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# Salient

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

VOL. 8, No. 7

★

WELLINGTON, JUNE 13, 1945

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Price: SIXPENCE

MAJESTIC  
CABARET

★  
DANCING  
NIGHTLY

to  
LAURI PADDI  
"HIS HIT PARADE"

## Fifteen Contest Executive Positions Yer pays yer Money and Takes yer Pick

Election of members to the Students' Executive will take place next Friday, and on the following Monday and Tuesday nights. We doubt whether any previous Executive has been called upon to prosecute tasks as hazardous and of such paramount importance as those confronting the College of 1945-46, and hope that few will treat the coming poll in a light-hearted manner. Only those capable of maintaining a most responsible attitude and long-term vision in settling such issues as the rehabilitation of many hundred students, the problem of overcrowding, and the new Students' Association Building, can serve successfully as representatives of the student body.

The following are the members of the retiring executive, four of whom have again been nominated:—

**President:** JACK BARR.  
**Secretary:** IAN McDOWALL.  
**Treasurer:** DAVID STEELE.  
**Women's Vice-President:**  
MARGARET BEATTIE.  
**Men's Vice-President:**  
DICK DANIELL.  
**Women's Committee:** CECIL FOWLER, JOAN SIM, MARGARET ORR.  
**Men's Committee:** GIB. BOGLE, STAN. CAMPBELL.

At their last meeting the exec. appointed Mr. Pierce as returning officer. Within the requisite time the electoral roll was posted.

Comprising sixteen close-typed foolscap sheets, it contains some 960 names. Of a similar roll last year 324 students voted, little over 30 per cent. It is to be hoped that this year more students will take the opportunity of exercising their democratic and constitutional rights.

### SOLDIERS!

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

- IF ● you are an ex-member of Stud. Ass.  
● you have paid your fee this year  
● you are on the roll

SEE THE RETURNING OFFICER  
before Thursday, 4 p.m.

The preferential voting system is used. This prevents the election of any member by a minority and eliminates vote splitting.

This executive has had important and full agendas throughout the year. The Medical Scheme, Tournament, Extrav, and the Student Association Building have all occupied a great deal of time. Most matters have been handled by the exec. members themselves, or by the sub-committees it is their duty to appoint.

Every endeavour has been made to ascertain that a just and fair representation of the students is made. **This is only possible if everyone casts their vote and casts it conscientiously.** When this happens the executive will know that it has the wholehearted and unremitting support of the college.

## PRESIDENT

Stanley Campbell

Mr. Campbell is in his third part-time year at VUC. He has been two years chairman of the Debating Club, was a 1944 committee member of IRC, and is advertising manager for *Salient*. He is the originator of the Miniature Rifle Club and is at present attempting to organise a Men's Basketball Team for Winter Tournament in Dunedin. In Extrav, he will be remembered as the "Red King," and also for his work in organising the Palmerston North tour. As a member of the retiring exec. he held positions on many committees, including Cafeteria, Gymnasium, Extrav. and Tournament; as publicity officer he did good work in introducing VUC to the National Film Unit; two films have



Dave Cohen

been made, shorts on Biology as an educational subjects and on the Health Scheme, are in preparation. In the forthcoming year Stan would like to see the following matters treated as urgent:—

Renovation of the Men's Common Room, on the style of Massey College, with daily papers and magazines.

Appointment of a committee to deal with and assist rehabilitated students.

Introduction of a compulsory medical scheme.

David Cohen

Mr. Cohen has been an active member of the Association since 1936, excepting three years in the army, 1942-44. A past member of both Dramatic and Debating Committees, he is at present Vice-Chairman of the Debating Club and committee member of IRC. As Exec. Vice-Pres. (1941-41), he founded the social committee and originated tea-dances. An Extrav. participant in many capacities—properties, actor, co-author and orchestra—he was musical director in '41 and '45, and was responsible for the music to "Kitty from Cairo."

He represented VUC boxing in '39 and '40, is an ex-member of the football club, at present plays hockey for TC. Dave is associate editor of this year's *Spike* and is responsible for the five hundred person subscription list to *Salient*.

Aside from general exec. policy concerning overcrowding, returning students, the new building, etc., he would like to see more attention paid to greater student representation on governing bodies, via Court of Convo-



Stan Campbell

cation elections, and closer contact with the general community, including the publishing of College opinion on controversial questions of the day.

## Secretary

Marc Poole

Elected unopposed for Secretary is Mr. Marc Poole, a fourth year law student, who brings plenty of experience to the job. Mr. Poole was assistant secretary last year, took a leading part in Tournament and Extrav. activities, and was a delegate for VUC at the recent NZUSA annual general meeting. He was convener of the committee that produced the new song book, and takes an active part in athletics and harriers. Of last year's exec. he says: "They did a damn good job in the face of the usual marked apathy of the majority of the students of VUC." Now that the spadework (metaphorically speaking) has been done on the building, he wants to go ahead as speedily as possible.

(Continued on page 4)

## POLLING DAYS

Friday, Monday, Tuesday  
4-7 p.m., Main Hall.

## Annual General Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

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VOL. 8  
No. 7

# *Salient*

Wednesday,  
June 13

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

## THE OCCUPATION IN NORWAY

*This is the second of a series of articles reprinted from the ISS "Quarterly Bulletin." It deals with the struggles of the students of Oslo University to maintain their intellectual integrity in the face of enemy domination.*

*We feel that more lessons may be drawn from it than from any editorial of our own.*

Founded in 1911, Oslo University (the only University in Norway), benefits from the generosity of the public authorities; in spite of the financial restrictions resulting from the war, the necessary grants were accorded it in view of a complete reorganisation. An entire group of new buildings was constructed in the suburbs of Oslo, including modern institutes and laboratories, among which was an institute of theoretical astrophysics, the cost of which was covered by the Rockefeller Foundation.

In January, 1941, came the first attempt to eliminate a professor. The new constitution once more reduced the age limit for staff from 70 to 65. The head of the Department should himself decide if a member of the staff who had attained this age should keep his post. This ruling applied equally to the professors of the University. Professor K. E. Schreiber, head of the University Institute of Anatomy, was the first to be affected by this measure. His successor was to be the Protector of the Institute, a party member.

Eighty professors, 140 assistants, and likewise members of the Students' Union openly signified that they would stop work if the measure were applied to the University. The department gave way. Schreiber's successor abandoned his University activities to become Secretary of the Society of Norwegian Doctors.

February '41 brought a fresh conflict. The Ministry of Culture and Education had struck off the rolls a series of examiners in law. They were to be replaced by new lawyers. The protests of the Faculty of Law professors and students secured the withdrawal of this order.

In September '41 a state of emergency was declared, on the pretext of "attempts at Marxist and Communist agitation." A meeting of professors and undergraduates was organised in the University aula under an S.S. guard. A partisan of the Germans announced the replacement of the Rector Seip by Skancke. A tribunal was to judge all those who refused to submit to the new order. The Quisling press announced that the University would become "a temple of truth and justice" after having been a hide-out of reactionaries.

Professor Seip, A. W. Brogger (Professor of History), Otto Louis Mohr

(Professor of Medicine) and Professor Schreiber were sent to Grini. Prof. Seip, who was set free from the concentration camp at the beginning of 1943, nevertheless has not been permitted to leave Germany. Skancke nominated Prof. Hoel "vice-rector." The other professors openly announced that they regarded Hoel as nothing more than a representative of the National-Socialist party at the head of the University. Regarded by many as less dangerous than his extremist colleague, Klaus Hau, he was, however, nominated rector at the end of 1942.

Some people then proposed boycotting a university which had become, as it were, a party-barracks. But they renounced this, not through fear of reprisals, but from reluctance to abandon so important an institution.

At this time the Nazis founded the "Students' Union." Nevertheless, all attempts to make membership of this society obligatory failed.

In the summer of '42 arose a discussion on admission. Just as members of the National-Socialist party had been exempted from entrance examinations to the university at the beginning of '41, Nazi circles were now seeking to modify conditions of entrance to other big schools and to the faculties of medicine and pharmacy. In the summer of '42 a great struggle commenced. The authorities' intentions had now become clear. The dismissal of the Rector was accompanied by a reform of the regulations which let it be understood that the nomination of professors and the admission of students would depend on their political attitude. After a protest from the professors and under the guise of a reply, the Rector submitted a plan for new regulations. These, which had previously been discussed by the chief National Socialists, allowed 50 extra marks to those who had served in the Waffen S.S. or the Quisling Legion, 10-30 marks to those who had belonged to the New Norway Group, 5-10 marks to those who had volunteered for work days. The reason given was that members of the Nationalist movement or of the forces of the Reich ought to be recompensed because they had given evidence of their devotion to a constructive cause.

*(To be concluded in our next issue.)*



## New Writing No. 4

My general impression of No. 4 was that its standard falls below even that of its predecessors, although one or two pieces seemed almost equal to the best that has been produced so far. No. 4 contains verse from seven contributors, and eight essays and short stories. The verse is extremely uneven in quality. That inspired by the war, e.g., K. J. Hollyman's "Five Poems from a Pacific Campaign," was for the most part commonplace in thought and imagery. F. Alexa Steven's "A Greek Soldier Thinks of His Child" showed some intensity and fineness of feeling marred by uncontrolled expression. Best of them was J. R. Hervey's "Unreported." Of the verse as a whole, "English Liturgy," by Marion Hope, reached the highest level. Into a single quatrain was packed profound mean-

ing expressed in imagery of a high poetic order.

The prose was on the whole better than the verse. Again those dealing with the war, e.g., W. H. Pearson's "Taralala; from a Fijian Diary," fell slightly short of the rest. The best effort, in the humble opinion of the reviewer, was Professor Robertson's "Odyssey in Wellington Harbour." "Tidings of Joy," by A. P. Gaskell, and "The Will and Mr. Wilkins," by H. C. D. Somerset, were also good. The thesis that some N.Z. writers are romanticising and "generating a false nostalgia," sincerely felt by the early settlers, was advanced by R. Seymour in a short essay on "A Recent Tendency in New Zealand Literature." He is not explicit, however, as to what is the "vein of good metal" which the writers he criticises so lamentably ignore. —P.R.McK.

# BOOK REVIEWS

## China's New Democracy

During the last year or so, the pressure of events in the Far East has forced the allied nations to take more serious notice of the internal position of China. The accepted picture of a benevolent Chiang Kai-Shek coping with a "Communist menace" has given way to recognition of the need for Kuomintang-Communist unity.

Opportunely there comes through the U.S. publication of *China's New Democracy*, by Mao Tse-Tung, the "Chinese Lenin." This booklet was reprinted from an article in a 1941 *Chinese Culture* magazine. Rigid censorship prevented it reaching the outside world until late 1944, and it is to be regretted that only a very few copies have found their way to New Zealand.

China plays an increasingly important part as our ally in the Pacific war, and the lives of allied soldiers will be saved by a quick victory in that field; it is for these reasons that we cannot ignore the Autonomous North-west Border Region. This region has a population of some 90 million people, they keep an army of 600,000 in the field, and last year were engaging half the Japanese armies in China. In addition to this it is tragic to relate that this gallant people are blockaded from the rest of China and the outside world by Kuomintang troops and re-

ceive no allied aid in the form of medical supplies or war material.

The booklet contains a considerable amount of material on China's recent historical, political and cultural development. The author deals with the policy of the father of the Chinese Republic, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, his early policy of the old San Min Chu I and its development to the new San Min Chu I, with its increased realism. That policy recognised the need and value of co-operation with the Communists in China, a co-operation that was so rudely shattered after Dr. Sun Yat Sen's death in 1927. Since then the Kuomintang in China has set its face away from democracy, and has retreated to a position which has been catastrophic for China.

Mao Tse Tung is a Chinese Communist, but this does not mean that his programme for China is one of immediate socialisation. He views the situation realistically—China is not a democracy, the country is semi-colonial and semi-feudal. Only a quarter of the Chinese people are experiencing democratic government, those in the N.W. Border Region.<sup>1</sup> These people should not be asked to regress to the level of the rest of China. A new type of democracy is needed, where there is democracy not only in the voting procedure and freedom of speech, but also in the conduct of economic and cultural affairs. Big concerns such as railways should be state controlled in order that the government be less sensitive to undemocratic influences; agrarian reform is urgently needed; Sun Yat Sen's slogan "Land to those who till it" needs implementing. This does not mean the seizure of private property—far from it. It does not mean that industry will be controlled out of existence; there is a far greater degree of recognition of China's need for new industries in the border region than in Kuomintang China, where each year witnesses a decrease in industrial output, and increased dependence on the outside world for the materials of war. The new democracy must encourage increased productivity of both industry and agriculture in order to raise the standard of living. Mao Tse Tung also writes of the cultural developments that have run parallel to the other changes in China. It should be realised that the Border Region

# FILM and STAGE

There have been few worthwhile films screening in Wellington in the last few weeks. Naturally all entertainment has paled beside the College's own dramatic presentation, but we can now start seeing films again. There are a couple of interesting prospects, both Warner's, in *IN THIS OUR LIFE* and *GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE*. Repertory's next play is *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST*, and, if you can stand it, the musical comedy *KATINKA* opens shortly.

## Kismet

★ Comedy | *KISMET* is a screamingly funny film, if you look at it the right way. Marlene Dietrich has shown herself occasionally to have considerable intelligence in screen work, and she must have had her tongue in her cheek with this little number. As for Ronald Coleman, well, he must have been able to act at one stage, the way they talk about him.

## The Canterville Ghost

★★★★ Comedy. | *THE CANTERVILLE GHOST* is quite delightful. You can tell every turn of the plot several minutes ahead, but it has been produced and acted in a very engaging manner. The pride and joy of the film and of my heart, Margaret O'Brien, is practically the only woman, and you don't miss the others. This little girl is the only screen infant most people can bear, and if Hollywood can keep its hands off her, and leave her direction to a sympathetic character with a sense of humour who won't let her get above herself, then she will go on stealing scenes and films from grown-up stars, and a good thing too, the way many of them are. It is very obvious that the people in her films are extremely fond of her. There is an air of intimacy and cosiness (and credibility, too) in *THE CANTERVILLE GHOST* that is unexpected when the scary nature of the story is considered. Robert Young, who has that sense of humour required above, and Charles Laughton, a solid-looking ghost, back up Miss O'Brien, and have fun doing so.

The plot is just one of those things, supposed to be by Oscar Wilde, with a Young Man being a bit of a Coward, but Regenerating himself at the End. All the bit players are good, though most are stock characters like the British Servant and the Dowager and the Brooklyn Jerk. I don't think

have done much to educate the peasantry, teaching the peasants how to read and write, and have done much to raise their standard of culture.

Here is a book on a problem that is very close to our interests, and is a pointer to the fact that if we are to be well informed about China it is not enough for us to read the occasional P.A. telegram from Chungking, and the official publications from the Chinese M. of I. in London. We must get round and find out about the other quarter of China.

<sup>1</sup> Rep. Mike Mansfield, in his report to Congress after his trip to China earlier this year.

Hollywood has really got beyond the YANK AT ETON stage yet.

Best scenes: the entrance of the Lady de Canterville, and a very British tea-party given for American Commandos. Recommended highly, this show.

## In This Our Life

★★★ Drama | *IN THIS OUR LIFE* is just one hell of a film. In it Bette Davis, the bad sister, and Olivia de Havilland, the good one, have a terrible time amid sordid surroundings and doings. Everybody's very poor, see, but Davis has her eye on Money, but there's a young chap, and also her sister's husband, and she goes away, and then there's an accident, and the family is divided against her, but her sister forgives practically everything, and—oh well, it's all very grim and everyone suffers all the time.

There's something gone wrong with the film that needn't have. I think Bette Davis has said, I haven't acted for a long time, here goes, and has turned on the bitchiest performance of her somewhat bitch-studded career. Dash it, we know she can act. There's no need to take on like this. The real trouble is that none of the characters seem at all like human beings. They are too bad, too shiftless to be true. Yet, in a way, I suppose the acting is good. One certainly can't say that Davis gives a bad performance. But everybody tries too hard. The characters themselves are so very squalid as to appear grotesque. The photography is good, and the sets excellent.

You'd better see this film, but be prepared to ask yourself whether life is really worth living. The only consoling factor is that Ellen Glasgow's book hasn't been followed faithfully. It is quite the grimmest and most dreary little yarn I've laid eyes on, and everybody dies.

## STAGE

Repertory's last show was *THE DISTAFF SIDE*, and the less said the better. I don't care if the play is by John van Druten, it is bad, and the acting of the one or two good people didn't make it any better. This play's chief fault is that the characters talk too much. It's the old one about the all-wise matriarch who gets everybody's troubles. There's even that scene with the old family friend who wants to marry her, about Would you live your life over again the same way? Yes, I think I would. People talk and talk and talk, and nasty little psychological messes are revealed on all sides. Give me Extrav. any day.

The Society is producing *WINTERSET* shortly, and this will quite probably be the finest thing they've done in an age. The play is, of course, a classic, and George Swan, their best producer, should make something rather momentous of it.

You tell me, sir—I think you err—  
That drinking brings on sorrow.  
I'm telling you, it is not true—  
Whenever I can borrow  
Sufficient cash, I make a dash  
Down to the "Trocaadero"—  
Or else the "George"—and freely  
gorge—  
At drinking I'm a hero.  
Full many a drop it takes to stop  
My thirst, but when 'tis over,  
I am not sad, but ruddy well glad,  
And rolling in the clover.



Mao Tse-Tung



STUDENTS!

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### Treasurer Graham McArley

Standing unopposed for Treasurer is Graham McArley. Mr. McArley has completed his accountancy professional exams, and is continuing with a B.Com. course at VUC. Although he has not yet taken a very active part in College affairs, he is particularly interested in the social committee. He is somewhat surprised to find himself talked into being Treasurer, but intends to tackle the job to the best of his ability.

### Women's Vice-President Margaret Beattie

Margaret Beattie, who is returned unopposed as Women's Vice-President, is a fourth year science student and has taken a very active part in the social life of the College. A double blue in basketball, Miss Beattie plays tennis and hockey and has been on the swimming club committee. She would like to see a full compulsory medical scheme this year. She also thinks that something should be done about the board and hostel position for women.

furtherance of College affairs, but would particularly like to see, and thinks possible, a large scale revival of College clubs.

### Joan Sim

In this, her third full-time year, Miss Sim hopes to complete a B.A. She is a co-opted member of the retiring exec., did a good job as cafeteria controller, took part in Extrav. and assisted with Tournament. Joan is a member of the Debating, Dramatic, International Relations and Hockey Clubs, is interested in student affairs generally, and has no particular hobby horse. She would, however, like to see the cafeteria facilities greatly improved.

### Men's Vice-President Richard Daniell

Mr. Daniell, a part-time law student, was first co-opted into Exec. in January, 1944, and is Men's Vice-President of the retiring Exec. He was senior Tournament Delegate for Winter, 1944, and Easter, 1945, and served on the '44 Social Committee. He is Club Captain for the Harriers, Swimming Vice-Captain, ex-Captain Athletic Club and ex-Secretary of various clubs, including Photographic, Weir House, etc. He has taken part in Extrav. from

time. He was a member of the Drama Club committee '39 to '40; his sport was swimming. He has featured in Extravs. '39, '40, and '45, and is now taking an interest in debating, drama and the IRC.

Toby has definite ideas on college rehabilitation problems. He would like to see a committee formed from a general meeting of returned soldiers, with the addition of two exec. members, to formulate a comprehensive report and series of recommendations addressed to the Department of Rehabilitation. "It is not enough to be passively assisted," he said, "we must make known to the Department the effectiveness of their assistance."

### Nigel Taylor

Mr. Taylor started his LL.B. in 1938, spent three years in the Army, and returned to VUC in July, 1944. Since then he has played in Extrav. (lady companion), is a member of the rugby first fifteen, on the committee of the Debating Society and the Law Faculty Club.

Nig. feels strongly that every effort must be made to bring returned men back into the club and social life of the College—their greater age and experience will make them invaluable. In connection with the new building, he would like to see more details of the

## Nominees for 1945 Executive . . .

### Committee Elizabeth Arya

Now in her fourth part-time year at VUC, Miss Arya hopes to complete her B.A. next year. She is secretary of the now thriving Drama Club, and a keen member of the Music-makers, Gramophone, and Debating Clubs.

Betty thinks that the College should be a much more integral part of the city than at present and will welcome a campaign for the Building Fund in which the Drama Club can assist by performing in the city.

### Jean Priest

Miss Priest is a third year part-time commerce student. She holds the vice-chairmanship of the Miniature Rifle Club, is secretary of the IRC, and a committee member of both the Debating Society and Tramping Club. She took a part in Extravs. '44 and '45; her sport is hockey, which she plays for Senior B.

Jean would like to see greater attention paid to campaigning for student graduates in Court of Convocation elections and to a Building Fund finance campaign in which College clubs could assist.

### Vivienne Rich

Miss Rich is a third year full-time arts student. Her main interest in the College has been the social committee, with which she has worked since 1943, and which she convened this year. She was a member of Tournament committee in this capacity. In 1943 she carried off a hockey blue, was treasurer for the club in '44 and is secretary this year. She is a member of IRC, assisted in Extrav. '44 and '45 with teas, programme selling, etc., and was prompt at the Palmerston season.

Viv. is interested in the general

1938 on, and was House Manager '44 and '45. He is Secretary of the NZU Cross-Country Council, Chairman NZU Tournament Committee, and has held a number of administrative jobs in connection with Tournament, etc.

Dick's main interests in the coming year will be: Extension of club liaison scheme; continuation of social functions in the vacation; tournament; provision of stationery, badges, blazers, etc., for students; improvements in the design of the new building; gymnasium improvements.

### Alec McLeod

Mr. McLeod has been a part-time student since 1939, with a year in the army in 1943. His sport is tramping, he was chief guide for the club in 1941 and vice-chairman 1944-45. He was Assistant Records Officer in 1944 and acted as Tournament Records Controller and Press Steward in 1945. He has been on *Salient* staff since 1942, and is on this year's *Spike* committee. The purse for the College Victory Loan campaigns was held by him in 1944 and 1945, and he is this year on the Cafeteria Control Committee. In Extrav., since 1939, he was Properties Manager '44 and '45.

Alec has no particular hobby horse. He would, however, like to see a concerted effort made by college clubs to raise finance in the city for Building Fund. He is insistent that future executives should attempt to delegate responsibility for routine or special work among a wider circle of students than are at present involved.

### Committee

### Toby Easterbrook-Smith

Mr. Easterbrook-Smith started his arts course in 1939, was in the army from 1941 to the end of last year, and is now completing his degree part-

design, and discussion on the choice of architect, brought before the students as a whole. He thinks that the interest displayed by students in their own affairs has waned considerably, and urges strenuous attempts to revitalise it.

### Ivor Ting

Mr. Ting is a fourth year student at present doing honours in arts. He has been on the executive of the Wellington Hockey Association for three years, is now club captain of a College team, and has previously held the positions of committee member and secretary. He was programme controller for Winter Tournament, and is delegate for Winter Tournament. Ivor would particularly like to see Winter Tournament become a regular fixture. He would like a raised standard for blues through stricter nomination methods, and feels that College sports provide one of our best means of publicity.

### Jack Williams

Mr. Williams, a B.Sc., is now in his 5th part-time year at arts. He is a keen debater (a Plunket medallist) and on the IRC committee. In sport, he holds both the secretaryship and a blue in soccer, is a member of the tennis club and has at times played hockey and cricket. He is an odd job man of long standing in Extrav. and on properties staff in '44 and '45.

Jack would like to see clubs brought into a financial drive for Building Fund. Is in favour of a more universal health scheme but not convinced that it need be compulsory. He feels that the town could be made far more University conscious, asks that something be done about the common rooms and favours any and all attempts to reduce the cost of university education.

# Aspirations axed — no inspiration

We wish to thank those people who have written in and so effectively debunked our literary page. We are pleased that a few readers, at least, share our views on its merit.

For the future, we ask the poets to continue writing for us. Selection of material to be published will be based on two questions. Is the verse comprehensible to other persons than the writer? Is the experience, emotion, or idea, with which it deals, conveyed better in the verse than it could be in prose? All other criticism we shall leave to more competent judges than ourselves.

## — verse reviewed

Dear Sir,—You call for critical comments on the recent literary efforts that have appeared in your pages. I certainly have some remarks to make concerning the verse.

Possibly the editor's intentions were good; possibly the poets were inspired; I am willing to grant the former, I refuse to concede the latter; and I am sure of my ground, having studied the work of contemporary poets as a hobby for a number of years.

Taking the poems in the order of appearance, let us consider the effort of "Davenport." Possibly this gentleman has been influenced by T. S. Eliot. I do not deny him the right to imitate any more than I should deny a monkey the right to mimic a human being. But at least the inane actions of the monkey are recognised for what they are, and not considered "artistic." In the field of physical activity people's sense of what constitutes idiosyncrasy seems to be developed to a high degree, but in the field of art any puerility in words can be accepted as fine writing. This "poem" is a case in point. If "Davenport" actually took himself seriously, when he wrote this piece of unmitigated drivel, I can only say that he has found his way into the wrong institution. Its lack of unity, its purposeless contradictions and discordant mixing of images, its incoherence and lack of sincerity are condemnation enough in themselves; it is, in short, a worthless, meaningless botch.

The same comments apply to the brain-child of "Searos," although the poverty of this piece is to a certain extent alleviated by the "piling-up" of short words and masculine rhymes, and the not inappropriate use of onomatopoeic words and phrases.

"Poor fool," etc., by Miss (?) Aylesbury calls for a special comment; this cannot be criticised as a poem, for it is very clearly not one, even in the sense that the two previously dealt with samples can be considered as poems. Quite evidently the author has written down separate lines having no connection one with the other; the result is a mess. The quoted lines in the middle have been, apparently, lifted; they have no connection with the other lines, some of which I seem to recall, incidentally, although I cannot say off-hand where I have seen them. So much for "Poor fool . . ." Poor fool is he who takes this sort of garbage seriously.

As for the "Lines from an Unfinished Elegy," those who read this critique may go to the trouble of ploughing through Ruskin until they find the sentence which J. Kinross has broken up into *vers libre*. It is remarkable that this has so far escaped the notice of other *litterati*.

I intend to deal with the poems in the sixth issue in another letter.—I am, etc., "SADDENED CRITIC."

## — exposé

Dear Sir,—There are, I understand, approximately 240 students taking English in Stage I at VUC this year. Most of these students have, I expect, obtained their copies of *The Centuries' Poetry, Part 5*, which is required reading; many, no doubt, have at least given the volume brief attention; further, a fair percentage of other students have had occasion to study it in detail in the past.

At a conservative estimate, I would say that half these ladies and gentlemen read *Salient* regularly; at least a quarter must have paid some attention to the mess of disjointed asininity which you published as "poetry" in your fifth issue. I suggest that they turn back to that particular issue, examine the "poem" by "Miss Aylesbury," and then give their earnest attention to the index of first lines in the above-mentioned volume.

Either *Salient's* editor is being deceived by some person with a uniquely distorted sense of humour, or *Salient* is playing a quaint little trick on its readers, evidently with considerable, and, may I add, commendable success. So far as a literary hoax alone is concerned, I should be the last to put pen to paper in condemnation.

But this is evidence of a most deplorable apathy and lack of observation among the students of Victoria College. It would be greatly amusing were it not so utterly pitiful. I cannot put into words my very sincere grief at the prevalence of this attitude of mind among intelligent young people today, and yet we are told that the future of the world lies in the hands of such as these.

Barnum, I greatly fear, was only too right.—I am, etc., "DISGUSTED."

## — verse again

Dear Sir,—I take it as axiomatic that in poetry we expect a large measure of restraint. In a sense we might say poetry is the science of restraint. Now the temptation to end a poem in a blaze of glory is great and so the point at which restraint is most often discarded is in the last line. After controlling themselves with at least some discretion in the body of the poem, writers will let fly with everything at the end only to become false, trite or sentimental. Nearly every poem published to date is, in my opinion, under suspicion, but to illustrate the three faults let me quote M.H.W.'s "I am a stranger to myself" as a false analysis, Danver's "I pause and turn my head unto the East" as an example of triteness, and Davenport's "In gold mirrors of silver sheen" as sentimental word play.

And finally let me illustrate another fault by saying that I don't think the space used to print these contributions is a waste any more than war is a waste.—I am, etc.,

J. C. P. WILLIAMS.

## — ex-student slates

Dear Sir,—May I take the liberty of proffering an ex-student's very candid opinion on the verse that has recently been making its appearance in *Salient*.

Possibly my intellectual powers have deteriorated since college days and I may lack an appreciation of budding genius, but I believe that among all the incomprehensible jargon I have ever had the misfortune to read, some of the execrable attempts published recently more than hold their own. Admittedly obscurity in poetry is the order of the day and poetic surrealism is considered brilliant by many. But may I suggest that in the opinion of those lovers of poetry whose less brilliant intellects dare to criticise and fail to appreciate the subtleties of these master minds, to class this sort of drivel as poetry is positively fantastic.

Granted that there is the type of person (not uncommon among University students) who will laud this type of bilge to the skies because they consider it advanced and so on, there yet remain a considerable number of more honest readers (who would feel no shame in being classed as reactionaries) to whom poetry means something more than a meaningless conglomeration of words, incomprehensible to any but the mind that strung them together.

But perhaps, after all, I have been a little arbitrary. Perhaps your contributors of verse write with their tongue in their cheek and trust to the credulity of a few unthinking students who have not yet learned to distinguish the chaff from the wheat.—I am, etc., PHYLLIS BURLAND.

## Ultramundane Creation

"The first literary composition of a quick-minded child is always some sort of jingle. It starts out with an inane idea—half an idea. Sticking to prose, it could go no further. But to its primary imbecility it now adds a meaningless phrase which, while logically unrelated, provides an agreeable concord in mere sound—and the result is the primordial tadpole of a sonnet. All the sonnets of the world, save a few of the miraculous (and perhaps accidental) quality, partake of this fundamental nonsensicality. In all of them there are ideas that would sound idiotic in prose, and phrases that would sound clumsy and uncouth in prose."—H. L. MENCKEN, in "The Poet and His Art."

If there are gods, and it is claimed there are,  
Most certainly they live not on the earth,  
But, being products of celestial birth,  
They dwell instead upon some fulgent star.  
And surely, there, all things that lovely are  
Have their fulfilment, and there is no dearth  
Of things whose presence gives to life its worth,  
With nothing ill their qualities to mar.  
And surely there, indeed, there was distilled  
Beauty in pliant form, which skilful gods  
Moulded into your form, and forthwith filled  
With vibrant life which, now through orbs of blue  
Pours swift delight upon this world of clods—  
This dark, ephemeral, tarnished foil for you.

—THOS. G. L. COCKROFT.

# if . . .

If you are a science graduate — or even an undergraduate . . .

If you have taken applied physics or preferably radio physics . . .

If you can write good English and have studied or are interested in journalism . . .

If you are exempt from manpower direction and military service, or are able to do part-time work until released from your present position . . .

If you want a permanent job with excellent prospects . . .

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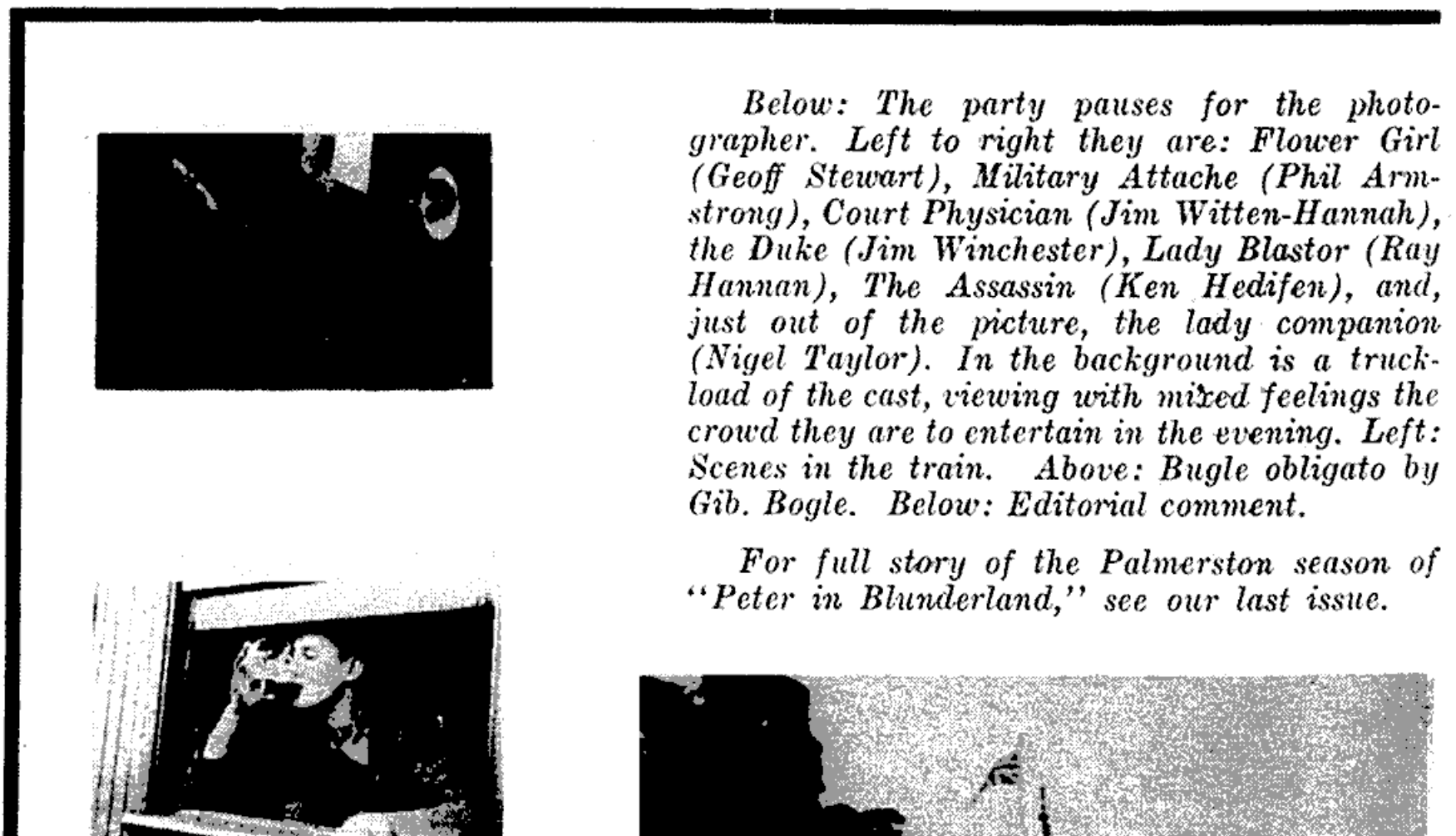


# CITY'S MAYOR DONS GLAD RAGS

## Students Accorded Civic Reception

Indicative of the overwhelming enthusiasm for the student Extravaganza during its season at Palmerston North, these scenes of the civic reception accorded the "Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of Tierra del Fuego to New Zealand" and his entourage, were watched by many thousands of Palmerston citizens.

Far right: The Mayor, Mr. Mansford, attired in purple silks, awaits the arrival of the royal party. Near right: The Duke of Tierra del Fuego, with his wife, Lady Blastor, ascend the rotunda. Below: The royal party acknowledge the plaudits of the crowd from their conveyance. Nearest the camera is the lady companion of Lady Blastor.



Below: The party pauses for the photographer. Left to right they are: Flower Girl (Geoff Stewart), Military Attache (Phil Armstrong), Court Physician (Jim Witten-Hannah), the Duke (Jim Winchester), Lady Blastor (Ray Hannan), The Assassin (Ken Hedifen), and, just out of the picture, the lady companion (Nigel Taylor). In the background is a truck-load of the cast, viewing with mixed feelings the crowd they are to entertain in the evening. Left: Scenes in the train. Above: Bugle obligato by Gib. Bogle. Below: Editorial comment.

For full story of the Palmerston season of "Peter in Blunderland," see our last issue.

## Peter Poses — Three Sisters Sulk



Backstage shots of four leading characters. Far left: Peter (Dennis Hartley), in his Alice costume. Near left: Winnie, the Duchess (Kerry Jordan), the Red King (Stan Campbell), le Spectre de l'Oncle Sam (John Ziman), from the Three Sisters scene in the duchess's kitchen.



## Photo Club Alive and Kicking — Needs Members

Film restrictions originally hit the Photo Club so hard that it died. It has, however, risen from the dead, and with an enthusiastic committee and membership, yet more will be heard of it as the year goes on.

Four meetings have been held, and a number of committee meetings. Two lectures have been well attended: the first, "Principles and Practice of Photography," providing an introduction for new members, and a spot of revision for older ones. The second, "Darkroom Technique," introduced beginners to the ways and means of using the enlarger.

The Photo Club has much to offer everyone who owns a camera. Dark-room facilities for developing, printing, and enlarging; lectures and discussions on photography in most of its branches, and the use of the club camera.

We need still more members, so watch the notice boards, and come along to our next meeting. You will not be disappointed. For more information and for details of the use of the darkroom, contact our secretary, Ross McQueen, Men's Common Room.

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for

## ROSTRUM SPIKE

- Verse
- Prose
- Articles
- Photos

LEAVE IN CARETAKER'S OFFICE

## Final Meeting of Retiring Exec. Tidies Up and Recommends

The final meeting of the outgoing executive, which took place on Sunday last, had a fairly solid routine agenda, although there were few policy matters, these being mainly left for the incoming executive.

One of the more important matters brought before the meeting by the finance committee was in the matter of club grants. It has been found that there are not sufficient funds available to give all clubs the full amount asked. Increased club memberships, new, or revived clubs all increase the demand on the pocket of the association. It was decided that sports clubs should be able to levy their members or raise funds to the extent of 2/6 to 5/- per member and grants were reduced accordingly; clubs are to be informed of this during the week.

The Tierra del Fuegians of Wellington and Palmerston Extrav. fame were brought before the meeting to explain certain incidents that occurred at Palmerston. Despite alternate legal addresses and moving pleas, the culprits were fined five shillings.

Notable under the heading of proposed amendments to the constitution

## MMC Recital — Excellent Performance — Few present

"And she wasted her sweetness upon the desert air!" The lady in question was Miss Shirley Craig, her sweetness—herself and her recital, and the desert air—the students of Victoria College. Out of 1,200 students at this institution of higher learning and culture (?) only about thirty could muster enough interest to attend a recital by this talented pianist held in the music room on Wednesday, June 6.

A programme was presented, catholic in scope, rich in colour, and played with flawless technique. Scarlatti, Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt, Grieg, John Ireland, Frank Bridge and Dohnangi were in the repertoire; their music was played with depth of feeling and understanding, and the appreciative, if small, audience enjoyed every minute. In particular, the pianist excelled in the performance of Scarlatti's "Sonata in A major," Chopin's "Scherzo in C sharp minor," and Dohnany's "Rhapsody in C major."

After the performance the audience adjourned to the women's common room for a magnificent supper. Perhaps, if the temptation of music is not enough, the supper will prove a sufficient attraction for the next recital.

The Music Makers' Club, a comparatively new club, like so many cultural clubs, has a distressingly small membership. It is not, it should be noted, an exclusive society of high-brow musicians—it is a club where all those with any skill on any instrument in any style come to play to an appreciative, albeit small, audience. It is a club for promoting interest in the art of playing music, and of attentive listening.

If you have any contribution to make to this club, contact a member of the committee through the letter racks, and watch the notice boards. Meetings are held every third Tuesday and an occasional recital sponsored, such as the recent one by Shirley Craig.

is one to be moved by Ian McDowall on behalf of the exec. to complete the amendment made by Orm Creed last year. It is designed to compel a student who wishes to represent Victoria in one sport, to play for the College and not for outside clubs in any of his other sports, if facilities in those sports are provided by the College.

It was noted that soldiers from VUC returning to the College would be eligible to vote if they were members of the Stud. Ass. prior to their leaving the College to go into the forces and have paid their membership fee this year. However, if the student is not on the roll the returning officer must be informed of his eligibility 24 hours before the poll opens, that is, before 4 p.m. Thursday.

In order to help bridge the gulf between the main body of students and exec. candidates, it was decided that they should be introduced at the Tea Dance next Saturday.

Most notable was the happy information that the proceeds of 1945 have benefited the Building Fund and Patriotic Funds to the approximate extent of £400 and £200 respectively.

## MINIATURE RIFLE CLUB TO HOLD FIRST SHOOT

The Annual General Meeting of the VUC Miniature Rifle Club was held on Tuesday at 8 p.m. The following officers of the club were elected:

**President:** G. H. Peddie.  
**Chairman:** Ted Bradstock.  
**Vice-Chairman:** Jean Priest.  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Brian Nash.  
**Committee:** John Ziman and Jeff Streeter.

The Constitution of the Club, based, as we were informed on good authority, on the best parts of the best constitutions of VUC clubs, was adopted with minor amendments.

Brian Nash reported that the club is able to get the use of a 25 yard range at Buckle Street by permission of the Army authorities and it is intended that the first shoot shall be held on Tuesday next, 12th June starting at 7.30 p.m.

Two teams are to be entered in the NZMRA teams competition and handicaps will be fixed on Tuesday night's shooting.

A Club trophy is to be competed for by members of the Club. There will be a goodly number of shoots during the year and eight will be for the trophy. These eight will be nominated on the notice announcing the shoot, and in order to be in for the trophy it will be necessary to compete in five of these including a compulsory 100 yard shoot.

Shooting is a Tournament sport and anyone at all interested is urged to join the club and learn to handle a gun. There were several women at the meeting; it is hoped that more will avail themselves of this opportunity to demonstrate the inherent inferiority of the male. The club officers will show you how to hit the target so don't forget—Tuesday night is Shooting Club night at Buckle Street range.

## French sans Tears Brings Tears of Laughter

Perfect casting and careful production rejuvenated the well-worn comedy "French Without Tears" and resulted in a provocative and thoroughly enjoyable reading at the Drama Club's evening on Tuesday, May 31. Playing to an audience of fifty, Geoff Datson as the typical British sea-dog, Jackie Patrick as the lightly-clad siren, and Ted Harcourt as the cynical hero were outstanding.

Then there was Kerry Jordan, excellent as the French professor (reminiscent in that we only understood a word or two), Bob Twaddle hearty, naughty but nice, and Anne Beaglehole, who put across the daughter of the house with quiet charm. Godfrey Wilson handled his small part well. Jeff Stewart, though suffering from nerves and the cold, dithered effect-

ively from one woman to the other as the impressionable Kit.

Jean Priest and Gib. Bogle handled the laughter (without being cast for it), plus surprise ending and supper. Betty Spinley, the producer, is to be commended on her first production.

The Drama Club is now a hive of industry; its programme schedule is as follows:—

Friday, June 29.—Evening of One-act Plays.

Friday, July 13.—British Drama League.

Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28—Major production.

September 13, 14 and 15—"Duchess of Malfi."

Then there are the meetings every Tuesday night in the Gym. Next Tuesday, June 12, there is a reading of "The Late Christopher Bean," translated by Emyln Williams.

Anyone who wants to join should contact the secretary per the letter rack. Actors, producers and stage mechanics are extremely welcome.

# DB LAGER

*The Great Favourite*

from the

## WAITEMATA MODEL BREWERY





## Watson — Diederich

It is with great sorrow that we learn of the deaths in action of two of Victoria College's most gifted sons, Gordon Watson and Roy Diederich. It would be hard to find two men more opposed—Roy a grand footballer, Gordon all brain—yet in their contrast they typified Victoria. Together with Aimers, Sellars, Corkill, and many others, they bear witness to the sacrifices made by our students that this college may continue free.



### Gordon Watson

Gordon Watson's was one of the most brilliant political minds to come to maturity in Victoria College. In the days of his editorship of "Smad," that journal enjoyed a popularity never since equalled by any of our student publications. After graduating from the College he forsook the certainty of a conventionally brilliant career to work for the New Zealand Communist Party, and when he left for Italy it was with a full understanding of the enemy he faced, and the necessity for destroying him. Together with most of his platoon, he died in a successful defence against counter-attack by greatly superior forces.

Gordon showed his rare ability not only as a political leader, but also in the field of creative literature. As a most fitting memorial to him, a group of personal friends has undertaken the publishing, in book form, of a collection of his literary works. In order to achieve this end, a Memorial Fund has been established. Any students or friends desirous of contributing are asked to send their donations to Mrs. M. C. Marks, 29 North Terrace, Wellington, W.I.

We print photographs of Gordon Watson (above), immediately prior to his sailing for Italy, and Roy Diederich (below), as President of the 1932 Executive.



### Roy Diederich

Roy Diederich was one of the most promising men the College has produced and he had achieved at his early death far more than most men. Roy was a true student whilst at Victoria College. He was interested in all student activities and in 1932 became President of the Students' Association; tactful, courteous, courageous and efficient.

His main sporting interest at University was rugby football, which game he himself played superbly. He played for the College First XV in its championship winning years, and as well as a fine player he was an excellent Club man.

He graduated with the degree of LL.B. and after several years in the Public Trust Office went to Fiji, where he later became Acting Magistrate. Whilst he was in Fiji the war broke out. He was more than keen to serve overseas and although older than most of the soldiers being sent away he finally succeeded in getting to Italy as a gunner. There he gave his life.

### —Building Fund

Dear Sir,—As a graduate of many years' standing (alas) I suggest that your executive should circularise all ex-students who can be traced, requesting donations. The tracing may, in some cases, be a little difficult; for some have found their way into difficult spots. Others, however, in spite of having reached maturity under the gentle influence of a banner that asserts "Sapientia magis auro desider-

anda" (Honours Latin students will understand this, I think) have become wealthy.

Most ex-students would, I think, appreciate the opportunity to contribute and some would make substantial contributions.

Certainly few would ever send a donation without being asked.

I suggest a circular letter putting the case forcefully and making a courteous request. Kind regards.

OLD VICTORIAN.

Palmerston North.

## BOOK REVIEW

—by T.G.L.C.

*Old Man in New World*, by Olaf Stapledon (George Allen and Unwin) is a pretty little story mainly concerned with the future of our glorious Human Race. It seems that some time after the end of the present war there was a tremendous development of the spirit of altruism among people throughout the world, resulting in the foundation of a Universal Brotherhood of Men; the picture of this civilisation which Mr. Stapledon etches stroke by stroke is just too sweet but its detail tends to fog on close examination.

Mr. Stapledon presents this situation to us, and indicates vaguely the existence of some Great Problem without giving us a clear idea or even the means of forming a clear idea of its nature; he then does nothing about it.

To entertain, this sort of thing has to be convincing; *Old Man in New World* does not convince. Mr. Stapledon's humans are annoyingly priggish; one cannot sympathise with them; nor with the old man bewildered by the civilisation he has helped create.

The author must be given credit for sincerity; sincerity is perhaps his one saving grace. He has tried hard to evoke sympathy, but in failing, has brought the whole story to failure.

People today have enough problems to face without worrying about those of a hypothetical, unhuman race in a hypothetical new world.

There may be those who can find a vital message in the story; to those few this story may appeal.

## Beginning of Term Dance Pleasant But Uneventful

(A "Salient" reporter was asked to cover the Beginning of Term Dance. This being a pleasant but uneventful function, he was forced to employ a style favoured by certain other student newspapers.)

Well, well, here are all the boys and girls hot-diggety jiving it in the lil ol Gym. Pack of peaches, I don't think. But they play hot and rhythmic, the band. Only one well-dressed woman and she borrowed it from her sister. We asked Tootsie-Wootsie about the dustbin and she said "Rubbish."

Seen converging in the crush for supper who be it but Bobbie Bingsworth and Bet Bubbles. We aint seen you too together in a long time, kids. Go to it, we'll watch the papers.

Jemima thinks little Jimmy Jones just stinks. Better drop Chem. or you'll have to drop the peroxide, boy.

Why did Dismal Des give the wolf-call in the animal Monte-Carlo? Just reflex. We secretly think he's just a sheep beneath the skin. Bah!

Bettina wants to know some uses for a graveyard. You'll learn in about 50 years' time; or maybe I could show you now.

Men may observe strict etiquette At the sight of a girl in a petiquette, But it takes a lot to calm us When we see her in pyjamas.

## "Our Culture Grows Apace" Protests Weir House Resident

There are always some folk who judge from outward appearances and regard Weir House merely as an institution for the feeding and accommodation of a band of young Varsity louts. To them it may come as a shock to hear that great cultural and intellectual activity goes on within its walls. Lately, indeed, there has occurred in Weir a miniature Renaissance—a flowering of the mind manifested in diverse creative activities from music to literature.

Poesy, for instance, is flourishing. Thoughts and yearnings, hitherto concealed in silence, have been expressed in verse (chiefly blank or free) and may yet reach the public in the form of an "Anthology of Weir House Poetry" which one of the poets is editing.

Music, too, has a large following, including pianists, singers, bugle and guitar players. In its specially creative aspect, musical harmony is being explored by a few residents, one of whom is producing a song hit.

And not merely the arts, but intellectual agitation also is a sport of Weir House minds. World affairs are closely followed in the common-room newspapers and on the radio. The dining-table and evening suppers provide excellent opportunities (not always taken) for the exercise of wit and dialectic.

A now established feature of Weir House life is the Sunday evening dis-

cussion which is held weekly in the common-room during the winter term. The discussion is led by an outside speaker on some important and relevant topic (subjects range from music to science) the brief talk being followed by questions, discussion and argument.

The ball was set rolling on May 27, when Rev. J. M. Bates took up the subject of "Science and Religion." His brief introduction held that "Science" and "Religion" (words which needed defining) were both seeking after Truth, although in different forms, and that a rigid adherence to Truth and straight thinking should remove any causes of "conflict."

The discussion and argument which followed persisted till 10.30 p.m., when it was necessary to stop officially (although a lively argument continued afterwards in the common-room). Altogether it appeared an interesting and successful opening discussion, and all that is now needed is a wider participation among the group, as the term advances. This should be the case with our next discussion, led by Mr. R. S. Parker on "Can Planning be Democratic?"

Weir is sorry that it can't invite outsiders to its discussions, but space in the common-room is limited. At least you can be inspired by its example and get thinking too. After all, we aren't really morons.

—RESIDENT.



## AGRICULTURE DEPT. TACKLES ANIMAL DISEASE PROBLEMS

Problems of Animal Research in New Zealand was the subject of an interesting lecture given by Dr. Filmer, Director of Animal Research, to a well-attended meeting of the Biological Society.

Animal research in this country is controlled by a Division of the Department of Agriculture. The work is carried on at two main centres. The Wallaceville laboratory is surrounded by a fair area of indifferent land and research equipment equal to any in the world. This institution concentrates mainly on disease problems of economic animals. The other centre is the Ruakura State Farm, near Hamilton. Here there are 900 acres of the best land in New Zealand, on which large herds of farm animals are maintained, the emphasis in research being on animal production.

Problems involving local investigation are dealt with by the purchase of land and by the building of facilities on the spot, e.g., the investigation of cobalt deficiency disease, localised animal nutrition problems and facial eczema research must be studied *in situ*.

Discussing staff, Dr. Filmer said that about fifty university graduates and 150 technicians are employed in this work.

The Division's aims are frankly economic, that is, they aim to assist the increased efficiency of animal production. Dr. Filmer explained that fundamental research is extremely important; but the application of the principles thus discovered also requires extreme ingenuity, a great deal of work and much disappointment.

Dr. Filmer then outlined a few of the outstanding problems now under investigation.

Bush sickness is a disease of cattle and sheep which is marked by anaemia and stunted growth. B. C. Aston, a New Zealand chemist, effected the first cure by administration of limonite (an iron ore), working on the assumption that the animals were lacking iron. Later in Australia it was found that cobalt in trace quantities in the limonite and not the iron was the active principle. A survey of New Zealand pastures for cobalt content followed a brilliant discovery by a New Zealand chemist of a technique for measuring trace quantities of cobalt in grass. Application of cobalt to affected pastures is now eradicating the disease.

Dr. Filmer outlined the present position of copper deficiency and a bacterial disease causing abortion and poor lactation in cows. Preparation of vaccines has reduced the incidence of this disease in 1,200 cows from 20% to 3%.

In answer to a question, Dr. Filmer explained that facial eczema research has come up against very considerable obstacles and although a great deal is known about the disease a complete solution of the problem cannot be expected for some time.

Dr. Filmer concluded his lecture with a summary of the possibilities of VUC graduates obtaining positions with the Division. An insatiable curiosity, a critical intelligence, a suspicion of things that cannot be proved by experiment, a tenacity of purpose, an implacable honesty and a philosophical attitude in face of disappointment, are chief amongst the requirements of research workers. If anyone has these attributes as well as a suitable scientific degree, Dr. Filmer is always willing to interview him about a position with the Division.

### A Dainty Dissertation on a Social Situation

*Some, seeking solace, waste their substance on*

*Liquids not designed to improve health,*

*And, with the pleasure and the price both gone,*

*With aching heads bemoan their vanished wealth.*

*Practices such as these are frowned upon*

*By those who show for self and pocket preference;*

*These, knowing the firmness of the ground upon*

*Which they stand, to "drink" make slighting reference.*

*I will not let such trifling questions worry*

*My mind, when there are higher things to be*

*Considered; I'll away, because I see*

*The time is half-past five, and I must hurry,*

*Lest closing-time creep on and I should face*

*Locked doors when I at last am at the place.*

—THOS. COCKROFT.

*The D.Sc. lectured for hours,*

*Without impediment,*

*But mop my brow, I don't know how*

*Just what the element.*

### Froth Blower Blows Glass

On Wednesday, June 6, the Annual General Meeting of the Chemical Society was held. Officers for this year were elected:

Chairman: R. M. DICKSON.

Sec.-Treasurer: J. R. BECK.

Committee: P. G. HARRIS, A. G. MacDIARMID, J. S. SAXTON.

One of the recommendations to the incoming committee dealt with additions of chemistry books both to the Society's collection and to the College Library where, it was thought, many out-dated books should be replaced.

The first speaker of the evening, B. E. Swedlund, discussed "Scientific Method," and showed how narrow a field was covered by science when it was strictly defined. Such things as falling birth rate and flying bombs, the speaker declared, were in the field, not of the scientist, but of the technologist. A lively discussion followed.

An excellent demonstration of glass blowing was given by H. D. C. Waters. Some of the audience took advantage of the invitation to try this fascinating art for themselves.

The meeting adjourned for supper, which possibly was better than the usual "spread" of the Maths. and Physics Society.

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# College Viewsreel

Many years ago, there appeared in "Spike" an excellent photograph of the floodlit entrance of Victoria College, which, to the uninitiated, would be extremely impressive. But, to quote "Cappicade," some eggs are very pretty—some are very bad!—so let us enter through this impressive portal and see what there is inside.

On entering, we find ourselves in a gloomy hall with various pillars placed in the most inconvenient positions possible—in fact, the whole effect gives the impression of a scenario for Ali Baba's Cave.

As it is a rainy, miserable night, we seek the Men's Cloak Room. To do this, it is necessary to pass across the Cave, subconsciously noting as we go the pictures placed in the gloomiest and most draughty corners. We enter a small, cellar-like room which appears to be the stack-room of a patriotic sales drive, but we are mistaken again, it is the Cloak Room or, more correctly the Men's Robing Room, as a faded notice on the door states. On entering, we find that the only available space to store overcoats is the floor or the ceiling, so we choose the floor, this being more accessible. Let us recall a few details of the history of this room. We

find that, although the number of students has been increasing year by year, it apparently has never occurred to the Powers That Be that there is a definite possibility of there being more overcoats stored in the College at 7 p.m. on the 1st June, 1945, than on the 1st June, 1913! But wait! Progress has been made—the outer door has been locked!

As there is still the best part of an hour before the lecture begins, we seek the Men's Common Room for some quiet relaxation for half an hour. On opening the door, and forcing our way through piles of suitcases, satchels, etc., we enter a room that appears to be designed primarily as a hay barn. We see at once that this room has definite advantages over the cloak room, namely:

- (1) It is more adequately lit.
- (2) It has apparently been painted since 1913.
- (3) You can at least turn around.
- (4) Seating accommodation is provided.

The luxury of the surroundings made us curious as to how it came about. We found that the excellent lighting fittings would not be there had not the Students' Association paid for these—that the furniture

would have been worn out had not the Students' Association had them re-covered—that half the walls had been painted in a painful bottle-green colour, the inmates of the room not being consulted, and would be the same colour now had not the Students' Association bought the enamel and provided student labour to repaint the offending wall. However, the room has Radiators That Work, although the designer considered that ventilation was entirely unnecessary.

This luxury is overpowering, so finally we decided to make our way up to the Library, having received our usual overdue book notice. On the way up we notice a pair of rather well-panelled swing doors, and being of an inquisitive nature, we peep inside. Maybe we are entering Wonderland, as Peter did. However, we are informed that this is Not For Students, so we retire to Wash Our Hands of the whole business. We finally arrive at a sumptuously tiled establishment lit by a lamp carefully placed so that it gives as little illumination as possible. This is amazing! All modern cons. at last! But we are wrong as usual. No Hot Water. We disconsolately make our way in search of a Tramping Club member to borrow a Primus, as it is a cold night. The wind whistles through the corridors and rattles the pictures in Ali Baba's Cave. There is no doubt that the Students are well catered for.—H.W.

## Women's Hockey

For the first time in many years an MAC-VUC women's hockey match was played on King's Birthday at Massey College. As our hostesses, the MAC girls set a standard which, if maintained by both Colleges in future years, should make this annual fixture one of THE events of the hockey year.

Playing somewhat superior hockey the Massey XI narrowly defeated the Senior B team which was sent to represent Victoria by 1-0. Massey's attacks were always well engineered, the combination being really excellent. Victoria's forwards tended to bunch and lose their positions, leaving inviting gaps for their snappy defenders to penetrate. On the wings, Margaret Beattie and Margaret Gully did much to worry the defence. These wingers will improve beyond sight when they learn to time their movements, especially their passes. The inside forwards should learn to watch the spacing between themselves and their team-mates on either side. The backs did a fine job in continually bustling their opponents and in keeping the score down to only 1 goal. Shirley Johnathan, towards the end of the game, gave a spirited display of defence. As a half, Joy Underwood does untiring work, but could improve her hitting.

Much of the spirit which existed in the game was perhaps the outcome of the "chummy" billeting arrangements of the previous night. The girls were the guests of Mognie House, the girls' hostel which is supervised by Mrs. Clausen, late of Weir House. At much inconvenience to the Massey girls, the Victoria team was given the greater portion of available "bed space." Most of the girls shared beds, a very cosy arrangement, even if a little cramped.

After the match an excellent dinner was enjoyed by all, followed by a bright dance in the main hall of the College.

## Weather Halts Assault on Mt. Devine

A mixed group of hardened trampers and amateurs, including such distinguished persons as Extrav. cast and an Arts lecturer, assembled at the Railway Station on Sunday morning, May 27.

On arrival at Waiwhetu Mrs. McLeod heroically provided sustenance for thirteen hefty hikers who then took the clay path up the neighbouring hill. It was a measure of relief to reach the top and skirt the ridge behind Waddington. By midday a fearsome gale arose. Only a pair of well-weighted boots prevented the lighter members of the party from disappearing into infinity. Having struck a wide track, the trampers followed it to "Konini Lodge," a small hut in which were

already esconced twenty-two folk from another club. However, niches were found for all, and comfort in the fire, stew, tea, and rest. Just as departure was discussed, it began to rain in earnest, but it was too late to linger and the path down the head of Whiteman's Valley was braved in spite of vicious hail. Ones and twos trickled down to the road past Pinehaven and did a steady tramp of five miles in pouring rain down to the cheerless one-room Silverstream station. The sodden thirteen squatted miserably in the train till the lady guard suggested the fire in the guard's van. The sight of it, if not the heat of the stove, cheered somewhat. At the Wellington station the party dissolved, intent on hot baths, dry clothes and food. Mt. Devine? No, we did not reach our destination. We'll take the view as read.



VUC Trampers re-fuel at Tauherenikau Hut



## VUC ROYALLY ENTERTAINED BY VICTORIOUS MASSEY

Bathed in Palmerston North sunshine, a hockey team from VUC comprising Senior A and B players met Massey on Monday, June 4th. Led by ex-team mates of Victoria, Doug Yen and Johnny Nicholls, Massey downed the Vic. side in a closely fought and spirited game, 5-4. Scores for Vic. came from Ivor Ting (2), Norm Towns and Bill Moody. Massey proved that hockey at their college is rapidly regaining the standards of pre-war days and that they will be a force to be contended with at Tournament this year.

Our congratulations go to Doug. Yen and his merry men for a very fine performance. Massey hospitality was up to its usual high standard and we were royally entertained at a dinner and dance on Monday night. There was a full programme of activities and nary a dry moment was spent. Sir Percy and the ladies would not have vowed the dance second to Capping Ball.

Our sincerest thanks go to Professor Perrin, Mrs. Clausen, Massey hockey club, Massey dance committee, the umpires, and all others, who did so much to make our trip such a success in every way.

Professor Perrin, speaking at the dinner, commented on the fine spirit in which the game was played and this was endorsed by the umpires. This factor is symbolic generally of the friendship existing between the two colleges.

### Local Games

The Senior A team registered a good win against Huia, 5-2 (Win Smiler 4 goals, Ian Laurenson 1), thus establishing themselves second in the competition. Under Win's careful guidance the team is settling down and playing good hockey. There has been a big improvement in combination. The penalty corner combination in particular has proved most effective and has been responsible for scoring in every game so far. Ian Laurenson, who has been promoted from Senior B, played well on the right wing.

Visitors to Karori last Saturday saw some of the best hockey of the season in a battle between the two leading teams, Karori and Varsity. From a half-time score of 2-2 Karori scored 3 goals in a short space of time. The latter half of the second spell was played almost entirely in the region of the Karori circle, with the Varsity forwards pressing desperately, to be repelled many times only on the goal mouth. The backs kept on their men well, and the crack Karori forwards had difficulty in getting away with the ball. The failure of five penalty corners lost us the game 5-2. Our scores came from Smiler and Towns.

Noel Brown at right half is especially to be congratulated on a fine game.

The Senior B team lost to Petone 1-7, Kamal Gajadhar scoring. Gil Johnstone at right back was responsible for keeping out the Petone forwards on more than one occasion.

Tech. Old Boys also were too strong for this team, dealing with them to an effective score of 7-0.

Lack of goal scorers in the forwards seems to be the main fault. Forwards must learn to go hard into the circle and crack the leather without waiting to get set.

### Second Grade

2A defeated Trentham Army 1-0 on the first Saturday. The score might easily have been more but for the lack of punch by the forward line in the circle. The backs played well, Sutherland being largely responsible for giving his forwards a large share of the ball. Last week the backs again played a commendable game, but the forward line was still rather weak in the circle. It is true that the Petone goalkeeper played a superb game, but, judging from the number of times our forwards were in the opposing circle, more goals may have been expected. It should not take long for the otherwise fast and clever forwards to remedy this handicap. Score 1-2.

2B followed up a narrow win of 1-0 against Wellington on the first Saturday with a good win against Wellington College 4-1 last week. On the first occasion the backs, Metson and O'Callaghan, proved too solid for their opposing forwards, and fed the ball consistently to their own forwards. The forwards, with Arch. Ives leading them, apparently decided to keep the ball in the paddock rather than direct it to the goal. But a roaring good time was had by all in the process. Fielding only 9 men last week, the team did well to win by so much. Admittedly Jack Barr was the referee, but the win by the experienced veterans of the club was both deserved and expected.

### Third Grade

3A has put up two very fine performances. Against College "B" the team drew 2-2, and last week defeated Rongotai 3-2. This team appears to be very well-balanced, combining well, with each player keeping his proper position. Lack of real hard hitting is one point which should be noticed and remedied, particularly in the backs. The personnel of this team should also be congratulated for turning out in full numbers each week. If they keep it up, they will do even better.

3B, the "Hard Luck" team, has, alas, lost on both Saturdays. This was expected. On the first Saturday seven men turned up. On the second, FOUR turned up. It is hoped the team will not make a habit of it. In all fairness to the chaps who do turn up regularly, the personnel of this team should make a reasonable attempt to turn out in full numbers in future. It is hard luck for the members of the diminutive "team" who are prepared to play that a decent full-sized game cannot be played and enjoyed, not only by Varsity, but by their opponents. An earnest appeal is made to players to rally around and see that the College is represented fully on future Saturdays. The performances which were put up at the beginning of the season indicate that with a full team, 3B can really play fine hockey.

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# SPORT

## Visiting Footballers Defeat VUC

A large crowd saw AUC defeat Victoria 19-11 in the annual match played on Kelburn Park on King's Birthday. The home team, without some four of its regular players (Pat Murphy was repping for Wellington against Services and Bert Lewis was playing for Wellington at Manawatu) gave a really excellent account of itself, and has every reason to be proud of its effort.

Play was fairly even in the first half, with Auckland, by superior weight and the superb hooking of Roberts, gaining a large share of the ball in the set scrums. Though Victoria shaded them in the line outs. At half-time Victoria led 6-0, Brian having kicked two penalty goals, but soon after the interval Laurence scored for Auckland, breaking through a gap caused by the injury at five-eighths, Goodwin, who had been playing an excellent game throughout. Play was very fast and keen, and Shannon, with some excellent constructive forward play, and Benseman, with some deadly tackling, stood out among the forwards. The combination of Goodwin, Langley, and Overton was working well, but the Auckland defence was very good. However, when Auckland attacked they found the Victoria backs quite as fine tacklers, and very few attacks got through.

Before the end Bennett, who had been playing his best game of the season, dived over for a try, which Brian converted. Laurence scored again for Auckland, then Sinele and then Barter, making the final score 19-11.

In the evening, after the usual preliminaries, a dance was held in the Gym., many students kindly contributing to its success.

Thanks are due to billeteers, social committee, and all those club members who helped to make the trip such a success.

**Seniors.**—Though handicapped by injuries to and absence of key players, the 1st XV continues to give a good account of itself and has, since our last issue, beaten Miramar 14-3 and lost to Upper Hutt 3-12. The lack of weight in the forwards has been telling heavily, however, this being especially noticeable in the match with Upper Hutt. The backs are an excellent set, at times brilliant and generally very solid. At half, Paki is playing very well, and making rapid improvement with every game. He is combining well with Goodwin, and against Upper Hutt saved the side time and again. Brian, as full back since the retirement of Berg, is a first-class prospect in that position, and Overton signalled his return to the seniors by scoring two tries against Miramar.

Of the forwards, probably the best all-round worker is Dun, whose play has been of a particularly high standard, while Murphy and Shannon, old club men, are among the best forwards in the competition.

**Juniors.**—Another two losses, one by default, have been added to the

melancholy list, though there are several bright spots in the performance of this team. Notable among these are the hooking and general play of Lyver, the all-round work of Gordon Orr in the forwards, and the promise of the three-quarter line. Congratulations to Walker and Goldfinch in repping for Victoria against Auckland. They proved in that game that, given the chance, they are as good wings as most in the junior competition, and would welcome a few more opportunities. Against Poneke the team was perhaps a little unlucky to lose 6-14, but more sting in the forwards and snap in the backs is yet required.

**Third A.**—After a most encouraging win 21-3 over TC this side was severely handled by Wellington College (27-3). One has only, however, to look at the list of injuries for the

## Soccer Team Well in Running For the Power Cup

With only one defeat to date, the senior team promises to be well up on the Power Cup ladder, and supporters are confident that Victoria will be to the fore in the event of soccer being a Winter Tournament sport.

Although they won 3-2 against Railways, more goals should have been forthcoming from the passing rushes of the forwards. Weir and Williams on the wings played well apart from their corner-kicking, which was a little inaccurate. In the first half Trott scored off a penalty and Railways led 2-1.

In the second half Varsity were again pressing, Walls and Priddey scoring. Moore in goal was an asset throughout, while the defence was as reliable as in earlier games, Smith and Dickson co-operating well with the half line.

The B team shows distinct improvement, having lost its latest games by narrow margins. Couper (captain), Giles (goalkeeper), Ashrof, Barnard and Simonsen form the nucleus of a promising team.

Our A team suffered its first defeat last Saturday against Diamond, the leading team in the competition. Early in the game the ball was deflected by one of our backs into our goal. For the remainder of the first half play was brisk and at half-time the score stood at 1-0. During the second half Diamond made frequent sallies on our goal, and netted on two occasions. The backs played well as usual, but the forwards were slow in their attacks, possibly due to injuries sustained by Trott and Sherani early in the second half. The game ended 3-0.

Our B team played Institute and lost 6-3. Ashrof, Drummond and Choriton scored for Varsity.

season to discover in part the cause of the team's relatively poor record. Some seven or eight players have already been injured seriously enough to put them out of football for periods ranging from several weeks to a full season, which is scarcely conducive to good combination. Shimmins, a fine prospect as a five-eighth, was unfortunately injured early in the TC game. Of the backs, Wilde and Goodman are sound on defence and brilliant on attack, Goodman especially showing excellent promise on the wing. Of the forwards, Battersby, O'Regan and White are always to be relied upon for a hard-working game, Battersby's tries against TC being excellent efforts. Third A is perhaps the hardest of any of the lower grades, and one can expect to find good hard footballers developing from this side, players who will be of excellent service to the club later on.

**Third B.**—After being beaten by Upper Hutt, Tanu Jowett and his men showed that they were not at all down-hearted by defeating Onslow 9-6. No doubt the presence of ex-representatives like Ben Overton (ex-Canterbury) and Moore Tweed (ex-Otago) helped to strengthen the team, while Crutchley, by scoring a try and kicking a penalty, had a big hand in winning the game. Ken Headfin, moved to half, is making a tradesmanlike job of his new position, and the forwards, occasionally taking spells on the wing, are working into form. Captain Jowett is at present arranging a smoke concert for as many as give him notice of intention to come, so if you are interested, contact him (phone: home, 55-170).

**Third C.**—Once again this team, after losing to Paremata 0-6, turned on a good performance in defeating Petone C by 22-7, which makes this team's record the most impressive of any of the club's lower grade sides. Watson and Rea seem to do most of the scoring, but Bogle is always in attendance just in case anything goes wrong. Gilchrist, as half-back, looks like developing into a very fine player, and Treacy, though hand-capped by lack of size, is a good five-eighths. Some of the forwards are still a little reluctant to enter the loose scrums, though Lang and Mason joyfully enter into everything. Cambie and Parsons are a keen pair, who put all they can into their efforts.

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