

Salient

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

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AN IMPROMPTU BEGINNING

The Debating Society on Thursday was in a sort of decline, very sad to see. Either the new arrangement of the notice boards has a lot to answer for, or the same old enthusiasm isn't stirring. At all events the gym, which should have been bursting with a wild crush of students whose opinions varied from red to blue, white and blue, was inhabited principally by a large dog, three freshers, and a bunch of old hands whom we have an idea had been enticed along by the chairman. This suspicion was strengthened when we found out something very interesting—namely, that when those same old hands, in the shape of Messrs. Simpson, Macaskill and so forth, liven up the evening by making jokes and being bright, it's by request. The chairman murmurs quietly to them beforehand that the meeting needs helping along a bit, and please, will they do their stuff—and be good chaps and see that all the reports get taken as read. Which they do—and in future, as you listen to that remarkable flood of wit and puns, you can sit back and reflect upon the extraordinary manifestations of the power Duty in student life.

ELECTION.

A perfectly good presidency was going begging. Would you like to be president of the Debating Society? No? Or you? No? Or Mr. Freeman? Oh! Well, Mr. Hatherley, then? Yes, yes, Mr. Hatherley. No, we really can't bear him protesting—is that unanimous? Good. What, he's resigned already? Impossible! Must have it in writing. Let the incoming committee deal with it, and congratulations, Mark, old thing.

After which more shy creatures were railroaded into office, and then Mr. Almers, beaming round, hooked members of the audience up to his table, where they chose a small white slip of paper and retired to the kitchen for two minutes to eat biscuits and allow thoughts on Varsity Romances, Gate Crashing, or a New Zealand-born Governor-General to well up from the subconscious.

Mr. Simpson opened proceedings with his usual charm, and gave some excellent advice as to joining the S.C.M. and the Tramping Club with a view to furthering one's matrimonial career, after which Mr. Lewin lamentably went most serious about Radio Propaganda. It is a regrettable fact that earnestness folds rather heavily into the meringue of impromptu speeches, and Miss Sutch's gentle dissecting of Mr. Brook's character was more to the general taste. Though Miss Sutch was rather reticent. Then Mr. Morrison gave a few delightful suggestions as to the possible meaning of the letters O.T.C. at V.U.C.—Omit Training College, and Organise the Cafeteria, for example.

WHO?

And then there were typical utterances, who could have said:—

"The subject with which I am dealing to-night—or rather, perhaps I should say the subject which has been foisted upon me, since it's the foist speech I've made. . ."

"My speech is on Mr. Chamberlain—What I Think of Him. Mr. Chamberlain is a fine upstanding British sportsman, despite what some despicable Marxists call him."

"You all know I don't agree with Governor-Generals."

Despite the disinclination of the audience to think if it could help it, Mr. Vogt's soft voice broke through with a pacifist speech about China, in which he claimed Chiang Kai Shek and the militarists were not supported by the people. At this the old debating dragon reared its head, and Mr. O'Keefe leapt forth in opposition, claiming that "China had got so many kicks in the backside from various angles" that she was heart-sick of foreign intervention. What promised to develop into a fine argument was stopped by the chairman's discovery that it was getting late, so the subject was put away in mothballs for airing at a later date, and the audience, bouncing up, fought for its pennyworth of biscuits and tea.—K.E.

WORLD YOUTH CONGRESS

Towards the end of last year there was held at Vassar College, New York, a World Youth Congress.

Amid the antagonisms of nations and threats of war, the Congress stands as a beacon offering hope and guidance to the forces of youth the world over.

New Zealand Student Organisations were represented by Ian Milner as delegate, and Alfred Katz as observer.

The Congress was attended by over 600 delegates from 54 countries—an increase of 18 on the number of countries represented at the first Conference at Geneva in 1936.

The new delegations came from the countries of South and Central America, the Near and the Far East. Official delegations were sent from China, Spain, and Czechoslovakia.

Britain sent delegates and observers from six Christian organisations, five political youth movements, four social organisations, and the major youth and student movements.

The South American delegates, alarmed at the extent of Nazi penetration into their countries, declared themselves in favour of collective action to prevent aggression. They welcomed the "good neighbour" policy of President Roosevelt and the

FUTURE TASKS.

The immediate future tasks of the Congress were set out as follows:—

1. To strengthen and extend the basis of the World Youth Congress Movement in each country, e.g., in England to enlist the co-operation of Young Conservatives, Y.M.C.A., Boys' Clubs, etc.

2. To acquaint all members of the 30 national youth organisations brought together with the recommendations and decisions of the Congress.

3. To present a report of the Congress and a copy of the Peace Pact to the Prime Minister and national leaders in the religious, political, and cultural life of the country.

4. To carry forward plans for the Youth Parliament, 1939, to mobilise the whole Youth Movement, to serve the nation and humanity in the spirit

Peasant and Youth Movement is calling at Warsaw in 1939.

OF PRIMARY IMPORT.

But the big climax to the long week of discussions was the signing of the Peace Pact. This Peace Pact (the text of which is printed below) was signed by the 53 national delegations, declaring the conviction of the representatives of 40 million young people that the collective system of upholding law can be rebuilt and immediately operated against aggressors.

On the platform were the flags of the countries, and all the youth pledged themselves to a determined campaign for collective resistance to aggression, help to the people in countries already torn by war, and long-term social development in order to prevent future wars. The pledge was read aloud in English, Spanish and French, and demonstrated the unity

A PEACE PACT

The youth of the fifty-three nations present at the Second World Youth Congress

convinced that war and militarism are inherently brutalising forces, destructive of all that is valuable in civilisation and human personality"

signed the New York Peace Pact, the articles of which we give in full below.

ARTICLE I.

We swear to develop a spirit of fraternity and collaboration between the youth of all nations, to help unite the youth of our own nations and to work for unity with young people of all other countries without distinction of race, creed or opinion under the leadership of the World Youth Congress Movement.

ARTICLE II.

We solemnly condemn any war of aggression directed against the

political independence or the territorial or administrative integrity of a State.

ARTICLE III.

We pledge ourselves to do all in our power to guarantee that the youth of our countries never participate in any war of aggression against other States.

ARTICLE IV.

We agree to bring pressure to bear, whenever the circumstances arise, upon our respective authorities to take the necessary concerted action to prevent aggression and to bring it to an end, to give effective assistance to the victims of treaty violations and aggression, and to refrain from participating in any aggression whether in the form of supply of essential war material or of financial assistance.

ARTICLE V.

We solemnly declare that the bombardment of open towns and

civilian populations constitutes a violation of the canons of humanity and the rule of conduct among nations and undertake to mobilise the forces of world opinion to condemn any such action and to give aid for the relief of the victims.

ARTICLE VI.

We, recognising that there can be no permanent peace without justice between nations and within nations, or without their recognition of the right to self-determination of countries and colonies seeking their freedom, undertake in a peaceful manner to set right injustices against peoples, regardless of race, creed, or opinion, to establish political and social justice within our own countries and advocate that international machinery be immediately instituted to solve differences between nations in a peaceful way.

prospects of Pan-American co-operation.

THE COLONIES.

Representatives of the colonial countries, speaking for the first time at a World Youth Congress, stated the needs of their people, and the contribution they could make to international organisation and social justice.

Collective security must be made a better investment than subservience to a single Great Power, said the delegates of the smaller European States. If only the Western Democracies would do this, the peoples of the small countries would feel more willing to force their governments to join a peace bloc.

"Our whole system of education in the field of arts and letters has been concentrated on the production of 'liberals.' And for the business of removing the teeth of a young man who might possibly wish to leave the world a better place for his presence in it, I believe there is nothing more effective than a good liberal education from which he emerges able to see both sides of the question and consequently able or desirous to act on neither.

of the World Youth Congress Movement.

STUDENT AND SOCIETY.

In addition, recommendations to remedy the main problems of youth in education, vocational training, industry, unemployment, health, and leisure were made, based on the proposals of the International Labour Office. Special attention was paid to the condition of agrarian youth.

The Congress decided to set up a special committee to assist the literacy campaign in India and colonial countries.

A special investigation is to be made into the needs of young agricultural workers to assist the Agrarian Youth Conference which the Polish

There is only one time in life for milk, only one time for youth; we cannot postpone life or retrace its milestones, and what is once lost is lost for ever. The cold waters of self-restraint and self-denial, as we first put our young feet in them, send a tonic shiver along the nerves, and we go on and on. But suddenly we find that the water has risen to our breasts, to our chins, that it is too late, that we shall never again move and breathe freely in the open air and sunshine.

of the World Youth Congress Movement in spite of all differences of language and national environment.

The Congress declared support for the successful methods brought into being by the Nyon agreement, for the extension of regional pacts within the framework of the League (e.g., the Franco-Soviet pact) and expressed the conviction that the democratic procedure within and between nations was a great safeguard to peace.

The peace discussions brought together representatives of many religions and schools of political and philosophical thought. The ydeclared that the World Youth Congress Movement was a basis of co-operation for the whole youth.

That is the fate that overtakes the you ascetic ideal.

Unhappier yet are those who snatch the cup of life so hastily in youth and fill it with such muddy waters that the dregs cling to their lips for ever, spoiling the taste of the most exquisite things.

To live remains an art, which every one must learn, and which no one can teach. —Havelock Ellis.

MEET DR. LIPSON

Looking surprisingly alive after his introduction to tea, the largest wooden building in the world, and V.U.C., the Professor of Political Science received "Salient" on Thursday evening. Although intensely active and especially anxious to assist, Dr. Lipson still finds himself a little out of place. "Give me time. I've only been here a month," he said when asked for student impressions. To a query as to whether he thought we were as fierce as American collegians, for the Doctor has studied and lectured at Chicago besides tutoring at Oxford, he replied: "I met my first class only last night. I certainly greatly admire their coming up here in the evenings. It was a surprise to find so many students part-timers. You think they would prefer to do full-time work?" We assured the Professor that it was simply a case of cram for jam. "Even public administration." Even there distantly roiled were the prospects of double rises.

Interested to find that "Salient" had had an article by Mr. Savage, Dr. Lipson wondered: "Do the students here take much interest in politics? Is there a political club—for all parties, I mean—much as the Oxford Union? Do you have addresses from Cabinet Ministers? Do they come here to be torn to pieces?"

Hardly that, we had to tell the Professor, but there had been a notable occasion with Mr. Coates. The rough stuff was reserved for Consuls.

TIMELY ADVICE.

Dr. Lipson has in fact an intense interest in debating and is anxious to hear College dialectic; amused to learn that permission to discuss sex and religion had been granted but recently, he advised quick advantage of the privilege lest it be lost.

So far he had been introduced to Mr. Parry only, he said, when asked whether he had met Cabinet, and could give no opinion as to whether they were practical political scientists. "Ask me in a year." Although he had long wanted to visit this part of the world he was more especially interested "as things are going on now."

Although he hopes to do some climbing—and it is the hills here which make Wellington so pleasant after the monotony of London and Illinois—the Doctor admits—and we give the confidence in all reverence—that "my hobby is philately." Perhaps it was because we tactlessly mentioned "15 years" here that he so eagerly assured us that his staff colleagues shared that interest. "Salient" Young Stamp Lovers' Column—soon. Ed.)

"I agree with Lord Bryce that the view from your front door is one of the finest in the world." Wellington is very much like San Francisco. "Upwards?" we asked. "The architecture?"—a little old-fashioned, perhaps. But I've nothing to growl about," and surrounded by our February weather and his books—he has brought some hundredweight with him, and although clinging to a nostalgia for "my American coffee." "Salient" found the Professor very well set up.

NEXT TIME.

"Salient" apologises for not presenting Prof. Lipson on the New Deal, a common common room, or the student who wished to read political science in one easy textbook. Realising that he is to most of the studentry a dark horse, we had hoped to draw him. Perhaps we are a little premature. The end of the month, say? We for one regret that we cannot hear him talking in his wonderful manner all through the year, but lectures clash so maddeningly. "Salient" sought a man to lean over lecterns and found a pattern to lead the embattled politicians of Wikitoria against the world. For this new department is our Führer-Schule. Hence our Heiled Hamiltons?

A Reminiscence of October days would be impertinent? Was it not blurbled that O. C. ("British as Beef") Mazengarb of triennial fame took Political Science in his distant 'prentice time?—J.W.

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A BEGINNING

The university is a place where innovations are uncommon. The accepted approach remains the same from year to year; change and experiment are never sought after.

When it was learnt that an introductory course of lectures was being planned for new students, everyone opened their eyes and hoped for the best. Here at last was a scheme which was making an attempt to give students a co-ordinated and intelligible view of the world they lived in.

The need for such a scheme has been flagrantly obvious for years. All the vices of specialisation find in the university a select breeding ground. The student absorbs fact after fact, memorises whatever his professors assure him will help him "to get through," becomes clever with the cleverness of an examination passer, and never really understanding what it all means.

In the world of today, specialised knowledge is an absolute necessity. Society must have its experts and technicians. But what it needs far more urgently are men and women who understand the relations between one branch of knowledge and another. Men and women who can make some attempt to see human society in its totality. At present the specialist is concerned solely with his own narrow preoccupation. Often he glories in it. He performs his task with scrupulous and inhuman efficiency, never stopping to ask to what end it is leading.

If there is one place where there should be a corrective to this tendency it is the university.

The present course of introductory lectures is an attempt to meet this situation. That such an attempt has been made is praiseworthy and we are grateful for it. But our appreciation must not blind us to the very evident inadequacy of the present list of subjects.

It is almost unbelievable, for instance, that four lectures in a course of thirteen should be devoted to medieval times, when there are so many immensely more relevant and important topics to be discussed. The three lectures, Victoria University College, the Library and its Uses, and Student Activities are clearly essential, but to many, the rest of the subjects were disappointing. It is to be hoped that in the future something more satisfying than a resume of secondary school history will be provided. Here are a few topics, suggested at random, which to me at least seem far more worthy of attention than many of those included in this year's list.

The Art of Thinking—an introduction to scientific method.
The History of Science—how science has influenced the human mind.

Man and His Universe—a consideration of the findings of modern physics, astronomy, etc.

Evolution—and the making of man.

Anthropology—patterns of culture.

Biology and Life—the possibilities of human evolution.

Psychology and Everyday Life.

Economics Today—what is money? etc.

The Idea of Democracy—what it is and how it arose.

New Zealand.

Modern Literature—a guide to what is best in current prose and verse.

The Arts—some preliminary ideas on painting, music, dancing, architecture, etc.

What a course of Introductory Lectures should do is to rouse an active interest in whatever it touches and to provide students with a guide to further independent study. To this end simple reading lists could be compiled for each subject, and copies distributed. And why should science students be exempted? Surely the welfare of their minds is worth worrying about too.

The present set of lectures is a beginning. Let us hope they will be widened in their scope and application until every university student will have a trustworthy and comprehensive knowledge of all the important intellectual, scientific and cultural achievements of our civilisation.

—J.D.F.

GRAMOPHONE RECITALS

Students interested in music and in the running of gramophone recitals in particular met last Thursday to discuss the year's policy. Dr. Keys and Dr. J. C. Beaglehole, who have been in charge for the past two years outlined the present position and made suggestions for the fuller use of the collection. It was decided to hold two regular recitals a week, on Mondays at 1.15 p.m. and on Thursday evenings. Now that the gramophone is to be permanently housed in B2, it is hoped that it will be possible to give informal recitals at other times under the direction of members of the committee.

There are over 900 records in the collection, which is very comprehensive and any suggestions for programmes will be gratefully received by Drs. Keys and Beaglehole or by any of the following committee:—Misses N. Emanuel, M. Fletcher, E. Johnson, Messrs. Braybrooke (Sec.), Clapham, Higgin, McNaught.

What's the good of an industrial system piling up rubbish, while nobody lives. We want a revolution not in the name of money, or work, or any of that, but of life—and let money and work be as casual in human life as they are in a bird's life. Oh, it's time the whole thing was changed, absolutely. And the men will have to do it—you've got to smash money and this beastly possessive spirit.

—D. H. Lawrence.

THANKS

7th March, 1939.

The Editor, "Salient,"
Wellington.

Dear Sir,

I wish, through your columns, to draw attention to the fact that, owing to her transfer to the Auckland Teachers' Training College, Miss Joan Bacon has been obliged to resign her position of Women's Committee Member upon the Executive.

I desire to place on record the appreciation of my Executive and myself of the services rendered to the student body by Miss Bacon during both her terms of office upon the Executive.

Miss Bacon's successor is Miss Margaret Denton, whose efficient management of the Cafeteria during the past twelve months has been of inestimable assistance to my Executive and to the preceding Executive.

Yours faithfully,

R. J. W. EDGLEY,
President,
Victoria University College
Students' Association.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH

The Notice Boards and Letter Racks have gone.

Of course, if you look carefully enough you will possibly find something which could possibly be called a substitute.

The reasons for such far-reaching changes are hard to find. Last year the Notice Boards were centrally placed, and in a position convenient to everyone. They could scarcely be avoided by anyone either entering or leaving the College by the main door; and there was enough room for numbers of students to view them at once—by standing three and four deep if necessary.

Now they are in an inaccessible, draughty corridor, which is so small that it becomes unpleasantly crowded if more than a handful of students attempt to use it at once. And at the same time it is supposed to be used as a thoroughfare. It would be far easier to move against the crowd in a theatre exit.

Where they are the Notice Boards are not being sufficiently seen by students—e.g., the Debating Club annual meeting. And naturally enough.

Although moving them from the main hall may have been convenient to certain people, it certainly will have a damaging effect on student life, which up till now, in theory at any rate, was one of the important functions of the University.

Surely the welfare of student activities is immeasurably more important than any benefits which tidiness and mechanical convenience have to offer.

And the Letter Racks. What is one to do if one has a note to deliver to a woman student, and Mr. Brooks is not available?

What is one to do if one has a note for a Club Secretary and is not aware of his or her sex?

What is one to do if one is expecting an urgent letter, and arrives to find the Common Room locked?

A case of this has already occurred. Clearly, whatever prompted the changes from the old system, it was not anything approaching consideration for students.

Those arriving here from other universities, Otago, Canterbury, Auckland—have been amazed at the primitive and ill-developed state of students' facilities here. At their own colleges, they tell us, such conditions would not be tolerated.

At Victoria, we have been without a Common Room, and without a decent Student Union Building for generations.

If the Executive we have appointed is worth its salt, let it make something like an effort to retain those few facilities which up till this year we thought were our own.

By Way Of Explanation

Dear "Salient,"

I was interested to read in this week's "Salient" that one of the "Fresher" critics interviewed by your reporter considered it ridiculous that "they" should close the Common Room in the afternoon when there are people here to use it. Hence this letter by way of explanation of the Executive's action.

At the end of last year all the Men's Common Room furniture was pronounced beyond repair. This was due to the misuse it had suffered at the hands (and feet!) of a few irresponsible students. The cost to the Students' Association of renovating and refurbishing the room was over £60.

Old students will remember two occasions last year when the Principal closed the Common Room for periods of several weeks because wilful damage had been done to the furniture.

The Executive had reason to believe that the damage was being done during the afternoon and therefore asked the Principal for permission to close the room between the hours of 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., and this was readily granted. When the Executive is satisfied that students have learnt to respect their own property it will then consider reopening the Common Room in the afternoons.

In the meantime, students with some sense of responsibility are entreated to exert their influence on their less fortunate fellows. Instances of hooliganism in the Common Room will be dealt with by the Executive to the full extent of their disciplinary powers and if necessary referred to the Professorial Board for further action.

Yours faithfully,

R. S. C. A. R.,
Convener,

Men's Common Room Committee.

The superfluties of the rich are the necessities of the poor. They who possess superfluties, possess the goods of others.

—St. Augustine.

The contemplative life. It can be made a kind of high-brow substitute for Marlene Dietrich: a subject for erotic musings in the twilight. Meditation is valuable not as a pleasurable end; only as a means for exacting desirable changes in the personality and mode of existence.

—Aldous Huxley.

N.Z. VERSE

GREEN WOOD—WHITE WOOD

Arnold Cork, already well known by reason of his verse in "Art in New Zealand," the "New Zealand Mercury," and other publications, including several anthologies, has collected thirty poems into a book well worth owning, "Green Wood—White Wood," recently published.

Although much of this verse is cast in traditional mould, Mr. Cork is not afraid to make use of modern and even advanced verse forms. His elimination of much conventionally used punctuation that is in reality quite unnecessary, will no doubt displease critics of the older school, but there is a dynamic beauty of expression, and frequently of form, that merits the praise of all. We quote from "Steel Engraving"—with echoes of Swinburne, yet strongly individualistic:

"Yet splendid, O Time, is thy wildness
of scavage thy wanting
thy sunsets and songfalls, O Time, on
the wind blowing sweet
from the poppy land honey land happy
land Once-Long-Ago
where the stubbles of memories roll to
the leas of the twilight
the low-light and dimness then dark-
ness of Ages-Ago;
O splendid the calling-deep-echoing
song of thy hunger
wild heart with thy passions of beauty
and never again . . ."

"Tapestry-Cartoon for Pioneer," first published in "Art in New Zealand" some two years ago, is a fine example of the poet's mastery of words and of his ability to grasp the essential spirit of New Zealand in lines of great beauty, and is so well known that it need not be quoted here. Love for our country is manifest in this poem as well as in many other of the poet's exquisite descriptive passages. From "Richmond Hills, N.Z.":

"These hills are out of Faery and
belong
to curving worlds and shadows purple-
strong."

"Timber Mill" is noteworthy for its very effective rhythms and its astonishingly musical sound effects—it is indeed music in words, and at the same time it is a vivid portrayal of a typical bush-sawmill scene. It must be read as a whole to be appreciated. "Rhythm," with its naive philosophy, and "World Music," have also excellent sound effects.

"And I love the sound of the Clydestale
hooves
on a metal road in the frosty morn;
round and liquid and good it moves
to the soul as a sound that is beauty-
born."

"The spring songs of the perfume-bud-
ding world
When the wind holds choir-boy voices
yet unfurled."

"Gust of Wind" is a poetic fancy of intense charm:

"For she was young and loved the wind
who spent
his strength with her, yet took his
breath to heart
to dance but in the semblance of the
art
which is the carven moon's bewitching
motion
caught in the curving facets of an
ocean."

The opening lines of "Walter de la Mare" show a deep appreciation of the creative genius of that poet of fantasy, to whom Arnold Cork is himself often akin in thought, although more the poet of to-day than of the past.

"He is the poet of all things lost,
The weaver of dreams come nearly
true."

"Domino" is a curiously attractive impression in the modern manner, based upon a subject that could very easily have fallen to the merely banal—a cow in a meadow! Yet here Mr. Cork rises to passages of much beauty.

"O tell me tell me Domino
there's no inquietude below
the final long felicity
and death is sweet with bergamot
and brier-rose and thyme!"

Not all the poems in "Green Wood—White Wood" are of such a high order as those mentioned above, to which full justice obviously cannot be done by the quoting of isolated lines, but the whole book is of value to all who are interested in New Zealand verse, and is worthy to take its place in the slowly-increasing ranks of our literature that is worth while.

BETTER AND BETTER

I think that Coué
Talked a lot of houe.

But if men would live up to reason's
rules,
They would not bow and scrape to
wealthy fools. —Lucretius
(95-52 B.C.)

AFTER

The family gathered round the bed.
The woman, released, expanding into
light vapour, hovered near her body.
When all that was corporeal had left
her, she was still aware of a calm,
painted intelligence. She regarded,
without passion and without curiosity,
the relatives who had come to mourn,
aware with her thinning mind that her
desire to "know how they'd take it"
had lost its vindictiveness. For she
had hated them. In the dragging
months of illness she had lain torment-
ing herself with plans to tear them
apart—emotionally, since she couldn't
do it physically. She'd left her money
to the housekeeper. After all their
buttering up. And Arthur wouldn't
enjoy reading those letters she'd willed
him.

But that didn't matter now. Her little
personality was safe. In death she was
free. She knew everything didn't end
when the lungs stopped sucking in air.
She saw that the body beneath the
smooth clothes had been twisted men-
tally and morally; knew no pity, but
complete understanding.

There was no sensation of change,
but the room seemed to become part of
her, as she diffused through it. "Like
God the Holy Ghost—everywhere," she
comprehended. The thought seemed
weaker. . . .

Then suddenly—she knew—
In a stillness beyond time she was
dissolving as completely as the mer-
maid into her foam—breaking, diffus-
ing . . . there was no eternal intelli-
gence . . . no understanding.
Very thinly—"I—regret—"

The doctor closed her eyelids.
"She's gone," he said. "She wan-
dered a little towards the last."

Debating Tour To Australia

The New Zealand University
Students' Association has been in-
vited to send a debating and
lecturing team of two students
to Australia under the auspices of
the National Union of Australian
University Students.

The team will leave New Zealand
about the middle of June and re-
turn at the end of July. N.Z.U.S.A.
will finance the trans-Tasman
steamer fares out of the N.Z.U.S.A.
Debating Fund, while the N.U.
A.U.S. will pay all travelling, ac-
commodation and other reasonable
expenses in Australia. It is diffi-
cult to estimate the expenses of
team-members, but £25 (more or
less depending on the individual
concerned) should be sufficient.
The members of the team will also
act as N.Z.U.S.A. delegates.

Applications are called from
students desiring to make the trip.
Applicants must set out fully
their qualifications, and general
university activities.

Applications must be in the
hands of the Secretary, Students'
Association, by Thursday, 23rd
March, 1939.

FROM THE LETTERS OF VINCENT VAN GOGH

My finances are pathetic, and the
future is not very rosy. Perhaps I
could have done better. I have lost
time in order to earn my living. I
confess that my studies are wretched
and deplorable, and I lack incom-
parably more than I possess. But
does this mean sinking and idling?
I am simply out of a job because
I have different ideas from the
gentlemen who have jobs to give
away, and because I mean to stick
to my own ideas with every ounce
of strength that is within me . . .

You may ask why I didn't stay
at the University. I can only answer
that I prefer to die a natural death
than to prepare myself for it at the
University, and I once learned a
lesson, which seemed to me more
valuable than a Greek unseem, from
a man who was mowing grass. As
for my improving my position; I
have never asked for it.

If Christianity were taught and
understood conformably to the spirit
of its founder, the existing social
organism could not last a day.
—Emile de Lavelaye.

VERSE

IMMORTALITY

Must then the living water be
stripped from the rock,
the cool, the living water,
tinkling like laughter into pools?

Is there nothing but the hot, bare
rock
livid in the blistering sun
with no shade?

See! the veiled spray is eagerly
clutched
by the slim fingers of the hot winds
(mocking, burning winds)
drifts, fades like starlight, and dis-
solves.

I am afraid of the great gaunt rock
and the breath blown back from the
crag,
and there is no shelter from the black
sun,
and no water,
no water to ease my searing thirst,
and nothing seems worth the doing.

There is only the fearful rock,
smooth, imperturbable,
and the flaring breath of the flying
winds. —R.L.M.

FLASHES AT NIGHT

Stars are less bright
Than these flashes at night
Meteoric roars of the trams as they
clash
Through the deep-cleft gash
Of the tunnel; that break the still
Silence that slept on the hill—
Flashes at night.

See them afar;
Like a star
That crosses the firmament's arc
With a curve and a beam,
It flashed through the gloom
Of the dusk, as a tomb
Is left in the death of the dark
By a sprite or a dream.

Green lightnings—phantom hosts!
Tindersparks from caverns,
Where glow-worms sit,
Their lamps alit,
Faint mentors of the darkness-woven.
Dashes and flashes—energy-crashes—
Spearheads driven—
Flashes from trams,
Striking from jams,
Of trollies—flashes lashing heaven.
—D.M.S.

FRAGMENT

And through the throbbing organ-
ism,
He drifted, and with holy word,
Delivered into trembling hands
The blood and body of Our Lord.

And, straddled on the topmost rafter,
A savage watched, and screamed with
laughter. —R.L.M.

GLEE CLUB

Believe it or not, but the Glee Club
annual meeting attracted a more than
ample quorum on Wednesday last. And
there was no need to scour the high-
ways and byways of the Library either!

Under the chairmanship of Dick Hut-
chens and the secretary-treasuring
of Marie Fletcher the meeting got under
way, and things happened in quick
succession. The minutes were read
and confirmed (1 min. 59 secs.), the
annual report and balance sheet read
and adopted (2 min. 1.8 secs.). Mr.
Christensen with fourteen amendments
to the Constitution slowed things up
slightly and some 15 minutes elapsed
before the following officers were
elected:—

Patron: Prof. Kirk.
President: Dr. A. C. Keys.
Vice-Presidents: Prof. T. A. Hunter,
Dr. J. C. Beaglehole, Dr. Campbell, and
Mr. A. B. Cochran.
Chairman: I. E. Allan.
Secretary-Treasurer: Ernestine Win-
stone.
Committee: Marie Best, Les Gandar,
and Sheriff.

Tentative arrangements have been
made for the first practice to be held
on Wednesday next, 15th, and prac-
tices every Wednesday and Friday from
then on, time 7—8 p.m. The club's pro-
gramme for the ensuing year was dis-
cussed and it was recommended that
the incoming committee should arrange
a concert, several community sings and
practices in the College Song and Cap-
ping Songs, these to be commenced as
soon as possible.

Small thieves be in towers fastened
to wooden blocks; big ones strut
about in gold and silver.
—Cato (B.C., 234-149).

Usury is the most reasonably
detested of all forms of money-mak-
ing; it is the most against nature.
—Aristotle.



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THE FIRST 1939 GENERAL
MEETING TO-NIGHT AT 8 p.m.
IN ROOM A2.

J. A. LINTON, M.A., GENERAL
SECRETARY, IS SPEAKING.
SO COME PREPARED TO
THINK HARD AND, IF YOU
DISAGREE, TELL HIM SO.

S P O R T SOLID TEAM

The Easter Tournament

On Wednesday, 5th April, the Victoria College contingent for Tournament will leave Wellington for Dunedin.

Can we repeat our successes of 1938? It was at Auckland last Easter that our representatives, by sterling endeavour in Tennis, Rowing, Basketball and Shooting, supplemented by some points for Athletics and Boxing but, unfortunately, none for Swimming, realised our highest hopes and brought the Tournament Shield back to Victoria for the first time since 1929.

Already three of the seven teams for Dunedin have been chosen. Each one compares favourably with the team that represented V.U.C. in 1938. In a later issue we will publish a review of Tournament prospects generally, based on reports and information received from the other Colleges and on our own knowledge of the calibre of the men and women representatives of V.U.C. —L.B.S.

BASKETBALL INTER-FACULTY SPORTS

Athletes Prepare

After selection practises lasting three weeks, and a special day's work-out on Saturday last, the following team has been selected to travel to Dunedin for the Easter Tournament:—

Forwards.—Eric Overton, Joy Osborn, Glen MacMorran, Olive Castle.

Centres.—Pixie Higgin, Rosamund Drummond, Sylvia Hefford, Nora McLaren.

Defenders.—Marie Walker, Joan Bythell, Ruth Bell.

Of these players all but Glen, Olive and Ruth were in last year's team. The combination, to say the least, is as good as last year's with experience on our side this year. The defence may prove stronger than in 1938, when it was the best of the whole Tournament.

Marie Walker's Wellington rep. experience and the outstanding improvement in handling and interception by Joan Bythell, together with the dash of the ex-Training College centre player, Ruth Bell, should make the forward work of other Colleges rather difficult.

In the centre there appears to be more speed and certainty than last year, when the girls were playing together for the first time. Nora McLaren's all-round experience will stand the team in good stead should it require substitutes. Playing Sylvia Hefford in the centre is somewhat of an experiment. Form so far shows she is better adapted here than in her position as a defender, her passing into the goal third being a most valuable asset.

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS.

In spite of being now in Nelson and not having played this year, Eric Overton clearly demonstrated her outstanding ability on Saturday. The way she goes in for the ball and combines with her team-mates is a lesson to the rest of the players. Joy Osborn has improved in speed and field-work and has lost none of her skill in shooting. As the games in Dunedin will be played under 1938 rules Joy's height will again be a factor in recovering the ball under the posts.

The third place in the goal third is still undecided. Olive Castle, a B Grade player last year, shows that she learnt much in the struggle at Mount Cook Courts. Her handling and positional play are vastly superior to what they were twelve months ago. The other possible forward, Glen MacMorran, is new to the game, having considerable netball experience as a qualification. She is very quick to learn and unusually accurate under the posts. The final selection will not be made till the team has had a couple of practice games.

Altogether the team promises well. Several girls may consider themselves a little unlucky not to be in the final choice. The selector's work was obviously made difficult by the high quality of the players offering and the rapid development of form in the practices. We may name Diana King, Enid Broad and Beryl Marsh as girls who might have filled places in the team but for the unusually large number of last year's players available and the very high standard set. These girls, together with Durie Maysmor, Moira Wicks and Carol Abraham, will make the core of a B team this year that will win more games than it will lose.

MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Basketball Club will be held on Thursday next, the 16th March, at 8 p.m. Please look on notice board to ascertain in which room this meeting will be held.

Filling third places in the 120 yards hurdles and the 220 yards flat respectively, E. Irving and J. Eastwood helped the Wellington Centre towards winning the Championship Shield at the New Zealand Championships last week at Napier.

Tournament Boxers

Victoria could collect only 14 points of the 10 allotted to boxing at the last Easter Tournament, Coveney's victory in the featherweight class giving us our solitary title. We appear to have a more promising team this year, at present perhaps lacking in brilliance, but it is a solid band of pugilists nevertheless. Tournament is still three weeks off and Roy Brien has time to mould his men into a really formidable combination.

The team is:—

Heavyweight: McLaren.
Light-heavyweight: J. Bryers.
Middleweight: P. Ryan.
Welterweight: P. Sheehan.
Lightweight: W. Armstrong.
Featherweight: D. Cohen.
Bantamweight: D. Muir.

The team last year consisted of Fraser, Arnott, Carroll, Trillo, Coveney and Armstrong, and we were not represented in the Heavyweight division. Ryan was chosen, but a broken thumb kept him out of the ring. In 1937 he had won the Welterweight title at Tournament, and was awarded the medal for the most scientific boxer. He and Armstrong are the only men with previous Tournament experience.

McLaren (Massey) has a long reach, nullified to some extent by a tendency to drop his guard too much and by too sparing a use of his long left jab. He is not yet thoroughly fit.

Bryers is a game fighter with good body punches. He would do better with more aggression. At the recent College tourney weaknesses in his guard were noticeable, and he showed that he was open to a forcing straight punch.

Sheehan does not use his right enough. His double left hook to body and head is excellent, but he must not neglect his other hand. A distinct possibility for a N.Z.U. title.

Muir has a fair reach and fights gamely. He is, however, inclined to waste energy and lose scoring opportunities by dancing round the ring too much and not keeping near his opponent.

Armstrong, a solid, fit boxer, marred his work at the recent tourney by fighting too much on the retreat without doing any effective counter-punching. He can be a dangerous man when he fights aggressively.

Cohen is plucky and fit. He could perhaps fight with more concentration and endeavour to land more punches than he does.

Ryan is still working into condition. A fine attacking boxer, his stinging right and left hooks are particularly effective.

TRAMPING CLUB

The Tramping Club is at present one of the busiest clubs in the University.

In the first place, the club's annual general meeting was held on Monday, with a large attendance of freshers and older trampers. The actual business of the evening took only a few minutes, and the remainder of the evening was taken up by a lecture given by Mr. A. G. Bagnall on tramping in the Tararua and Orongorongo ranges. As the club's main trips take place in these localities, Mr. Bagnall's lecture was particularly interesting both to those who had visited them and to those who, before coming out with the club, wanted to see what the country was like before doing so. The lecture was profusely illustrated by lantern slides, and it is anticipated that, as a result, there will be a great influx of members eager to taste the joys of tramping.

WEEK-END TRIP.

Following on Mr. Bagnall's lecture, the club is holding an easy week-end trip next Saturday and Sunday, to one of the places described in the lecture—the Tauherenikau Valley. The lorry leaves Museum Street at 9 a.m. on Saturday, and all those who intend going are urged to put their names on the form on the notice board as soon as possible. It is only two or three hours' easy tramping to the large hut where the party will stay the night, and all Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning may be spent sunbathing, walking, and swimming in the beautiful Tauherenikau Valley. All who intend to come out with the club should make a point of being there next week-end, in order to meet other club members.

The Sunday trip last week was very successful, fifteen people turning out. Though scheduled to visit Hawtrey Trig, the party decided instead to tramp to Pencarrow Lighthouse. After a pleasant tramp, the party stopped by Lake Koangapiripi for lunch and a boil up, and then walked round the coast towards Barjng Head.

The next Sunday trip is next Sunday, and Colonial Knob, near Porirua, is the location.

So—tramp with V.U.C.!

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