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WILLIS STREET

Salient

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

VOL. 8, No. 6

★ WELLINGTON, MAY 25, 1945

★ Price: THREEPENCE

MAJESTIC
CABARET

★
DANCING
NIGHTLY

to
CLIFF JONES
"HIS HIT PARADE"

Palmerstonians Greet Extrav With Overwhelming Reception

Justifying all temerity in prophecy and vindicating the enthusiasm and hard work put into the venture by all Extrav cast and organisers, the Palmerston North tour of "Peter in Blunderland" was a thoroughgoing success. Highlight of the season was the Civic Reception accorded the Royal Party by the Mayor; lowlights were the post-performance dances (et al), and of chief importance the excellent reception accorded two slick performances (stage mishaps aside), before full houses, and the subsequent total of three hundred pounds gross collected for the Manawatu quota of the Patriotic Fund.

Mr. Mansford, the cast has decided, is in a class above that of the common, garden, or Wellingtonian Mayor. He appeared at the focal point of Palmerston North (band rotunda, the Square) clad in purple silk, a fur cap, and an anchor chain, at 2.15 p.m. on Friday and mounted the platform in a manner fully consistent with his sartorial dignity. The microphone was manned by Dennis Hartley, at the peak of his form, whose summoning orations brought thousands (literally) to the rallying point.

The arrival of the party brought accumulated excitement to a fervour. Pausing on their way to enter a Public Edifice, bless it and declare it open, the Tierra del Fuegians, their way cleared by the local constabulary, entered the rotunda to prolonged cheering and saluted the Mayor on both cheeks. A short speech of welcome was read by His Worship: "We trust that the intention of our visitors to relieve us of our liquid assets will not seriously intensify our irrigation problem," and a key to the freedom of the city presented. We print the Duke's reply in full. "Harumph, glug glug!" The next five minutes were occupied with translation, after which the Order of B.O. (Beautiful Object) was conferred on Lady Blastor, and a return presentation made to the mayor of a watch (railway clock?).

Mr. Mansford, in replying, said that—but hold! a death-dealing interruption—black beard, bowler hat, a revolver; "Sic semper tyrannis," echoed the shout, "death to the tyrant of Palmerston North," and those shots, those awful shots, rang out. His Excellency

belched in mortal anguish and slid to the floor. At the risk of life the villain was apprehended, his head—strange—bowed in shame. "It is all a terrible mistake," he groaned, "I meant to shoot the Mayor." "Is there a doctor in the house?" There was. The Court Physician applied anaesthesia with the aid of a mallet, and, delving deep, skillfully removed lungs, heart, even unto the assassinee's intestinal fortitude. A shout of triumph—"We have extracted the bullet!" and that chirurgical waned on high the lethal missile—a three-inch mortar shell! Alas! 'Twas in vain.

Amidst sobs and groans the body was carried forth in the tender arms of Lady Blastor. It lay in state for a few moments at the Public Edifice, and was slowly drawn away in the Royal Chariot. Vale Duce. Sic omnia. The funeral takes place on the morrow, he'll be buried in sweet violets.

The Trip

A wet Friday and a wide-eyed populace saw the members of the morning contingent accumulate on the station platform. Students, baggage, musical instruments and officials gradually accumulated until the train appeared, three reserved coaches were identified and the troop moved in. By eight-thirty the fate of two people only was in doubt and the train proceeded.

Playing cards, magazines and band were soon brought to light; additional music was provided by a portable amplifier and pick-up. A feature of the trip was the impromptu advertising at all stations, given with the aid of a microphone and Dennis Hartley.

At Palmerston, lunch ballet rehearsals and the Civic reception occupied most of the afternoon. Men were billeted in eight-man huts at the Show Ground while the girls found accommodation throughout the city (?!).

Of the show itself Ron Meek's comment is the pithiest—"If Palmerston North read Shakespeare and had a good dramatic critic, they would have provided the perfect audience. As it

was, they were the best we played to." They applauded scenes and solos which had not yet known applause; it was unusual for them to stop laughing; they even cheered the hitches. Politically, they appeared a trifle conservative, a little slow on the uptake; for bawdery and straight humour they were sufficiently eager to laugh before the joke. Above all the appreciativeness, for even the corniest pun, inspired the cast to superlative efforts.

Massey students were much in evidence, Doug Yen and Johnny Nicholls included, and strengthened VUC-Massey relations by conducting a tour of their college, a modern and magnificent edifice.

Back-stage arrangements were much as usual. Ten gallons were provided free on Saturday night, old songs were sung and new ones exchanged.

VUC owes much to Palmerston citizens for their co-operation in billeting, meals and make-up. A party of able-bodieds recognised this by washing up the debris from a wedding breakfast in the Kosy Lounge, others by entertaining the city with motley selections of songs in the small hours, others still by smoothing the streets with a half-ton lawn roller.

Of the return trip the less said the better—all slept!

High Spirits Plus Hops Equals Hilarity

The validity of this equation was proved once again by the company which assembled after the shows in Palmerston. The added stimulus of holiday light-heartedness made the reaction more entertaining and increased the informality of the atmosphere.

According to time-honoured Extrav custom beer was distributed on the stage after the show, and well fortified happy hordes made their way to the Oddfellows' Hall, where the Friday dance was held.

The first tendency of the Friday dance was towards self-expression in song. Groups formed and reformed, advanced and retreated, singing old and new favourites, sometimes in harmony, sometimes in opposition, but at all times united against the unreasonable people who were trying to dance. The arrival of a saxophone later in the evening provided a wel-

come addition to the musical props. and the number of dancers increased.

Saturday night was a most enthusiastic wind-up to Extrav. The YMCA hall was officially the site of the celebrations, but judging from the soft lights of candles and torches and the sweet music of bottle on bottle, the party extended over most of the huts in the Show Ground. In the hall makeshift streamers and a general informality of dress—including sheets, pyjamas, flags and bathing trunks—added to the already festive appearance of the dancers. Events of the evening included a suspiciously convenient birthday song; an energetic and unorthodox mass movement which seemed a cross between La Conga and "Oranges and Lemons"; the ascent of the Red King to the rafters; and a game of ping-pong which would be most pithily described by "they hit everything, whether they could see it or not."

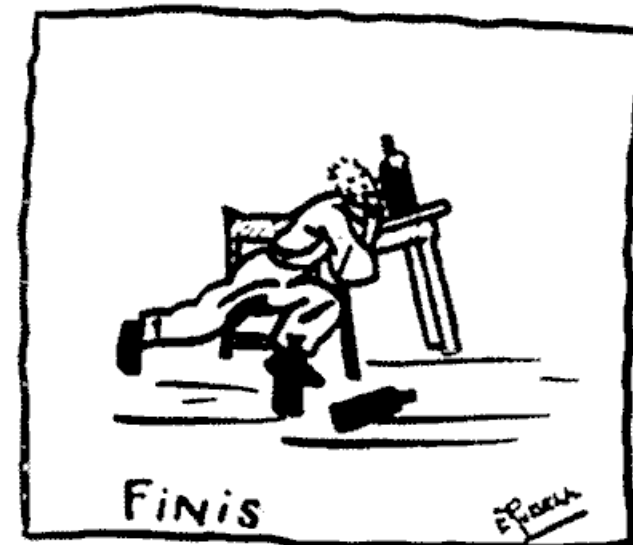
As half the party was returning by the 4.20 a.m. train it seemed pointless to stop the festivities, which wound up at the station. Tender serenades were rendered by those departing and remaining, the strength of whose mutual affection was surpassed only by the sentiments of the travellers already on the Limited.

Sunday Evening

If all ANA's are run like this, we will join the Army, we decided. A fine hall, decked with flags, piquant with slogans, a good humoured crowd, a sudden influx of students—that was the setting. The rhythmic intoxication of drums, the fervid and fantastic imagination of the clarionetist, the muffled slide of myriad feet—all combined to produce a sense of deep satisfaction, a quietness after rain, well suited to the soothing of jangled nerves, still clamorous from Saturday night.

We were requested to sing excerpts from the show. With mingled feelings we complied; the crowd was pleased—we felt gratified and a trifle smug—and danced on. Quiet music—swiftly flowing—that dreamy smile—she was a lovely girl—the evening was cool—the perfect ending—

(Note.—We feel that this report suffers from personal prejudice.—Ed.)



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for Executive elections

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Salient

Thursday,
May 25

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

NO MAN'S LAND

— Medical Students

Dear Sir,—I should like to support the views of your correspondent in the last issue, P. B. de la Mare, who wrote condemning the attitude of the NZUSA in giving preference to British students over enemy aliens for entrance to the medical school. I agree that the move is quite illogical. The spirit which animates people who want to admit New Zealanders because they are New Zealanders and not because they prove themselves better on the only test available, is the same as that which provokes people to saying that they deal with a grocer because he belongs to the same church as they do. The fact that he might not be as satisfactory a grocer as the one directly across the road does not matter. The whole attitude is so parochial and jealously inhibited as to be laughable, if it were not such a serious indication of the narrow-minded outlook of the body which should lead intellectual progress. These "aliens" in our midst have been forced to leave their native countries because they were enemies of fascism. This war has been fought. I understand, against fascism. It seems peculiar logic to condemn people, who have probably had more cause to oppose such a system than we ever have, on account of the fact that they had the misfortune not to be born into our cosy, insular island paradise. We have seen our parents suffering as a result of the last war; we ourselves have suffered in this; are we to condemn our children to suffering in the next because, before this one is over, we are sowing the seeds of misunderstanding and distrust among nations? I should like to conclude by pointing out that while the University of New Zealand is theoretically prepared to assist students of all nations by supporting ISS, when it comes to a practical test, they fall miserably.—I am, etc.,

MARGOT HOGBEN.

Mr. J. B. C. Taylor, President of NZUSA, has stated that this decision was made on the recommendation of the six Colleges. If, in any College, there are such strong feelings existing as those shown by Mr. de la Mare and Miss Hogben, it can only be assumed that the particular Exec. gave the matter too little thought.

— also Bland

Dear Sir,—It has become customary for the producer of Extrav. to write a polite little note, in A Few Well-Chosen Phrases, to "Salient," thanking everybody very prettily for the work they

did to make the show the success it was, etc., etc.

Being at the moment in an iconoclastic mood, however, even though I did it last time, I don't want to do it noo. In fact, to do it noo would be rather redundant, as Mr. Barr did it in the last issue of "Salient," and did it very well. In fact, if Mr. Barr's name had been incorporated in his own Honours List, I would merely have had to murmur a sincere and thankful "ditto," and everything would have been O.K.

However, there is one important individual—shadowy, perhaps, but I can assure you full of substance—who hasn't been properly appreciated. That is Mr. W. B. Bland, the co-author of "Peter." He isn't a student, and he lives in Hamilton, and by an unfortunate error his name appeared only in an insignificant footnote in "Cappicade," and the "Dominion" critic forgot he existed. He is perhaps the only Forgotten Man of Extrav. Yet without Mr. Bland, "Peter" would never have got very much further than peering into his looking glass and wondering what the hell was going to happen next. Bland and I collaborated on the whole show, and a number of complete scenes—the Caucus Race-course Scene, the Duchess's Kitchen Scene, and the Humpty-Dumpty Scene for instance—were produced almost entirely by Bland. I sent Bland a wire one day: "Please send Duchess's Kitchen scene urgently." It arrived two days later. That's the way it was.

So please remember this, people. All this isn't just hooley. I'm not trying to be modest—as you know, I am invariably immodest. The show was Meek, but it was also Bland.—I am, etc.,

RONALD L. MEEK.

— Appreciation

Dear Sir,—My attention has been drawn to the very valuable assistance rendered by the members of the Victoria University Tramping Club, in connection with the recent search for Miss Jean Marie Martin.

On behalf of the Police I desire to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the co-operation and assistance of the personnel of your Club.

It is pleasing to learn that such help was forthcoming so promptly.

I shall be glad if you will kindly convey to the members of your Club this expression of our gratitude.

Yours faithfully,

G. B. EDWARDS,

Superintendent of Police.

BOOKS

VERSE

"Beyond the Pallsades" (Caxton) is James Baxter's latest effort to be brought to the public notice. It is an important work, due to the fact that it shows an important stage in the author's development. I sense that he author feels two duties, one as a New Zealander and one as a narrator of personal experience. The volume opens with the two poems specifically "New Zealand," and of these "Prelude New Zealand" is by far the better, but even here the images are patchy and Mr. Baxter has a distasteful habit of exceeding his poetic license at the end of an image and destroying the whole effect. This and the lack of felicitous rhyme is evident in this passage from the poem mentioned above:

Reed chartered in their carved
canoes, savage
their knowledgeable calm and expect-
ance, the navigators storm—and
wave-wrecked
of the Polynesian stone-age
rounded these coasts (sea-stone,
sharp wave snarling). . . .

The remainder of the poems are of very mixed workmanship. The title poem of the book has a clarity of feeling which is maintained well. But then poems such as "In City Night" and "The Killing of a Rabbit" contain little that has not been said before. But nevertheless it is an important work in New Zealand literature. In contrast to many of our poets Mr. Baxter appears to owe little to overseas works, and his development will be worth watching.

Photos!

I was surprised that "Salient" did not show normal editorial courtesy in giving me the chance to comment on an attack at the time of its publication. Your correspondent is welcome enough to say that I have no specific ability. I could laugh this off by producing copies of *Picture Post*, *Pix*, *Unclimbed New Zealand*, *Making New Zealand*, *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society*, *Geographical Magazine*, but that might presuppose an earnestness that sits more snugly on my critics than on myself. Perhaps a more sensible course would be for me to ignore the bitter personalities of the attack, and to offer to show through an epidiascope, if available, the camera club members a series of documentary photographs that I hold to justify my strong comment in "Spike," and then to listen amiably to what your disgruntled competitors have to say to my face. I should not offer to take this course unless the Camera Club assures me that I should not be boring them or wasting my time. Nothing that I can do can stay the decline of prostituted camerawork as represented by the formal glammers of the orthodox photographic competition, but I am always willing to discuss dispassionately the art which honest cameras can produce.

JOHN PASCOE.

We understand that the Camera Club will attempt to arrange such an evening. We apologise for our lack of courtesy.—Ed.

In our last issue we printed a selection of what appeared to us to be some pretty average terrible verse. At the same time we asked for criticisms and further contributions. Of the latter we received several; of the former, only the outpourings of "Audrey's" soul and a suggestion which will probably frighten our book reviewers into silence. We earnestly desire your opinions. Do you consider the poems of interest and worthy of the printer's time, or do you think them a waste of space? Write and tell us.

Dear Sir,

I feel moved to congratulate you with all the petty powers of oratory at my feeble command; I was submerged in such a divine deluge of delight when I read the magnificent poems in your literary section that I was for some moments rendered positively breathless and inarticulate. Even yet I am not fully recovered to the extent where I could find adjectives to describe as I should like to describe the sensations that arose in my soul, causing it to burst into a crimson cascade of burning rosy light, when my melancholy eyes imparted to it the stirring, strident message inherent in the splendid untitled lines of "Davenport" and "Searus;" is the modesty of these gentlemen so great that they cannot be persuaded to come out from behind their pseudonyms so that the world

The feel of frost on bare feet in the
hill-shadow
The sight of stony flats terraced above
the river
The sound of the rain on the roof at
night
All this have I sold, and much else.

When evening comes I see nothing—
No flats staggered along the river
towards the foothills,
No wattle in flower above the dog-
kennels
No squalls siceeping over the land
grazed bare.

When morning comes I feel nothing—
My boot breaks no ice in the cart-rut
Half-frozen slush oozes no more
between numb toes
My head never serts on the warmth
above the udder.

to escape —

Out of the crooked hole of fate
Come repugnant dreams—
Three people in a car
With cold, grey faces, dead
Sitting upright, separate,
Withered from un-lived life
Unhealthy grey flesh
Rotting desireless in the black, bleak
night.
I want to cut with sharp, cold metal
Myself away from this,
Leave furry foot to rot in jagged clamp
But me scape
Away
From this uncleanness of the sick in
soul,
To run up on the wind-cleansed hill
And bathe my face and body
In swift-flowing air
On the top of that great moonless,
rearing slope
And look down on bare sea.

—"MEZZ"

We Are Still Aspiring

may know them and accord them the honour they deserve? But it was Miss Aylesbury's magnificent mélange of delectable dithyrambs that nearly accomplished my complete and absolute prostration; and "Lines from an Unfinished Elegy" brought wet, salt tears to my eyes, and my tender, throbbing heart was lanced through and through (as it were) by the piercing arrows of soul-gnawing solitude, which seemed to be hanging in the poignant air, but which I nipped carefully in the bud with the greatest expediency before I was again lifted high above the clouds of joy on the passionate, hungry, but moulting wings of rapturous poesy.—Yours ever so,

(Miss) AUDREY SMULLOCK.

Dear Sir,

May I respectfully suggest that your book reviewers give the name of both book and author before they launch into their eulogising? When I read a book review, I find it more convenient to know what book I am being told about.—I am, etc., "ANNOYED."

All day long there is failing
The rush of the westerly from sea to
sea
The chase of cloud-shadows over
shimmering green
And all the melancholy of days of
grass and wind.

And at night I know that all this
I have sold
For ever
That the same feet will never feel the
same grass,
That the wind in the pine plantation
will not comfort me.
I am a stranger to the land I grew
up on,
I am a stranger to those who grew up
about me,
I am a stranger to myself.

—M.H.W.

Poesy was ever thought to have some participation of divineness, because it doth raise and erect the mind, by submitting the shows of things to the desires of the mind.—Francis Bacon.

Evening deepens into mournful gloom,
And on the coast the long waves roll
and crash
In frenzied surging rush; a lonely gull
Wheels and hurls its plaintive cries
Into the night; and in the fearsome
gale
Its ghostly sound echoes from the cliff
Beneath my feet; and as I watch
I shudder and grow cold with fear and
turn
In anguish from the hostile shore
To search for solace in less bitter
thoughts
And turn my mind from things present
and things past.
And as I stumble through the blinding
rain,
The darkness breaks; the moon
appears
Above the clouds—I feel a sudden calm,
And in this peace I find a sense of hope.
I pause and turn my head unto the
East.

—BLANVERS

Soldiers Write

Hal Greig sends thanks for chocolate and mentions that he came over with Ron Corkhill—he was very sorry to hear of Ron's death. Hal met John O'Shea the other day at a concert and he also sees Alan Horner and Jim Kilpatrick. He mentions that Jack Bedingfield is now a lieutenant.

Keith Hume, now back in Wellington, sends thanks for chocolate received in Italy.

June Cummins, writing from the N.Z. Club, London, sends thanks for parcel of chocolate received. June is in a position where she is able to meet many students and mentions having met such people as Jack Sullivan and Bonk Scotney. Bonk is now a Radar officer on a cruiser in the

Mediterranean. She also met Gurth Higgins, Dudley Aldous and Lloyd Stitchbury in Italy not so long ago. Lloyd is now posted as missing over Norway. Dick Simpson and Robin Stanford are now majors.

June also saw Bill Austin receive his D.F.C. at Buckingham Palace and says his performance compared favourably with any of his previous performances for VUC Drama Club.

Lindsay Nathan writes that he is in the same outfit as Harold Gretton—he also saw Doug Edwards the other day. Lindsay sends thanks for chocolate and mentions that two ex-VUC Tramping Club members were at the 8th Army Ski School this winter.

B. Corkhill trusts that he is well with Profs. Hunter, Murphy and Rankine Brown.

E. H. Hands says he attended a VUC dinner at Cairo Hotel and has

met many ex-students since being overseas, including Doug Barker and Dick Cornell recently. Dick has now returned to his Division.

A. W. McNaught writes from French Pass thanking VUC for a parcel of chocolate that has chased him from Ceylon.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB

Prof. Leslie Lipson
ON
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THE PEACE SETTLEMENT
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TRAMPERS AND BIOLOGISTS SHARE TAUHERENIKAU CHATEAU

The lower Tauherenikau Valley was the location chosen for a combined expedition by the Tramping Club and the Biological Society. In spite of the fact that Capping Ball finished only six hours before the departure of the train, a sizeable gathering accumulated. Some of these claimed to be biologists, some trampers, some both and some inebriated. As most of the trip was covered by taxi, the tramp over to Tauherenikau proved to be very enjoyable and can be strongly recommended to all those who enjoy the outdoor life.

In the course of the evening Ted Bradstock provided us with such an excellent stew that odd noises, in four or five keys at once, were heard throughout the night, until some members of a Tararua Club party were heard to enquire why people pay to see University Extravaganzas. Mr. A. J. D. Barker, well-known botanist, musician, and poet, as he crawled into his sleeping bag, revealed that for five years he had tramped without a bag, but as he had since married into one he was now fully equipped.

The next day the party resolved itself into factions.

The Biologist's Point of View

Mr. Barker was an enthusiastic and learned leader, so much so indeed that by the end of the trip many of the professed trampers were coming to him with specimens of the bush which they rush through so often without seeing. Among the more common flora of this part of the Tararuas may be mentioned black beech, rimu and white pine towering above an undergrowth of ferns of all kinds: kidney ferns, filmy ferns, while pungas reach their full glory. The largest moss in the world is found here. A search for orchids, stimulated by an offer of 4/- apiece from a florist in town, resulted in the identification of the epiphytic *Dendrobium*, unfortunately not in flower and usually far out of reach. The bush in the Tauherenikau Valley is primary growth and particularly rich; it is unfortunate that advanced botany students did not take advantage of the trip to collect for their herbariums. A full account of the flora is being prepared and will be published in the Biological Society's magazine "Tuatara" at the end of the year.

Zoologists found abundant evidence of the richness of the fauna on turning over any moss-covered stones or investigating rotting logs. A species of *Maoridrilus* some 8 inches in length was collected, along with some smaller worms and various beetles, a land mollusc and large pupa. That larger animals are no longer rare in our small remnants of native bush was distressingly obvious from the trampling down and uprooting of the undergrowth, particularly of the seedlings so necessary to replace the bush and prevent erosion, by goats and deer, which increases rapidly on such rich food at our expense.

Mr. Barker has offered to take us on an afternoon trip through the bush at Belmont, where can also be seen some of his own prize specimens, so watch the notice boards!

Up in the Airy Mountain

A small nucleus with more energy than sense, including some accredited biologists, scrambled up the ridge to the south of Canyon Creek to Dobson's bivvy. A heavy fall of snow had covered the top of the Marchant Ridge and the surrounding moun-

tains presented a pleasing spectacle that was well worth the effort. It appears, however, that University students have the minds of children when it comes to a little snow. Only the iron will of Alec McLeod prevented the construction of a snowman.

The return trip involved a seven-mile walk to the bus at Te Marua, with frequent cursing at capitalistic owners of motor vehicles. A number of passengers on the 7.30 p.m. Upper Hutt-Wellington train were extremely fortunate in that they were treated to a free rendering of Peter in Blunderland in the wrong order.

Drama Club Program —

The Drama Club Committee has now decided upon a tentative programme of future activities.

It is hoped that in the second term Webster's play, "The Duchess of Malfi," will be presented as a major production in the Town Hall. The other major production will be a modern comedy. Besides these projects there will be a one-act play evening, two plays presented by the British Drama League as well as readings; lectures on stagecraft, make-up and producing will also be held.

With all these activities afoot there is a part for everyone. Even if you think you have no acting skill the committee guarantees a transformation which will surprise you. (Guarantees of this description do not necessarily have the support of the managing committee of Salient.—Ed.) This is your club, so it is up to you to support it and ensure its continuation and success.

VUC HAKA PARTY ENLIVENS DEPARTMENT STORES AND THEATRES

Friday, April 20. With less than twenty-four hours to presentation all that Extrav 1945 needed was an audience. The lower house for the morrow was fully booked, but the gallery—and the week to run? Weir agreed, acted accordingly. Down town sallied thirty residents on the hind-quarters of a truck—bugles, hakas, and Cappicades were distributed without apology.

First objective was the ever popular railway station. One haka, a crocodile, and the blood flowed thick. Cappicades needed no introduction—sold vigorously.

The D.I.C. and environs, centre of the bourgeois metropolis, offered a receptive crowd, hordes of poker-faced shop walkers and an escalator. Then to the foyers of the Majestic and Regent theatres where the light of Extrav exposed hitherto unsuspected patrons.

The manager of the King's was most co-operative. The auditorium—nothing less—and the surprised

Social Committee Report on Dances

Students will be surprised to hear that not all colleges have social committees. Others leave the running of their dances to the various clubs in turn—the benefit is that more originality can be expected.

However, Victoria has proved the committee system efficient. This is due to the practice the members receive. Misses Anderson, Beattie, Rich, and Mrs. McDowall know all about catering, and Bob Barraclough knows just what mixture of fact and fiction to employ in his dealings with the sugar and tea people. Guy Evans is quite familiar with the sound equipment and looks back with mixed feelings on many hours of patient servicing. John Ziman claims he finds artistic outlet in painting the gaudy posters that have lately graced the College notice-boards, and Gib Bogle knows a band-leader by his first name. Of course all the committee have experience in washing-up and sweeping. In case anyone should think the committee is a mere collection of specialists, mention must be made of Piers Abraham, a willing horse, who will try anything.

Freshers' Ball drew the biggest attendance yet known at this College—close on 700.

Tournament Ball, together with Extrav Dances and Capping Ball, were not officially run by the Social Committee, though usually the same horses are in the new harness.

Tuesday Dances.—These are considered one of the best ideas the Social Committee ever had. On Tuesday, from 12.45 till after 2 p.m., a dance is run in the Gym. This opportunity to get to know a few people and to spend the hour when the library closes is provided every week without fail.

VE Day Dance was a howling success. The notices said: "Bring your own supper." Not much in the way of solid food arrived, but the Social Committee had ingeniously laid in biscuits against such a circumstance. Representative of the Professorial Board was Professor Florence. All told everybody spent quite a shattering time.

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V.E. DAY — We Are Looking Forward to V.A. Day

(Our Special Reporter)

VE Day started in Wellington 24 hours early, but Wednesday saw the streets packed with confetti, streamers, people and inebriates. VUC, it is said, went on a BASH with a pub-crawl in which, it is rumoured, the publicans opened their hearts as well as their bars, and sold gin and whiskey.

The wee sma' hours of Thursday morning saw crowds still processing down-town through streets snow-drift littered with torn paper. Up on the Hill, in the Gym, the dance scheduled for 8.0 p.m. got really under way about 9.0 p.m., when refreshments, "Supply your own Supper" started flowing freely. The youth, beauty and pulchritude of VUC together with a number of gate-crashers assembled about 150 strong, dancing, drinking, jitter-bugging and haka-ing till about 2.0 a.m.

Late in the evening there were unscheduled visitors. Professor and Mrs. Florance were introduced to the assembly by Marc Poole, in a fine display of oratory and witticism. The congregation cheered a welcome.

The down-town festivities were echoed in dress and headdress, while the flowing bowl, though not conducive to good dancing, mellowed the evening, to the disaster of the morning after.

We are looking forward to VA day.

Thanks are due in the proper quarters for the loaned music which replaced an unobtainable orchestra. Without this, the dance would have been an also-ran instead of a success. Thanks too for the (official) supper.

Retrospect: A very nice time was had by all, thank you. See you there next time.

Extrav Make-up Shows Necessity For Training

Much of the success or failure of a show depends on the make-up. Each character must be treated individually, and while poor make-up can mar the performance no matter how good the man or the part, good make-up can go far to salvage a weak actor or part.

This is true of every performance of the legitimate theatre, or the screen. Make-up is a link, and an important link, in the chain that is performance.

The make-up for "Peter" is difficult. There are some 30 characters that should be recognisable to the audience, apart from the choruses. Each of these needed special treatment with the very limited range of paints and powders available at present.

The first night at Palmerston, as at Wellington, showed the usual uneven choruses and general signs of novices feeling their way. Some of the make-up was too light, some too heavy. But the second Palmerston performance, and the following locals were well done, and congratulations are due to those who did them.

But the whole show has proved a previously advanced thesis; that the make-up staff must have special train-

Capping Ball 'Faith —

Alack indeed that the University throws not more often a formal ball! Would that we were more old-fashioned in our ways. Didst see Capping Ball, Sir Percy, with the ladies clad mighty fine in their pretties, and every mother's son bravely sporting his Sunday best? Egad, but this Victoria College displays an elegant bunch of minxes! Fine body of men you have there, Colonel! And the Town Hall so gaily decorated and a bewitching band of players. What seeks a man in heaven that he finds not here? It began at 10 of the clock. It finished some time ere cock-crow. Who shall tell what occurred between? There was much dancing, they say, and eating and drinking. There was sweet singing and witty converse. There were romances begun and friendships ended. Could any one man write the tale of these 600 souls? Leave such fan-danglings to Joyce and Provst, and say only that it was capital carnival.

But, good lords and ladies, let us repair more often to this city hall. What more excellent building could there be for dancing and dining than that spacious chamber, those glossy floors, that roomy gallery, the winding passages and pretty cabinet? There be space for every man's Jack and Jill to hop, skip and jump to his heart's content. A plague on this cramping compression where a man can but walk when he would fain gallop. Strike up the band, seigneur Miller, for tonight we are the guests of Lord John Barr, and revelry shall be unrestrained.

Words of a small boy, overheard at the Civic Reception at Palmerston: "Gosh! I must tell the family to go to Extrav tonight. This is better than Laurel and Hardy!"

ing and rehearsals before the show starts long before the dress rehearsal. A nucleus of make-up people is needed that can tackle successfully any given living or fictional character. This skill can be acquired only by much practice on people under stage conditions. Choruses should be handled on a "chain" basis by two or three people, so that the chorus is smooth and machine-made. There was too much individuality in the separate chorines. The leader, while having distinctive make-up should merge harmoniously with the rest.

The Varsity Drama Club would profit by training a nucleus of people in character make-up, and the use of prosthetics such as crepe hair, nose putty, cotton wool, etc

Thanks are due to those who worked backstage, foregoing the pleasures either of acting or seeing the show as a connected whole, and thanks are due also to the Palmerston Repertory people, who gave valiant assistance.

Now would you know, and wish to go,
The nearest way to sorrow;
To drain the cup of misery up,
And darken every morrow:
The way is open straight and clear,
The method sure and handy;
Ne'er stop to think, but freely drink
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WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB HITS LATEST MEMBERSHIP RECORD

With a membership of close on 50 players, the Women's Hockey Club may confidently look forward to a season of enjoyable hockey and keenly contested if not always successful games.

As usual there is an influx of new players to the club; some of these are beginners to the game, others straight from other clubs or school teams. To all these we would like to extend a hearty welcome. We still feel, however, that there must be other hockey players at Varsity unknown to us. Forwards, halves, backs, and perhaps even a goalkeeper or two who, because they don't know anyone in the club, are not making their presence felt.

Such students are asked to contact a member of our committee or to come along to our weekly practices in the Gym from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

This may well serve as a reminder to all club members that the Gym is set aside at this time for women's hockey and that it is up to us to take advantage of the facilities thus afforded. Owing to the increased membership in both men's and women's clubs this year it has become necessary to hold separate practices. So far these have not been attended very well but this is doubtless due to holidays, Victory celebrations and Extrav's trip to Palmerston North, etc. However, this term we hope to see all players coming along to these practices. There is something we can all learn or do. If your knowledge of the game is 100% and your stickwork good, you still need teamwork and training, training, and still more training. This year there is more space per person, more lighting, more balls and an excellent coach, so there is little excuse for absenteeism.

Senior A.—This team has only played one game so far with the exception of a practice one in which it drew with the crack C.O.G. team. It

is therefore a little early to predict its fate. It must be said, however, that it is definitely—judging by practice games—a superior team to last year's. This may perhaps not appear very obvious from our first game's results, but doubtless the night and some of the morning before were responsible for this. Unfortunately it so happened that we drew a strong team to play. The first half of the game was good; play was fast and clean and stickwork a marked improvement on last season. In the second spell, however, the Hutt's superior fitness (abstinence?—Ed.) began to tell. The defence were definitely worried by the sun but nothing short of a general collapse of the whole team could account for a final score of 9-1.

Senior B.—This team shows definite promise this season. There is not the vast difference in the standard of play between the two Senior teams this year.

The season opened well with a win against the Navy of 3-2. Last Saturday, however, due to a greatly depleted team and an injury to a player during the game, the team went down to YWCA, 5-0.

Lack of training and coaching, and, in some cases, knowledge of the game

Exec Worries Over Free Tickets to Capping Ball

The Exec. again met a full agenda on Monday, May 14. Under discussion were: The question of free tickets to Capping Ball, Tournament expenditure, the date of the Annual General Meeting, Winter Tournament, Liberty Loan, and other matters.

A contentious point was that of free tickets to Capping Ball. It was pointed out that many people worked backstage equally as hard as the leads did in the lime-light, either of Capping or Extrav—they should have free tickets. "I am damn disgusted," said Stan. Campbell. The majority of the Exec., however, felt that a limit must be set. If steady work throughout the year were to be considered, said Jack Barr, the Social Committee and *Salient* staff should be high on the list of complimentaries. It was decided that the standing arrangement be adhered to, free tickets going only to graduands, members of the College staff, and the producer, stage manager, properties man and musical director of Extrav.

Tournament expenditure was carefully analysed and found to be not excessive—delegates were to be congratulated on this point. Some doubt was expressed as to the necessity of a five pound beer grant for the haka party. "But could they function

without it?" queried Marc Poole.

In view of the considerable goodwill accruing to the College, not only by way of the work done, but also via the Government Film Unit, a motion was passed, after much discussion, that the Exec. should pay half of the eleven pounds spent by ISS in advertising the last Student Workday.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 20; as required by the constitution, nominations for election to the 1945 Exec will close a fortnight before this; the following were appointed officers of trust—Returning Officer, H. L. Peirse; Auditor, F. S. Stacey.

Ivor Ting and Margaret Beattie will be Winter Tournament Delegates. Gib Bogle, for NZUSA, moved that Men's Basketball, Fencing, Skiing and Golf

are handicapping progress, but these are now being attended to and the importance of attendance at practices cannot be stressed too often if VUC is to prove its worth against Massey.

Junior.—In their first two games, against Petone Tec., teams I and II respectively, the Juniors have drawn (no score) and lost (1-4). During the initial match a number of opportunities were lost because of offside play resulting from forwards over-running the player with the ball. This is a tendency which is encouraged by too much dribbling. In the second game, positional play was good on the whole, being corrected by free passing and by the adoption of fast attacks down the right wing.



- Friday, May 25—**
Commencing Dance in the Gym. at 8 p.m.
- Saturday, May 26—**
Catholic Student Guild, at St. Patrick's College, 8 p.m.
- Sunday, May 27—**
Tramping Club trip to Mt. Devine.
- Tuesday, May 29—**
Social Committee Lunch-time Dance as usual, 12.30 to 1.30 p.m. in the Gym.
- Monday, June 4—**
AUC v. VUC, Rugby, 2.30 p.m., ground to be announced later. Massey v. VUC, Hockey, at Palmerston North.
- Friday, June 8—**
Film showing of "Divide and Conquer"; Debate (subject to be announced later); and Annual General Meeting.

be inaugurated as official college clubs. Action has so far been taken only in regard to Fencing.

A call was made for a blood transfusion service from the college students. Gib Bogle is arranging the details, which will entail a group visit to a doctor for classification and an undertaking to supply blood to the General Hospital whenever called upon (very seldom).

Under "general business" Cecil Fowler raised the question of a college campaign for the Victory Loan. A sub-committee was nominated, consisting of those people "who were known to be interested in such a cause;" Cecil Fowler, Jim Winchester, Dave Cohen, Gordon Stuckey, Dennis Hartley, Pauline and Raymond Michel, Ray Hannan, with power to co-opt.

Missing — Dr. Speights & Dr. Flushem

GRADUATION CEREMONY 1945, the first held in the Town Hall for many years, was well attended and impressive. The main address was by Major Wilde, a very active and widely known VUC student of a few years back; it stood head and shoulders above the average graduation speech. The Chancellor, Mr. Justice Smith, also spoke, well, briefly, and to his point—that universities should be the spearhead of the intellectual attack on Fascism.

Closely attendant on the procession of graduands and staff into the hall were two newcomers to the College, Dr. Speights, XXXX (Hons.) and Dr. Flushem, W.C.(N.Z.). Bearded, becloaked and placarded, these gentlemen mounted by ladder to the balcony, where, surrounded by confreres and students, they initiated a series of diversions which revealed them as masters of psychology. Indeed, such was their grip of the subject that Sir Thomas Hunter has recently asked the Exec. to disclose the names of the bearded two. The Exec. has replied that owing to the deep disguise adopted they were unable to recognise the individuals. However, they hereby ask that any student who has knowledge of either the identity or whereabouts of the Doctors should communicate with them (the Exec.) immediately.

HARD HITTING FORWARDS DISTINGUISH MEN'S HOCKEY

Senior A.—In their first game for the season, speedy, quick-changing forward play and stolid defence saw a good win for Varsity (6-1), 3 goals coming from the stick of **Win Smiler**, 2 from **Ivor Ting** and 1 from **Norm. Townes**.

Win Smiler's play was outstanding all through. The seasoned veteran **Ken Kiddle** is playing again at left back, and proved that his hockey had not been affected by his retirement from senior grade last year.

The problem confronting this team was to find a replacement for **Trigger Gunn**, who left for Otago this year. A new-comer to Varsity hockey, **Alistair MacLean**, showed in the first game that he will be a worthy successor. An ex-member of the club, **George Marwick**, has taken up his former position at right wing in place of **Johnny Nicholls**, who will be sporting Massey colours this year.

On a heavy ground **Hutt** crept home by 3-2 in a hard-fought game, both our scores coming from **Win Smiler**. Apart from **Win**, whose play was outstanding, the forwards did not seem to get going at all well. Lack of clean, hard hitting on the part of the backs, and allowing their hitting to be intercepted, saw many chances missed.

Honours go to **Brian Barry**, whose consistent coolness in goal saved Varsity in more than one desperate position.

Senior B.—Being one player short in their game against **WCOB**, and showing a lack of enterprise in the circle, Varsity lost 2-7, **Jones** and **Liversage** scoring for Varsity. At centre-half **Kamal Gajadhar** showed that with a little more practice he will be among the top-ranking halves in the club. Most of the players in this team have a tendency to be slow off their feet and players should try to master this fault.

Against Wellington College, play was on the whole good, and the game was won by Varsity 4-3. **Manchester, Gajadhar** and **Jamieson** scored goals.

The main fault lay in the bad positional play of the forwards in particular and in the crowding in the forwards by the wing halves. However, the team was labouring under difficulties in the way of last minute changes and did well indeed to de-

feat Wellington College. **Solly Faine** at goal is to be especially congratulated on a very fine game.

Juniors.—It says much for the spirit of the players in the junior teams that they are able to redeem their losses of one Saturday by winning all their games the next. On the first Saturday of the season, the best performance was put up by 3A, who drew 2-2 against a strong Air Force combination from **Maungaroa**. On the second playing Saturday wins were registered all round with the exception of 2B, which had to default on account of shortages. This 2B team will be the social team and, consisting of veterans such as **Jack Barr, Archie Ives, Griff. Jones, Arthur McIlwraith, and Bruce Duncan**, will no doubt play some good hockey besides having a lot of fun.

The 2A team was rather badly beaten on the first Saturday by 11-0. The team, however, was short, and had to play without a goalie against a team consisting of players approaching senior standard (**The Warriors**). Last Saturday, however, they made amends by defeating the **Technical College 1st XI** by 4-0. It was a fair game, the team again being short, but the combination displayed was promising. Keep it up.

The 3A team put up a creditable showing on the first Saturday by drawing with Air Force 2-2. **Allen** at centre-forward and **Remmers** in goal both played solid hockey. The team is to be commended for turning out in full numbers. Last Saturday, though one man short, this team defeated Wellington College A by 3-2. It was agreed that this was a most enjoyable game.

3B, playing with seven men, were narrowly beaten on the first Saturday by 2-1. Naturally, the game was rather ragged, but these men should be commended for putting up the spirited fight they did. Leading a keen band of 8 or 9 men last Saturday, **'Jum.'** **Kiddle** did much to bring about the team's win of 7-2 against **Rongotai**. It is hoped that this team will put up even more creditable showings when once a full team is able to be fielded.

—A LYING JADE

Rumour is a lying jade, but the fickle lady hath it that during the recent festivities at Palmerston North, the quaint customs of the royal party from **Tierra del Fuego** led them all too close to the clutching paws of the local gendarmerie. Finding their triumphal procession down a midnight causeway impeded by a traffic sign, the party, headed by the duchess, is alleged to have flung the notice into a nearby gutter, to the manifest distaste of a passing constable. Rebuked for their action, they endeavoured to make amends, but to no avail. We have it from thoroughly unreliable sources that the charge was "resisting the police in the course of their duty." This may be related to a casual remark from the Duke: "Put them on charge officer, they are habitual criminals." It is understood that following the intervention of Mr. Nichols, the Opera House caretaker, the "droit de seigneur" was taken to include the royal party and the incident was overlooked.

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Footballers Plan Rendezvous

AUC, last year's Senior A champions at Auckland, are coming down to play VUC on King's Birthday. Efforts were made to have the game played on Athletic Park, but the request was not received favourably, and it will be played either on Kelburn Park or on Hutt Rec. It is to be hoped that all enthusiasts and supporters will turn out en masse to encourage the home team and to make the match a memorable one for the visitors.

A dance has been arranged in the Gym. for Monday evening, and the support of the College can make it one of the highlights of the trip.

The Aucklanders are arriving on Sunday and return Tuesday. All who can help with billets re requested to see or ring Joe Trapp (Weir). Details concerning entertainment and time and place of the match will be posted soon.

The performance of the senior side so far this year has been particularly heartening, and it was extremely unfortunate as it had to play Onslow, one of the strongest teams in the Hardham Cup, on the day after Capping Ball. The day also proved disastrous with regard to injuries, Brian having his shoulder dislocated, and Murphy suffering a knee injury from which he has still not completely recovered. There is lack of weight in the locks, and indeed all round. Jack Bennett at 14 stone is the heaviest forward. This may handicap the seniors very greatly.

The Taita match also produced a crop of injuries. MacLeod was forced to retire with an injured knee, while Cormick, one of the best of the forwards, got concussion. These injuries will disorganise the team to some extent but it is hoped that a presentable combination can be held together.

Individuals playing well include Berg, whose exhibitions as full back have so far been extremely good; Loveridge, whose speed and effective tackling are a great asset to the side; and Goodwin, the vice-captain, who turns on his usual sturdy game each Saturday. Dun in the forwards is a solid worker and a resourceful forward, and Cornick, Benseman and West perform consistently well.

Juniors Unlucky —

The Juniors also were a trifle unlucky to strike Army after Capping Ball, and gave a poor exhibition. They were extremely unlucky to lose against Wellington, the lack of a goal-kicker of even ordinary ability proving disastrous to their chances. With a very depleted fifteen they were defeated by Wellington College Old Boys by 17-0, after holding them 3-0 for the greater part of the game. Of the forwards, Orr and Shires are outstanding, while White, playing against Old Boys, gave an excellent display. He tackles well, and often upsets the opposition backs. Mullins turned on an excellent game against Old Boys, making several good runs, and saving well. In the backs the greens' strength lies in the three-quarters, who, however, seldom receive the ball. More weight in the forwards, and quicker transfer of the ball in the backs are required.

Third A.—While the results shown by this team have not so far included a win, the committee still feels every confidence that it will give a good account of itself. The material is there, and, when it strikes form, this team will soon build up a good record. The most pressing need is a regular full-back. Players like Wilde,

Shimmins (who looks like developing into a class five-eighths if he shows any liking for the position), Berry and Godman, have only to be given the chance to prove themselves. Of the forwards, Battersby and O'Regan, the latter of whom played for the seniors against Taita, Mantell-Harding and Tolley are all most promising material. With a little more luck the Third A fifteen might have won at least its last two matches, both of which were lost by narrow margins.

Third B.—The social team, under the auspices of Tanu Jowett, still

SOCCER TEAMS PLAY WELL DESPITE GROUND SHORTAGE

At the last annual general meeting held at the College recently, officers were elected as follows:—

Captain: JACK WALLS.

Vice-Captain: ROY DICKSON.

Secretary-Treasurer:

JACK WILLIAMS.

Two committeemen are yet to be elected, whilst Bruce Weir fills the position of roving reporter.

Congratulations were extended to Walls, Dickson, Williams, Richardson, and Swinburne on having been awarded Blues.

Due to shortage of grounds we have this year been able to enter teams only in the second and third grade competitions, and, regrettably, several would-be players have had to be turned away.

The Seconds played their first game against Marist, and the standard of play was extremely high, the game being clean and fast throughout.

The forwards, with plenty of the ball, were unlucky not to score in the first half. Smith and Dickson (full-backs) and Richardson (centre half) co-ordinated well in their defensive play. Three goals down at half-time, Varsity rallied very well in the second half to end the match three all. A well-placed shot from well out by Weir opened our account, to be quickly followed by two snappy goals by Sherani and Trott. Walls held the forward line together well, and was unlucky not to score.

In their second game the A team played Seatoun on their home ground. Although Capping Ball had taken its toll of several members, play was none the less keen. At half-time Seatoun led 2-0. The three half-backs, Priddie, Mackie, and Richardson, intercepted well, and Moore, the galle, saved several difficult shots.

battles on gamely, and, though not yet victorious, will no doubt soon settle down. Its performance, however, tends to fall in the last twenty minutes. Dix has proved a fine hooker, and Gordon Duncan plays his usual excellent game every Saturday, while Phil Taylor proves a good lock. Tanu himself reveals something of the form which he showed before the war for the VUC 3rd A team. Ray Overton in the backs is a decided asset, though it is expected that he will be called to senior ranks very shortly.

Third C.—The performance of this side is distinctly encouraging, as it has won its last two games and had a moral victory in one of the others. It is by no means a weak team, as must be shown by the fact that, turning out with 11 men during the vacation, it was able to defeat Institute by 21 to 0, all the points coming from tries. Coach Harry Bailey is distinctly impressed with the material offering, and has every confidence in his team. With a couple of Third A men to help out they did extremely well to defeat Kaiwarra by 6-3, and only lack of a reliable goal-kicker deprived them of a more substantial win. Players like Rea, Bogle, Watson and Mackay are going to give the opposition a few headaches, while MacDonald, Parsons, Gilchrist and Lang can be relied on to do plenty of work in the forwards.

There is still room for improvement in forward and positional play.

Although the B team has not yet won a game it shows improvement considering the inexperience of the players. Captain Ash Couper at centre-half shows much initiative in his play. Giles, goalie, is the strongest link in the defence. Barnard and Ashrof are prominent in the forward line. The team at present lacks unity, but its enthusiasm augurs well for the future.

As it appears that the four main centres (and Lincoln) can field teams it is hoped that soccer will be included in the approaching Winter Tournament at Otago.

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