.I.E., it was, whatever that is.

Isn't it awful the way people talk in initials? I always sit still and look pretty because I never can remember what N.Z.U.S.A. and S.P.C.A. and R.S.A. stand for, and I heard a new one the other day, but when I asked what it meant they said, "Bumping Off Adolph Society," which sounded mad. Who is Adolph? I used to have a dog called Adolph—it used to bite people and nobody liked it. My brother killed it just when it was going to have a fight with a hungry pup. All the neighbours were there and they saw him shoot it. Some of them were glad. He's in the territorial and he knows how to shoot. I wish you could see him in his puttees and his big khaki hat and his polished buttons. Wouldn't it be fun to go to a war and polish your buttons and swap stories. They say the soldiers have a marvellous time. They get so friendly, you see, and they can talk about their country and everyone cheers them and women cry. Have you got any boy friends among the territorials? I have and it is nice. Bert says soldiering is "a man's job and you need guts." I suppose he means that a woman wouldn't know how to do up puttees and polish buttons. And of course they wouldn't, would they, because a woman's place is in the home? The men have to wear uniforms and march about and protect the homes and the little ones.

GIRLISH GOSSIP.

I heard of a new way to set your perm. You just comb sugar and water through, and there you are. It stays put for ages. I've got the sweetest little kiss curls all round my face—and Archie kissed every one on Saturday night. Archie is funny, isn't he? He talks all the time about the poor German people and Herr Chamberlain and Signor Hitler and Mr. Mussolini—perhaps that is a bit mixed up, but it's all the same, anyway.

I was running through the Common Room a while ago and I heard two girls say that the basketball people are going to give Max Riske two guineas because he coached their team this year. Max is marvellous. Next year I'm going to give up skating and go to basketball.

I go to music now. I don't mean I learn or anything like that, but they have Records on a big gramophone in C2, and when the lights are put out and everyone sprawls across the benches and Mr. Palmer has finished talking and no more people come creeping in late, and the lights are out and the music begins, then I feel all "floaty" inside and I want to sit close to someone. I went to a spiritualist meeting once and it was just the same. Sometimes the library gets like that too, and then I go downstairs and talk to Brookie. I don't think Brookie likes me much. He said the kiss curls are silly. But I'll tell him I've got a job on "Salient" and then he will like me.

Well, darling, write to me soon and tell me all about the latest fashions and things—and can you get me a recipe for Soft Soap? I'd adore to have one. Nobody seems to know how to make it—but I've heard of lots of men in the elections who use it, so do try and find the recipe.

Yours, full of enthusiasm,

CHERRY.

P.S.—I told Brookie about this literary position, and he said: "This is the last number," and went away to click his fingers.—C.



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SPORT

RETROSPECT

With this number, the twenty-first issue of "Salient," we ring down the curtain on commentaries and criticism on sport at V.U.C. for the year. It has been an interesting year, but one fact is plain: despite the gratifying results at Tournament, the general standard of sport here is no higher than it has been in immediate past years. It is, perhaps, possibly lower, for a study of the performances and achievements of the lower grade teams of the four largest clubs—Cricket, Tennis, Rugby and Hockey—reveals the undeniable fact that results were very poor. Even if, in these clubs and in the other sports clubs at V.U.C. there was lustre in the performances of one or two teams and some splendid individual effort, it is the general standard that is important, and next year we must try to raise it. —L.B.S.

ATHLETICS

A. L. Fitch to Coach

Mr. A. L. Fitch, American coach, informed Varsity athletes at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Club that he would be willing to coach them on Kelburn Park at least once a week during the season. The new Committee is arranging for him to show several films here before training commences after the examinations next month.

BACKWARD NEW ZEALAND.

Declaring that there is scarcely a high school or university in America today that does not possess facilities for athletics far in advance of anything in New Zealand, Mr. Fitch particularly mentioned the lack of correct athletic attire in this country. This had led him to bring back from America samples of warm-up suits and shorts. The coach had these with him at the meeting and, after inspecting them, a number of members requested that orders be placed. The cost is moderate, about 24/-, and further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary.

PROSPECTS.

Prospects for the coming season are fairly good. In the sprints especially, the Club should be very strong, but once again the main weakness is likely to be in the field events. To the dozens of potential jumpers, discus throwers, etc., at V.U.C., who have never put their latent ability to the test, an appeal is made to come forward now and seek development under the expert tuition of the Club's coaches, A. L. Fitch, C. B. Allan and S. G. Eade.

WELL-ATTENDED MEETING.

The meeting itself attracted the largest attendance for several years. Presiding, Mr. H. M. McCormick drew attention to the somewhat poor showing in outside competition during the past season. He urged every member to participate in the local meetings, especially in view of the proposed tour of Australian University athletes early next year.

OFFICERS:

Club Captain: J. S. Adams.
Secretary-Treasurer: R. L. N. Black.
Delegate to Centre: S. G. Eade.
Coaches: C. B. Allan and S. G. Eade.
Committee: D. H. Scrymgeour, R. D. Freeman, J. P. Eastwood, E. M. Irving and C. V. Adams.

TENNIS OPENING

Glorious weather prevailed for the Opening Day of the Tennis Club and there was a record entry of 60 men and 38 women for the Yankee Tournament.

Efficient organisation, with Mr. H. W. Brock in charge, resulted in the finalists taking the court before 6 p.m. It was no light task arranging a satisfactory afternoon's tennis for so many players.

Miss R. Singleton and F. Fortune, who combined well, defeated Miss J. Luke and K. Stafford in the final, 21/14. Other players displaying good form during the afternoon included Misses B. Marsh and G. MacMorran and, among the men, Baker, B. Kelly, L. Pitt and J. Hott.

Visitors included Professor F. F. Miles and Messrs. A. B. Cochran, G. F. Dixon and H. N. Burns, Vice-Presidents of the Club. To Miss F. E. MacLean the thanks of all are due for providing an afternoon tea in keeping with the best traditions of the Tennis Club.

A.U.C.

Auckland University College now has a Table Tennis Club too. In Wellington the popularity of competitive table tennis is remarkable. There are nearly one hundred teams playing in competitions conducted by the Wellington Table Tennis Association, the top grade being confined to a select group of four teams. It was the pair of Hungarians who visited New Zealand a year or two ago who gave the progress of table tennis a real impetus. They demonstrated that "ping pong" was no longer a parlour game, much as Devlin, the Canadian ex-world champion badminton player, showed that badminton was a game of remarkable possibilities.

CRICKET

The Cricket Club is in the fortunate position of having not only every member of last season's senior eleven again available, but in J. R. Stevens, Joe Ongley and W. F. Vlotmeyer, three good all-rounders who in previous years were prominent members of the firsts. Jack Stevens captained the seniors two years ago, but played for the Wellington Club last season. For the opening match there will be keen competition for places in the team.

Moreover, with the exception of two or three players, the whole of the second eleven will be available again. For this team also, there is likely to be keen competition for places, as three former first eleven players in R. W. Edgley, L. B. Sandford and R. S. V. Simpson have decided to play again.

The secondary schools are furnishing some good material for lower grade teams and, altogether, prospects for a successful season in all grades are good. Unfortunately there will be little time for practice before competition matches actually begin. At the moment, it appears that no practice wickets will be ready more than a few days before the opening day, 22nd October. It is hoped, however, to arrange a practice game with St. Patrick's College at Silverstream on 15th October.

HARRIERS

On Saturday, 17th September, the Club held its last run of the season. As is usual on this occasion, the early part of the afternoon was devoted to photographing.

After a short run from the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Kelburn, which led to Northland and back through the gardens, members repaired to the home of Mr. G. F. Dixon. It was here that the real business of the afternoon took place. After all the many good things had been consumed, Mr. Dixon presented the trophies to the members who were successful in the various races throughout the season. As Club champion, Scrymgeour received the Shorland Cup, O'Flynn being runner-up. The latter was the winner of the Cairns Cup awarded to the most improved runner during the season. The Novice Cup was won by Burke and the Sherwood Cup by Farquhar, while de la Mare won the Endeavour Cup. When the trophies had been presented, Mr. Dixon addressed the Club as also did Mr. McCormick and Mr. Sherwood. Accompanied by the strains of an accordion, the Club then raised their voices in song which continued until the hour of parting arrived when Scrymgeour, on behalf of the Club, heartily thanked Mr. Dixon for the very fitting manner in which he brought a very happy season to a close.

RUGBY

COLLEGE V. WEIR HOUSE.

Brookie, in accordance with established tradition, started the game with a well placed kick into a strong north-easterly.

The Weir House boys obviously strung to high tension for the occasion and forgetful of formalities, set off after the haggis with much of that spirit which made the Varsity team of '28. A slight explanation by referee Kirk-Burnand and the customary scrum went down at half-way while Brookie galloped off the field fearful of what slaughter he might have initiated.

Early in the game, Harpur was prominent with determined runs and was rewarded later with two tries.

With Taylor in the front row, the College backs received plenty of ball and Carey at half was getting his passes away nicely but attempted individualism spoilt many opportunities. Although handicapped by the inability of their forwards to secure the ball from the set scrums, the Weir backs handled exceptionally well and made several penetrating dashes. Tommy Larkin, complete with gloves, was observed on one occasion playing ring-a-rosies with Stan Eade.

RASHBROOKE CHAMPION

TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The finals in the first Victoria College Table Tennis Championships were played on 27th September, the Men's Singles title going to Rashbrooke and the Women's title to Miss D. Croxton. The latter was the outstanding player of the Tournament, proving herself much superior to her opponents in the three events won by her.

MEN'S SINGLES FINAL.

By a hard-hitting, persistent attack, Rashbrooke prevailed over J. Croxton in the Men's Singles final, winning 21/12, 15/21, 21/18. Although the game was even, Rashbrooke was able to keep control at critical points, and he produced many winning drives to the corners.

From a spectator's point of view, the Men's Doubles match between Morrison and Balrd and Braithwaite and Childs was probably the most exciting of the finals. All four hit hard and recovered well, and some sparkling rallies were seen.

TRIPLE WINNER.

Although Miss F. Smythe played some good shots in the final of the Women's Singles, she found that only "real" winners could get her points against Miss D. Croxton, who was too steady and played too many winning forehand drives to give her opponent much chance. She also proved the deciding factor in the Women's Doubles which she won with P. Ralph from M. Fletcher and K. Pears, 21/14, 21/18. The other three in this match were about even, Miss Croxton dominating the game with effective killing of soft returns.

In the Combined Doubles, Croxton and Miss Croxton beat Braithwaite and Miss K. Pears, 21/5, 21/16. Braithwaite played well, especially in the second game, and proved himself to be about the best doubles player in the championships. It is to him, too, that most credit is due for the successful conduct of the various events.

MATCH WITH TRAINING COLLEGE

A return match with Training College will be played in the Gym, on Wednesday, 5th October. The first one, played at Training College, was won by the V.U.C. team. Trophies will be presented after the return matches in which some good table tennis should be played. The V.U.C. club champions available will be playing.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED AMERICA AND SOUTH AFRICA

(Per N.Z.U. Press Bureau.)

From America and South Africa, letters have come to the N.Z.U.S.A. seeking to establish correspondence between students in New Zealand and students in their countries.

The first letter is from the Hobby Guild of America.

"The Hobby Guild of America, composed of individuals of many hobbies and as many interests, has been actively functioning in this country for many years and now includes an extensive and enthusiastic membership.

"Many of our constituents have requested that we inaugurate an International Correspondence Exchange to make possible the interchange of ideas on hobbies as well as on questions of economic significance.

"We shall welcome your assistance in the organisation of such an international hobby and economic forum. Members of your institution who wish to correspond with individuals in the United States may now register their names with our organisation, together with an account of their hobbies and diverse leisure-time pursuits. In the near future they will receive correspondence from members of The Hobby Guild of America.

"We trust that this effort will in some measure realise better understanding between a large group of individuals, and tend to knit the human race into an international brotherhood through mutual interest in constructive pursuits."

The Guild offers many facilities for students interested in various hobbies. The Advisory Board includes among others such authorities as Dr. Franz Boas, Frank Buck, Robert Ripley, Tony Sarg, John Sloan, Dr. Sigmund Spaeth. With the assistance of this board advice is given on superior hobby supplies of all kinds and the idea is to effect economy for members so that they can go on with the enjoyment of their hobbies with a minimum of cost.

The address of the Hobby Guild of America is 11 West 32nd Street, New York. If you are interested, write indicating your preferred leisure time interests and activities. You are then enrolled into membership and you receive literature about your particular hobby, and there is put at your disposal certain services which all hobbyists will appreciate.

EDUCATION IN CHINA

The origin of modern Chinese education may be traced back to the middle of the nineteenth century, when a number of Chinese began to study foreign languages with a view to acquiring new knowledge of Western sciences. Technical, naval and military sciences were studied, because the reformers of the day thought those subjects were the instruments by which Western powers gained their power and supremacy.

The beginning of this century saw the formation of modern higher education. After years of endeavour on the part of the Government and people considerable success has been achieved. There has been a phenomenal increase in the number of schools, with improved equipment, methods and teaching personnel. Universities and higher educational institutions have developed, and in view of the financial stringency and economic depression of the country as a whole, the progress is indeed remarkable.

That China sees in education a way for revival and resurrection is demonstrated in the attitude of the Government. No previous Government has ever adopted such a definite policy towards higher education as the National Government in Nanking in 1927. Emphasis has been moved from arts to sciences, there being restrictions on the number of students allowed to take an arts course. This shifting of emphasis was done in order to meet the urgent need of society for trained technicians to accelerate the economic development.

For the masses, a scheme of adult education was adopted in 1929, and in order to combat illiteracy, in 1936 (August) a six-year programme was formed. When the universal education campaign was launched it was thought that character-learning constituted its main purpose—but experience has

proved that good citizenship must be the goal of education. The Six-year Plan is strictly in keeping with this purpose, and it is hoped that upon its consummation every citizen of China will be able to gain requisite beneficial knowledge, and the basic idea of good living, on which the progress of society and the nation depends so much.—V.E.

The Dramatic Club will hold their Annual General Meeting this Thursday, October 6th. It is most important that there should be a full attendance.

INSURANCE

Negotiations between the State Fire Insurance and the N.Z.U.S.A. have resulted in the former submitting a scheme of insurance with special rates for students. Providing sufficient support is assured, arrangements will be made for policies as follows:—

The policy covers loss or damage by fire to clothing, books, instruments, jewellery and other personal effects whilst contained in any building (excluding tent) or whilst being conveyed in any vehicle or train in the Dominion of New Zealand. Minimum premium for cover up to £50 is 7/6, with an additional 1/6 for each £25 or part thereof. By this rate reductions of 30 per cent. in a policy of £50, 45 per cent. in a policy of £75, and 50 per cent. in a policy of £100. For further particulars of this scheme please see the notice board in the Main Hall.

In response to numerous requests, we have decided to make available a limited number of complete volumes of "Salient." These will be on sale in the hall for 2/- each.

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