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# Sallent

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

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WELLINGTON, MAY 2, 1945

Price: THREEPENCE



# Extrav Sequel will be Tour to Palmerston for Patriotic

Unprecedented in the history of VUC, Extrav '45 is going on tour! Germinating in the brain of the advertising manager of the "Dominion," who saw the show with some Palmerston North friends (among whom, it is rumoured, was Palmerston's deputy mayor), the idea was speedily fertilised by Stan Campbell and came to enthusiastic fruition in the hands of the Extrav Controlling Committee. The decision has been made, the Palmerston Opera House has been booked for May 18 and 19, the cast is intrigued and more than willing, and difficulties of ways and means are being rapidly overcome.

At an on-stage meeting of the cast, held immediately after the final curtain on Thursday night, Jack Barr told the full story of the proposal-Palmerston had asked us for the show-were we willing to make the effort and take it to them-proceeds going to Patriotic? With but two dissentient voices the cast approved—nay, heartily applauded the scheme. The producer, rightly insistent on the need for further rehearsals, named Sunday and Wednesday, May 13 and 16, as THE DAYS. The cast groaned slightly but accepted graciously; only four persons found it impossible to attend either rehearsal; unfortunately it may be found necessary to replace these people.

An Extrav Committee meeting followed on Friday night. It was found that a total of 140 people would be travelling with billets to be found for 80. The transport of properties was satisfactorily arranged and the railways are proving co-operative over the transport of personnel; the main difficulty will be the billetting. A re-issue of Cappicade will be impossible as the type has already been broken up. The programme section will be reprinted with a plain cover.

Concerned mainly with the question billets, Stan Campbell and Huddy Williamson, Advertising and Stage Managers respectively, visited Palmers ton on Saturday, and were met with

#### **RE-HAB. STUDENTS**

The Executive is willing to arrange free coaching for you in any Varsity subject. If you are getting into difficulties with your work, get in touch with one of the following:

Arts—Miss M. Orr.

Law—J. Barr.

Science—I. McDowall.

wholehearted enthusiasm that astounded them. The mayor (Gus Mansford to you) was unfortunately suffering from 'flu but assured the deputation by phone of his desire to cooperate and referred them to the Town Clerk, Mr. Hardy. Mr. Mansford promised a press request for billets and expected that 50 could be found. When tactfully sounded on the possibility of a mock Civic Reception for the Duke and Duchess of Tierra del Fuego he resented the word "mock"—"I shall be there," said Mr. Mansford, "Boots and all." Mr. Hardy was found at the Opera House; he was very helpful, introducing Stan and Huddy to the caretaker, Mr. Nicholls, father of Johnny Nicholls, ex-VUC, now at Johnny, incidentally, has Massey. accepted the important post of publicity and general agent, and came down on Monday night to meet the Committee and to discuss plans.

#### Stage Excellent

Huddy considers the stage facilities equal to, and in some respects better than, those in Wellington. The dressing rooms may be somewhat cramped, and as they are immediately at the rear of the stage instead of at the side there will be less room backstage for the cast to wander about. Huddy asks all players to stay in their dressing rooms.

There are no boxes. The dress circle however, extends practically to the proscenium, and six seats within easy climbing distance of the stage have been reserved for the royal party. The loan of two or three backdrops by the Wellington Opera House is all that is required in the way of stage fittings.

In their further quest for billets the deputation rang Mr. Perry at MAC; the situation there is unpromising—with accommodation for 120 students, 250 are at present being catered for, with double sittings in the dining room. Prospects in other directions are, however, pleasing; the narrow is approach-

ing several hotels who have been very generous in the past, the Extrav. Committee has written to the Hon. Vincent Ward regarding possible accommodation at the Army camp.

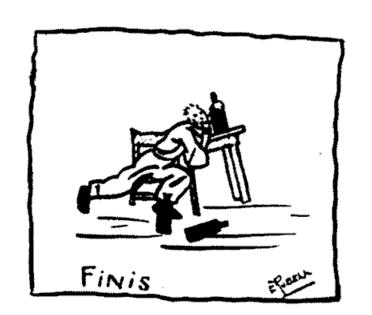
Sundry Cappicades have found their way into the hands of Palmerstonians, many of whom are enthusiastically working up scraps of local colour for the show. Further spicy tit-bits brought down by Stan, Huddy and Johnny are at this moment being gleefully incorporated by Ron Meek.

The Repertory Society and the Little Theatre have promised every assistance in regard to publicity and make up. The Cosy Lounge has very kindly offered to assist with feeding arrangements; 2ZA will give a field broadcast of the reception of the Duke and Duchess; in fact the enthusiasm shown by all those approached in Palmerston has been most gratifying, and all are confident that the trip will be an overwhelming success.

## Extrav Socials Live Up To Old Traditions

"What happens after performances is not my concern," had said all-time extrav producer Ron Meek, and in accepting these words the cast certainly demontheir independence. strated "Saturday, Tuesday, Thursday," read the social programme—down town arrangements had been finalised with all halls and bands having an endurance quota of at least 300. King of Socials was that furtive soc. comm. wizard with the "don't blame me" look in his eye -Gib. Bogle. Dances were well attended, more civilised than those gone by.

The Oddfellows' Hall admitted a shattering crowd on Saturday. Events were smooth but for one floorboard which chose to lower be dainty leg complete with footwear down to the earthy foundation. Closely huddled dancers shuffled around to a somewhat muffled orchestra, the vertical avoid-



ing when possible the more inebriated on the sideline.

Came the Gym. The Gym went—but there were still a few who could not remember.

An excellent band and a slippery floor for the unwary were provided in St. John's Hall. After one o'clock spotlight was on John Carrad, twin pupil of Aristophanes, who entertained a lusty crowd with extrav songs dating to 1920. Two o'clock saw lights out (all possible meanings). The some this year is at Paimerston and the

#### There's Many a Slip —

First nights certainly can be embarrassing, as the cast found out to their sorrow. To be trapped behind a sea wall because Gerry Player, overcome by Gib Bogle's crooning, launched herself into graceful flight over the aforesaid scenery and then put her foot through it, is not a happy experience, is it Joan?

The scenery was not particularly helpful, either. Bogie-wogie Errol Jones was a continually startled spectre when a flat fell over and glanced past his ear. But how the audience loves it. The same startled and appreciative murmur was heard at the end of the Humpty Dumpty scene, when the back drop was raised during the blackout disclosing a dimly lit collection of boxes, odds and ends, bits and pieces, among which variously clad figures flitted disconsolately.

Gagging naturally had to be called into play. Kerry Jordan gave a good impromptu introduction to his waltz when he was late for his scene. Ophelia had her snappy two-piece rather mauled on Wednesday when changing from her padded evening dress and disaster was narcowly averted. Dennis Hartley ran to and fro across the stage while waiting for the White Knight, and later the Mayor of Blunderland was heard to say "Put that ruddy light out." The word ruddy is in doubt. But, apart from these unforseen occurrences, the show went on smugly.

Quaint remark from brash young fresher reading copy of Cappicade '45: "Is Harold Miller really a communist?"

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VOL. 8 No. 5



Wednesday, May 2

#### NO MAN'S LAND

#### - Thanks

Dear Sir,

In the list of officials in the 1945 Cappicade there was at least one serious omission, and I would ask you to remedy this in part by publishing in "Salient" the names of my wardrobe assistants, who worked long hours at a difficult and trying job.

In particular I wish to acknowledge the work of Gwenda Martin, Marie Irwin, Gwen Jolly, Shirley McNab and Margaret Beattie. Without their assistance there could have been no Extrav and it is regrettable that they were not mentioned in the official programme.—I am, etc.,

GWEN McDOWALL Wardrobe Mistress.

#### — OU, aliens and NZUSA

Dear Sir,

In your last issue I note your report that at the NZUSA Annual Conference the opinion was expressed that "as admission to the Medical School is on a competitive basis, British subjects should be given preference over aliens." I wish to express through your columns my whole-hearted disagreement with this opinion.

Limitation of admission to University courses by making "pass" examinations competitive is a regrettable necessity, and a reflection on the vision of the University. But granted the necessity, selection of students should still be made in rational manner, and should still aim at selection of those likely to contribute most to the community. We have no other criterion than that provided by examinations. No satisfactory test of future professional integrity has yet been evolved.

The primary functions of a University are, to my mind, the advancement of knowledge and of education. The University does not teach in order that its students shall make money, nor should it discriminate concerning those whom it is willing to teach in order to give advantage, money and opportunity to one section of the community rather than to another. The only standards which the University should consider in dealing with admission of students are recognised and definable standards of intellectual attainment and integrity. Discriminations of the type suggested, which as the Jews know to their cost, are an essential part of fascist ideology, have no place in a democratic state, and should be opposed by every section of the University.

Student opinion in New Zealand has a reputation for progressive thought. In this matter, however, it appears that even the University Senate is more liberal than the NZ USA. I trust that the views of the student body do not support the NZUSA's opinion.—I am, etc.,

P. B. D. de la MARE.

#### -- my pistol

Lower Hutt, April 28.

Dear Sir.

I don't think it is fair that if I lend my pistol to the producer and Property Manager of Extrav, that it should be returned to me in damaged condition. When it left me it had a black bakelite handle, complete with screw. When it was returned to me it had neither handle nor screw. Certainly this is no credit to anybody who had anything to do with "Peter in Blunder land." I think that the committee should replace the handle.—Yours disgustedly, MICHAEL McLEOD.

#### --- women's common room

Dear Sir,

Is there any real reason for the disgraceful condition of the women's common room in this college? I have not had the pleasure of entering the men's common room since I have been here but if it has the same atmosphere it reflects no credit on the people concerned. I realise that this university suffers from lack of funds and temporary (?) buildings, but these conditions have prevailed for so long that surely some more satisfactory compromise could have been reached by now. At AUC, the college with which I am most familiar, the same obstacles are there but nevertheless the women's common room is a very pleasant place, which is as it should be. I am willing to believe that the pictures in the common-room here are inevitable, but I cannot believe that dirt, dust, broken furniture and uncleared ash-trays (which are only poor makeshifts anyway) are. If there is a committee in existence which has the responsibility for the commonroom, it is an absolute disgrace to them. If there is not it is more than time that one was appointed. A university is a poor thing without common rooms and it is essential that the dank atmosphere which is enough to dampen any girls-together attitude that might be attempted should be eradicated.—I am, etc.,

MARGOT HOGBEN.

#### **BOOKS**

#### KOESTLER'S FIFTH

Arthur Koestler's fifth book concerns Peter Slavek, whose face is "long oval; hair: ginger, of wiry texture; forehead: high, freckled; eyes: large, brown; nose: broken bridge, otherwise normal; mouth: full, upper lip usually drawn up baring gum and prominent teeth, two of which missing in front; age: twentytwo."

Peter Slavek arrives in the capital of Neutralia; while there he suffers from a nervous breakdown, and undergoes a course of treatment during which he reveals the whole structure of his past, his actions and their secret motives. Here the rational line of psycho-analysis intersects irrational line of ethical values.

The story moves against the background of the neutral city teeming with refugees, of every nation, who hope eventually to reach America. Peter Slavek emerges from his illness devoid of illusions "both about objective aims and subjective motives," and with but a faint glimmering of new values. The book ends when Peter departs for an unknown fate.

Koestler's prose style has a stark beauty, and economy of language surprisingly different from that of the majority of war novels. "He felt the warm moisture trickle down the shallow grooves along his nose with the broken saddle, and through the gap between the lips past the stumps of knocked-out teeth, into his tortured mouth."

... and Aldous Huxley, "The brave new world?" asked Peter . . . . "the nightmare of a pigtailed humanist in despair."

Peter Slavek represents a generation who grew up as the world of isms tumbled down.

You'll like this book, whether you think, aspire to thought or just read.

(Our copy by courtesy of Modern Books.)

#### **BLOOD MONEY**

"Blood Money," Mr. Hammett's latest short novel of crime and detection, is, if possible, even more gory and exciting than its author's previous tales.

Beginning with a bank robbery, a vivid picture in which the dominant colour is vermillion, the story progresses from climax to startling climax until the conclusion, cunningly linked with a surprising revelation of the "O. Henry" type, is reached, and the tangled skein is neatly and adequately

Drawn with the sure, deft strokes of a true artist, the characters are fascinating and alive; and the crisp, utilitarian cleanness of Mr. Hammett's style greatly enhances the dramatic potency of the tale.

For those who like this method of obtaining vicarious excitement (and your reviewer is one of them) "Blood Money" is just the thing to fill in an idle hour; read it and enjoy it.

-THOMAS COCKCROFT

Nobody knows Nobody cares What sort of pyjamas A bachelor wears.

For publication in this issue we have received contributions, both in verse and prose, which other critics than ourselves have adjudged good. We regard their judgment as controversial and wish to ask the opinion of our readers. We particularly request articles or letters of criticism, together with further contibutions of the same type. These will be printed in our next issue.

He came downstairs slowly. passionately and with serene lucidity, he knew what was in store for him. Whatever it would be, he knew it would be all right.

He saw that during the night the weather had cleared. Instantly he felt a blossoming of spirit, a kindliness that approached joy in everything he knew. All at once he was at peace with himself, feeling a quiet emptiness in which there was no more time, no more images, no more pain.

Walking almost soundlessly, he entered the kitchen.

His wife looked up from the table. Her lifted face was intense, glowing. In the morning light, her eyes were like sun-touched water. Suddenly she smiled, and in that moment there was between them all the indefinable mystery and knowledge of the first man and the first woman. Strangely, her voice was quiet when she said: "Good morning, lazy."

Without a word, he caught her in a flerce grip and bent to look into her eyes. He swept her close and kissed her fluttering eyelids, her cool cheeks. her quivering mouth.

For one taut second their eyes caught and held. Then she pushed him away.

"Do you want any toast this morning?" she asked.

His eyes were still shyly incredulous on hers, and he made no sign that he had heard. She arose and stepped nearer to him, her look warm with challenge. "And an egg with your bacon?" she added.

His muscles stiffened imperceptibly. "No eggs," he answered. A million things were crowding, teeming, in his thoughts to be expressed to her, but his words were too frail to frame them.

She walked toward the stove, her slim young body very straight and defiant. Covertly he watched her piquant profile, her chin set at a gallant angle.

"Is there any grapefruit?" he asked. The warmth and colour left her face. "No, she answered, "I forgot to order them yesterday."

He nodded with weary acceptance. Seething inside of him was this new defeat. "Okay," he said.

He looked out of the window and saw the last tinges of mist blend with the consuming blue of the sky. The long day lay ahead. During that day there were things he must tell her!

—ALAN MACDONALD

Poor fool who stood alone Sally is gone that was so kindly Perfect little body, without fault or stain

She grew within the heart as the flushed rose.

Tell me not here, it needs no saying Memory, out of the mist, in a long slow

A scent of Esparto grass—and again I recall

Your grapnel eyes, dredging my body through

When I was but thirteen or so.

How will I hold myself

night

I am frightened sweetheart-that's the long and short.

".... the left wing's moulting on our shore:

It will not fly again, I fear. Freedom has become a whore. Where are the phrases of yesteryear?"

I know not why I yearn for thee again, This is the horror that, night after

When I lie where shades of darkness Nor dread nor hope attend

Oh subterranean fires, break out! Sombre the night is . . .

The darkness crumbles away---Enough! Why should a man bemoan But the root of the matter is I am growing old.

HAZELL de V. AYLESBURY

## We Aspire to a Literary Section

Links with my back-time: O young, come and walk in apples with me

pasture.

And tread juice in skins and earth. Come and break chestnut-boughs, Through fir, and down to cow-spaced

O young, come link my back-time To this age-old present Of moth-wing and peach fur, Smudged with slip of foot, Shake of print . . . . O young, O come link me; Back-time to present and future In gold mirrors of silver sheen. -"DAVENPORT"

And it was night The wrench the searing fight, Weep to haste away To whirl tremendously Up down naturally. Sigmund stands sardonic grinning He lives the desperate way Shrieks unperturbed—stray Heavenwards, absorb the more; The bulb-lights flick, Slick, shone, and swift retreat Tempo's torrid twirl sweet. Slink twist stumble creep Tracks tunnel home sleep.

-- "Searas"

#### Lines from an Unfinished elegy

Consider the room in which he lies The floor of rich mosaic, The walls are worn and shattered And darkly stained with age. All beautiful the fissures fret their way 'Midst channeled zones of alabaster And the time-stains are a golden brown Rich-coloured, like seaweed when the

Strikes on it through deep sea.

J. KINROSS.

## **Photos or Phoney?**

We have received a criticism of a criticism. Mr. Pascoe's judgments of the photographic entries for "Spike" 1944 have been strongly challenged. We invite other photographers to enter the field and hope to print a reply from Mr. Pascoe in our next issue.

A critic may be expected to possess a knowledge of criticism in general, and a specific ability in his own subject. Unhappily, Mr. Pascoe's criticism of SPIKE 1944 photographic entries shows that he possesses neither. A critic, in judging such an open competition as this has no authority to limit the entries to any particular class or subject. If he finds himself incapable of judging over the whole field, then he should resign in favour of one who can. Nor may he disregard the fundamentals of photographic presentation.

A photographic competition, Mr. Pascoe to the contrary is a test of

"technical excellence, composition, and skill," and can never be otherwise. The alleged limitation of subject by the "mechanical limitations" of the photographic medium is just so much hooey.

Mr. Pascoe derides "composition." Doubtless he will continue to ao so, although composition is merely another way of expressing the tasteful arrangement of subject matter in the picture The technical attributes of space. composition which can never be disregarded except with the millionth shot, are not so much classical balance, geometrical balance of line, triangle, circle, etc., as basic rhythm of line, of tone, the balance of masses, and emphasis on the subject, as well as dramatic effects emphasised by judicious manipulation in printing.

Since photography is an art equally with brush, pencil or stone, why should the criteria for excellence in photography be any different to these others? Are all these established plantographers and critics wrong-F. J. Mortimer, Ivan Dmitri, Margaret Bourke-White, LIFE'S ace "I am still a pictorialist" Eisenstaedt, Julian Smith, "Table top"

E. Heimann, Marcus Adams, Rosalind Maingot, and to come nearer home, Geoff Perry, W. C. Davies, H. Farmer MacDonald, C. E. Singleton, J. W. Chapman-Taylor? Is Mr. Pascoe alone right in all this Anglo-American-New Zealand array of established talent?

I doubt it. Others examining G. C. Heron's "Study" will also doubt it. This snapshot—it cannot be called a picture—has not one iota of sincerity. It is posed, strained, insincere and artificial. Its framing and presentation offend against all the laws of art. Reproduction of such a snapshot was a wast of time, block and paper. To enter such a print was either tongue in the cheek or sheer ignorance of photographic values.

It would be interesting to have the whole of the entries reviewed and rejudged by a competent critic.

Mr. Pascoe's article is an apothesis of the snapshooter. A critic trying to bluff his way through and smotherup his ignorance with clap-trap and jargon. From the first sentence of his review, one wonders if the grapes

STUDENTS!

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## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING SUPPORTS EXEC DECISION

As sequel to the petition that Extrav funds be allocated to patriotic funds, a special general meeting of about sixty students held on Thursday in the Gym, rejected the motion before it by twelve votes.

Speaking from the chair, Jack Barr opened by stating the views of the Exec. A street day and procession were to have been held prior to Extrav, proceeds going to ISS and Patriotic, but the unexpected advent of Tournament forced the abandonment of the plan. It must not be thought that the Exec. had turned their backs on the patriotic funds. A suggestion had been made, with which the Hon. Vincent Ward agreed, that a street day be held later in the

Kemp Fowler then moved "that Extrav profits be donated to the patriotic fund as in 1944." There were two main arguments, one of principle, the other of tactics. That any organisation should work for its own private gain at the present moment was deplorable. The unavoidable cancellation of the procession made the present allocation of profits even more unfortunate. Further, as a method of raising funds for the building, the present arrangement had little merit. In the strenuous drive for finances after the war our main and incalculable asset would be goodwill, both with the Government and the public. Our wartime record must be unassailable if we are to ask for a further grant from the State.

Dave Cohen, seconding the motion, briefly amplified Mr. Fowler's remarks and criticised Extrav funds as a very slow method of reaching our objective.

#### Counter-attack

First speaker from the floor was Marc Poole, who attacked the motion While £500 as profits brusquely. would only be 2 per cent. of the total needed for the building, it would be but .68 per cent. of the Wellington area patriotic total. Facts were what were wanted, and the fact was that most people who go to Extrav were not concerned where their moncy goes.

Stan Campbell also attacked the proposal with great vigour. As publicity officer, he had received no opposition in advertising that Extrav funds were for the students.



Wednesday, May 2-

Undergraduate Supper, 8 p.m., in the Gym.

Friday, May 4---

Graduation Ceremony, 8 p.m., in the Town Hall. Capping Ball, 10 p.m., in the Town

Saturday, May 5, and Sunday, May 6-Tramping Club trip to Tauherenikau.

R. M. Daniell was ironically pleased to see so much enthusiasm among the cast for the patriotic funds. Last year, he said, he had to work very hard for two days to persuade the cast to stage a fifth performance; this year he thought it unnecessary.

Other speakers from the floor included four in uniform, who debated the merits of the patriotic funds from Jack Barr repeatedly both sides. called attention to the fact that the Exec was not "pulling out" from donating to the patriotic funds, as the procession later in the year had been agreed upon. Other subjects brought up ranged from the cost of building materials to the new medical school in Dunedin, and other speakers from Mr. Winchester to Mr. Creed.

After Mr. Fowler had briefly summed up, the motion was put and lost on a show of hands. The meeting broke up, as it had commenced, amid hakas from Weir House.

#### — a lying jade

Rumour is a lying jade, but the fickle lady hath it that Ian McDowell, secretary of the Association, recently received a stern telephone call from an irate caretaker of the State Advances building concerning a stolen lavatory seat. "I have the detectives here," said THE VOICE, "but prefer to make preliminary enquiries from you. If the model used in 'Peter in Blunderland' is ours, would you please return it after the show? Mr. McDowell promised to make every effort to trace the missing utensil. It is understood that the Executive (and others) are investigating the penalties associated with the conversion of a lavatory seat to one's own use.

#### First Meeting of New NZUSA Exec

April 23 saw NZUSA hold their first Exec. meeting since the recent election. Agenda was light, mainly dealing with

New appointments included Mr. Ken Hedifen, secretary; Miss Janet Bogle, at present overseas, vice-president; and Mr. L. C. Berg, treasurer.

Probable sports for Winter Tournament include men's and women's hockey, men's basketball, cross-country running, table tennis, golf, and ski-ing. The constitution is at present being drawn up—it is already decided that each college will supply two delegates.

The climax of the evening was reached when a letter was read from a concerned English parent who evidently doubted the character of a NZ student who had proposed to her daughter. Could NZUSA forward the necessary particulars and testimonials?

Pointing out that admission to medical school was on a competitive basis, the setting of a standardised medical Intermediate Exam. was discussed. It was decided to probe college opinions.

The Blues as recommended by the Tournament Committee were confirmed. Certificates will be completed and distributed as soon as possible.

Total figures for the work days to date are £165. Would students who have not paid in their money please do so as soon as possible? As there are still 66 jobs to be done, would any students with free time in the next few weeks or in the holidays please offer their services? See lists on main notice board.

#### Stop Press!

The Exec. announce that if peace in Europe is proclaimed on any other day than a Sunday there will be an informal dance at 8 p.m. that day in the Gym. Bring your own supper and musical instruments.

#### International Student Service Relieves Conditions in Greece

In the next few issues of "Salient" it is intended to give brief summaries from the British ISS Quarterly Review of December, 1944, on the condition of universities and students in Europe. We print below a summary of conditions in Greece.

The task of relief and rehabilitation as it applies to the Greek student community falls under the following headings in order of immediate necessityfood supplies, medical assistance, clothing, housing, educational and scientific rehabilitation, cultural and recreational facilities.

The student community numbers about 20,000. Of these 8,000 receive communal meals—one a day. During the whole ocupation, meat was only available at Christmas time.

The effect on the students was one of widespread malnutrition and a great increase in pulmonary disease. 742 students were infected with tuberculosis. The need for medical services and supplies is desperately urgent.

The greater part of students come from provinces where the destruction of 2,000 villages has caused an acute housing shortage. The population of Athens has doubled. Overcrowding is having a marked effect on health and mental capacity. The problem is therefore to build new quarters to meet the

The situation with regard to books is critical. Libraries have no adequate financial support, so that the supply of books is now insufficient and prices in bookshops prohibitive. Apart from textbooks, the university needs scientific equipment of all kinds-engines, microscopes, medical equipment, etc.—to replace that looted by the Germans.

This should make us realise that action is needed now. World Student Relief is taking that action—but they depend on financial help from the free countries of the world, and that means

## Extrav Reviewed

by "Hock"

Right from the beginning I must confess that I am not the most suitable person to review an Extravaganza, as I am biassed in favour of this University function whether it be good, bad or indifferent. Maybe it is because I have taken part in so many shows in varying capacities, from door-keeper to houri, from business manager to call-boy, and have become so steeped in the esprit de corps (and a little of the esprit d'amour) of the Extravaganza, that to say anything to its detriment would be like tearing out my right rib.

Of all Meek's extravs I think that "Peter in Blunderland" is the slickest. It has more high spots and maintains its continuity to a greater degree than any of his previous efforts. The chief criticism of these was that generally they had one or two good acts with poor finales. You went away with the feeling that you had ordered a three-course dinner but somehow or another the sweets had failed to arrive. This show provided the sweets, and supplied a very appetising hors d'œuvre in the form of interval entertainment.

When I said that this was the slickest show that I had witnessed for some time, on stage this means competent stage management. In Huddy Williamson the students have an old-timer who has the experience and the background (most important) necessary to handle an Extravaganza, and a crowd of obstreperous students.

#### THE LIBELLED MAIDS

Of all the scenes, the courtroom scene, in my opinion, took first place. Fanny Walker, as Humphrey O'Bluster, had a clear, excellent singing voice that did full credit to the Sullivan air. He should go a long way in extravs. The chorus of Y.M.C.A. maids was first-class, a credit to Moira Wicks. I thought their ballet technique was too good, as a matter of fact. A men's ballet should not be so perfect, but

rather should be more of a burlesque, something to laugh at, not to be impressed by.

Next on the list comes the Hamlet sequence. The identity of the White Knight was not as obvious as it could have been, and I felt that few in the audience would appreciate the significance of this character. The most outstanding player was Joan Easterbrook-Smith as Ophelia. She put more than feeling into a rather mediocre song. Honourable mention should also go to Jeff Stewart as chief bogie-wogie. The performance of Tweedlesid (Dorian Saker) and Tweedlelee (Chum Paterson) was well up to "Alice's" standards.

#### MORE CREDITS

Of the characters who appeared at regular intervals throughout the show Dennis Hartley as Peter had the most onerous task, which he carried out in his inimitable style. His make-up was excellent and a credit goes backstage. The Red King (Stan Campbell) provided a good comic relief.

Finally I would like to say that apart from minor defects such as lack of any song hits and some bad spotlighting, "Peter in Blunderland" was well up to the standard of the best of past Extravaganzas, and the company should be congratulated on their fine effort.

#### Cappicade Crit.

Cappicade appears for this year with a new cover design well in keeping with the Extrav tradition-it is in the same effective colouring as that of 1944, with the accent on legs, and should have made a good selling cover; the design was by S. Wiley. The magazine is considerably larger than last year, 64 as against 48 pages, and has considerably more space devoted to advertising. I would hate to say that there is too much advertising in this magazine, but I do think that the absolute maximum has been attained. It must be borne in mind that Cappicade is not an advertising handbook with a few unsaleable pages filled with student nonsense, but a Capping magazine with advertisements included for purely financial reasons. Further, while the typography could not be expected to scale Beagleholian

#### REMEMBER!

Tickets for Capping Ball will not be available at the Town Hall and must be obtained from the Exec. room by Thursday evening.

TOWN HALL—May 4
Graduation Ceremany, 8 p.m.
Capping Ball, 10 p.m.

heights, some of it was rather more dreadful than need be, even within the limits of the particular printing press; and why not get someone to read the proofs—there were too many printing errors.

There were more original articles printed this year, which is most commendable—but why still this need for lifting illustrated jokes? I feel sure that there is enough talent in the College to produce a few funnies. Also—and there may be those who consider this heretical—I do think that jokes may be included in Cappicade when they are not bawdy, and although this may not have been the fault of the editors, the notices up at College specified bawdy.

Some of the articles in Cappicade were good—Cappicade News Service I considered particularly worthy of mention. The children's page also wins a place, and should be sent to Dorothy Dix, George Antheil and others who run children's pages. Mr. Meek's introduction, with that remarkable modesty already noted by the dailies, is good reading. I considered the Weir House auction and the grand VUC raffle well carried out, even if in a spirit of strict disrespect.

Overall, despite this somewhat carping criticism, Cappicade has done well this year and makes up for occasional lack of subtlety by distinct and bounding good humour. A good job, and most certainly a paying one.—M.C.C.

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## Post-War Germany - What?

It is not unreasonable to hope that by the time that this issue is on sale the formal capitulation of Germany should have been received. The time is therefore opportune to inaugurate an open forum series of articles on the subject of post-war reparations for Germany. The two articles below are contributed by students; in our next issue we hope to feature articles by staff members. We will close with a symposium of any letters received and an article by the editors.

#### **JUSTICE-NOT MALICE**

This article arose from, and is a resumé of, a discussion held by the SCM on the question of post-war reparation. It was written by A. C. Moore.

World War II seems now to be nearing its end, and this problem will arise: "What to do with the Germans and Japanese?"

You may protest that the decision will lie in the hands of the great world powers-the "Big Three-and-a-half"and that a handful of objective thinkers will be able to do little against postwar hysteria, already to be seen in cries of "Bomb Tokyo to blazes!" etc., etc. But I suggest that we reject this fatalistic attitude, work out what we believe to be the best plan of action, use it as a standard, and press for it in practice. And with this intention I am advocating that we do not give way to blood-lust and the desire for revenge. Judged from the viewpoint of sane practical judgment as well as ideals of justice, retribution will prove disastrous.

Firstly, it will be impossible to exterminate whole nations for defeat in war. And, after all, can the blame be laid wholly on to one or two "aggressors"—is not the whole world partly responsible for the war? Even granting that the Nazis have caused all the trouble, can responsibility for their crimes be placed on the whole German people? I will not labour the point, but it must be obvious that the Germans have been largely victims of their environment. They put the Nazis in power in 1933 to provide Germany with employment, not wars of aggression; and even then the Nazis did not have the support of a majority of the nation. And if the Germans have been the victims of tyranny, this applies with much more strength to the Japanese, who have a long tradition of authoritarian government and militarism. Japan, too, has suffered a series of humiliations from the West, culminating in an attempt to exclude her cheap goods by tariff walls. It is not unlikely that in similar circumstances the virtuous victors of today might have reacted like Germany and Japan.

Now looking ahead instead of backwards, we must think of the effects of retribution on the damaged world as a whole. The conquered countries cannot be isolated from their neighbours, either economically or politically. If Germany and Japan were crippled economically, both Central Europe and the Far East would lose their most highly industrialised country, with the highest standard of living in their region. Retribution will not mix with Reconstruction.

And when we turn to the trial and liquidation of "War-criminals," we again come to an impossible situation. A criminal can be regarded as such only when he breaks a recognised law; and when there is no law in existence or where it has been generally abandoned (this seems to be the case at present with International Law), no crime can be said to have

been committed. And if atrocitycharges are substantiated, it will be difficult to pin responsibility on to individuals; for the individual must obey the law of his own country and can lay responsibility on a superior officer. Ultimately, blame will be laid on high Nazi authorities, who will have either committed suicide or vanished mysteriously. Any form of recrimination is liable to descend to a low level of revenge-merely a lawless liquidating of people whom you dislike. We cannot treat our enemies as "inhuman devils" when we ourselves have not been entirely blameless.

It may be alleged that our treatment of Germany was "too soft" in 1919. Versailles was certainly not a satisfactory peace; it was too soft in not permitting the abolition of the Junker militarists (which would have been done by an effective popular government); but it was too harsh in the matter of reparations and the humiliation of sole war-guilt. The settlement after this war must be one of justice, not malice, and reconstruction must be allowed under a genuinely popular government—not a Quisling one.

It seems realistic to expect the lead to come from the Great Powers, but this should not blind us to the need for a supra-national authority, such as the League, with positive advantages of membership. The difficulty is how to effect it in practice, and here lies our problem in the post-war year.

To all those persons who have worked so hard to make a success of Extrav 1945 I would like to express the thanks of my Executive and of the Association generally. The cast and those hard-working people "behind the scenes" who received little or no publicity, can feel justly proud of their splendid effort which has been so highly praised from many quarters outside the College. It is difficult to single out any one member of the organisation who deserves more praise than another, but special thanks are due to the co-authorproducer Mr. R. L. Meek, the wardrobe mistress Mrs. Gwen McDowell, the stage manager Mr. H. Williamson, "Cappicade" managers Messrs. Ziman and Burt, the ballet mistress Miss M. Wicks, and the property manager Mr. A. MacLeod. The immense amount of work these people did so willingly and well is typical of the spirit of co-operation so essential for the success of student activities. It is to be hoped that our success this year will encourage more people to submit scripts for Extrav 1946, so that our pre-war programme of three shows can be revived.

> J. BARR, Extrav. Organiser.

Mr. Bosher, manager of "Sally," has mentioned to us that a bun hat, size six-and-seven-eighths, left in the Opera House dressing room during their rehearsal on Sunday, is missing. This essentail article of headgear is urgently required; a substitute has had to be borrowed from the audience so far. Would any member of Extrav cast who has noticed the offending bonnet please communicate with Mr. Bosher (phone 54-573).

## Active Intervention —

By J. C. P. Williams

A few years ago, when the British peoples were fighting alone and facing defeat, various political groups agitated strongly for a statement of War Aims from the British Government. Today we are directly faced with the alternatives—of imposing on Germany a "hard" or a "soft" peace. What does the man in the street mean when he demands that this time we make Germany pay for her aggression by dictating a "hard" peace? Crudely stated, though not I think inaccurately, the answer is that a hard peace, being one which lays waste German cities, impoverishes the German people, cripples German industry, and brings the "war criminals" to "justice," will have a salutary effect on the minds of the Germans, will "teach them a lesson," will put them in their place once and for all. The image of a father rebuking a rebellious child is common.

I believe this approach difficult to eradicate, for the complexity of the problem leads to the acceptance of simple economic concepts. That is to say, by the average person, Germany is personified and the aim of a hard peace is to punish Germany for her aggressions, her crimes, her evil doctrines. Such a method when applied to an individual may be successful; never when applied to a nation. Not only will this treatment fail to instil ideals of peace and co-operation but it will create conditions which may very well produce another destiny-driven dictator.

With converse results, the same mistaken comparison is often made by those demanding a "soft" peace. People in this category usually demand that punishment, if it be necessary, shall serve some purpose. They realise that a merely punitive peace is futile if we are to take any thought for the future. A peace in terms of paying for misdeeds fails, as a doctor who neglects his mental life may fail, because it artificially divides Germany's life, separating a few generations from those before and those to come. And yet, though at the expense of re-interpreting these terms, there are possible uses for both "hard" and "soft" peace with which we agree.

It is a fact that Germany's dilemma can only be solved by a peace that is realistic and active; a peace which will not hesitate to rearrange the social, political and economic life of Germany. Such a peace will necessitate considerable intervention by the Allies, a redistribution of economic power within Germany and a reconstitution of democratic institutions armed with power to be effective and to prevail.

This is the task for us today—we must act. The time has arrived when the final acts, which will determine the outline of history for decades to come, must be made; when time is truly precious and mastery imperative.

(This article has been considerably abbreviated.—Ed.)

## TEXAN STUDENTS PROTEST DISMISSAL OF PRINCIPAL

SIX THOUSAND young Texans were marching—marching down Conmarching-marching down Congress Avenue to see Governor Coke Stevenson, marching as once the senators of the Texas Republic had marched down the same street in coonskin caps and buckskin pants to pay their respects to President Sam Houston. But this young generation of Texans had more important business on their minds than kowtowing to the chief executive of their State.

Back in the days of the Lone Star Republic, President Mirabeau B. Lamar had decreed that Texas should have "a university of the first class."

Up until that Thursday morning of November 2, these six thousand marchers had been attending a university of the first class, presided over by a firstclass scholar and distinguished leader of the awakening new South, Dr. Homer Price Rainey. On the night before the demonstration, corporation lawyers and multi-millionaire oil men on the University Board of Regents had met behind closed doors in an executive session at Houston. Without trial or hearing they had fired Dr. Rainey from his post as president of the South's largest university as unceremoniously as they would fire a cowhand on their big ranches.

Now the students were marching, singing the traditional state song, "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You."

With few exceptions, the Stone Age political oligarchy of Dixie maintains a firm grip on the educational institutions of this section of America.

But the poll taxers and the landlords, the oil men and the utility magnates, are losing their hold on the political institutions of the South.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has appointed a committee of leading southern educators headed by President Herman L. Donovan of the University of Kentucky, to investigate the circumstances leading to the dismissal of Dr. Rainey.

The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, in Nashville, Tenn., has launched a nationwide campaign urging protest letters to Governor Steven son demanding the reinstatement of Dr. Rainey. Texas labour unions have sent encouraging messages of support and financial assistance to Student President Mac Wallace. Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish organisations, on and off the campus, are at one in their demands for the reappointment of a man who has convinced his fellow Texans that he lives up to his creed of "Christianity and democracy" every inch.

-This article is abridged from NEW MASSES, of December 5, 1944, and at the time of going to press no further information was available as to whether or not the fight was still on.

#### Ottawa University Starts School For Fiances

Le Centre catholique de l'Université vient de lancer un nouveau cours par correspondance sur la préparation au mariage destiné spécialement aux flancés mais qui est bien de nature a rendre service à ceux ou celles qui pourraient le devenir. Ce cours est organisé selon le meme principe que celui du Centre Social. Les cours sont imprimés et à la fin de série des 15 cours, le candidat passe un examen qui lui permet d'obtenir un certificat. Il y a déjà plus de 400 personnes inscrites à ce "Service de préparation au mariage." Les frais sont de 4 dollars. payables, si l'on veut, en 4 versements. L'on peut s'inscrire en tout temps en s'adressant au CENTRE CATHO-LIQUE de l'Universite d'Ottawa, 125, rue Wilbrod, Ottawa.

#### Tramping Club Programme

May 5-6-Tauherenikau. Ted Bradstock. May 12-13-Baines' Hut. May 19-20-Hutt Forks. Alec McLeod. May 27-Mount Devine. Bruce Milburn. June 2-4---Northern Crossing.

There was a young student from Newman

Who ne'er looked at girls—he played Schumann

He managed to wed A second year med.,

Now ten kids prove his hormone acumen.

#### **EXEC STATEMENT**

The Executive desires to emphasise, as it has done on numerous occasions in the past, but which fact has not so far been published in "Salient," that it is fully aware that the Students' Association must lend all the support it can to the National Patriotic Board, not merely for publicity purposes but as a means of swelling the patriotic funds so vitally needed for the well-being of the N.Z. Armed Forces. At no stage has the Executive "turned its back" on patriotic funds, and it has certainly no intention of doing so now when the need is as great as it was in 1940.

With this end in view the Executive proposes to make arrangements during the year to give patriotic funds the biggest boost they have yet received from the College during the present war. We feel confident that any effort made in this direction by the Executive will receive the whole-hearted support of all students. J. BARR, President.

#### Harriers' Hold Easy Opening Run

On Saturday, April 14, the Harrier Club held its opening run (nonharriers note that this is an official term and not necessarily of literal eignificance) at Weir House by the invitation of the warden and matron.

Afterwards a pack started off well up to time (+20 minutes) and finished off a dash to the Cenotaph by boarding a tram to Karori-establishing, it is believed, the Provincial Title for this course. From Karori the pack quickly (term relative only) reached Wilton's Bush and the hills of this area undergoing apparently a continual process of magnification it returned to Weir and rest. Casualties were light, only two members being forced to return to Weir by

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## SPORT

#### Newsletters Catch On

All members of the VUC Football Club received last week the first of a series of newsletters informing them of club activities and other items of interest to footballers. This really splendid service was inaugurated by the committee and results from the difficulty in arranging at short notice meetings of the club (to discuss matters of moment) the times of which would be suitable to all members.

The difficulty of obtaining fully attended meetings is a very real one: all sporting clubs in the College suffer from it, and the newlyelected football committee merit and receive the thanks of all.

To date, approximately 100 students have signified their intention of playing, and the committee have decided to enter five teams in the WRU competitions, including one team in the Senior, Junior, and Third (1st Division) grades, and two teams in the Tnird (2nd Division) grade.

The Senior team was entered in the Jubilee Cup competition; the entry, however, was not sympathetically received by the Rugby Union and the team has accordingly been placed in the Hardham Cup competition. However, it is the policy of the Union this year that Hardham teams may be promoted to First Division during the season, so the team is out to fight its way to the top. In the event of their remaining in the Second Division, the team must ensure the winning of the cup in order that the Union will have little option but to permit in 1946 the team's reversion to its pre-war grade.

The three practices held so far by the club indicate very strong lower grades indeed, and all members welcome the return to the field of the Social team. This team has a nucleus of returned servicemen, and it is largely through the efforts of Tanu Jowett, himself a returned man, that this side, a particularly strong one before the war, has been re-established.

The coaches so far appointed are Messrs. J. H. Parker and H. E. Moore (1st XV), Mr. O. J. Creed (3A), Mr. H. C. Bailey (3B) and Mr. T. Jowett (Social). A coach for the Juniors has not yet been decided. None of these men need introduction to VUC footballers. Mr. Parker went to England with C. G. Porter's team in 1924, whilst the enthusiasm of Mr. Henry Moore has been the major

#### Women's Hockey Draw **Large Attendances**

There were large attendances at the two practices held recently on Saturday afternoons. Prospects for the season are bright and the club intends to enter three teams in the local competitions, playing in the Senior A, Senior B, and Junior Grades. Mr. Ralph Kean has consented to act as coach. Thursday night practices in the Gym begin this week and there are also lunch hour practices during the week, organised by Marion Marwick. Last Saturday a friendly game was played between College Old Girls and Victoria senior teams, resulting 🙌 a draw-three all. Matches commence on May 5.

factor in the club's continued existence throughout the war.

Orm Creed has this year taken over the coaching of the Colts (3A) team, which is looked upon as the major feeding-ground of the 1st XV of future years.

Mr. Bailey is a VUC footballer of the early 1930's and a member of the title-winning Senior team.

For information regarding football ring Secretary Joe Trapp (45-012-Weir) or Teams' Officer Dave Clarke (47-147), or contact any member of the committee.

bership this season of well over 70, and at the two practices already held much promising material has already come to light. The attendance at these practices has been gratifying and has caused the organiser considerable embarrassment owing to the shortage of grounds. It is hoped that this evident keenness will persist throughout the season.

On each practice day, a scratch Senior team played a strong Senior Karori combination. Although on both occasions Karori proved a little too strong for them, the Vic men, many from last year's Junior team, put up a

Thursday evening gym. practices are due to start within the next week or two and good attendances are anticipated. Details will be posted later. Anyone interested in joining the club is cordially invited to do so by contacting the secretary or club captain per medium of the common room letter-rack.

agreed that our masters were basters.

#### Men's Hockey Make **Creditable Showing**

The men's hockey club has a mem-

more than creditable showing.

At the school I went to we all

## FOOTBALL FIELDS FIVE TEAMS START PROMISING SEASON

Seniors.—The 1st XV began the season well by defeating Berhampore by 28 points to 0. Any good back play in this game was spoiled by the loose, and often off-side play of the Berhampore forwards, though on the whole the back line functioned extremely well. Goodwin was, as usual, the solidest and cleverest back on the side, and Lewis, at centre, Berg as full back and Langley at five-eighths, all played well. Of the forwards, Red Murphy was again outstanding; his play is a real inspiration to the others. Dun played a hard-working and clever game, and generally the forwards played fairly well.

Juniors.—Juniors lost to Hutt 14-12 in a very scrappy game, displaying once again their magnificent ability for throwing the game away in the last few minutes. Their lineout work was especially poor. Orr and Shires, especially the latter, kept on the ball, but the rest of the pack were inclined to hang back. The backs failed to pass to their wings often enough, but when the ball did reach them, Hyett and Paterson made ample use of their opportunities.

Third A went down to St. Patrick's College 14-3 after a fast and entertaining game. St. Pat's, having the advantage in fitness and combination, proved too strong, though this team's showing will naturally improve next week. Of the backs, only Wide and Richmond at five-eighths played up to standard, though Allardice made an excellent run. Of the forwards, James, Battersby, White and O'Regan all played fine games, and it was unfortunate that James should be compelled to retire.

Third B lost to Wellington B 6-3, even the presence of Gordon Stuckey failing to gain them the victory. The social team was, however, pressing hard at the finish, which shows that they are going to be difficult to beat later on.

Third Clost to Athletic 11-10. The forwards performed ably except for a couple who persisted in keeping out of every scrum. Lang hooked well and played a fine all-round game, and Macdonald assisted him ably. Of the backs. Mackay at half, Rea at five-eighths and Bogle and Watson at three-quarters performed well. This team should concentrate on getting the ball to the three-quarters.

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