

Salient

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

VOL. 6, No. 2.

WELLINGTON, MARCH 17th, 1943

Price: TWOPENCE

TO THE ATTACK

Soviet Students Call

A big rally of Soviet students was held in Moscow on International Students' Day. The following resolution was passed:—

Friends, brothers, dear colleagues! To-day, in decisive battles, each of us is fighting for the right to live. We do not want to be slaves. We have become fighters in the mighty anti-Hitler coalition. Thousands on thousands of students are taking part in the struggle against the Nazi blackguards.

The youth of the world are keeping strict account. We remember the ruined universities of Odessa and Kharkov, Prague and Brussels. We remember the streets of Kiev and Minsk, Paris, Volokolamsk and Belgrade, drenched with the blood of the tormented. We remember all—the ruins of Novgorod and Warsaw, devastated Yasnaya Polyana, Tolstoy's home and museum.

We know who are guilty of these and countless other crimes, and we say: "Not one of the bloody Fascist criminals will escape the reckoning." Our revenge will reach out to every German bandit.

Some will perish at the hands of Soviet fighters. Others will be felled by British soldiers or American sailors. Others again will be killed by the bullets of the Yugoslav guerrillas. We are not only fighting to defend mankind from the horrors of the brown plague, but are wreaking merciless vengeance on the Nazi bandits.

Students of the world! Young men and girls, victory will not come of itself. It must be won. It is the civic duty of each of us to fight and to conquer in the historic battle of the freedom-loving peoples against Hitler Germany and its accomplices.

Students at the front! Smite the enemy harder. Perfect your military training. Be models of discipline and staunchness in battle.

Students of Britain and America! The second front is needed not only by the Soviet people, but by your people, too. The successful operations of the Anglo-American troops in Africa, which are an outstanding factor in the present situation, are an indication of the growing might of the anti-Hitler coalition.

It is for us to hurl all this might against the enemy, to hasten the downfall of the Italo-German coalition and the complete defeat of Nazi Germany. Open the second front quickly, bring it closer to the vital



ACADEMIC STUDIES IN FULL SWING AT A GERMAN UNIVERSITY.

centres of Germany. That is what is needed now.

Students of the world! Your peoples demand that each of you should forget for a time your peaceful plans and dreams. Be bold. Be fighters, iron-strong against Fascism. Our peoples expect us to be worthy progeny of freedom-loving mankind. Let us carry our exploits into battle against Hitlerism, and bring glory to our native countries.

Let us be the boldest, most determined, fearless fighters against the enemy. Let us not spare our efforts, or life itself, but let us fight on for our just cause until the final, complete victory over bloody Hitlerism. We must and shall honourably justify the hopes of our peoples.

The time will come when we shall take off our army greatcoats, return to our lecture room and dedicate our lives to creative work. But until that longed-for moment comes, when we have defeated Nazi Germany and sent Hitler and his criminal band to execution, our lives must be devoted to struggle.

Forward, students of the world, into struggle—into the life and death struggle against Fascism!

"SALIENT."

Males! Females! Students all! Are you budding journalists? Have you a newspaper complex? Can you write? Can you report? Can you read? Any of the above qualify you for a place on "Salient" staff. We need articles on topical problems, letters, discussions—and above all, keen and interested people to help run our paper.

The Army Education Welfare Service is appealing for current textbooks to be given, lent or sold, for the use of members of the Forces here and overseas.

Books should be sent
C/o THE DIRECTOR,
Army Education Welfare Service,
Army Headquarters,
WELLINGTON, C.I.

and should be accompanied by the name and address of sender, with an indication as to whether they are donated, on loan (and if so, for how long) or for sale (price?).

APRIL 3rd KEEP THIS DATE FREE GARDENING COOKING IRONING PAINTING MINDING CHILDREN

Students! Here is your chance to prove to the world that you CAN do something besides talk.

Help us to remove the scornful expression from the face of that "Hates-students-on-principle" man—and the weeds from his lawn.

At the same time you will be providing food, clothing, reading and studying material for students in Europe and China and for those (some of them ex-students of V.U.C.) in prison camps.

Several requests for text-books have been received from members of V.U.C. who are now prisoners of war, and unless we have funds we cannot help them.

Everyone is therefore expected to keep Saturday, April 3rd, free, for the INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICE WORKING DAY.

Please sign the lists on notice boards, stating what you are willing to do, and whether you would prefer to go alone or with a friend. You will then be notified as to where you should go.

REMEMBER—APRIL 3rd—Morning or afternoon or both.

Funds to go to the International Student Service Headquarters, Geneva. This headquarters will then attend to any requests we may receive direct from students.

STUDENT'S RELIEF

(1) Use your imagination, and try to realise the plight of students in war-ridden parts of the world. Compare their state with your own favourable position in this country.

(2) Do all you can to assist your local Student Relief Committee by interesting your friends in its plans, by offering your services, and by co-operating wholeheartedly in the definite schemes being promoted in your college.

(3) Go short of something yourself; for instance, cut down your cigarettes, or your cinema-going, or some other luxury, and give what you would have spent on them to Student Relief.

(4) Then realise that you are doing your bit in one of the few constructive activities arising out of the war; that you are expressing your kinship with fellow students throughout the world; and that you are furthering a work which will be carried on after the war, and which must play an important part in reorganisation for peace.

Modern Books

The editor of "Salient" has asked me to write a short description of the MODERN BOOKS bookshop. Some of the older students will perhaps know more about it than I do. For, since students are people of intelligence and independence, caring less for the showiness of vast shop windows than for the value of the wares within, it has often been my lot to find Modern Books practically full of the cream of Victoria College buying up the latest consignment of good stuff before the miserable committee members could even look at it.

That the uninitiated may have knowledge of this shop, the best in New Zealand, I will explain that it is a co-operative venture started largely by University men and women to provide themselves and the public generally with the kind of literature University men want. It is supported in this effort by working people, people of progressive ideas generally, and by people who just want good literature to read. But I have not yet met anybody who hoped to become rich out of shares in Modern Books. The shop is run by a committee of seven. At this moment there is one College Lecturer and three students on this committee, which should be a sufficient guarantee that the shop is worth investigating. The combination of university and working people in the shareholding body is of particular significance in the culture of this country. To students who come to V.U.C. intent on sharing in the culture of the country and on widening its basis it is unnecessary for me to enlarge upon the importance of supporting such a venture as this by interest both as a customer and activity as a shareholder.

PUBLISHING TAKES ON.

From Modern Books has been started what promises to be an even larger and more influential factor in the development of our national culture—a co-operative publishing company. For various reasons it was not possible for this company to exist as an independent body. It is therefore being taken over by Modern Books, in partnership with the Christchurch and Auckland co-operative book shops, and this branch operates under the name of Progressive Publishing Co. This means that there exists in this country a new co-operative, wholesale organisation in the book trade, which is not a profit-making unit in the ordinary sense, but has as its main object the serving of progressive literary interests. As students you ought to be in it. Perhaps your conscience can absolve you from taking your share in the evolution of our literary culture, in the publishing of scientific and artistic books. If so you may not wish to expend the princely sum of half a crown as the first instalment of your one pound share in this business. If, however, you are a person of responsibility, if you have a spark of independence in you, you will have the grace and the guts and the intelligence to go right down and qualify for a vote and a share and a say in the biggest thing that has ever

In Place of an Editorial

"The Germans also took a certain number of girl students, at Prague, especially from the Hostel Budec, in the course of the same nocturnal raid. Many girls, dragged on to large open spaces surrounded by tanks, were raped before the eyes of the fettered students, some by several men, one after another. The German soldiers burned the breasts of their victims with cigarettes. Other girls were compelled to drink the contents of spittoons filled with urine and became ill with disgust. The men students were powerless spectators of these frightful scenes. Those who, from fear or disgust, uttered a cry or manifested their horror in any way whatsoever, in face of such ignominy, were immediately subjected to fresh tortures; one was shot, another had his thighs pierced by bayonet thrusts.

"The theologians of the Grand Seminary of Prague and the inmates of Arnost the Archbishop of Pardubice Catholic College were likewise subjected to savage cruelty.

NAZI ATROCITIES IN BRNO

"Even though the Czech students at the University and Polytechnic Institute of Brno took no part at all in the events at Prague, the Kounic Foundation of that city, corresponding to the Syehla and Masaryk Foundations at Prague, was stormed by the German troops, the girl students raped before the dejected witnesses, who were powerless to do anything. Four hundred and seventy students were sent to concentration camps. In the town of Pribram, the students of the School of Mines were not treated any better.

DESTRUCTION OF CZECH UNIVERSITIES

"In all requisitioned schools or scientific institutions the Germans immediately seized the valuable apparatus, instruments, and scientific installations, especially in the Polytechnic Institute, the Natural History Institute, and the Faculty of Medicine in Prague. The scientific libraries were pillaged in a systematic and methodical, certainly in a premeditated way. Books and scientific films were either torn or taken away; the records of the Academic Senate, the highest authority of the University, were torn or burnt, and the card-indices destroyed or scattered.

"The Czech institutions of higher learning closed for three years by a decree of the State Secretary, K. H. Frank, were:

- Charles IV. University of Prague
 - The Polytechnics of Prague and Brno
 - Masaryk's University of Brno
 - Commercial School of Prague
 - School of Mines of Pribram
 - Agricultural and Veterinary School of Brno
 - The Faculty of Catholic Theology at Olomouc
 - The Jan Hus Faculty of Protestant Theology of Prague
- "Recent reports from Prague state that all these institutions will remain closed for the duration of the war."

On Friday the fifth it was, and gawd! What a crush! Never, I think, have the old gym. planks supported such a diverse and packed array of ankles and anklettes. Rarely has there been such singing, only occasionally have we seen better hakas, and never has there been such a sticky floor. Gum arabic, we suggest, should be kept in its place, which is synthetic confectionery. Apart from dancing, interest centred

come into the book world of New Zealand.

The address is 12 Woodward St., and the manager will be delighted to see you. Students have a particularly warm welcome but it must be clearly understood that membership of the Wellington Co-operative Book Society, alias Modern Books, is open to all who can read. R.C.T.

mainly around the typographical epic produced by Weir's chemists—naturally so, when even our executive spoke on the climatic conditions of the environs. In spite of this, an improved trend in College morals could be deduced from general behaviour in the Monte Carlo and Eimination (wait for it) Dance. The cheating was of inferior technique and a definite non-professional standard, in fact one might almost assume that the winners were authentic. The same could not be said of the Freshers-Only Dance. Numbers of persons traded on their childlike and guileless masks with rather too much insistence, we thought. Inconsistencies in their attitude might be tabulated in any hotel. The fresher attendance was magnificent—they must have been all there, complete with high and fermented spirits. Long may these spirits last. The College can do with them,

Training College Life

I must first express my thanks to the editor of "Salient" for putting at my disposal the space to discuss Training College life as it is affected by our exile as strangers in a strange land. It is with great pleasure that we have seen the dissipation this year of the spirit of bitterness which has existed between University and Training College in years past. We have come in the course of the last six months to realise the futility of the epithets which both bodies have been in the habit of bandying at each other—accusations of "childishness" and "heartiness," "pedantry" and "playing students." We now see one another, even though it be through a glass darkly, as striving to achieve the same aims and ideals. For this I believe we have to thank the social intercourse about the College last year, and the respect and understanding born of it.

Training College, 1943, owes a great debt to the University Executive and to the committees of the affiliated University clubs. We are deeply appreciative of the welcome that they have given us and of their mighty efforts to secure our co-operation in enriching the student life of Victoria College.

Specifically we wish to thank the Executive for all they have done, the Boxing Club for extending the fist of friendship to Training College pugilists, with, we may add, most encouraging results, and the Dramatic Society and the Tramping Club for their hospitable offers.

On Saturday a most enjoyable tournament, sponsored by the Tennis Club, was held on the College courts, resulting, I regret to state, in the defeat of Training College. We understand that further matches are to be played and look forward to them eagerly. The Varsity Cricket Club and the Training College Cricket Club have had a long association. In particular the second grade team has been for some years remarkable for the number of school teachers it has contained. We in turn extend a hearty welcome to all University students to any of our social functions throughout the year, and hope that they will turn up in even larger numbers than hithertofore.

Finally, a word about ourselves. We differ from University students in that we are public servants of a sort, set under the authority of boards, inspectorates and departments, who can say unto us "Do" and we do it. Perhaps this will suggest some of the restrictions which bind our student body, and account for our general conservatism when compared with the University tradition of independent and outspoken utterance. Again we cannot claim the academic dignity which is the University's. Our studies are, in the end, limited by the vision of the grubby snotty-nosed infant whose education is our concern. Hence arises the apparent absurdity of many of our activities, the spectacle of hairy-legged manhood cavorting in small circles with linked hands and so on. Despire us not. It's part of the job.

Lastly, let us hope that Varsity-Training College collaboration will be fruitful of much good for both institutions.

DOUG. OLSON.

Letters to Editor

Dear Gabriel,—One good point you brought up in the article "Reveille" is the impossibility to punish the sin while letting the sinner go scot-free. But I heartily disagree with the rest. I would like to remind Gabriel that the time has passed when unarmed and untrained people pick up their hay forks and similar implements and assemble on the village square to overthrow their government. It would require too much time and space to point out all the details which brought the Nazis into power. I have experienced with my own eyes the incapability of the German communists to revolt against the Nazis. The communists in Germany are helpless not because of a lack in numbers but merely because it is nowadays possible for a well-armed and well-trained minority to suppress and tyrannize a whole people. The German communists were incapable of storing up arms and ammunition. That is why no major revolt has yet occurred against the leaders of the Reich. I have worked in an Austrian factory after the German occupation. All the workers there were communists. Now and again a Brown Guard or a Black Guard man was beaten up in a pub or in a dark street. Then about two dozen people disappeared in a concentration camp. Every resistance cost lives and was absolutely senseless. It is therefore not as foolish as you think to discriminate between Nazis and Germans. We are not afraid to go the whole hog, but we must show sufficient understanding not to do it. **Violence shown by the German people does not by any means justify violence on our part. We cannot and must not punish 80 million people.**

Many Germans are Nazis because of the environment in which they have been forced to live during the last twenty years, and not merely because they are of German blood. Race and culture are not inter-related. **Culture is not a function of race.**

Allow me to quote Ruth Benedict, a well-known American anthropologist. Referring to Japan she writes in her latest book, "Race and Racism": "Japan has a history of peace and non-aggression that cannot be matched in the Western World. During the first eleven centuries of her recorded history she was engaged in only one war abroad. Indeed the sole conflict ended in 1598 and from that time until 1853, when Japan opened her doors to intercourse with the world outside, the building of all ocean going boats was forbidden by imperial decree to make certain that Japan would preserve her policy of isolationism. The ceremoniousness, the light heartedness, the aesthetic appreciation of the Japanese were traits that passed current as their essential qualities. Since 1853 they have fought five times overseas and are well on their way to becoming one of the most aggressively warlike nations of the world. In the human race no centuries-long existence free from conflict as the lambs, guarantees that the next generation may not become the lion."

The Germans have for centuries been squeezed between Western and Eastern powers. Conditions in Germany will not change until these Western and Eastern powers will try

to understand the German mentality and until they will try to improve economic and social conditions in Germany. I think that a content Germany is a far better guarantee for a durable peace than an incontent Germany which is only waiting for a chance to take revenge by starting armed conflicts with either the Eastern or the Western powers.

After this war we will have to do our utmost to change the environment of the German people, we will have to create an environment which will not cause any discontent among the people and which will not create any more Hitlers, Goerings, Goebels and Himmlers. H.L.

Dear Sir,—I must express my astonishment at "Gabriel's" not to say misinformation, but ignorance up to an unpardonable degree. If the purpose of the article was to make freshers think, I might add that indiscriminate thinking is just as detrimental as not thinking at all. Anyone who has done some elementary reading in Psychology and Political Science, would realise that the statement "It is . . . criminally foolish, to draw a distinction between the Nazi Party and the German people" has no reason whatsoever, logical or otherwise, of being a true picture of the Nazi-German people relationship.

Firstly, the most reliable sources of information on the workings of the Nazi Party, including Hitler's "Mein Kampf," tell us that the German people were never expected to adhere wholly to the Nazi Party, but they were to be approached and persuaded—by psychological and others means perhaps less gentle—to accept the Nazi doctrine.

Secondly, it is the main policy of the German Reich to reject all works of art, science and literature that do not make any contributions towards its political system.

These points prove that even the Nazis did not expect the German people to wholeheartedly support them and that the German public opinion cannot exist without supporting its rulers.

The truth will come out after the crumbling of the Third Reich, which is just as certain now as the crumbling of the Russian Imperialism was certain in 1916. EUROPEAN.

Dear "Salient"—Why do people go on saying nasty things about University Reds? When I left school last year my father told me I would have to be very careful at Varsity (not because of the Tramping Club—my mother spoke to me about that) but because of Communists. Even then I stuck up for them and said, "Father, they are only like that because there has not been the redeeming influence of a good woman in their lives. If one of the unfortunate creatures accosts me I shall not repulse him but take him along to an S.C.M. study-circle (though I am sure the Evangelical Union and the Catholic Students Guild do very good work also).

But "Salient," University Reds don't need changing. I met such a nice young man at Freshers' Welcome and it wasn't until people told me after-

Music Club

In the past very little interest has been taken in the musical activities of this college.

To you, the students of 1943, we therefore offer the chance of building up a Music Club, which will remain a permanent part of College life and tradition.

As the president told you in his "Message to Students," "The Executive has decided to pursue an active social and cultural policy." In the last issue of this paper you were welcomed as potential members of the Tramping Club (oh, how lyrical were those pitter pattering raindrops and waving ferns!); urged to keep fit(?) with the boxers, swimmers, cricketers and tennis players. Now we ask you to seek out that old oboe or violin or cello and give vent to that subconscious urge, we are sure you have it, to express yourself in music.

For one of our biggest undertakings this year is the forming of a College Orchestra. We are fortunate in having the assistance of Mr. Greenwood, who has had some experience in conducting an orchestra at an English University. It is hoped that in years to come no Capping Ceremony or other official function will go ungraced by the presence of "our own orchestra."

The Music Club also offers you an informal concert once a month in the Music Room. The programme is provided by members of the club—"this means you"—and by visiting artists. These evenings promise to be both bright and interesting. Watch notice boards for announcements.

Various members of the staff have kindly offered to help us arrange a series of musical lectures, which we hope will be well supported. The lectures will take the form of short talks illustrated by recordings, or gramophone recitals and explanatory remarks.

The Gramophone Committee are arranging lunch-hour and evening recitals suggested programmes may be sent in to the secretary, Mr. John Money.

Popular Lecture Series

The Students' Association is sponsoring a series of topical informative addresses by people who really know their stuff from A to Z. These will be held fortnightly in the Gymnasium except when music will be played when they will be held in the Music Room.

Our first speaker is Mr. Stanley Oliver, who will speak on "Music in Soviet Russia." This will be in the Music Room and will be liberally illustrated with recordings.

Mr. Oliver, who is the well-known conductor of the Wellington Choral Union, will make special reference to the famous Soviet composer Shostakovich and excerpts from his Fifth Symphony will be played.

"Venereal Disease" is the subject of Dr. Hubert Smith's talk on April 8, which will be illustrated with films. Dr. Smith is Medical Officer of Health for Wellington and spoke to a crowded audience at the College at the end of last term.

Dr. Harold Silverstone will talk on April 20 about "The Communist Parties in the World Anti-Fascist Front." Dr. Silverstone is secretary of the Wellington District Committee of the Communist Party of New Zealand.

Lectures will start in the Gymnasium at 8. They are free and open to all University students and Training College students. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion. There'll be supper too.

Glee Club

The Glee Club put in some good practise for the Freshers' Welcome, but on the whole has been remarkably quiet so far. Is the committee planning a stupendous programme for its annual concert? All those who like singing and harmonising—be sure to get into touch with the secretary, Miss Nancy Langford, as soon as possible.

What are you going to do—play, sing or listen?

It rests with every one of you to make a success of this drive to establish a musical background to the life of our College.

"SALIENT ADVISES."

Many Students to-day find University life in war time has problems of an exceedingly difficult nature. Accordingly "Salient" has decided to devote these columns to the solution of some of those problems which do so much to darken those years which should be the happiest of our lives.

wards that I found out he was one of our most notable Reds. He didn't say anything nasty about God or cutting the throats of the bourgeoisie but was really patriotic and said the most exciting things about what the common people of the world would do to Hitler and some of the people in this University who live in ivory towers and fiddle while Rome burns and watch the lovely patterns the blood makes as it trickles down the barricades. It was just like the editorial from "Truth" that my father read out at dinner—only, of course, more cultured.

I may be only a silly little fresherette but if Reds are always like this I think governments are very stupid to be so unfriendly to them.—Yours, etc.,

PLEASANTLY SURPRISED.

Dear "Pleasantly Surprised"—It is indeed fortunate that you have met a genuine University Red. There have been some young women who have had their social consciousness permanently impaired by association with Trotskyites, Mensheviks, Kautskyites, and in one or two particularly painful cases, left-wing deviationists. We print your letter in full as it shows the spirit that will carry our armies to victory over the barbarian Fascists. So pass the word round to all your friends, "The University Reds are just like the chaps from Weir House."

WANTED—News of all V.U.C. Students in the Armed Forces, extracts from letters, news from relatives, etc., for publication in "Salient."

SPORT

With the summer almost over, the winter sports clubs are preparing for the coming season, and the notice boards are freely plastered with notices of annual meetings and lists for intending players. Everyone is urged to study the notices carefully, attend the meetings and sign the lists as it is very difficult for club secretaries to contact all possible players by any other method.

It is pleasing to note the number of clubs which have included Training College students in their plans, principally the Tennis, Tramping and Boxing Clubs. The Cricket Club has, of course, relied on the Training College for years past for many of its players which is quite natural as most Training College students are also Varsity students, many of several years' standing, a fact which is sometimes overlooked by clubs and individuals at Varsity. If all clubs are prepared to welcome and work in with Tr. Coll. students relations between Victoria and Tr. Coll. should continue on an even more harmonious note than before.

Cricket Club

The senior cricket team has performed very well in its last two games, drawing against Wellington College Old Boys, who were then competition leaders, and handsomely defeating Wellington Battalion the following week. The two games served to emphasise, if indeed it needed emphasising, just how much the team relies on those two stalwarts, Bernie Paetz, for many years one of the most consistent all-rounders in the team, and Gilbert Stringer, the left-handed opening bat, whose consistency during the entire season was rewarded with a fine not out century last week. In 15 innings Stringer, who average is 40.1, has only four times scored less than 20. Paetz, who almost won the game on his own against Old Boys, scored 84 not out, and now has an average of 35. Two other batsmen to have rendered good service are Peter de la Mare, whose average is 22.4, and the captain, Peter Wilson, who not only has a batting average of 20.1, but also has taken many wickets with his slow bowling.

The Seconds registered their sixth win of the season by beating Petone East, chiefly owing to Weston, an acquisition from Otago, who, playing his first game for the club, scored 74 as opening bat, took four wickets and fielded brilliantly. Though the bowling as a whole is far from strong, Ken Moore, a medium-paced bowler who shows much promise, has turned in some fine performances as has Tom Anderson, the pacy opening bowler. The batting has been in and out, by far the most consistent being "Irish" O'Brien, who tops aggregates and average, followed by Doug. Olson. Both have played several valuable if at times stolid innings.

Swimming Club

The ghost walks! Quite energetic efforts have been made to revive the Swimming Club, which was close to extinction, and it is pleasant to record that the effort has not been wasted. Many names are on the list on the notice board already—add yours to them.

The club evening at Thorndon Baths has been postponed to Tuesday, 16th March.

Tennis Club

Saturday, the 6th, saw a group of 60 enthusiastic tennis players at the Tennis Welcome, which took the form of a Yankee Tournament. Throughout the afternoon a high standard of play was maintained despite the fact that a disturbing wind played havoc with many shots. About 5.30 a closely contested final between Goodwin and Miss Peebles v. Berge and Miss N. Turner saw the latter pair victorious by a narrow margin.

On Sunday the weather finally decided to be fine and an enjoyable match consisting of twelve doubles was played between Training College and Varsity. Each team consisted of four men and four women. The players were well matched and games were interesting and well fought. Varsity won by 7 matches to 5. We hope that we will be able to arrange another match with Training College some time.

FRESHERS—remember you are welcome to play on the courts any time you wish. There is no special procedure required to join the club. Just come along and play whenever you feel like it. But remember it is necessary to bring your own tennis balls.

The annual general meeting of the above club will be held on Thursday, 18th March, at 8 p.m., in room A3. All intending players should be present. A feature of the very successful club's organization are the "mixed" practices, which, boldly advertised on the notice board, perhaps accounts for the encouraging number of prospective players on the accompanying list.

Athletic Club

Though all the men's sports clubs have been hard hit by the war the Athletic Club has been the greatest sufferer. Now only a shade of its once proud self it still plugs on gamely and nearly every meeting held in Wellington sees a few wearers of the green and gold present. There are only about four active members left in the club but all have been meeting with moderate success, principally "Dicky" Daniells over the mile and half-mile. The walkers, Morton and Henderson and Giff Rowberry, who specialises in the mile and three miles, have also gained points at several meetings.

Basketball Club

Women of V.U.C.!

If you are thinking of taking up some sport this winter, join the V.U.C. Basketball Club. All freshettes who played for their secondary schools last year and wish to keep up the game this year, are especially welcome. If you have never played basketball before, now is the time to start. The club caters for both the good and the not-so-good players—there is plenty of room for all.

Each year the club registers teams with the Wellington Basketball Association, and matches are played off on Saturday afternoons. So, if you want plenty of fun and light exercise, join up. Sign your name on the list on the notice-board, and turn up at the annual general meeting, which is to be held in A3 on Wednesday, 31st March, at 8 p.m.

Watch the notice-boards for further particulars.

Tramping Club

Notwithstanding the loss of many keen Varsity trampers, the club has opened the 1943 season and is now in full swing. The first Sunday of the term saw fifteen trampers and potential trampers setting out from Petone station up the Korokoro stream. The first stop for lunch by the Petone water reservoir was a most delightful spot—even the appearance of the caretaker who labelled us as trespassers failed to detract any of the beauty from the surroundings.

Climbing the hill, a little variation was offered in the form of an almost impenetrable tangle of supplejacks, but much cursing and swearing enabled us to reach the open and the top—and what a view! Hutt Valley and Wellington Harbour lay below us like a map—further to the west over more hills, the Pacific ocean and the South Island were visible. It was grand to be up there in the fresh clean air, gazing down on the man made city—so small and petty.

With plenty of time to spare, so we thought, Porirua station was reached—we were not to foresee the train pulling out with five of the party left standing on the station, an event which was not, however, particularly calamitous, as a train thirty minutes later enabled everyone to reach Wellington at a reasonable hour.

For the first trip, it was a great success—freshers there were, though there could have been more. The Sunday outings are ideal for an initiation into the ways of the tramping club—not too strenuous, but nicely energetic, and good company provides ample opportunity for discussion on anything.

More enjoyable still are the weekend tramps. Sleeping next door to mother nature has an appeal which few other things have. Join the Tramping Club and experience life in the great outdoors.

Harrier Club

The Harrier Club, which has always been a large and popular organization, enjoyed a very successful season last year and has every prospect of doing so again this year. Its popularity lies in the fact that it caters for all types, from the real hairy toughs down to inhabitants of Weir House, and besides its excellent record in the local competitions it is noted for its very very convivial gatherings, which are held on the slightest pretext or even without one.

All who wish to join this stalwart merry band should attend the annual general meeting on Wednesday, 17th March.

Boxing Club

Boxing enthusiasts, do not lose heart over the present inactivity. Negotiations are proceeding for the use of a well-equipped gymnasium with a qualified man to train us. It will not be long before the club is under way.

MARXIST DISCUSSIONS

It is intended to hold a series of Sunday evening discussions on Socialism. Would anyone interested please communicate, via the letter rack, with any of the following: J. W. Winchester, Cecil Crompton, A. V. O'Brien.

Women's Hockey Club

During the last few seasons the Women's Hockey Club has become one of the most enthusiastic of the college sports clubs and it is hoped that this season will be even more successful than last. Last year the senior team were runners-up in the local competitions. The junior team, comprised mostly of beginners at the game, showed such enthusiasm that they managed on one auspicious and never-to-be-forgotten occasion to beat the champions of their grade. So come on all you freshers and join the hockey club! We hope to enter three teams in the competitions this year and we need your help. Make the Hockey Club a success! You do not need to have played before. We have weekly practices with the men's club and guarantee to make a player out of you "in ten easy lessons."

If you are interested sign the list on the notice board and come to the annual general meeting on Monday, March 22nd, at 8 p.m.

Rugby Club

There have been rumours circulating to the effect that an amalgamation between Wellington College Old Boys and Varsity Rugby Clubs will be made this season. Old Boys officials approached in the matter seemed to regard it as possible but refused to commit themselves further. However, Orm. Creed, Varsity's secretary, a dogmatic soul, forcefully denied the rumour. He pointed out that Varsity expects to have a strong senior team this season, which may be true, but it is attitude which by ignoring Old Boys' reported plight, is hardly consistent with sentiments expressed by those who profess a desire to "keep the game going for the boys overseas." Rugby is a game not restricted to V.U.C.

The annual general meeting of the Rugby Club will be held on Wednesday, 17th March, at 8 p.m., in room A2.

Dear Sir,—It might make things a little clearer if we had just what Stalin did say. In his November 7 speech he said this:

"In an interview with a Turkish general published in the Turkish newspaper 'Cumhuriyet,' that cannibal Hitler said: 'We shall destroy Russia so that she will never be able to rise again.' That would appear clear though rather silly.

"We have no such aim as to destroy Germany, for it is impossible to destroy Germany just as it is impossible to destroy Russia. But the Hitlerite State can, and should be destroyed, and our first task in fact is to destroy the Hitlerite State and its inspirers.

"In the same interview with the same general that cannibal Hitler went on to say: 'We shall continue the war until Russia ceases to be an organised military force.' That would appear clear, though illiterate. It is not our aim to destroy all the organised military force of Germany, for every literate person will understand that it is not only impossible in regard to Germany as it is in regard to Russia but it is also inexpedient from the point of view of the victor. But Hitler's army can, and should be destroyed. . . ."

J.W.