

# Salient

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

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## STUDENTS, NEW EXEC., MEETS Annual General Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the V.U.C. Students' Association was poorly attended (barely a quorum), but spirited. Argument centred mainly about the vexed question of students playing in outside clubs and yet qualifying for Blues. Exec. election results had been a well-preserved secret; the official announcement was tense.

For a vivacious and witty two-hour clash of intellects the 1944 Annual General Meeting of the Students' Association could have few rivals. To the megalomaniacs of formality who would revel in constitutional jargon the meeting may have been a paradise, but to the students present it was something far more serious. The annual meeting is perhaps their only chance during the year of voicing their grievances and of removing any irritating commitments that might be impeding the efficient activities of their various clubs. And it was with this in mind that the political surgeons of the College unsheathed their scalpels and commenced operations on the College constitution.

Presiding over some seventy members was the president of the retiring executive, Mr. Creed. He was a capable chairman and took an active part in the business.

### Constitution Changes

Several preliminary motions were first required to cancel the unnecessary readings of various lengthy documents. The air having been cleared, three opening motions were put in turn to the meeting, each one being passed with little or no opposition. As a result, in future the social committee will be appointed at the beginning of each academic year, not current year as previously; the building committee now has the power to invest money and to enter into contracts with people; and the constitution has been reshuffled so as to allow the award of Blues to association football players.

Mr. Creed then vacated the chair to move: "That no person shall be eligible to represent any of the following clubs in any V.U.C. contest match if such a person plays for a club outside the College for any sport for which facilities exist within, and the College club requires his services—football, soccer, hockey, cricket and harriers." A second motion was then moved that the same conditions should apply to the award of Blues, and it was decided to discuss both together.

### Kiddle Quibbles

The effect was immediate. Mr. Kiddle spoke against the motion as it stood, moving as an amendment that the phrase "any sport" be changed to "that sport." This was ruled out of order by the chairman, seven days' notice not having been given. The ap-

parent crisis was averted by Mr. Barr, who pointed out that amendments do not require notice, and a clause of the constitution was read in confirmation of this fact. The discussion then proceeded at a lively pace. In reply to a question, Mr. Creed pointed out that his position as secretary of the Football Club had had no influence over the matter before the meeting, and the insinuation made by one speaker that one club was attempting to rush a motion through purely for its own benefit was entirely incorrect. The motion was his own and no clubs at all had been consulted. The basis of it was the prevention of the decline of the sports clubs so that after the war returned students would not be faced with the job of building them anew, as they had been in 1920. In a caustic speech Mr. Campbell claimed that the whole motion would lead to the unwarranted regimentation of students. Six other students spoke on the matter, as many as five standing up at a time. Finally it was pointed out that the amendment as it stood was actually a negation of the two original motions, and as such would have to be withdrawn. The motions were then put to the meeting and both were carried by a narrow margin.

The constitution was then laid aside until 1945.

### Assertion and Aspersions

The organisation behind the cafeteria was questioned by Mr. Campbell, who suggested that women did not have a capable head for business. (Cheers and jeers.) Replying, Mr. Barr gave a comprehensive account of the difficulties recently experienced by the cafeteria committee, while Mr. Edgar explained the financial situation. However, a motion was moved that the new executive be recommended to set up a committee of enquiry. This was carried without further discussion.

Mr. McDowall deplored the great number of Blues awards made during 1943 and moved that all committees concerned should be asked to maintain a high standard. In putting this before the meeting Mr. Creed mentioned that several recommendations had been refused.

The annual report and balance sheet were then discussed and accepted.

Under the heading of General Business only two points were raised—that of Faculty Committees and the question of *Salient* sales on future election

days. The chairman answered both to the satisfaction of the meeting.

The chairman then braced himself for the climax and proceeded to read out the results of the exec. elections. In case you have not already seen them:

President: Jack Barr.  
Secretary: Ian McDowall (unopposed).  
Treasurer: David Steele (unopposed).  
Women's Vice-President: Margaret Beattie (unopposed).  
Men's Vice-President: Dick Daniell.  
Women's Committee: Cecil Crompton.  
Max Eichelbaum, Margaret Orr.  
Men's Committee: Gib Bogle, Stan Campbell.

The meeting extended its thanks to the retiring executive and its best wishes to the incoming members. Both new and old members then retired for supper.

### FIRST MEETING

There's a lot of formality about the first meeting of the new executive. It is unavoidable, and this year was no exception. Committee appointments figure largely on the agenda, and discussion is necessarily limited by the time available.

Mr. Jack Barr, as President, greeted the new exec. members, welcomed back the old, and gave a few pointers for beginners. His statement emphasised the heavy responsibility of every executive member—their duty to their association in working for the student good. He spoke of the especially onerous duties of the secretary and treasurer, Messrs. McDowall and Steele respectively, and asked exec. members to give them a hand. The exec.'s duty is not merely to administer routine matters, but also to feel the pulse of College life, to avoid becoming isolated from it and immersed in routine. He stressed that support of individual College clubs was expected from exec. members outside their other duties.

The Building Committee received fair publicity at the annual general meeting. Their position was favourable. In view of the keenness and apparent suitability of the present committee, the representatives for present students are again Messrs. Starke and Macaskill, and for past students Messrs. Carrad, Dixon and Moore, with Messrs. Barr and Steele representing the executive.

The Gym. Committee elected is Miss Beattie and Messrs. Daniell and Campbell.

The Cafeteria Committee was discussed at some length, as was the recommendation of the annual general meeting that a committee of enquiry be set up. The jobs are particularly burdensome and not much publicised. Those appointed are:

Cafeteria Controller—Joan Sim.  
Treasurer—G. L. Gibson.  
Secretary—P. Lawless.  
Ration Controller—Oscar Melting.

The Committee of Enquiry, which was recommended by the annual general meeting, was discussed. Its aims are to help the caf. committee outside routine matters; methods of buying, stocking, etc., are to be looked into. Those appointed were Gwen Jolly, Stan Campbell and Alec McLeod.

Publications Committee will consist of Jack Barr, Cecil Crompton, Kemp Fowler, Dick Steele and Hubert Withford.

The Exam. Fee Committee, as a sub-committee of the exec. was ratified, and members of the committee were thanked for the work put into the matter, after Cecil Crompton had reported briefly on its recent progress.

The Corresponding Member, who is the official V.U.C. contact with N.Z. U.S.A., is Gib Bogle; the I.S.S. Exec. Nominee is Margaret Orr, who has already been keenly interested in this work.

When Overseas Parcels were discussed Mr. Barr emphasised the number of grateful letters which had been received; reports from soldiers invariably indicate that *Salient* was welcomed and had been appreciated by them. Barbara Wall and June Holmes were appointed to the committee in charge of their despatch.

Records Officer Shirley Grimington and her assistant Alec McLeod were thanked and re-appointed.

Tournament Delegates this year are Dick Daniell and Ian McDowall, both experienced in this work.

Some of the matters brought up at the annual general meeting were dealt with. The matter of Blues' standard and *Salient* election issues have been referred to a future date as they are not of immediate importance.

There was considerable discussion on the position of certain sports clubs who are reported to have outsiders playing in their teams to the detriment of bona fide student players. The clubs concerned will be asked to report back to the next meeting; the executive considers this an urgent and serious matter.

A variety of matters were brought up under general business. In reply to an inquiry about a reduced Stud. Ass. fee for soldiers (especially the poorly paid W.A.A.C.S.) Jack Barr drew attention to the V.U.C. calendar which allows application for reduction of Stud. Ass. fee in individual cases of genuine hardship.

Dick Daniell stressed the necessity of a proper liaison with the clubs in the College (there are up to fifty) and action will be taken at the next meeting.

## NO CHARGE! NO COUPON!

Calling all students who have permanent and important engagements on **MON., TUES., and THURS. evenings between 5.30 and 6.45 p.m.**

If you were offered 1lb. butter, an overcoat or a pair of silk stockings, coupon free, you would not hesitate for one moment in accepting the offer. If then, besides being couponless, they were pressed on to you free of charge, you would be undoubtedly suspicious and suspect a fraud. The natural procedure would then be to examine the goods very closely for any flaws which may be concealed and to make several enquiries about the gifts. Having found everything to be in order, then you would not reject this friendly offer.

Today we are making such an offer as the above; we are giving you a chance to have a complete medical examination, including an x-ray if necessary. This requires no coupons, no cash and no worry, only the presence of the student in the Gym. for about ten minutes on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday evening. Surely ten minutes of examination is a trifling affair as compared with ten years of agony in later life.

What! you are suspicious of the scheme? That's natural. You are critical of the mechanism? That's to be expected also, but to be constructive and pass on your ideas to the committee. You are making numerous enquiries, are you not? That's what we want; it shows that you are interested. Then perhaps you are complaining that the students helping to do the preliminary part of the examina-

tion, i.e., the eye, ear, weight tests, etc., will broadcast your particulars to the whole College? That thought is not expected of you. All data gathered during these examinations is strictly confidential and for the information of yourself and the doctor.

You see, then, that this offer has everything to gain and nothing to lose. So, fellow students, avail yourselves of the opportunity before it is too late. Don't disgrace the student body in general, the committee concerned, your executive, your staff and your College by wasting the doctor's valuable time. Make sure you attend the examinations and help the V.U.C. to take another step in the right direction. Let V.U.C. lead the way to medical examinations each year for all students attending lectures at the College.

So far attendances at the examinations have been encouraging, but there is still room for improvement. Last year two-thirds of the students at the College recorded a vote in favour of this scheme being introduced. We are relying on these 600 students to give us their support now. This is a students' effort, organised and supported by your executive, so here's your chance to show what the students themselves can do.

DAISY B. FILMER

(For the Committee.)

## DRAMA CLUB

The audience got their bob's worth, anyway—a farce, a comedy, an original burlesque, and some heavy drama; quite enough for one evening. The performances proved that there was no need for the Drama Club to go into this much-discussed decline. There's obviously masses of talent lying round the College waiting for an enterprising producer.

With a large cast, including some of the College lovelies, a scene from "The Women" was produced by Constance Scott (herself no mean sight, at that!). Well done, if somewhat subdued. All those women should have been at each other's throats all the time.

Dennis Hartley came to light once more with another Old Time Theatre. This is becoming a habit of Mr. Hartley's. The audience co-operated fully, and seemed to have as much fun hissing and cheering as the players had in playing the opus. Where will The Papers next be discovered, we wonder?

The only serious play of the evening was "Death Sends for the Doctor," also produced by Dennis Hartley. This was a difficult experimental play, well worth performing, and it is a pity that the cast had not had more rehearsals. Although obviously groping for their lines, they managed to get over the eerie atmosphere on which the play depends very well in some parts. A clap for Geoffrey Stewart, a young man who played Death excellently, and for Benno Cotti, whose accent and absolute lack of movement emphasised the terrifying power behind his part. The voice of the prompt was heard at great length, and quite unnecessarily.

Lastly, "Ways and Means"—well done by the two leads, Sybil Reynolds and R. Cooke. They put across the crackling Coward lines with abandon, and the house loved it. Produced by Betty Arya, it went off well, in spite of the overlong wait between Scenes 1 and 2.

Mr. Farquhar, of Rongotai College, spoke at the end in a critical capacity. He told the cast and club a good deal about the plays and individual performances—a useful man to have, but it is suggested that, if this is done again, the critic should talk to the players alone.

## SOMETHING TO TELL

To those students who find time to delve into the realm of the short story writers, Isobel M. Andrews is familiar. Her prize-winning one-act play "The Willing Horse," has been an outstanding success and ensured her a good place among New Zealand writers.

Bearing former popularity in mind we approach her latest book, "Something to Tell," in eager anticipation, and are not disappointed. The stories are about ordinary New Zealand people, but Isobel Andrews has drawn into each character so many of those intangible traits characteristic of human nature that each person seems to have a life as real as one's own.

All types of people are woven into the stories, some lending a touch of humour, others typical of New Zealand's working class. Her subjects range from the night life of the cities to the crowded holiday resorts and seaworn beaches, and will provide light entertainment for any odd moment.

(Our copy by kind courtesy of the Progressive Publishing Society Ltd.)

## CAN YOU WRITE?

Wellington, July 4.

National Literary Competitions, with prizes totalling £120, available to New Zealand authors, were announced tonight by the Progressive Publishing Society, which states that the chief objective is to give direct encouragement to authorship in the Dominion.

The competitions are divided into two sections: the first, for a novel, carries a prize of £100; the second, for a short story up to 10,000 words in length, carries prizes of £15 and £5. Special arrangements have been made for the announcement of the competition to members of the armed forces at home and overseas, in order that they may be able to compete on an equal footing with civilians. Probably a number of men serving overseas are already working on their entries.

Panels of independent judges have been arranged, and their decision will be final. The novels will be judged by Dr. G. H. Scholefield, of the General Assembly Library; Professor W. A. Sewell, of Auckland University College; and Professor G. W. von Zedlitz. Judges of the short stories will be Mr. Oliver Duff, editor of the "New Zealand Listener," Mr. Walter Scott, of the staff of the Wellington Teachers' Training College, and Mr. Winston Rhodes, of Canterbury University College. The competitions are open, without any entry fee, to all persons normally resident in New Zealand. The Society states that full royalties will be paid on all manuscripts published, irrespective of whether or not the judges award them a prize.

Closing dates:—

Novel: April 30th, 1945.

Short Story: December 31st, 1944.

All entries should be typed, in double-spacing, securely fastened, with adequate return postage. A non-deplume may be given along with competitor's name and address, but on no account must the identity of the competitor be shown in any part of the MSS. More than one entry may be made, each in a single package.

Address entries: Literary Competition, Progressive Publishing Society, P.O. Box 956, Wellington.

Rumour is a lying jade, but round the College it is said that Count Wodzicki, New Zealand representative of the Polish Government in London, was playing on the Victoria College tennis court recently. Also we have it on thoroughly unreliable authority that Prof. Wood (patron International Relations Club?) told the Count that it was O.K. by him. Still further, we have it from this lying jade that a gentleman who introduced himself as the president of the tennis club ordered him off the courts as he hadn't paid his Stud. Ass. fee.

International repercussions are expected.

## SPIKE

CLOSING DATE — 31st JULY.

NOT 30th JUNE  
AS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED

## FACULTY COMMITTEES

Dear Mrs. Boyd,

In regard to the question of faculty sub-committees the Board asked the Faculties for reports and these were considered at the recent meeting of the Board, when the following resolution was passed:—

"That the Students' Association be informed of the existing means whereby students can make representation on matters concerning studies—to Heads of Departments, the students' own tutors, and the Deans of the several Faculties—who are always prepared to receive representations on matters of curriculum, courses of study, time-tables and the like, whether from a group of four nominees from the Students' Association Executive or from other students."

The Board considered that it was unwise to set up formal committees which would merely increase the number of meetings, that both members of the staff and students would then have to attend, whether there was any business or not. On the other hand, it desired to co-operate as effectively as possible with the student body or any individual student in improving the work and conditions of the work of the College. From time to time students have raised questions with Heads of Departments and I feel sure that if students use the facilities indicated in the Board's resolution, all reasonable needs will be met.

I would like to add that personally I shall always be glad to receive representations from the Executive or any group of students or any individual student.

Yours sincerely,

T. A. HUNTER,  
Principal.

## RETURNING OFFICER REPORTS

In the election for the V.U.C.S.A. Executive for 1944, 220 men and 104 women voted. The voters constituted 32 per cent. of those eligible to do so—the percentage being the same for both men and women. Any comparison with percentage voting at other Colleges must take into account our eligibility qualification, which is membership of the Students' Association in 1943. But many of these people have graduated, given up, or left the College for other reasons, so that the percentage of possible voters is probably much higher.

There still is, however, a very considerable number of people who to the election officials appeared quite irresponsible and comments like the following were frequently heard around the polling booth: "Elections—what for?" "Oh I wouldn't vote for that drunken mob!" "Who do I vote for, please?" "Can anyone vote?" Such attitudes, reflecting ignorance or carelessness, were not confined to the voters and errors such as omission of position nominated for, illegible signatures, fresher nominations, etc., occurred to the number of eleven in nineteen nomination forms.

The list of honourable postures and places for day-dreaming in V.U.C. has in the past been limited to sitting in lecture-rooms and the library, but to this I think could well be added a new one. For if these facts mean anything it is plain that standing in front of the notice board with head flexed back, eyes openly unseeing and mind definitely shuttered is as acceptable a method of doing sweet nothing as ways which are at the same time comfortable and conventional.—B.E.S.

# LEADING QUESTIONS TO LEADING MAN MODERN BOOKS

## Lloyd Lamble Interviewed

*Salient* got busy this week, and a reporter went down town to interview (with his kind permission) Lloyd Lamble, leading man in current J. C. Williamson production "Susan and God," and President of Australian Actors' Equity. Our reporter received a friendly welcome, and a lot of helpful suggestions for our own drama club.

One of the first questions we asked was, naturally enough, about Australian Actors' Equity. Students will have seen details in the daily press and on the newsreels of the actors' strike in Australia. Mr. Lamble was able to tell us quite a bit about it.

"They won hands down. We had the support of the Australian public, and made world news! We also received telegrams of solidarity from British Actors' Equity, President Michel Redgrave, and for the American Screenactors' Guild from their President, James Cagney."

"We have a hard job on the stage," said Equity's Australian President. "It's the only job people are willing to do for nothing. If you started a road-building or stone-breaking contest you wouldn't get many applicants, but people are susceptible to the limelight of the stage and are willing to do it for nothing. So you see it is very important for us to have an organisation to protect the interests of professionals—and in doing so it also protects amateurs."

"I read the review of 'Arsenic and Old Lace' in the last issue of *Salient*," and Mr. Lamble . . . added here some wise sayings which we have passed on to the reviewer.

"We have a saying on the stage, 'You can learn from anybody, even an amateur.' Perhaps you could reverse that and remember 'You can learn from anybody, even a professional.'"

Another interesting light on the professional stage to which he drew our attention: "It is impossible for some actors to give a bad performance," and equally, "It is impossible for some actors to give a good performance." Some actors, brilliantly successful on the amateur stage, fade out on the professional—they don't just get across—the born professional, by his description, was the person with acting ability, judgment, timing, and always quick to see faults and remember "the good actor has still always something to learn."

We told him about our College drama club's revival after black-out and E.P.S. days, its growing membership and their keenness and our handicaps in lack of experience, staging, and worthwhile plays, our perennial lapse into Guitry or Coward for our comedy and difficulty in selecting plays generally.

"Don't aim at perfection of production. That's where you'll fall down," said Mr. Lamble. "Coward and Guitry—sophisticated comedy has the appearance of being easy because the dialogue is slick and modern. Don't be misled. Acting ability—professional ability and technique are needed to put over the fine points of these playwrights; an eyebrow or hand movement may

make or mar a scene. The temptation to underact is basically correct but is dangerous for amateurs. To overact is easier than to underact—this latter must be very skilfully done.

"Try modern material like Steinbeck, Odets, Ibsen—plays with a social background that you appreciate, which require primarily sincerity of production—the amateur's strong point.

"I don't advise Tchekov—it is very tough and unsuitable for amateurs."

At this point he branched off to give us a few recommendations (including the "Eve of St. Mark's," which we reviewed in an earlier issue), which have been passed on to the Drama Club.

As for staging, he assured us that all amateur societies are handicapped there, and suggested that by lighting and simplicity we could get our effects. Curtains behind and a spot—those were the two important things—we should manage with those.

Mr. Lamble speaks with a pleasing voice, and his accent conforms to standard English. We questioned him about it. Are accents (New Zealand or Australian, for instance) permissible on the amateur or professional

stage? In New Zealand (and elsewhere) a "good" English accent indicates to some people snobbery or at any rate a definite class; is such an accent a handicap or an asset? Well, then we got it. Serious stage-work with a local accent is as ridiculous as a London theatre putting on a cockney version of Hamlet! In Australia the pronounced Australian accent was only used on the stage in comedy, low comedy (e.g. Dad and Dave?). He spoke of a U.S. serviceman, a professional actor in the States, who was thrilled to see a stage-show again. He wrote to the company; he had been worried about the accent before seeing these American comedies—but their accent was standard—that of the English-speaking stage world. Young actors who can act but can't speak standard English should learn to speak—it's a false set of values that suggests a "good" accent to be other than good.

We asked Mr. Lamble, too, about "The Moon is Down"—he had taken the part of Lanser over the radio in Sydney and so was acquainted with this rather controversial script. He considered it interesting, not perhaps as a view of the effect of fascism on the people, but as a study of the feelings of these fascists themselves. Lanser—the regular soldier of the old school, cold and efficient, the super-efficient and brutal young Nazi, and

Modern Books, Wellington's Co-operative Bookshop, moved recently to 48A Manners Street, a more central and busy part of the town than its previous site. Modern Books has been a regular advertiser in *Salient* for three years, and most students are well acquainted with the shop.

When we interviewed the manager, Miss Ferguson, this week, she was able to tell us that trade is booming. The library turnover has increased considerably, more people are getting to know the shop, and thirty-nine new shareholders were enrolled last week (£1 shares in monthly instalments of 2/6 is the system)—many more are still required. It is a shop run by shareholders who elect the management committee each year and control the selection of books. Improvements are still being made in the shop—Miss Ferguson told us that they would be employing a professional window dresser in future, and would be having a new counter and display cases, and the shelves are going to be re-painted.

the weak young officer who cracked under the strain.

Besides this Mr. Lamble gave us good ideas for our drama club, exercises in acting, plays and addresses as contacts with go-ahead amateur groups overseas. We feel we got more than we deserved and we're very grateful for this material, so, thanks, Mr. Lamble.

## FILMS AND STAGE — by Idis

*Susan and God*.—It is hard to believe that the same company which so badly presented "Arsenic and Old Lace" last week should this week perform so well in "Susan and God." The reason lies, obviously, in the character who makes the play—Susan—and the actress who plays her—Neva Carr Glyn. Miss Glyn did not perform in the last play: in this she succeeds in acting almost everyone else off the stage. An actress is called for who can portray convincingly a self-deluding wealthy woman, certain that she knows what's best for others. Her problem arises when, after finding God through a thinly disguised Oxford Group, she finds her drunken and estranged husband quoting her words against her to bring them together for the sake of their child. It is a difficult part, and Miss Glyn makes it entirely hers. I found myself reminded often of Bette Davis, the tops in her field. Also up to her standard are Lloyd Lamble, June Mendoza, and Mollie Brown, a local girl well up to the average standard of the company, who play husband, daughter and friend respectively. The rest of the company also ran. The gilded youth who did the juvenile in "Arsenic and Old Lace" this time goes so far as to sing—at a white piano!—in a music-comedy tenor.

The sets, by the way, were some of the best I've yet seen on any stage. They were elaborate, and yet convincing. It's a pity we can't draft the stage manager for Extrav.

*The Moon is Down*. Categorically I say, one of the six best films of this year. A good job has been done with Steinbeck's moving novel, by cast and director alike.

The strength of the film lies chiefly in Sir Cedric Hardwicke, who plays Colonel Lanser. In my view, practi-

cally an Academy Award performance. See it, you budding actors, and notice the immense reserves of power he holds in check. He shows well the old army officer, with few illusions about Der Fuehrer, but still enthusiastic about the glory of the Fatherland. Good, too, is the young man who plays Tonder. Watch him, he'll go up the Hollywood ladder. Fine acting, also, by the other young Nazi officers.

Thank God the director had enough sense to leave Steinbeck's book as is, and not to drag in a conventional love scene. Hollywood shows occasionally that it can turn out adult films—pity they don't do it more often.

Mind you, I'm not saying I haven't any criticisms. There are many.

I want to know how such a small village supported such an enormous number of miners. I should like to find out what explosive causes such extreme damage in such small quantities. And, very important, I want to know something about the internal politics of the village. (This is as much a criticism of the book as the film.) Where were the political parties? What party did the Mayor belong to? (Oh, don't quote Pahiatua and Waikikimukau to me—of course a Mayor has politics.) Where were the young people's clubs and organisations? Nobody's going to tell me that there wasn't a Communist or Labour Party branch in that village. Where was the miners' union, too? It's from these groups, underground, that resistance springs. And furthermore, it seems hard to believe that there was but one fascist in the village. Just across the border and no fifth column, forsooth! In many points the film was far too naive to be credible.

I must say, though, that I am glad that Hollywood has at last—and evidently successfully—blown up that well-worn mine scene. How many

times have we seen that same old set, with the same houses and even the same grim-faced miners? I remember it in "The Invisible Man Returns," not to mention "How Green Was My Valley!"

But in spite of all this criticism I still say it's one of the six best of the year. Apart from its worth as a film, it shows fascism at its subtle worst, and that's a good thing for New Zealanders.

*Heartbreak House*. Having a good play to work with, Repertory evidently thought they'd better pull up their socks. The result is very satisfactory. It is difficult to put Shaw over at ordinary times, but it is even more difficult to do this when he is at his subtlest and most satirical. However, with good performances by W. S. Wauchop (except when he walks), Ina Allan, and Dot Tansley, the cast succeeds in making the play moderately understandable. But I still think there'll be some headscratching by the end of the season.

Shaw has pinched the sombre technique of the Tchekov school and applied it to a group of inconsequential English folk, pseudo-intellectuals mostly, and the rest rich, who don't know where they are going, but are determined to "gang their ain gait" (especially Captain Shotover!). There are lots of threads interwoven: should a pretty girl marry a rich old man? What is to be the sensible attitude towards the criminal? and so on, with the old devil Shaw standing in the wings laughing at us. The play (first produced 1921) ends with an air-raid, the whole amazing household seeming somehow to find in it the solution to their problems.

Sets are good, the stage-managing slick.

# TRIBUNAL UNDER PRESSURE

## Committee Seeks Legal Advice

The student campaign against increased examination fees is proceeding vigorously. Latest reports indicate that while waiting for further material to come in for presentation to the Senate, student representatives are seeking immediate legal redress.

The first action to come of the protest meeting held by incensed students of Victoria College was seen at the meeting of the College Council on Thursday, 23rd June. Student Representative Maurie Boyd presented the Resolution of Protest with its attendant petition, signed at that time by over 350 aggrieved scholars. Discussion was at first slow. Council members were interested; at bottom sympathetic, they demanded more information. *Salients* were passed from hand to hand. It had been impossible to circularise the necessary material to all members of the Council in the short time available; this had, however, been placed in the hands of the Registrar several days before. Discussion soon became general. No denial of the justice of the students' claims was attempted. The action of the Council was better than expected. Senate members Mr. Justice Smith and Mr. O'Leary were nominated as a sub-committee to consider fully the students' case, and to report back. What had been done by Statutory Order could be similarly undone.

Registrar of the N.Z.U., Mr. McKenzie, was present; his only comment was that he had been approached by J. W. Miller, Secretary of the Accountancy Students' Society, and informed that the N.Z.U.S.A. figures on accountancy fees were incorrect. (See below.)

Protest Committee members point out that while Representative Boyd's reception was more sympathetic than was expected, the pace at which the Council handles important matters is well known. Their powers, moreover, are limited to a strong recommendation to the Senate. The purpose of the representation, to introduce the matter into official circles and gain the sympathy of Senate members, was fulfilled.

### Accountants' Committee Sells Out

On 12th June a letter was sent to the committee of the Accountancy Students' Society indicating V.U.C.'s plan of campaign; asking for assistance in circulating a petition among down-town accountancy students. This letter was sent on the suggestion of several commercial college members; their elected representatives received it coldly. V.U.C.'s figures were wrong, the increase was not 62 per cent. but 42 per cent.; the Senate were to be praised for standing on their own feet rather than appealing for an increased Government grant; an appeal should have been made to the Senate before the increase; they regretted their inability to co-operate. So did V.U.C., who replied tersely and circularised the commercial colleges themselves. Enting's alone supplied 144 signatures. It is considered that the Accountants' representatives may have to retract, rather than be called to heel by their Society.

Total petition signatures now in the hands of N.Z.U.S.A. are over 1,400; they come from V.U.C.,

C.U.C., Wellington T.C., commercial colleges, a few from Lincoln.

### Tribunal Situation

On the afternoon of Tuesday, 4th July, N.Z.U.S.A. Representative Taylor and V.U.C. Representative Fowler met Judge Hunter and his colleagues of the Price Tribunal. Over a formal conference table the Judge gave official information on the progress of their case. On the preceding Friday Sir Thomas Hunter and N.Z.U. Registrar McKenzie had been brought to a similar meeting. The students' case had been put as strongly and as sympathetically as possible. It was established that the Senate had made no application to the Tribunal for increase in fees. Judge Hunter stressed infringement of the spirit of Stabilisation by the Senate; was obviously wary of testing the matter in court. A consensus of legal opinion holds that a court case would force the Senate to retreat; the Judge, however, is of the conservative type.

Next to receive the wanderers was Registrar Mackenzie. To make a final attempt, they explained sadly, to prevent immediate hardship to the students, they formally applied for extension of closing date. Mr. McKenzie was polite, imperturbable. This meant, he pointed out, amendment of a statute; a full meeting of the Senate alone had power to effect this, other machinery did not exist. Furthermore, to restore the previously existing scale of fees meant a negation of the statute recently passed, again action for the Senate alone. The meeting of the Executive Committee on the 28th of this month, at which the petition and related material was presumably to be presented, could do no more than forward a strong recommendation of the students' case to an early-meeting Senate. The delegates appeared satisfied with the above unpromising information. "Extension has been officially refused," they said. "Good enough for us."

There dropped from discussion this piece of information: that the new N.Z.U. building is not evidence of University extravagance, but an investment which has raised the income from Scholarship Fund monies from 3½% to 6%.

Mr. Healy, resident member of N.Z. U.S.A. for Massey, works in the Botany Division of S. & I.R., was found peering through a binocular microscope. Together the three students visited Solicitor Lagan, of the Employers' Federation. A 1932 member of Weir House, Mr. Lagan is taking extramural units at V.U.C. and had much to say about the increases. Here at last was found an answer to the indecision of the Price Tribunal. As an investigating officer of that body he guaranteed to get action. He did. Ten minutes later a further hearing before Tribunal had been arranged. Lagan was to act for the students; the ex-member was to become the attacking attorney.

Wednesday's tribunal was a different affair.

Presented with a list of legally worded submissions, the Judge went so far as to say that, if pressed, he would prosecute the Senate in a Magistrate's Court. If required, an affidavit that the Senate had made no application for an increase in fees and that no authority for such an increase had been given, might be prepared.

### Law Has Its Uses!

Legal advice had changed the attitude of the Tribunal; legal advice could obviously do more. The student representatives pulled their socks up and consulted "learned counsel"; in fact they consulted three of them.

From then on our reporter could obtain no more information. Fowler and Taylor were as tight as clams, although obviously happy; a few words, they claimed, would prejudice their case; a sentence might ruin it. They wished to make the following statement:—

"Although it has not been possible to postpone payment of fees,

students must not feel that all is lost. On the contrary, there is every chance of obtaining a decisive ruling in a matter of weeks. We must ask for their confidence in this matter and assure them that their interests are being capably represented."

Committee members point out that, whatever the action of the Tribunal, the original plan of campaign is still to be adhered to. The petition and associated material will be put before the Executive Committee of the Senate on July 28th. This meeting will presumably set up a sub-committee to consider the students' claims; as it is not intended that the case become bogged in a series of sub-committees, however sympathetic they may be, N.Z.U.S.A.'s next step will probably be the Government, with as much support from other bodies as it can muster. Resolutions of support are now coming in. Recently received are letters from the Railway Officers' Institute and the N.Z. Secondary Schools Association condemning the Senate's action. Original copies had been sent to the Registrar.

A small amount of publicity has been undertaken (as much as the dailies will at the moment accept). It is understood that for the next week or so there will be no further publicity.

## ZOOT SUIT RIOTS

One of the more progressive magazines at present refused entry into this country is the American weekly, "New Masses." I mention this as it contains the first explanation I have seen of the recent zoot-suit riots in California.

Fascism trades under many guises, but surely the most vicious is that of racial antagonism and the fostering of intolerance of national minorities. For fifteen years the Nazis have hysterically proclaimed their hate for the Jews, the Poles and the coloured races—the non-Aryans. Europe has many such peoples, as have also the United States.

After America fought Mexico large slices of land were added to the States together with their inhabitants, most of them Latins. Today, of one million people in Los Angeles, 360,000 are Mexicans.

Now, for some time Mexican youths have treasured a somewhat characteristic dress. The long hair swept back, the trousers fastened at the ankle and the long coat—all mark the "pachucos." Recently the style, which had originated in El Paso, spread to the cities of the Eastern States, and became known as the zoot-suit.

For war, unity between nations is vital. It was imperative, therefore, that America and Mexico should be on the best of terms when the two presidents, Roosevelt and Camacho, should meet.

But several days beforehand the headlines of the powerful Hearst press read thus:—"Mexican Gun Squads—Pachuco Killers—Juvenile Desire to Thrill—Zoot Suit Gangs." And while the State government proclaimed that there had been no lawlessness amongst the Mexican children, the papers blissfully continued their sensation-seeking war.

Typical of incidents promoted is the following:—A man named Jose Diaz

fell one night from a car, was run over and killed. The news immediately went to press—"Mexican Boys Prowl in Wolf-packs." At once the pachuco dress and hair-cut became the badge of a pariah. State police lined up outside dance halls and ripped the clothing of the youths as they made their exit. It was a crime for them to be born in the U.S.A.

Five months later seventeen boys were arrested. Twelve were convicted of the so-called murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

"In Los Angeles," reported Radio Berlin, "twelve Mexican boys were found guilty of a single murder. The 360,000 Mexicans of Los Angeles are up in arms. . . . Yankee persecution. . . . Concentration camps full to overflowing."

How much do you think Goebbels would pay for such a broadcast? The incentive for such propaganda was provided by full-blooded Americans. Here are two statements:—

"It will be a simple matter for me to produce unrest and revolts in the United States. We shall find such men as we need. We shall find them in every country. They will come of their own accord. Ambition and delusion, party squabbles and self-seeking arrogance will drive them."—Adolf Hitler.

"We must be specially prepared to stifle the fifth columnists of the United States who try to sabotage not merely our war materials but our minds. We must be prepared for the worst kind of fifth column work in Latin America."—Henry Wallace.

Fascism will not die with the end of this war. There are fascist elements in practically every country, even New Zealand. So remember, when next you hear the anti-Semitic maniac preach—you may not see the swastika, or the booted storm-trooper, but you are witnessing the hall-mark of fascism.

## ART OF SEEING

A straightforward and practical demonstration was given to members of the Photographic Club in the Biology Darkroom on Thursday, June 22. The club chairman, Vincent O'Kane, spoke briefly on the different formulas used in developing, and members watched actual negatives being printed and enlarged.

The next meeting will be held in A2 at 8 p.m. on Thursday, July 13, when Mr. M. A. Johnson of the Wellington Camera Club (V.U.C. club last year) will speak on "Photography, the Art of Seeing."

Don't forget that entries for *Rostrum* close on July 21, and for *Spike* on July 31. Photographs must be half-plate or larger, but not necessarily mounted.

## RUSSIA

"Russia has generally been an unknown quantity in European affairs," said Mrs. M. Bengé in her recent talk to the International Relations Club; "... and it rests with Western Europeans to learn to understand her." Mrs. Bengé proceeded to outline various branches of culture wherein Russians have expressed their innermost thoughts and feelings.

The speaker then suggested that Russian thought and culture differs from that of Western Europe—first, because of its Christian idealism (which penetrated the consciousness and sub-consciousness of the Russian people at an early period); secondly, because of certain oriental elements which crept in during the Tartar invasions and the 250 years of subjugation that followed; thirdly, because of its stark realism (an essentially Russian product); fourthly, because of the influence of Greek literature, which

gave to Russian writing a simplicity of style and 'to-the-pointness' which reached its finest expression with Pushkin; and finally, because of the Revolution, which gave rise to new techniques and new ideals. Moreover, Russia owes much to Western Europe. Indeed, since the time of Peter the Great, Russia has assimilated a great deal of Western culture (e.g., the Italian ballet, which has become one of Russia's national forms of expression).

The speaker touched on several of the great Russian writers and thinkers (more particularly Dostoevsky and Sholokhov), but her main contribution lay in her clear and stimulating account of the general scope of Russian thought and culture. This subject will be pursued in greater detail by members of the Russian Study Group (led by Michael Bengé) who hope to read plays, listen to music, discuss Russian writers and thinkers, and also to study the social, economic, historical and political background of Russia.

## HYDATIDS

Do you know what hydatid disease is? Do you know that it is very prevalent in New Zealand? The Biological Society has arranged for Dr. Cairney, Superintendent of the Wellington Hospital, to give a talk on "Hydatids in Human Beings" on Tuesday evening, July 18, at 8 p.m. All students should take this opportunity to learn about this disease and how to avoid it. There will be x-rays illustrating the lecture.

A very interesting talk was given by Mr. T. C. Birch to the Society in June. The subject was "What is Forestry?"

A week-end trip to the Orongorongo is being arranged in the near future. Whether your interest lies in humans or herbs it will be worth coming along. Watch the notice-boards for further details.

especially the necessity for each New Zealand family to provide 11 children.

Speaking from the floor, Mr. Gaard and Mr. Mabbett brought forward strong pleas for the preservation of the purity of our race, were afraid of the Yellow Peril and Race Riots, thought the situation bad enough already.

Miss Crompton argued that racial antagonism is usually incited by political parties and by official discrimination, e.g., A. Hitler. She pointed out that aliens were playing a large part in fighting this war.

Mr. Franke spoke with conviction on behalf of these aliens, giving some figures and specific instances.

Mr. Hartley delivered an impassioned plea for the safeguarding of our national integrity and British culture, quoting from *Truth*, that great champion of Freedom. He especially deprecated the Bohemian element which appears in alien circles, manifesting itself in horrid coffee shops full of "greasy smooth-skinned foreigners." He concluded appropriately with "Hell Hitler."

In delivering his judgment, Mr. George Joseph gave plenty of criticism and advice. He should know; he has had much experience on the Varsity debating platform. He placed the speakers: Miss Arya, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. O'Leary, Miss Crompton and Mr. Hartley, the latter against his better judgment.

# I.R.C. PROTESTS

## Biased Reporting Claimed

In "Salient's" last number there appeared a report of Harold Miller's address to the International Relations Club. Concerning this we have received an attack on Whui, which is answered below, a letter from B.N.D., and a moderate and entirely justifiable protest from the I.R.C. Committee. For this latter we thank the Committee and make an unreserved apology.

While no newspaper can be truly impartial and it is "Salient's" right to express its views in articles and editorials, it is our most definite policy to give accurate and objective reports of specific events. The staff member concerned acted against general policy and specific instructions. Unfortunately his copy came in too late to be re-written.—Ed.

Sir,—Few people object to a fair criticism, but Whui's misleading report of our meeting on the "Foreign Policy of the U.S.S.R." (appearing in the last *Salient*) cannot in our opinion be considered fair, for the following reasons: In the first place, it concentrated on the first part of Mr. Miller's address, omitting all reference to foreign policy, and in so doing threw the address out of its true perspective. In the second place, the report violates *Salient's* aim of being "The Organ of Student Opinion" in that it suppressed all arguments from the floor with which those responsible for the report happened to disagree.

Signed by the Committee of the I.R.C.

J. O. MILLER. B. N. DAWÉ.  
P. R. MACKENZIE. S. MAGEE.  
E. J. PATRICK. M. H. HOLM.  
F. F. FYFFE. B. M. O'CONNOR.  
S. CAMPBELL.

Sir,—As a member of the I.R.C. I would like to protest against "Whui's" self-styled "partisan" report appearing recently in *Salient*.

He begins by calling our speakers pseudo-rationalists. I think the term could be better applied to "Whui" himself. His whole report is a muck-heap of meaningless inferences and unsupported statements. With theatrical gestures he throws his second-hand material right and left—second-hand because he was present only at the conclusion of the address.

When he had exhausted his ill-gotten material he turned to Miss Crompton, devoting to her space out of all proportion to her contribution to the meeting. There he apparently approves of her insinuations with regard to Mr. Miller's sources, and one is left to assume that Lenin, Stalin and *Pravda* are reactionary sources of information.

Finally, to cap all, his dormant sense of justice allows him to suppress the speaker's authoritative and logical reply to Miss Crompton.—I am, etc., B.N.D.

Dear Sir,—I was astounded to read the "one-eyed" report under the nom-de-plume of Whui. The only decent thing about it is the headed apology of Whui for being a little partisan. I would like to hear Whui's definition of "little," and I am sure that all present at the meeting would agree that the word "little" should be replaced by the word "completely."

It would appear that the writer has obtained his information second-hand, and fairly damaged at that. In view of the fact that one of the speakers at the meeting was a member of *Salient* staff, I cannot understand such a report appearing in your paper. Whui should have been at the meeting and heard the address and given what he heard, not what he was told by some apparently irresponsible newsgiver.

In closing, may I say that Whui used

the wrong quotation from Extravaganza. It should have been "Even here among the dead, we can't escape the raging red."—Yours, etc.,

HOOEY.

Dear Sir,—I have to thank you for the opportunity of seeing Hooley's letter. Very suitably signed, I think.

Evidently Hooley doesn't read the daily papers: if he did, he would know what being partisan in the press really is. They are rather more subtle about it than myself. I want to say right away that my report was as biased to the left as Mr. Miller's address was to the right. I considered that he was incorrect, misinformed, and misled in many matters, and I said so. The report was strong, yes, but the reason for that is simple: Mr. Miller is gaining the reputation of an authority on the foreign policy of the U.S.S.R., and it is a dangerous thing that this should happen when he is so bitterly opposed to that policy, and that Government.

And, lest Hooley be tempted to reply: "Oh, but he isn't opposed to the Soviet Government," let me quote part of a question by a member of the audience, who began: "In view of the speaker's apparent bitter hatred of the Soviet Union . . ."; and Mr. Miller's reply began: "I don't hate the *people* of the Soviet Union . . ." implying, as there was no qualification later, that he *did* hate the *Government* of the Soviet Union. Then how can he pose as an exponent of Soviet policy, and also claim to remain unblinded?

As for the cheap sneer in Hooley's second paragraph, may I say that the writer was at the meeting, he did hear the address, and *did* give a report on what was heard, namely, anti-Soviet propaganda. And I must say that Mr. Hooley is rather illogical in calling Mr. Miller an "apparently irresponsible newsgiver"—which, as I took my "news" from the speaker's lips, is the only possible construction of his remark. I am glad, too, that Hooley, in his closing sentence, realises that he is dead. And, if we are to go on quoting Extrav. at each other, then let me close with: "—Who have you been reading?" "—Oh, Eugene Lyons, Jan Valtin, Leon Trotsky. . . All very reliable—they're our sort, you know." —WHUI.

### THINGS TO COME:

Thursday, July 13—

Photography, the Art of Seeing. Mr. M. A. Johnson. 8 p.m. in A2.  
Bach Recital: Marie Vanderwart, Cello; Dorothy Davies, Piano. C6. 8 p.m.

Monday, July 17—

Iolanthe, Act II. C6.  
Boxing Club Annual Meeting, 8 p.m. in the Gym.

Saturday, July 22—

Rediscovering Community Living.—Discussion, led by Mr. Wadman, at Peter Mackenzie's, Leslie Road, Wadestown.

## ALIENS: IN OR OUT?

The second debate of the year was held on June 30 before a fair audience, many of whom were attracted by the nature of the subject: "That the exclusion of aliens would be of advantage to New Zealand."

From the outset speakers drifted from the point; this may be accounted for but not excused by the common use of so much emotive reasoning in discussions on this topic.

Mr. Jack Williams, more at home on the platform than usual, plunged into a long dissertation on the economics of immigration and expressed the opinion that importation of aliens would seriously disturb post-war reconstruction.

Miss Betty Arya still gives the impression that she is trying to mix drama and debating. She approached the discussion from the humanitarian aspect but was more effective in countering the arguments of her opponents than in bringing forward a water-tight case.

Mr. Oliver, speaking of the disadvantages, gave instances of strong racial feeling arising out of the admission of aliens to other countries, but conceded that where aliens and nationals were given equal treatment the trouble seldom occurred.

Mr. O'Leary quoted copiously from vital statistics, indicating that New Zealand urgently needs a much larger population. Some of his proposals were greeted with loud laughter,

# FINLAND — Northern Enigma

## Fascism or Democracy

In the past couple of weeks the astonishing forward sweep of the Northern Russian armies, the liberation of Minsk, and the crumbling of the German forces has brought realisation that Finland will shortly be out of the war.

There has been much controversy over Finland. Is this small North-European country a democracy or, as some people claim, the first fascist state in Europe. Over the last thirty years what has been her internal and international position? In this article our special correspondent clears up some of these points.

Finland, as we know today, was under Swedish domination from 1154 to 1809. Her people are related ethnologically to the European and Asiatic—a sub-Arctic group. The Swedes brought Catholicism and later Lutheranism; Russian colonists brought the Greek Catholic faith. In feudal Finland there were peasant risings similar to those in Britain or Czechoslovakia. The aristocracy of the country consisted of Swedo-Finnish stock who regarded themselves as a race apart. They even supported the Russian seizure of the country in 1809, and regarded the Czar's regime as a bulwark against the growing liberalism of Sweden.

While Finland was still part of the Russian Empire, in 1905 came the first unsuccessful Russian revolution. Conservatives, led by the aristocracy, supported the Czar; the social-democratic party fought for and temporarily gained some democratic liberties. The elected Diet remained, and in 1916 Socialists returned a majority. Accession to power in Russia of the Bolsheviks brought Finland her independence. In accord with their views on national freedom, Bolsheviks had always stood for Finnish independence, and now granted it, despite Finland's internal turmoil.

### Short-lived Liberty

The history of the next few years makes tragic reading. Throughout Czarist days the powerful class in Finland had been the landowners. This wealthy section, fearing liberal reform from an elected parliament, inaugurated a civil war. Baron Mannerheim (Butcher Mannerheim, they called him), and his White Army, Swedish military and financial aid, and above all, German General von der Goltz at the head of a German army, won Finland for the present rulers.

Conservative sources at the time estimated 30,000 killed, with 73,915 prisoners—out of a four-million population. It was a martyrdom of the Finnish people.

Some three years later public opinion in Britain ran so high against these atrocities that Mannerheim was refused admittance to England for a visit.

### Government By Whom?

1919, notable in Finnish history. The first foundations for a facade of democracy—her constitution. Franchise went to men of 24 or more; elections were held every three years. The President, elected every six years, was given extraordinarily wide powers—he could veto Diet legislation, and promulgate his own legislation without the sanction of the Diet; he can dissolve the Diet.

The usual "democratic rights and liberties" are permitted except for "restrictions necessary in time of war or rebellion or any other circumstances," which clause was freely invoked.

The Government supported by an annual grant and general tolerance the civil guard, a shirt army, forerunners of Hitler's blackshirts, recruited from the less poor classes and numbering 200,000. This Schutz Corps was used freely at elections.

### Political Parties

People in democratic countries are apt to fight shy of a one-party system and so, for the sake of overseas morale, other parties were allowed to exist. The Communist Party was never tolerated by Mannerheim, but the Social Democratic Party, its militants slaughtered, a pale copy of its former self, was allowed to remain. Party leader Tanner stated its aims: "The Social Democratic Party has the same aims as the Lapuans" (an organised fascist movement, comparable to the worst type of Nazi thugs and who were never penalised because of their "usefulness" to the government). So much for the opposition. For a short time the fascist party (not the government party) was "banned," but later restored. In 1922 and again in 1930 Social Democratic militants were elected to Parliament; they were jailed, and a wave of reaction swept the country, the "democratic rights" were restricted and severe Press Laws enforced.

### Scandinavian Paradise

Finland is frequently bracketed with Norway and Sweden as part of a Scandinavian paradise. The facts reveal otherwise. Liberal thought and trade unions have been tolerated in Norway and Sweden, not so in Finland. Small trades had their unions but the big industries of the country were run by industrial police. Company police are familiar to students of American conditions. Those in Finland were on a grander scale. Armoured cars, even tanks, aeroplanes and gunboats on lakes and rivers were a guarantee of industrial peace. The Finnish wage-level was half that of its neighbours and there was no old-age, disability or unemployment insurance.

The conditions of the peasants was alarming to a country preparing for war. Forty per cent. of army recruits were rejected as unfit. Government agronomist Kinnunen stated that owing to the small peasant allotments "the peasant family does not possess enough food for daily nourishment." Wood flour and rye flour mixed were staple diet. Eight per cent. of the farmers held over half the arable land, 55 per cent. of the farms accounted for 4 per cent. of the arable land. A picture of starvation and misery confronts us.

### What Price Independence?

Finland's natural hinterland is Russia; her political alignment forbade this, and her economy suffered. Timber resources have been drained

and her agriculture mauled to give her this unnatural balance. Joint-stock companies, largely British-owned, accounted for 95 per cent. of her production in 1937. American trusts are in a powerful position; Morgan-controlled companies dominate the nickel mines and telephone system. Ford is established there. Thirteen U.S. corporations are installed in this happy hunting ground; British investments are heavy and profitable.

### Looking East

Mannerheim's government in the early twenties started building military installations and strategic roads and railways—to the Russian border. The U.S.S.R., to give her credit, after giving Finland her independence, maintained a constantly peaceful policy. Finland replied by building air-fields and naval bases larger than her own forces could use. Can it be wondered that foreign observers doubted her neighbourly policy?

### War!

War broke on to the northern scene, Chamberlain and Daladier sent help; more planes were sent to Finland than were available to Lord Gort in the tragic weeks leading up to Dunkirk.

War correspondents were not allowed "within the sound of gunfire," but rumours of red atrocities (to equal Franco's at Guernica?) were rife. We were given to believe that the Russian armies were ill-equipped, incompetent and disheartened, that the Finns were united behind their government. It was a matter of cold fact that when hostilities opened in 1939 one in every hundred Finns were in gaol or concentration camp.

Finnish government figures after the cessation of hostilities were: 600 civilian deaths in 1,800 air-raids—scarcely indicative of indiscriminate bombing. The peace terms were unbelievably lenient; Finland had an opportunity to make good and rebuild. But her rulers followed in Hitler's train. Their ambassador in Washington in the fateful June of 1941 was as double-faced as Tojo's representative before the bombing of Pearl Harbour.

Finland's rulers have made her suffer greatly. Perhaps now their hour has struck, and we may look forward to a new and democratic Finland.

## BACH RECITAL

A programme of Bach music has been arranged for the college by the Music Makers' Club.

### MARIE VANDEWART

— 'CELLO

### DOROTHY DAVIES

— PIANO

C.6 Thursday 13th July - 8 p.m.

### ADMISSION:

— STUDENTS 1/6

— VISITORS 3/-

## Maths & Physics

What does that mysterious body, the Maths. and Physics Society, do? Sounds horribly dull and technical. One arts student didn't think so, wrote to *Saliens* to say so. Sad to relate, the activities of this thriving club have not received much notice. It's time students knew more about it.

It is not a home away from home for mathematicians, nor a tea club for technicians. It arranges films, lectures, visits, demonstrations, on a variety of topics. If more "ignor-amuses" like "M.H." from the Arts Faculty (her word), and more of the Science Faculty were to conquer their shyness they might find their "infiltration" of benefit to them.

The club has had three meetings this year (Chem. Soc. please note). The first was the annual general, at which R. H. F. Denniston spoke on "Infinity." Then the lecture referred to by M.H., a talk by Pilot Officer J. W. Hutchings on "Clouds." Unfortunately Mr. Hutchings had to stop after an hour and a half; the subject fascinated. Those herring-bone clouds we observe so calmly are due to winds in the upper air. Did you ever study how clouds form on the tops of mountains, how they break away and travel hundreds of miles before dissolution?

Recently club members visited the railway signal and power systems. A trip to Khandallah showed members mercury arc rectifiers and transformers that run the electrified tracks round Wellington. None will forget the huge glass bulbs, perhaps six feet in diameter, blued by the arc-glow, and the controlling automatic switch gear. In town is the main signal box, with innumerable levers and lights, showing the position of each train, of every point and signal. Inside the main building is the control room, where the whole track from Wellington to Paekakariki is controlled by one man.

More such trips are in the offing, so watch the notice-board for information.

## HELP

The Secretary of the Executive, Mr. Ian McDowell, has asked us to publicise the fact that the copy of Club Constitutions kept in the Exec. Room for the use of members of the Students' Association is missing. Would anyone who knows anything about this missing file please contact Mr. MacDowell urgently?

## TEA DANCE

Sortie proceeded according to plan, all food disposed of, and most of our cups returned safely. Students are beginning to get the idea behind these organisations. First you go to the tea dance, then you escort the girl friend down to the pictures, and finally, if you wish to complete the social sandwich, you go dancing—presumably to one of those dreamy halls where everyone is half asleep. Of course the whole affair is rather expensive, but you can always save money on item one by helping with the dishes.

Incidentally, to avoid a clash of temperaments over the tea the social committee are not averse to well-thought-out suggestions. In any case, don't forget the next tea dance—Saturday, 22nd, 5 o'clock in the Gym.

## FOOTBALL

Slow progress in the club championship is still being made, and the efforts of the teams have resulted in the obtaining of 32 points (possible, 70).

Seniors have beaten Air Force 7-0, Athletic B 16-3 and Seatoun (Army) 8-0 in rather scrappy games. The work of this team suffers because of a superabundance of would-be loose forwards: in fact there are only two or three who attempt to put their heads into a scrum. The consequence is that the half-back and first five-eighth have to do far too much defending than is good either for their play or their side's.

Congratulations to Buck Ryder on his "pot"—married life apparently agrees with him.

Juniors have drawn with Old Boys 6-6 and lost to Base Camp 0-15 and Taita 6-16. As a result of these games three backs are injured badly enough to put them out of action for some weeks. The chief faults of the team are poor handling by the backs, and lack of protection afforded them, especially the half-back, by the forwards. G. S. Orr deserves special mention for his brilliant try against Old Boys.

Third A.—This team has been playing consistently well, beating Seatoun 25-3, Air Force 5-3 and Marist 4-3. Among those playing well are Haldane, Watson and Ackroyd of the backs and Perham and Igglesden in the forwards.

Third B are still suffering from want of a coach and have lost to Johnsonville 8-15 and Upper Hutt 6-29. The form shown against Upper Hutt in the second spell was, however, very encouraging. Drummond and Atmore, backs, and Goodwin and MacDonald, forwards, are playing well.

## HARRIERS

Remembering their previous year's *faux pas* (fox p'ass to you) harriers plotted and ran quite a short course from Island Bay on June 24th. They were amply rewarded for their restraint by the afternoon tea which awaited them at the Shorlands', who we thank for their long friendship to the club. A round of speech-making was started by Mr. R. M. Daniell, Vice-Captain (not to be confused with Vicc-Captain Dick Daniell slated in the last issue) and concluded with the presentation (by V.C. R.M.D.) of a fine toffee apple to Mr. Sherwood for the best story of the week, unfortunately un-reproducible (but see V.C. R.M.D.).

The club's turnout was as unexpectedly large for the Dorne Cup on July 1st. The weather was so cold that had any brass monkeys turned out they also would have been compelled to run to prevent their teeth from chattering. On the points counted for the first ten men we were judged second once again to Scottish. We also must make note of (1) a saboteur, Wolfgang Rosenberg, who ran in a singlet on June 24th but convinced of our weakness led an Air Force deputation from the Delta in the Dorne, and (2) of the ill-luck of the leaders, including McDowall and Geddes, in losing the trail about one mile from home. Had it not been for this mishap Varsity certainly would have been represented in the first four men home. As it was, honours of the day went to a Hutt man not so much for his running as for his local knowledge of the peculiarities of a poorly marked trail.

# S P O R T

## DOWN WITH BLACKLEGS

The Annual General Meeting approved two amendments to the Constitution which are of interest to sportsmen.

One of them has the effect of extending the Blues regulations by making it necessary to play all sports for College clubs (if the clubs exist and desire the services of the player) before a Blue can be awarded.

The other amendment debars from Tournament play any person who does not play all his sports for College clubs (again, if the College club desires the services of the player).

These amendments, which were brought forward by Orm. Creed, are excellent ones. The opposition they encountered from the floor of the house was due mainly to the woolly arguments brought forward to support them. Issues which were capable of surviving the closest inspection were shrouded throughout in a fog of emotional thinking and speaking. But the amendments were passed, despite the fact that at no stage did a simple question receive a simple answer.

With these new regulations to limit the award of Blues to truly pukka Varsity sportsmen, the clubs shoulder a new responsibility. If students are to be coerced into playing for Varsity clubs, then it behoves those clubs to give them a good game every week. Non-Varsity players should not be allowed to displace students and casuals should not be given a game at the expense of regular club members.

Another topic of sporting interest at the annual meeting was a recommendation to the new Executive that clubs be circularised and urged to be conservative in making their Blues nominations. Recently there has been some feeling that the standard of the College Blue has not been maintained since the beginning of the war, and anything the new Exec. can do to encourage a more responsible attitude in this matter will be a progressive step.

## Answer Please

Dear Madam,

Is there something wrong in the football club? I hear complaints on every side. Recently at a Wednesday night practice, for a club of 60 or more members, 9 turned up. How many know the names of every member in their own team? Is anything done to tell them who their team-mates are? (Compare the procedure in Weir and the Hockey and Harrier Club.) Do the men get together at all off the field?

I am told that if a man who has played for Otago happens to be in town some Saturday he is given a game, but at the expense of regular V.U.C. men.

What is the attitude of a Varsity sports club—to win the local competition or to develop a good club by giving all V.U.C. students a chance to learn the game under good coaching? Are we to teach our own students to play together, to improve and, when they merit it, give them a place in the leading team automatically—or are we to choose our players on their reputations—what they have done in the past, or on what they have done in general work for the club?

At one match last year the senior team had five emergencies—none of whom, as it happened, were needed, while the juniors played short. Is the club run so that the senior team wins matches as often as possible? Should it not be run so that every team gets equal consideration? Every member pays the same Stud. Ass. fee—does he pay it to add to the honour and glory of the senior team at the expense of the others?

For two Saturdays running the juniors have finished their game with 13 players. Last week there was one emergency, while on some occasions

they have just had the 15 players when they went on the field. The same week as the football club had 9 at a practice the hockey club had between 40 and 50 present. A soccer club was formed last year—the athletic and harrier clubs are stronger than they have been for years. If other clubs have a good spirit what is the matter with what was, in the old days, our strongest club?—ENQUIRER.

## BOXING

It is a considerable time since the Varsity Boxing Club has had the services of such a competent and enthusiastic instructor as Mr. B. McFarlane, who attends the Varsity Gym. each Monday evening. It is also probably a considerable time since any Varsity Club possessing the services of an instructor, coach or trainer has been confronted with such apathy and lack of interest and even lack of consideration, first from its own members, and secondly from sportingly minded students in general, than has the Boxing Club.

Doubtless the cancellation of Tournament was a contributing cause to the disinterestedness which has been all too evident. But the Boxing Club should not be any different from other Varsity clubs who do not have to rely on Inter-Varsity Tournaments to stimulate interest. Students who have never laced on a glove are welcome. The rudiments of the game will be painstakingly explained and taught to all so desirous of learning.

With a reminder that the annual general meeting of the club will be held in the Gym. on Monday, July 17, and with an exhortation to sporting enthusiasts, the club is now signing off.

## Table Tennis

In the second round of the Wellington Grade Championships the four Varsity teams distinguished themselves by winning all four of their matches. In the B Grade V.U.C. defeated Grey Cabs by 11 games to 1. Hannan, keeping on top of the ball, virtually "flicked" his opponents off the table and de la Mare baffled the opposition by his unusual solid style. Smith, who is fast developing into a top-notch player, did not have much trouble in winning his two singles. His devastating attack and sound defence were too much for the opposition. The fourth member of the team, Alpe, played a very clean game and acquitted himself well. In the doubles Smith and Alpe combined well and with a little more practice should develop into a fine team.

The C Grade team defeated Wellington Jewish Social Club by 8 games to 4. There were no outstanding games in the match although some were closely contested. Grinlinton, Phillipps and Couper all won their two singles. Of the four doubles games V.U.C. won two. This team needs doubles practice very badly.

In the D Grade our A team narrowly defeated Wellington Hospital by 11 games to 9. Dickson and Bay played well and each won three out of four singles, Evans and Langbein winning two and one respectively. Dickson and Bay won two doubles and Evans and Langbein lost two. This team would win far more games if its members would not insist on throwing away points at the wrong time, but otherwise it is playing well.

The second D Grade team had a decisive win over N. W. Thomas, defeating them by 18 games to 2. Stewart, Gunn and McKenzie won all their singles and doubles, Hayes losing two singles.

Full details of the third round matches are not yet available, but in the D Grade V.U.C. "A" defeated Tramways by 11 games to 9, and V.U.C. "B" lost to Shipping by 14 games to 6. On Monday, July 17, there will be a knockout tournament commencing at 7.15 p.m. in the Gym.

## CHESS

A new Chess Club has recently been affiliated, so would all interested please watch the notice board for information regarding the holding of the first annual meeting.

Although no real playing facilities yet exist, three teams of six a side have already entered the Wellington League competitions, one each in the A, B, and C Grades.

The A Grade team has so far played only one match: a draw, 3-all, which is quite a satisfactory start.

On its first appearance the B team, apparently horrified at the lack of the V.U.C. spirit shown by the other teams, got off to a standard V.U.C. start to the tune of 0-6.

In the C Grade, our team has won one match and lost one, with scores of 4-2 and 2-4.

There are still opportunities for keen players in the teams, and anyone interested should see Colin Button, Hugh Jamieson, Noel Henderson or Dave Steele.

Internal competitions will start as soon as the club is installed.

# V.U.C. PLAYS MASSEY

## Hockey Teams Stronger

**Inter-Collegiate.**—The visit by the Massey Hockey Club, although so short, was an extremely pleasant affair, and will help to strengthen the goodwill which exists between the two Colleges. An account of the match is found elsewhere in this issue. Perhaps the main feature of the game was the fine effort that the comparatively inexperienced Massey players made in restricting the reputedly "hot" Vic. team to the narrow win of 3-2.

The club appreciates the turn-out of so many students who formed such a spirited yet sympathetic group of spectators.

**Local.**—The "A" team remains unbeaten, although in its last two games there were moments when things looked bad. Against Old Boys, the deciding goal was scored by Johnny Nichols, towards the end of the game, while against Training College the team was down 1-0 at half-time. The penalty corner combination—Smiler, Gunn, Rae—has struck consistent form.

The "B" team was unlucky not to have beaten Wellington some weeks back. Their form that day was excellent and showed great improvement. Mike Benge played a fine game in goal. Their game against Wellington College was marred considerably by the state of the ground.

"2A" put up a good fight against Hula when they rallied in an exciting last minute to equalise against a very formidable team. "2B" also drew against this team, which has the doubtful reputation of being rough and tough.

"3A" and "3B."—In spite of having lost their recent games these teams are playing good improved hockey and are enjoying their games against opposition which is very much more experienced.

That the club as a whole is acquitting itself well is shown by the fact that Victoria is well up in the club competition points.

### Massey v. Victoria

Although our team had the advantage of experience and held the offensive pretty consistently in the annual match between the two Colleges held on Wednesday, it was only during the last five minutes that V.U.C. proved the effects of superior methods of ploughing up a field. Our team scored two goals in the first half, but excellent stopping by Massey's goalie and full-backs kept them at bay, and late in the second half the score suddenly went to two all, disconcerting some V.U.C. supporters on the side-line who were generously barracking the losers. The game, which had been pretty slow till then, thereupon gained considerable impetus for an exciting finale with the deciding goal scored by Win Smiler just before the final whistle. Doug Yen, in a becoming blue shirt, did a fine job as captain of Massey's team, holding the future backbone of the country together and leading the fray against his former team-mates. V.U.C. full-backs were very efficient, apparently more so than usual, and Trigger Gunn was another outstanding performer. Even the inexperienced spectator could appreciate Ivor Ting's wizard ways with the ball, and Johnny Nicholls seemed to be everywhere at once. This is the general impression of a very pleasant event.

The hockey teams seem to be emerging from the mud—in fact they are improving with every match.

When they met Garrison W.A.A.C.S. at the beginning of the second round Senior A played short of the right full-back, who was rendered inactive before the match started. However, the game ended up two-all. The second half was very prolonged because of a number of accidents, but it was noticeable that Varsity kept cool and calm even in most heated moments.

Senior A showed itself to be working effectively as a team when it played Petone Tech. O.G. and beat them 6-1. Combination among the forwards was good and they were quick in the circle. The halves have now acquired the habit of co-operating with some result and the left full-back continues to play consistently and tirelessly.

The Senior B team met Y.W.C.A. in the Kibbirle mud and lost 3 nil. The following week the score was 3-all when they played Wrens and later St. Joseph's came out one point ahead after a very equal game. The right inner is snappy in the circle and the goalie should be mentioned for her improvement this season. The two new players, right wing and centre half, are playing promising hockey.

The Intermediate team is playing enthusiastically even if it does not make spectacular scores. The forwards should try dribbling and passing instead of hitting straight ahead into the opposing backs. The halves and backs continue to improve. There should be some good results from this team as they gain in experience.

## TRAMPING

Now that snow has fallen even in Wellington it is natural that our minds should turn to thoughts of skiing. It is almost certain that there will be a ten-day trip to Arthur's Pass again this year, so watch the notice board. It will cost about £5 including fares, food, accommodation and ski-hire. It is also hoped to run at least one week-end skiing trip before August, either to Kime Hut or Mt. Holdsworth.

### Working Party

Michael Benge led a purely masculine gathering over to Tawhai, boasting that he would "do something to the five-mile track." However, when they returned in pouring rain the next day they decided that it was worse than ever. As the conversation on this trip was probably 99 per cent. unprintable, no more can be said about whether the boys enjoyed themselves or not.

### Impromptu

Sunday, June 18, was so fine that a round dozen girls and boys turned out for a walk over to Te Kaminaru Bay. Everyone favoured a different route, so Jacko, who had spent many happy days with the Home Guard in this locality, picked out the longest and the rest followed. Amateur cooks prepared an indigestible lunch on the top of the hill, so the return trip was punctuated with stops to eat. The new members returned enthusiastic about the delights of tramping.

## SOCCER

A monotonous run of defeats was broken three weeks ago by holding Moera, the then championship leaders, to a draw. This was probably because the team really played as a team. But the next week we were back in the rut, suffering a severe defeat from Seatoun.

The great weakness in the team is the link between the forwards and the backs.

Last Saturday was V-day. In a match against Tech. Old Boys and an icy southerly we piled up six goals to their five. The wind made it difficult to control the ball, so that play was ragged, and, though we were pressing hard from the beginning of the second spell it was not until Dickinson scored a beautiful goal from well out that we began to look like winning. Sheffield (3) and Weir (2) made up the total. The win was all the more commendable with Captain Jack Walls away playing in the Wellington-Christchurch game.

Max Bay has been playing a good positional game lately, nor could we want better than Sheffield in goal or out in the field, but it is hard to single out anyone for special mention. It does look as though the tide has turned and that a few victories can be predicted for the future.

As most of you know, soccer players can now qualify for the highest of College sporting honours—a Blue. If anyone has ambitions in that direction, now is the time to turn on the fireworks.

## BASKETBALL

Both basketball teams have shown immense improvement in their recent matches. The Senior A team defeated St. Joseph's (11-4) in a rough and rather erratic game. The wind affected shooting and a lot of passes were fumbled. The best performance of the Senior A team to date was their defeat of Aspro by 25-18. The goal third showed a definite improvement in their passing, in their combination, and in shooting. The centres made many successful interceptions whenever Aspro made a faulty throw off.

The Senior B team lost to Y.W.C.A., who were definitely the superior team. However, our defence did very good work in keeping the ball away from the Y.W.C.A. goal. The B team also lost to St. Joseph's, but by a very small margin, the final score, 13-14, being a tribute to the improved play of our girls. All players have become more skilled in handling the ball, the goalie especially showing marked improvement.

Four girls from the A team have been selected for the Wellington Senior A representative trials. They are Thea Muir, Norma Henderson, Shirley Ackroyd, and Mira Parsons. We congratulate them and wish them luck. We also congratulate Margaret Beattie and Mira Parsons, who were awarded V.U.C. Blues for 1943.

The Basketball Club has accepted with pleasure the invitation of the Canterbury Club to participate in an Inter-Varsity Tournament in Christchurch in the week-end August 12.

### SOLDIERS' NEWS WANTED

Any overseas or home letters from ex-students will be welcome. Portions not for publication treated as confidential. Contact Alec McLeod or any member of "Salient" staff.

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