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Salient

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

VOL. 8, No. 8

★

WELLINGTON, JUNE 27, 1945

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Price: SIXPENCE

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CABARET**

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NIGHTLY

to
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General Meeting Slates Exec for Unfortunate Annual Report

On Wednesday last, June 20, after two hours of strenuous debate and fervid polemics, the annual report presented by the retiring Executive was adopted by 44 votes to 36.

Chief among the charges brought against it were those of misrepresentation, slander, electioneering, and non-ratification by Exec. The meeting, although stormy, was well controlled by Mr. Barr.

Let Battle Commence

"I wish to formally move from the chair," said Mr. Barr, "that the Annual Report and Balance Sheet be taken as read; are there any objections?" Messrs. Winchester, Hartley and Dowrick, simultaneously and in varying accents of indignation, "I object!" "Sir," asked Mr. Winchester, "has this report been ratified by a full Executive in committee?" Mr. Barr suggested, with some asperity, that the arena be first cleared by taking the report as read, before contestants drew their bludgeons. After some murmuring this was done. The Chairman then moved formally that the report be adopted, and called for discussion.

Mr. Hartley rose. "Sir, I submit that this report is a document in extremely bad taste, containing both attacks and emendations of persons standing for office in the recent elections, and ambiguous statements concerning other individuals in the College. As such, it is unworthy of adoption." Upholding his assertion, Mr. Hartley objected to the wording of many clauses. In particular he asked why Mrs. Fowler had been dealt three gratuitous insults, concerning *Rostrum*, the Victory Loan campaign and the committee on text-books; why a slur had been cast on Mr. Cohen, a candidate, as Publicity Officer, and why, "at the risk of making invidious distinctions," Executive members, standing for re-election against other candidates, should have been singled out for praise in the face of equally commendable work on the part of other students. "Sir, this is a gross electioneering document and thor-

oughly unworthy of our Association: it must be rejected!"

Official Communique

The Chairman asked the Secretary to reply to those allegations—"I demand the right of reply!" said Mr. Hartley. "We shall be here to one a.m." warned the Chairman. "... and ready to stay till next year, to see justice!" avowed Mr. Winchester. Amid assertions and counter assertions, right of reply was vouchsafed.

Mr. McDowall stood, diffidently. "I shall pass over many of Mr. Hartley's remarks as unworthy of reply." (Groans, boos, cheers and interjections). "Concerning *Rostrum*, the statement concerning the 'social content' demanded by the Editor of contributions is correct. We wrote to Mr. Cohen asking that a report on proposed publicity be submitted—the letter was not even acknowledged." Mr. McDowall answered other minor points to the moderate satisfaction of the meeting. "Much time and care was spent in compiling this report (A voice: "Obviously!") and it was completed two weeks before nominations closed."

Mr. Cohen: "At the time of my appointment as Publicity Officer, I was in the Army; moreover, I was neither consulted about nor notified of the appointment. The letter referred to by Mr. McDowall never reached me—I might ask where he addressed it."

Mr. Dowrick, claiming to be the oldest member of the Association present (a claim disputed by Mr. Sansum), held the report to be thoroughly indecorous. "It reeks of adolescence. In my day, when there were men at this college, men such as Jack Aimers, Bonk Scotney, Nesbit Sellars, and others, such a document would never have been passed."

Mr. Taylor opposed the adoption of the report on two grounds. First: it should be purely factual; thanks should be given, but not undue adulation. Second: "Although I feel that the damage has been done, no precedent for such a report must be allowed; it must be returned for amendment."

Mr. Winchester: "I object to the report on grounds of taste and phrasing and as it contains several untruths it is impossible to believe that it has been passed by the Exec as a whole. Had it been, I am certain that Mr. Campbell would have, out of embarrassment, erased those portions eulogising him, and that the slanders directed at Mrs. Fowler and others would have been exposed."

Mr. Winchester also asked why the Liberty Loan campaign, started two days before the election, was not mentioned, while the hanging of pictures in the Men's Common Room, also two days before the election, was.

Mr. Fowler asked the meeting to note the extreme care which had been taken in the compilation of reports in *Salient* on the various nominees. "Has this care to avoid misrepresentation been taken in the Annual Report?" he asked. *Salient* is classed as material likely to influence votes, and as such was constitutionally barred from distribution on polling days. On these days the Exec. report, far more likely to influence votes, was available in the Exec. Room. Mr. Barr:—"A decision that this would be permissible was made by the full Exec."

Mr. Daniell made the point that the Report, according to constitution, must be available for seven days prior to the annual meeting.

"Social Content" Denied

"On being appointed *Rostrum* Editor," said Mrs. Fowler, "I collected a committee of four; Mr. Munz, as a representative of CUC; Mr. Olson for TC; Mrs. Morris, as Press Bureau Correspondent; and Mr. Fowler, Editor of *Salient*. All contributions were considered by this committee; the majority were thought unworthy of print; the total number were insufficient to fill the publication, and it was therefore necessary to abandon publication for 1944. I strongly resent the implication that exacting or unusual standards were demanded." As regards the text-book situation: before leaving Wellington Mrs. Fowler had been advised by Exec. to place all material and information in the hands of Mr. Boyd, for a publications sub-committee of the Council. This was done, and any obligations could be considered discharged.

Mr. Campbell rose to regret the many references to himself in the report and trusted that it was not thought his doing. (Cries of: "O.K. Stan, we realise that," etc.) Most of the trouble had arisen through the fail-



**Dave Cohen —
the new President**

ure of individuals to report back to Exec. When Miss Crompton left Wellington and unfortunately became Mrs. Fowler (Mr. Fowler: "I object." General uproar), she neglected to report re the situation of *Rostrum*, etc.: this had caused the misunderstanding.

Mrs. Fowler: "That is not the case. I reported in full on *Rostrum* to NZUSA, who were satisfied. The Exec. knew of the transfer of text-book material to Mr. Boyd."

Further speakers took exception to the Report on various grounds. Comments from the floor gained in virility. With difficulty the Chair restored order and proceeded to sum up. "This Report was not produced solely by Mr. McDowall: it was approved by myself and seen by several Exec. members, although not formally ratified. It is a poor thing if the Exec. cannot criticise or commend members for their work throughout the year; mainly fair criticism has been levelled." (Mingled cries of rage!) "The Exec. itself is subject to more criticism than any other student organisation."

The motion that the Annual Report be adopted was then put. After two hours of strenuous debate it was carried by 44 votes to 36.

A Corrective . . .

A motion was put forward by Mr. Hartley: "That future Executives be recommended to refrain from any ambiguous statements or references likely to give offence, in their annual report, and to ensure that it is ratified at an Executive Committee meeting." After amendment restricting this to "ratification" together with some fierce debate, during which Mr. Daniell referred to *Salient's* "dirty yellow journalism," the motion was passed.

Minor points in the balance sheet were discussed and thanks forwarded to the Treasurer.

It was moved by Mr. Campbell that members of the Miniature Rifle Club be eligible for blues. Upon re-

(Continued on page 4)

OUR BETTERS

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Secretary: MARC POOLE.
Treasurer: GRAHAM McARLEY.
Women's Vice-President: MARGARET BEATTIE.
Women's Committee: JEAN PRIEST, VIVIENNE RICH, JOAN SIM.
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Men's Committee: NIGEL TAYLOR, IVOR TING.

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Wednesday,
June 27

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

NORWAY.

— Continued from last issue

When, a week after these events, at the end of July, '42, the Ministry applied these regulations, there was much opposition. According to this regulation 25 per cent. of the new students were chosen by the State. In reply the professors, tutors, and lecturers resigned en bloc.

In February '43 the Germans and the Quisling Government convoked an assembly at the Aula of Oslo University to announce that students would be exempted from forced labour. Later, the minutes of the assembly meeting were modified and the organisers claimed that it had been decided to adhere to the collaborationist party, which had recently been created.

By some 3,000 letters individually signed by their own hand, the students categorically disclaimed any such party alignment. In spite of three arrests and various attempts at intimidation, only one student consented to withdraw his protest.

On August 31, 1943, the Nazis once more attempted to secure the acceptance of their "Fuhrerprinzip." The Ministry's project encountered very strong opposition and Rector Hoel

gave an assurance to the professors that the regulation would not be enforced before 1944, and that the admission of students would not be established upon political discrimination. This promise was given in writing and countersigned by Skancke. The University considered it necessary to define its position once more: this was done in a declaration to the Ministry of Culture. This text, which was approved by five faculties, as well as in the sixth, in spite of the opposition of Prof. Klaus Hansen, referred to the resolution of September '42. At the same time as 500 other Norwegians, a first contingent of 300 students was deported to Germany on December 9, 1943. Among them were 35 students from Trondheim; according to the most recent reports, it is calculated that there are now about 700 students deported and placed in two concentration camps. The *Norsk Bulletin* of March 25, 1944, states that they have been sent to training camps in Thuringen and Alsace, where they undergo training in Nazi principles.

(Taken from "ISS Quarterly Bulletin" of December, 1944.)

— Soldier News

Stan Lowe, in a recent letter to Huddy Williamson, writes that he is now permitted to say that he is in charge of a flotilla operating in the vicinity of the Andaman Islands.

He hears occasionally from Peter Mitchell in Italy, and from Peter Morris in England. It interested him considerably to read in a recent issue of *Salient* that he is expected home soon, but wants to know why someone does not tell him these things.

From an undisclosed source we hear that George Elby has been amusing himself lately with play production, and that there is every possibility that he will soon resume his interrupted association with the men's common room.

Old-timer Don Viggers is at present in and about Wellington on furlough. He has looked up a number of old VUC friends. He himself is looking in the pink.

T. P. McCarthy and K. D. W. Grant send thanks for chocolate received and consumed. Tony Langley also, and hopes that he will be back in person before the end of the year to (line up, girls!) thank the donors in person.

A letter thanking us for a cable of welcome is a newsworthy billet from R. C.

Bradshaw. He will be remembered by the older students. He is back at a professional course after two weeks of glorious loafing in Cornwall, and hopes shortly for leave in Scotland and London (Join the Army and see the world!—Ed.) He has spent much of his time, meeting ex-VUC'S C. M. P. Brown, at the Board of Trade, A. T. S. McGhie, now a Town Clerk at Liskeard, Cornwall, Mrs. Gwenda Whitty (nee Norman Jones), a very busy person at POW Section NZ House, Mrs. Claire Chapman (nee Longmore), wife of Dr. Oliver Chapman, one-time OU footballer and tennis player, and June Cummins at Fernleaf Club. Both he and C. N. Watson had letters from Sergt. R. J. Larkin in Italy, who, with John Carrad and he, used to wear worried faces while attending the birth of the earliest "Cappcade."

— Intimations

Dear Sir,—Wider and better criticism of your poetry column would be stimulated were it to include finer examples of English verse than you have, hitherto, given us.—I am etc., "A.G.M."

Dear Sir,—You are welcome to contribute any "finer examples of English verse."—Ed.

American Analysis

Victoria College was recently privileged to hear an authority on American literature. Dr. Canby has taken a large part in explaining America's art in his own country. In particular his work on Thoreau is monumental. He had come to New Zealand to lecture on National Culture, principally as regards American development, hoping that we would learn both by their success and by their mistakes.

He confessed he had read very little American literature himself until appointed as a liaison officer in the last war. Realising then the distinctive advances which had been made in the nineteenth century, he became intensely interested, and this interest had been responsible for fostering many American institutions, amongst which is the Book of the Month Club. Dr. Canby is an evident realist.

Dr. Canby did not talk about New Zealand literature in particular—one could hardly expect detail from a man who had only been here three days—but he restricted himself to finding resemblances between the lives of the two countries, and laying down certain postulates. These were:—

(1) No civilised country can understand itself until made articulate by its literature.

As an example, we may cite Australia. Until about 20 years ago, the painters there were still, in reality, English, and it was not until the influence of Cezanne and other post-impressionists that they began to produce an art which was truly Australia's in colour.

The Puritanism of America likewise caused perplexities which were not understood until the advent of Emerson, "a Modified optimist," full of the sense of the coming prosperity, who explained America to itself as never before.

Again, in the days of the novel in England, American novelists had no show, and were driven to magazine

writing. Hence came the American short story, containing the staccato period of American life. Similarly, the sophistication which became rife there after the last war was not understood until the advent of the columnists.

(2) No civilised country can be understood by others until its literature is distinctive.

A very good example of this can be found in Dickens' "American Notes," in which the author gives a very poor picture of Cincinnati. The explanation is simple—he was in a frontier society which had no means of expression.

Literature, therefore, develops from necessity. American literature is admittedly hard to understand, and we must keep several points in mind. Most of the people in the States came from Europe because they had to, and they brought with them a Renaissance feeling. New Zealand was, to a certain extent, similarly placed. The New England settlers contained a high percentage of university men, but they were preoccupied with theology and ethics. When at last literature was able to break away from their influence, a curious sense of strain was left in American minds. "The old Indian devil" as D. H. Lawrence called it, is responsible for that neurotic sense evident in Nathaniel Hawthorne, Melville, Poe, and Hemingway.

Finally, we must remember that the USA is a race of races. This is not at all well understood in this country. Actually, the admixture took place years ago, and all the

separate literatures have been assimilated, uniformed by one tradition with Anglo-Saxon literature as the most prominent. It is not to be desired that we open our doors to everyone, but a sprinkling of assimilated European cultures is all to the good.

We are now in a position to draw resemblances between the two countries. The first is that they are both in newly opened regions of the world. And just as early American writers talked about English scenes until Thoreau realised the distinctive American atmosphere, so we expect the similar phenomenon in New Zealand work of today. Editorials in the States were for a long time written in English style, and woollen underwear was worn in imitation of England in many places where it was not at all necessary. But the distinctive rhythms of a national culture will most certainly develop, and with that will come a new literature.

Secondly, books are democratically in theme with social developments, and it is strange that in a country whose social legislation is twenty years ahead of the world, its literature has not received greater impetus. But perhaps it is too early to say.

There is, of course, the resemblance so often cited—that we both have the same great English tradition as background. Shakespeare, Milton, Chaucer, are as much English as American, while Pope and Addison belong as much to England as New Zealand.

Finally, Dr. Canby said he had found the same sense of expectancy for the future, the same species of idealism in the two countries, which meant that the two countries were going to be sympathetic (in all senses) to each other. He had come here because he wants us to help the USA read our books and understand us. It should be very easy, he said, to write in a small country such as this, and good New Zealand literature would find a ready sale in the States.

DSIR Library Made Available To Science Students

Science students bemoaning the lack of specialist literature in the College Library can now take heart, since their woes have been put to Dr. Marsden, Secretary of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, who has promised assistance.

Salient recently arranged an interview with Dr. Marsden to discuss the possibilities of Departmental assistance. The result is that we are offered the use of the Department's libraries for reference. In addition, to keep students informed, a monthly accession list will be sent to the VUC library.

DSIR has the largest up-to-the-minute supply of technical literature, periodicals, authors' offprints, and texts in the Dominion. Nearly every overseas publication of merit is there.

Dr. Marsden said: "There's a whole pile out there I haven't dared look at yet . . . I suppose we get about 1500 a month . . . and for the impossible people who must have that one journal DSIR haven't got, we have connections in London and Washington and could write for it. . . . If he's an Honours student, we could even let him take it home for a night or two. . . . DSIR can best help these students if advised in advance of the subject of their thesis. . . ."

Those who wish to take advantage of this offer should first contact Miss Brown, the Department Librarian, who has a pretty good idea of what is where. The libraries of the Plant Research Bureau and Dominion Physical Laboratory will prove most useful to students who take the trouble to go along.

Dr. Marsden deserves the thanks of all hampered enthusiasts for this opportunity to supplement their reading. We may also point out that the inter-libraries loan system is available to VUC students.

FILM and STAGE

There's little to recommend at the shows this week. If you like zombies, a very funny double feature bill awaits you; another, I hope the last, of those "everybody in" films can be seen in TWO GIRLS AND A SAILOR; Noel Coward is alleged to surpass himself in THIS HAPPY BREED. I trust there is no significance in the advertisement for the Coward show which portrays a palatial three-storey-and-basement mansion set in apparently spacious grounds, with the caption: "Within this humble Englishman's home . . ."

★★ **Melodrama** FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS has some good moments, but unfortunately the film is so ridiculously long that they are lost in a welter of phoney situations, cowboy-and-Indian chases, hammy acting, and alarming mis-statements of the issues of the Spanish Civil War. The film is tedious and not very interesting, and what could have been an outstanding document on the prelude to the present war has been castrated by political pressures and pandering to matinee audiences. The acting is uneven, with Gary Cooper expressing all emotion by a slight tensing of the muscles of the jaw; Ingrid Bergman acts very well, but the love affair of Roberto and Maria has had to be so simplified that she doesn't really have much scope. The finest piece of acting is that of Katina Paxinou, as Pilar. This is quite magnificent. Insofar as they are given the chance, the rest of the cast, which appears to include every Russian in Hollywood, are very convincing, in the parts they are portraying. But it is the interpretation given to these

parts and to the story which is most objectionable. The impression one gains is that the Loyalists were military incompetents, bearded and dirty, sadistic, given to shooting each other, frequently psychopathic, and resentful of foreigners who had come to win the war for them. The fascists, on the other hand, appeared to be a very well organised, well disciplined lot. From this, the great film of the great novel of the Spanish Civil War, one gets no idea of why the war was fought, and in fact at most times it is difficult to realise that the Civil War is being discussed. Best scene: the mountain top defiance of five Loyalists. Worst scene: General Gorz, commander of the Republican attack, stating into the telephone that it is a pity he has just received information that the attack should be called off, as the planes have just left. This reminded me of the English MFH apologising to the late-coming huntsman because the hounds have just left; the war, in fact, is treated as a game. You've probably got many better things to do than seeing this film.

★★★★ **Melodrama** KING'S ROW is a fine film, though I think few people up here will agree with me. It tries to be intelligent and honest, and succeeds very well. The story is an involved affair about sordid doings in an American small town at the turn of the century, and by and large things are a trifle gloomy. Robert Cummings, a handsome young man studying to be a doctor, discovers love with the daughter of his tutor, who, knowing her to be going gradually insane like her mother, shoots her and himself. Ronald Reagan, the local rake, wealthy too, makes a play for the other doctor's daughter. Well, poor Mr. Reagan loses all his money, and is ordered out. He gets a job on the railroad, has an accident, and his ex-love's father quite unnecessarily cuts off both his legs—straight he does, the old hound. While you are recovering, in comes Ann Sheridan, the town's Bad Girl, and tends him, and love blooms. Mr. Cummings returns from Vienna where he has been studying the new psychiatry and discovers another girl, so one way and another the film has a moderately happy ending, but everybody goes through hell to get there.

Now, although this story might seem quite incredible, you'll find the film has been directed and acted with such skill that you'll almost believe it. It retails, I suspect, in a slightly exaggerated form, the brooding horrors that exist in small towns, and everyone makes a genuine attempt at a mature approach.

I'm keen about KING'S ROW. It is daring enough not to follow the well-trod road of meeting, quarrelling and making it up. The director and the cast have been sincere and frank about insanity, cruelty, and small town viciousness, and their attempt at honesty deserves much more consideration than the plain mis-statements of FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS.

I found Robert Cummings a trifle too good to be true, and Ronald Reagan definitely unconvincing. The "featured" players (as opposed to the "stars") are the makings of this film: Maria Ouspenskaya, Claude Rains, Judith Anderson, and Charles Coburn could carry any film through, although in this case they are actually assisted to a considerable extent by the stars. There is also, in Kaaren Verne, about the most beautiful girl I have ever seen on the screen.

By the way, you needn't take any notice of the trailer or the advertising for KING'S ROW. They mean even less than most advance publicity.

COMING EVENTS

Friday, June 29—

7 p.m.: Film, next in series "Why We Fight."

8 p.m.: Debate, "That nationalisation of the coal mines would ensure sufficient supplies of coal."

Wednesday, July 11—

The Kirk Cup.

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Trampers Trip to Kime Marred by Skinned Posteriors

In a period of only four weeks the Tramping Club has sprung from virtual non-existence to one of the most popular clubs in the College. The main event of the year is the skiing trip in the August vacation to either National Park or Arthur's Pass—more probably the latter. Intending skiers should note that usually far more want to go than can be accommodated in the huts, and that selection will be made on a basis of recent club support.

SKI HEIL!

A week of southerly weather covered the ranges with the first snow of winter, resulting in a sudden exodus of skithusiasts from Wellington, during King's Birthday weekend. To add to their joy, a moderate anti-cyclone settled over the entire North Island for the whole three days. As was expected, the standard of skiing was low, and tuition non-existent. However, everyone was enthusiastic and adventurous—several skinned noses and backsides testify to this.

RUAPEHU

Midge McLaughlin gathered a small band of followers who tripped their airy way to Ohakune Hut on the southern slopes of Ruapehu. He returned singing Te Deums to this erratic semi-slumbering goddess who had greeted his fondling of her tender curves with no more than an occasional steamy belch.

KIME

The main party gambled on the prospect of finding sufficient snow. There was almost too much. It took half a day of trail-breaking, with the assistance of the Tararua Club, before the skiing ground was reached.

Spewed from the train on to Otaki station at 8.0 p.m. on Friday, sixteen hearty students were not a whit dismayed at having to wait two hours for transport, but sang and folk-danced on the railway track until the truck arrived.

The night was spent in the Tararua Club cottage at Otaki Forks till the early light of dawn (10 a.m.!) saw them trundling skis up the Hector Track. At Field Hut, Bill Bridge, chief guide of TTC, made

it known that it would be very difficult going to Kime in the soft snow. It was decided to make Field's the base and continue the next day without full packs. So over 40 sardines were housed in Field's before night, not without some discomfort, and some parboiled food.

Sunday proved ideal for skiing with a hard fast surface on the snow. This was some disadvantage to beginners, but far more exciting than the cloying slush usually found at this time of the year.

FORM

It is quite apparent that the Tramping Club's decision not to send a team to the Winter Tournament is justified, but with the large amount of up-and-coming talent, we should be at least among the starters next year. In particular, Dennis Hartley, captain of the tramping club hockey team, John Ziman, and Alec McLeod are showing considerable promise.

TRAMPING ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT

A few words of advice are not out of place to many members of the club, not about skiing, but about general behaviour. This is an almost entirely new club, and it is apparent that much has still to be learned about the technique of sharing a hut with another club, especially when that other club happens to be the owner. We received invaluable assistance and encouragement from the Tararua Club, and it is the least that we can do to refrain from anti-social conduct when we are their guests. In this direction we are progressing, but not quickly enough.

vices. TC clubs are not considered outside the College; there is right of appeal to the Executive.

Building Site

"I now wish to put a motion which will appear to many radical, even revolutionary" (cries of "No! No! Shame!"), said Mr. O'Brien, recommending that the incoming Executive take up the possibility of a site for the entire University in the Adelaide Road rebuilding area. "We must give thought for the students of twenty years hence before we fix the position of our new building." Mr. Winchester: "Have you provided for a cemetery nearby?" Mr. O'Brien: "The Basin Reserve will probably suffice." (Voice: "Scoreboard, too!") Mr. Barr pointed out that the Council had, in all probability, given considerable thought to the question of available sites. After further discussion the motion was passed on the understanding that enquiries would be made as to the Council's researches into the matter.

Fatigue on the part of the customers prohibiting any further business, Mr. Barr announced the results of the elections. The evening closed with supper for past and future Executives.

Met. Office Reveals Its Mysteries

The Maths and Physics Society recently visited the Meteorological Office on Kelburn heights, in an endeavour to ascertain the causes of the prevailing clemency of the weather. They came away more than impressed with the complicated apparatus used to predict climatic vagaries, and with the profound knowledge displayed by the Air Force personnel in charge.

They were first ushered into a large hut around which were scattered hundreds of sheets of graph paper, on which were the most magnificent curves. The fundamental basis of these curves lay in the many reports received from the Pacific Islands. They were then shown transmitters, which are attached to balloons sent high into the upper atmosphere. When the balloon bursts, the set parachutes down into the sea. These sets looked rather peculiar, not at all like the ones at home.

After a talk on cloud formation the enthusiasts were led through a door labelled "forecasts." While another talk about weather maps was in progress, it was gathered from the numerous telephone conversations going on around the sides, that the cold, bleak southerly would not continue. Some maths, a glance at micro-barographs, and the party returned to the large hut.

The Squadron-Leader then gave some information on wave forms in the atmosphere; this facilitates long range forecasting. He wrote the most obscure equations on the board, but apparently failed to baffle the Maths III students present. E. & O.E. these airforce people have got some equations that can really tell what the weather is going to do. As the visit concluded members vowed that the Chem. and Biological Societies could never stage a show as fine as this.

Drama Need Men

The drama casting meeting held on Wednesday, June 6, drew the usual large number of women anxious to prove their acting ability. Some proved their ability but some didn't prove anything. Men, however, were singularly lacking in numbers, and unless more male stars come to light the club is going to have some difficulty in finding sufficient for their productions. The quality of the men is good, but in this case quantity also would be appreciated.

The casting of four one-act and two three-act plays has not definitely been decided yet, but there are one or two promising people.

HOCKEY DANCE

Friday, 6th June

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Dialectics . . .

With a long overdue decline in more pressing activities on the Extravaganza front, the Debating Society has launched itself once more. The Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, June 8, and was followed by a debate, "That all lands other than Sovereign States should be under International control." On June 15 the subject was "That the New Zealand law relating to capital punishment should be repealed." Both these meetings were only moderately attended and the dialectical standard was poor to average. General comment: More vital topics would make it easier for the speakers to develop what ability they may happen to possess; more adequately prepared speeches would save the audience from a frozen boredom, and more precise definition of the subject would benefit speakers, audience, judges and "Salient" reporters.

Opening the first debate Miss Patrick defined her terms only to the extent that she announced her intention to use the word "colonies" to cover "all lands other than," etc. Her main argument was the appalling conditions which prevail in so many colonies and so-called protectorates at the present day and the enormous incomes derived from them by the protectors. Her debating style is pleasant and convincing if slightly too informal. A more critical audience would be able to undermine her confidence too easily.

The leading speaker for the negative was Mr. O'Brien. His usual fluency, combined with his unusual speed, was a little breath-taking; while it enabled him to present a wealth of argument, it caused him to lose much of the effect he could have attained by a more leisurely and detailed exposition.

Mr. J. Williams, seconding Miss Patrick, gave some constructive ideas on the subject by outlining a scheme for an International Council. He claimed that this was an improvement on anything so far put forward at San Francisco. He lacks debating vigour but has sufficient lucid argument and poise to demand attention.

Mr. Palmer, seconding the negative, considered that the UNCIO Conference is a San Fiasco, and that the only attempt so far at international control of colonies, the Condominium in the New Hebrides, could be better described as a pandemonium. He was strong in the attack, but occasionally seemed to lose the thread of his argument.

The judge was Mrs. D. C. Bates. In her criticism of the speakers she appealed for more attention to the formalities of debating, and for better exposition of argument. She was pleased to note a considerable improvement since she last judged a debate here a year ago.

v. TRAINING COLLEGE

The debating contest VUC versus Training College was revived this year, this being the first since 1941. It took place in the Gym. on Friday, June 15, the subject being "That the New Zealand law relating to capital punishment for murder be repealed." TC took the affirmative. Mr. W. J. Scott (until recently Training College lecturer in English) was the judge, and he declared VUC the winning team.

Mr. Hempleman opened for Training College. He outlined the history of capital punishment, pointing out that the incidence of every crime that was once subject to the death penalty has declined since the threat of that penalty was removed. He deplored the sentimental considerations which so often surround this argument and

pointed out that such feelings would have a disastrous effect on the punishment of war criminals.

"The New Zealand law relating to capital punishment was repealed in 1941," said Mr. Easterbrook-Smith, "so the debate is slightly posthumous." However, he agreed to accept the meaning of the motion as outlined by the chairman. He made a strong, if somewhat dramatic, opening, but when he returned to facts and statistics, he was not so convincing.

Miss Kelly (TC) made a vigorous attack on her opponent, correcting him on several misquotations. She had three main arguments:

Moral.—An eye for an eye, etc.

Religious.—The Bible is an established sort of book.

Political.—Man is responsible to society for his actions.

Miss Joan Taylor made the whole audience feel proud of her at once when she announced that she too had read the Bible. In this curious old book she learned that Cain had been allowed to live and reform, (Interjection: "The need for population.")

Typical Remarks:

Mr. N. Taylor (VUC, pro): Criminal law is for the punishment of certain types of activity, including debating.

Mr. I. Davies (VUC, anti): I know two murderers. Quoting Henry Lawson, Australian poet: "He is a decent fellow; he only murdered his wife."

Mr. Pattinson (VUC, anti): I would not like to be a hangman. Miss Taylor would not like to be a garbage collector.

Mr. Sansum (VUC, anti): If we see a poisonous snake we kill it. Mr. Cohen, from the house: I don't.

Mr. J. Williams (VUC, anti): How can we decide whether death or life imprisonment is worse when we know nothing about the latter?

Mr. O'Brien (VUC, pro): At last I am safe in quoting the Bible at a VUC debate.

Miss Cody (VUC, anti): I have never met anyone worth murdering.

Mr. Ellis (TC, anti): I have a little noose for you.

Mr. Jack (VUC, pro): Murdering is instinctive. Not murdering is conditioning.

Mr. A. Williams (VUC, anti): I fling Mr. Jack's remarks in his teeth.

After the main speakers had made their respective summings up, which were not especially memorable, the motion was put to the meeting and lost.

Mr. Scott considered that the mover and opposer of the motion had made the main points clearly but that the standard of debating at VUC had fallen since Mr. Campbell had lost his teeth.

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Peace in our Time? Lipson Lectures IRC

The IRC recently invited Professor Lipson to give his views on "World Security and Peace Settlement." The end of the war in Europe has given us the opportunity to speculate and theorise on this most imminent and vital problem. The difficulties which have been met and overcome only with compromise at the San Francisco Conference and the failures of the League covenant in the past have shown us that the way will not be easy, and clear thinking and a complete knowledge of the situation is essential.

We have therefore reprinted Professor Lipson's address at length, in the hope that students will appreciate their individual responsibilities.

"First I should like to make clear," said Professor Lipson, "that during my address this evening I must assume that you are with me in desiring three things. Firstly, the development of a powerful international organisation. Secondly the creation of a super-state with authority over and above any other divisions, national or otherwise. Thirdly, a centralised international organisation and force, and the discouragement of narrow nationalism."

There must eventually be an international organisation at one centre to wield power over separate states, and the relationship of nation states to the organisation would be similar to that of local bodies to a national government. There could still be civil wars between member states, the possibility most certainly will be reduced. But all this will take a long time to build up. The last two wars are part of the transition period and we must try to get through the rest of it without any wars. We must realise that we cannot get everything at once but be perfectionists in the ultimate goal.

League of Nations

The League was the greatest experiment that human beings have yet made in the development of an international organisation. It was defective, however, in that it was not a genuine international government or a superstate but was merely an instrument of co-operation. The nations were still independent and the League had only slight powers over its members. Several attempts were made to stop the loopholes in the covenant (the Kellogg Pact was one), but they failed. The League membership suffered when the USA failed to join at the very beginning and the Soviet Union was boycotted by the other powers and only joined in 1934 after Germany had flounced out.

The New Plan

Dumbarton is the basis of the present San Francisco discussion but there is very little reliable information at present and we do not know the new charter in detail.

The new organisation is still not an international government but an instrument for co-operation—it is not a superstate and can therefore be criticised from that angle. In Chapter 2, Section 1 of the Dumbarton Oaks Plan the legalistic term "sovereign equality" is still employed. This is a legal formula and not a political reality; for example, Luxembourg and Panama are separate states and under these terms have the same right to the same vote as other states which are very much larger and more powerful.

The Veto

A difference in the new proposals as compared with the League is that the five main powers have special powers and responsibilities including the power of veto. This is a great step forward from the League in which there were fifty states, all with the

power of veto, but ideally and as a long term policy, we must regret the retention of the veto.

While sympathising with the desire of the small powers to have a say in their fate, we must realise, as citizens of a small power, that security depends on the major powers under the present system. The power of any one of the big five to veto the action of the whole organisation has, however, the weakness that, if one of these powers started a war, the security organisation could not act because the aggressor power could veto any proposed action.

Regional Groupings

There are two schools of thought on this subject; one is that there must be only one central organisation, and that any sub-groupings would tend to break the unity of the central organisation and might cause wars between regions. The other is based on the argument that it is close neighbours who go to war, and that, if there was reasonable solidarity, differences could be amicably discussed and overcome. There is a good case for the latter idea but the regional groupings must not be developed at the expense of the central organisation.

Peace Settlement

The peace settlement concerns the relationships between the principal powers of the world outside and inside the security organisation; the fixing of boundaries, reparations, and the treatment of Germany, Italy and Japan.

A starting assumption is that of the big five the two with the most binding ties are Britain and USA. We can be sure that the two will act together on vital issues because of long term common interests.

Russia

If Britain and the USA can be genuinely friendly with Russia, and vice versa, a great deal can be accomplished—if not, then there is a distinct possibility of the destruction of civilisation. We must understand the Russian point of view, and they must understand ours. This is not particularly easy because there is still prejudice on both sides.

The anti-Russian propaganda circulating in pre-war days was inaccurate and wilfully distorted, as were many of the books about the Russian system. Stalin is a man with a long memory and is a product of his earlier undercover days. He still remembers that Britain, USA and France sent forces against the Soviet Union in 1919-1920. Proposals for collective security from 1935-1938 were turned down by reactionary countries and he cannot be sure that the old fears and prejudices had vanished. He is prepared to play power politics if we are; and if there was a division in Europe between East and West, he is strong enough to oppose us. Russian power in Europe is in the left-wing movements and she-

would be foolish not to play it against us if we give any backing to the right. We have been seeing too much lately of Churchill the aristocrat, and not so much of the truly great national war leader he has proved himself to be. His action in Greece was his greatest blunder so far. Russia on the other hand, is too secretive and too suspicious, so it is difficult for foreign diplomats and correspondents to get access to the facts. This is a relic from the old days when secrecy may have been necessary.

The Marxian interpretation of the class struggle has great reality in Eastern Europe generally. The division between the rich and the poor is appalling and our type of democracy cannot be immediately introduced there. If we support the conservative interests (small wealthy minorities) we are asking Russia to interfere on behalf of the oppressed majorities of working people in these countries.

Poland

Pre-war Poland in 1939 was a fascist state without genuinely free elections. There was too big a gulf between rich and poor, and anti-semitism was almost as bad as in Germany. In 1938 the Polish Government joined Hitler in the rape of Czechoslovakia. The London Government had no rightful claim to rule Poland. In the areas of pre-war Poland that are to be handed to Russia, only a minority of the population are Polish. The White Russians, Ukrainians and Jews will most probably be better off under Russian leadership. It would be fatal for all if we allow the Polish issue to divide the three big powers.

A Hard Peace for Germany

The Germans are a dangerous and powerful, courageous and tenacious people. At the beginning of the war most people tried to draw a distinction between Nazis and Germans—there are still some good Germans, but it is to be feared that there is a small minority. There can be no peace while Germany remains powerful. The Nazi movement, the military class, and the industrialists must be destroyed and not permitted to go underground. We must be ruthless in dealing with war criminals, and the list must be long for the sake of our future safety. After this purge and the re-education of the people, more generous treatment may be meted out. If the best qualities of the people can be mobilised for good, then a new Germany can play an honourable part in the world organisation.

Professor Lipson concluded his address by briefly considering the effects of colour relations between the West and East, particularly as regards its effect on China and India. "The draft charter provides the framework and machinery for peace. But no framework can endure unless it is built by, and brings with it, a spirit of loyalty."

— Victory Loan

VICTORY LOAN gained by our College efforts to the extent of £673, of which £500 represents an allocation by the Exec. of Stud. Ass. funds. These comparatively poor results were largely due to the lateness of the campaign, which allowed many students to make their contribution to the loan through other channels.

The committee wish to extend their thanks to the many willing helpers who gave their time to make the loan a success, as well as to those students who contributed to the loan.—M.C.F.

A Lying Jade

Rumour is a lying jade, but the fickle lady hath it that recently a delightful little seance was held under the auspices of an otherwise respectable but preferably anonymous college club.

Establishment of direct communication between the here and the hereafter, between the quick and the quit, proved unsuccessful, so recourse was had to an inverted tumbler.



Students, otherwise intelligent, found equal delight in engineering a sensitive touch on the glass as in accusing each other of exerting undue pressure on behalf of the unseen. At least one personality was named by the visitor as being distasteful to the sacred atmosphere.

To minimise the now prevailing scepticism, the four doubting mediums—or is it media?—were blindfolded. The spirit, asked the date of termination of war with Japan, replied without hesitation, SPJYQX. It is understood that diplomatic relations with the occult are temporarily suspended pending translation of this cryptic message.

Brusquely remarked one observer—"I prefer my spirits with the glass erect."

Shooting Revived

The Miniature Rifle Club has now held two shoots on the Buckle Street indoor range. The first shoot was to choose a team for the Wellington Club's "Own Start" Competition.

Some 30 men and Miss Jean Priest turned up. The second shoot also was well-attended.

Top scores were: Henderson, 88; Harris, 86; Anson, Ziman, 84; Bogle, Mackie, 82. These do not compare well with scores by outside clubs, but practice should improve them.

The club will hold regular shoots every Tuesday night at Buckle Street. Eight shoots this year will be nominated as "Trophy shoots," and to compete for the trophy, members must attend at least five of these.

Table Tennis Up And Doing Well

This year has seen an increase in both club activity and competition in the association matches. With three tables in use the club finds it difficult to cope with the enthusiastic membership roll of over 30.

A Grade.—Winners of the C Grade in 1943 and the B Grade in 1944—two seasons without a defeat—this team has at last reached the top grade and hopes to gain the experience this year which will ensure future success. To date it has won only one match, but two of the leading teams have been among its opponents.

F. Alpe, E. Jones, A. Smith (capt.) and **H. Hanan** form the final selection of the team, and there is little between them where form is concerned. Alpe and Smith form an excellent doubles pair, Hanan's backhand "flick" is a masterpiece, and Jones has the most singles successes up his sleeve.

Results:—

- v. Kilbirnie A—lost, 11-1.
- v. Technical A—lost 11-1.
- v. Onslow—won 10-2.
- v. Railways B—lost 17 sets to 13 (tie in matches).

The C Grade team, under Ash Cooper, have not yet been beaten, and have every chance of winning their grade if their present form continues. **Atmore, Mayo and Graham** are the other members of the team.

Two teams have been entered in the D Grade, one of which has won all its matches. **Eric Flaws** captains this team and with the experience gained by match-play it should be a good combination next year.

There has been a marked increase in women's membership, and this has enabled the entry of a women's team in F Grade. **Pat Ralph** and **Mary Land** show distinct promise in style of play. A coaching scheme for the ladies will be inaugurated at the next club night and should do much to improve the standard.

The annual general meeting of the Stud. Ass. passed a motion to include the award of blues to Table Tennis and the committee have decided that the standard of performance shall be the winning of one-third of the singles played for the A Grade team throughout a season. The women's standard has not yet been decided.

Women's Hockey Show Good Improvement

On July 6 the Women's Hockey Club will welcome from CUC the two teams which have been invited to play our Senior B and Junior sides. There will be a dance in the evening. Further information will be placed on the notice board.

Playing in the rain last Saturday Senior A lost to Toa 4-5 and on June 23 beat Tech. Old Girls in a good game 4-1. Hitting in the circle has definitely improved and there was good combination in the forward line.

Various changes of position within the Senior B team proved wise, for in a much improved game they defeated Dental Clinic 5-2. The intermediates, fielding a team for the first time, lost 1-3 after a noble effort. **Joan Sim**, as a back, played a particularly good game.

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SPORT

Soccer Tournament in offing?

Inquiries into the possibility of a soccer tournament this year have shown that Auckland, Victoria and Canterbury are very keen, whilst no word has been received from Otago to date. Travelling arrangements are, of course, the main difficulty, but it is hoped that all will be finalised in the near future. This is the first year in which all four centres have had soccer teams, although the Victoria club is now in its third year. In the meantime the club has secured on loan from the WFA a series of films on association football and these will be used to demonstrate and correct many of the points about which players are not too confident.

The A team lost to Miramar Rangers 3-4. As the Rangers were second in the competition, this was a fine effort indeed. Playing against a strong wind, and with the exception of a few sporadic bursts down the wings, play in the first spell was predominantly in our half, but Walls netted well for Varsity. At half-time, as the result of a penalty kick and a corner, Rangers led 2-1. Varsity began the second spell with two swift rushes on the Rangers' goal, Priddey and Sherani scoring. This led, perhaps, to complacency, and the backs, whose play had been exemplary during the first half, were often caught out of position, and the Rangers netted two further goals, bringing the final score of 3-4.

During the game at least half of the team were warned that on repetition of offences they would have to leave the field. A careful study is being made of the rules and it is hoped that this will throw some light on what the team regarded as unfair decisions. A protest lodged with the WFA brought no satisfaction.

The wing-halves, Priddey and Mackie, played good football. Richardson played his usual solid game at centre-half. Of the forwards, Williams probably played the best game.

The team turned up The game was won

Ivor Ting once prophesied that if ever 3B turned up with a full team, they would win. They did, and they have.

Thanks for your confidence, Ivor. The opponents were Wellington, a not unformidable team with a vociferous goalkeeper. Unfortunately, while a win was good for the team, it is debatable whether it was deserved. 3B on Saturday seemed to indulge in every known hockey fault. Chief were raising the stick and bad positional play. Almost every free hit awarded to Varsity was nullified by a wildly swinging stick, and failure to keep position resulted in players not being on the spot when needed. A most serious fault, on both sides, was that of allowing gaps to develop in the play. Several times play just stopped dead for a few seconds, and the reason was that players did not know who should take the ball, the man in the most favourable position should cry "mine" and the rest must allow him to take it.

In spite of faults the game seemed to be enjoyable and willing, whatever that means. 3B is bucked, especially as it appears at time of writing to be the only men's team that won, and expects to go well from now on. Score 3-2.

The B team, after some rather heavy defeats at the beginning of the season, have now settled down and are playing well as a team, but so far have succeeded only in narrowing the margins of their defeats. Giles is the most promising player in the side. In the halves, Williamson takes the ball cleanly. The forward line is now giving a much better account of itself, Drummond, Couper and Ashrof making determined efforts.

VUC Footballers will play Massey at Palmerston

Victoria is to send a team to play Massey at Palmerston North on Wednesday, July 14. It will be a one-day trip, the team leaving Wellington probably by the Napier express, and returning by the 5.12 train from Palmerston. Any supporters who wish to make the trip please get in touch immediately with the secretary. The team will be posted on the notice board on Thursday morning, June 28.

Seniors.—Since the last issue this team has been soundly beaten by Navy, has lost unluckily to Johnsonville, and scored a good win over Seatoun. The backs, because of injuries to some members sustained in the AUC game, have had to be rearranged, and scarcely struck form until the Seatoun game, but there is every hope that in the next few weeks we shall have a set of backs equal to any in the Hardham Cup. Watson, ex-Otago, proved an acquisition last Saturday, and Paki and Langley are also playing well. Of the forwards, Murphy and Shannon continue to stand out, while Dun, Bennett and Benseman toil very hard indeed.

Juniors.—This, the "hard-luck" team of the club, has added another two losses to its record, which would seem to argue a weak team. This, however, is not the case: the material is there, but that last bit of sting and understanding which makes a side is absent. Since Berry came up from the thirds he has made a vast difference to the backs, and Paterson, though he has not had many opportunities, seems to be making a good fist of his new position. Orr, Mullins and Wilson, the last named especially, are an energetic trio in the forwards, but the chief factor lacking in this department is that usual with Varsity teams—weight.

Third A.—This team put up a really fine performance in holding the unbeaten Marist side to 0-8, but

lost to Hutt 3-13. Godman's play on the wing, that of Wilde at second five-eighths, Batterby's hardworking displays in the forwards, and the general liveliness of Catley, are bright spots in the team. The rest of the club could well take a lesson from the members of this team in attending practices.

Third B.—Lost to Seatoun 3-5 and Miramar 3-13, though in the Miramar game the score was 3-3 until 10 minutes from time. Tanu Jowett is, however, very pleased with his men, who seem to enjoy their football more than most. In fact, one member who had to be talked into playing his first game, now asserts that he "wouldn't miss a Saturday for quids." Congratulations to Pix Hurrell and Brian Bridges in outplaying the redoubtable Nig. Taylor and Ray Hannan at the smoke concert.

Third C.—This, the lower grade side showing the best results, has given an extremely good account of itself so far. The backs are a very good set, speedy, and good on defence, but the forwards in a few cases do not go hard enough. Exceptions must be made at least of Camble, a fine tackler, Parsons, Ormberg and Mason, consistent attenders at practice, who are well up to standard. Gilchrist at half despatches the ball promptly and plays a fine all-round game, and the Rea-Watson-Bogle combination has proved very hard to stop. Harry Bailey, the coach, is up every Wednesday to practice, and his attendance, combined with that of his team, is reaping its reward.

Kirk Cup

The Kirk Cup football match in which Maths, Physics, and Geology meet Chemistry and Biology will be played on Kelburn Park on July 11.

The cup consisted originally of little more than bunsen-burner and biscuit tin, carrying none-the-less the blessings of Prof. Kirk, but the winning team will this year be awarded its silver successor presented to Prof. Kirk by students on his retirement last year.

Being held usually on a Wednesday afternoon and attended by hordes of full-time scientists released from practical classes, the match is one VUC event raising the college above the status of night-school.

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