

**CAPPING
BALL**
in the
TOWN HALL
FRIDAY, MAY 9

Salient

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

VOL. 10, No. 5

★

WELLINGTON, MAY 7, 1947

★

Price: THREEPENCE

EXTRAV
"Utopanella"
in the
OPERA HOUSE
MAY 17, 19, 20,
21, 22

Extrav 1947—"Till Barrett's Reef Comes Against the Mighty Fonganella"



Among Soviet delegates to the Festival will be the world-famous composer Shostakovich (miraculously recovered from his recent liquidation in the "N.Z. Listener") who will sit on the jury for the musical competitions. The Soviet delegation will also include the Obrazcov puppet theatre, ballet dancers from the Moscow Bolshoi Theatre, dance and choir groups from the national republics, the CDK football team, and, perhaps, the famous arctic explorer Papanin.

Two representatives of Mongolian youth travelled 8,000 miles from Ulan Bator to Prague to discuss Mongolian participation in the Festival. They plan to bring to Prague the Mongolian National Ballet, choirs, singers and folk instruments, an exhibition of paintings, sculptures, carvings, metal work, embroideries

WFDY NEWS

and photographs, and two films—"The Mongolian People's Republic" and "Tsogto-Taldji."

The Central Union of Chinese Students in Great Britain is sending a Chinese play in English, an exhibition of paintings and woodcuts, and they will also participate in sports activities.

The Federation of Youth Organisations in the Indonesian Republic is preparing an exhibition on the life and struggles of Indonesian youth. Should they be unable to send representatives from Indonesia, they will be represented by Indonesians living in Holland.

Twenty-five students from McGill University will be among Canadian representatives to the Festival. They will afterwards proceed to Yugoslavia. A French-Canadian theatrical group is also expected to attend the Festival.

The French Festival Committee is organising a torch relay race from Oradour (the French "Lidice") de-

stroyed by the Nazis) via Italy and Austria to Lidice.

Fifty delegates from the Kuomintang San Min Chu I Youth Corps will attend the Festival. They will bring with them exhibitions of photographs, books, drawings, sculptures, embroideries, etc.

A short newsreel on Festival preparations is being shown in Prague cinemas and has been sent to other countries for general distribution. A film festival will be organised in Prague during the Festival. Altogether, 25 artistic and 34 documentary films from many countries will be screened. Two new French films will have their world premiere at the Festival.

The International Student Service is sending films, photographs and drawings to Prague. Overseas students coming for study tours to Europe under the auspices of ISS will spend some time in Prague participating in the Festival.

Two thousand British visitors are expected at the Festival. A meeting to set up a preparatory committee met in January and was attended by representatives from 27 youth organisations.

Youth of the western Hemisphere are chartering a special airliner to take them to Prague.

"Utopanella"—The monicker of Extravaganza 1947—and such a brisk, crisp and risqué 120 minutes of mudley saturated with songs and dripping with puns the maligned public of Wellington have not yet suffered. And as if the punishment were not to fit the crime, there is the possibility that the inhabitants of Napier—Proud City of Hawke's Bay—will be likewise inflicted.

Descending late from their daily terrors, the weary and the bleary have of late oft detected something of a minor seismological disturbance epicentred near the Gym. Closer investigations have revealed that once sombre edifice in the apparent throes of chronic diarrhoea, pulsating violently to the rhythm of varied and eerie sounds emitted at intervals through shattered windows and splintered weatherboards. But only the men of steel who have penetrated the fog and the grog, the mist and the schist of the upper floor will realise the brutal truth—rehearsals have begun.

Veteran of Extravaganzas and Producer of two former shows, John McCreary, foaming at the larynx, and blasting from the lungs uses his physical endowments to advantage. Interviewed he said "Quiet Please!"

And not insignificant beside him Musical Director Jeff Stewart—an Honest Guy, but still an adept at the shrewd and the lewd in song and lyric; he is conducting some of the most brilliant of Extrav Musical scores yet realised.

The stage is set—the producer lolling in the gallery, the audience goggling in the pit, and Stage Manager Huddy Williamson jiving in the wings—Let the curtain rise on "Utopanella," Extravaganza 1947.

The 1947 Extrav. will be shown to ogling Wellington audiences from Saturday, May 17th, till the following Thursday. Rehearsals for the Show commenced on March 31st—seven weeks before the opening of the show! The whole show was rehearsed on Sunday, April 27th, with still three weeks to go! Rehearsals to date have not been a general fiasco due to too much exuberance and general pandemonium, but have rather been typified by hard work from all members of the cast, the wardrobe and props dept. The orchestra has been formed, a company of over twenty members, and has put in three practice nights a week. The show is shaping extremely well but the tempo must be increased until it reaches fever-pitch on the opening night. Artificial stimulants have not so far been necessary.

The Comedy Harmonists

The script for this year's epic was written by those Kings of Korn—McCreary and Higgin. Their brain child "Utopanella" is distinguished by the fact that it has, of all things, a plot—unified complete and cohesive. In spite of this they have sub-plots and ballets, liberally sprinkled with a bit of lewdity, audacity and crudity which give the show a piquant flavour for which all Extrav's are noted.

The scene opens on the good ship Fonganella, just prior to the cataclysmic catastrophe which leaves her high and dry on the rocks for two years. The question of the Government of this microcosm is complicated by the dissensions arising from the presence of Blimps, Communists and small bourgeois opportunists in the shape of a Shakespearean troupe. The attempts of the fairy godfather, J. J. O'Malley, to steer a middle course to his own advantage, prove abortive, and the show ends in a true Shakespearean debacle, leaving Anthropus, the common man, happy in his abysmal ignorance.

Original Songs

One outstanding feature of Utopanella is the number and variety of songs and choruses. Jeff Stewart, the Lyric Writer, has proved his worth and used his talent to the utmost. In the first act alone there are twelve songs and choruses, with plenty to follow in acts two and three. The opening of Act II is sung in comic opera vein, but Jeff's idea of comic opera is decidedly modern. Although that rug-cutting masterpiece "Dig Me Sister with a Solid Spade" has not been used, there is no lack of variety in melodies and lyric. Four original

(Continued on Page 3)

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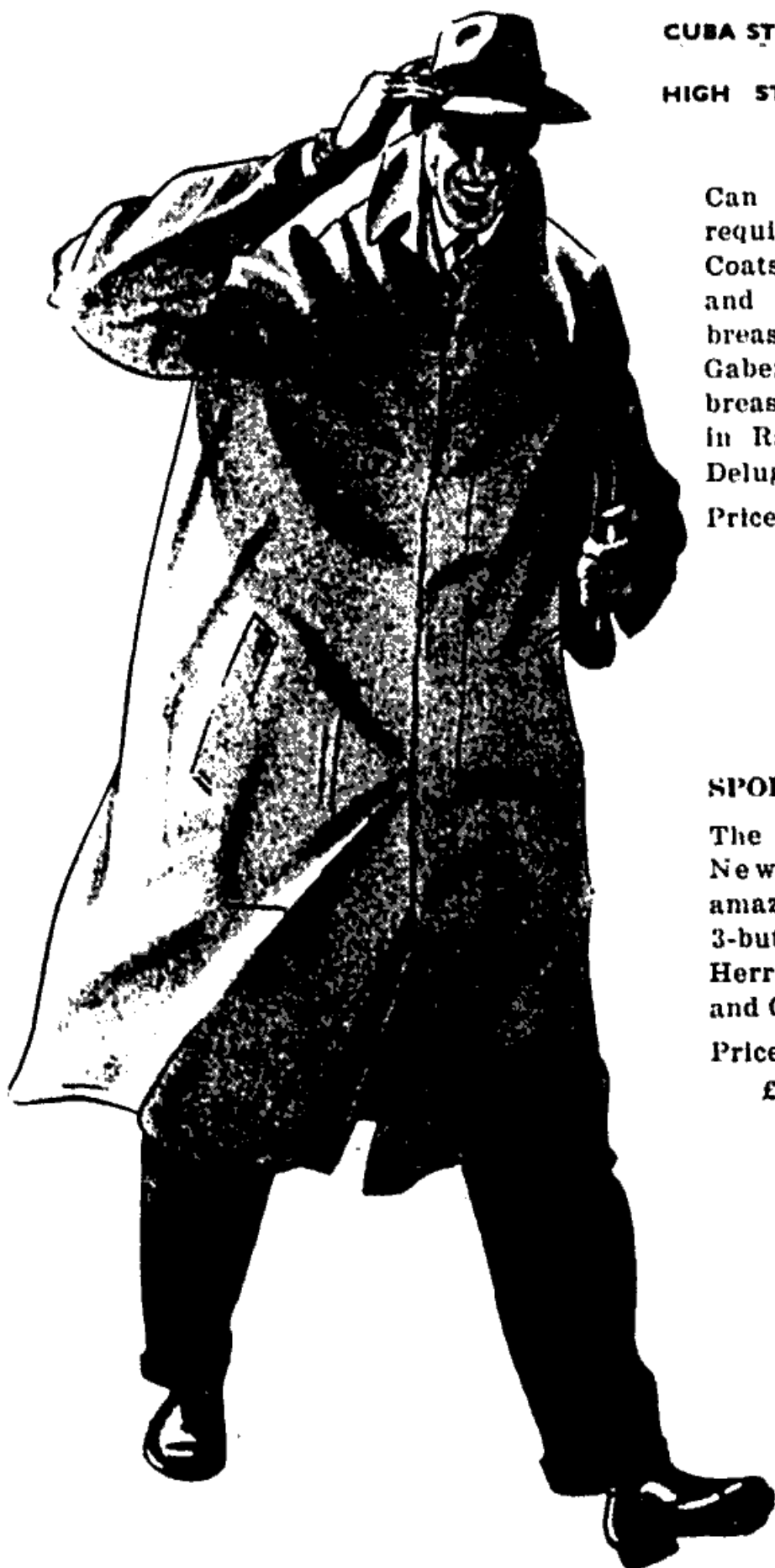
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Published fortnightly by the Victoria University College Students' Association
and printed for them by The Commercial Printing Co. Ltd., Boulcott Avenue,
Wellington.

VOL. X
No. 5

Salient

Wednesday,
May 7

Professor McHenry Speaks to Political Science Society

The Political Science Society was very fortunate in securing Professor McHenry from the University of Southern California as the guest speaker for its inaugural function. The visitor, who is no stranger to the British Commonwealth, has made an extensive comparative study of political trends in both the United States and the Dominions, and he is at present on sabbatical leave with the object of surveying eleven years of Labour administration in this country.

In his introduction Dean McHenry drew attention to the fundamental differences between the United States and its Presidential system of government and the British Commonwealth, which has adhered to the more efficient and stronger Cabinet system. He outlined the historical basis of the United States constitution based as it is on an essentially 18th century philosophy as advanced by Locke, Montesquieu and Thomas Paine. Checks and balances, and divided sovereignty were to ensure forever the democratic form of government and guard the Republic from autocratic rulers. The South American Republics had on the whole accepted the example set by their big Northern neighbour with the result of Peron and Vargas supremacy in Argentine and Brazil and similar forms of dictatorship in the remaining countries of the Southern half of the Continent. The visitor made no secret of his preference for the British system based on two strong political parties with a responsible Executive sitting inside Parliament. In support of this premise he quoted examples of shortcomings such as a deadlock between the two Houses of Congress, Presidential inability after the defeat of his party in a mid-term election, the lack of Executive control over Civil Service appointments and the still important remains of the Spoil System. In favour of the Presidential system of Government, Dean McHenry contended that Congress is not a merely "rubber-stamp" which like the House merely discusses, but in the end submits to the Government on all important issues of policy due to party discipline and the all-powerful Whips. Congress can override Presidential vetoes and it jealously watches over foreign affairs. The "voice of the people" is forever audible in the lobbies and halls of Congress. (One wonders if Congressmen were greatly perturbed or troubled by popular sentiment against the recent Anti-Strike legislation.)

the absence of a strong Labour party he countered "that in the United States class relations are nowhere nearly as stratified as in the older capitalist countries. The American working man still has a vested interest in the present mode of production. This is artificially fostered by a system of education which still enhances youth with the prospect of the easy road from shoe-shine boy to millionaire."

Although his answer was not satisfactory to all present, he admitted quite frankly that the era of unlimited expansion of American capitalism will soon come to a close.

Wallace Not Likely

Professor McHenry envisaged the possibility of a general regrouping within the two major parties, so that the reactionaries on both sides would combine in the face of combination of the progressive wings of the two parties. "Wallace is not a likely presidential candidate for 1948. He cannot command the American people's support for his attitude towards Russia and the other European democracies." Dean McHenry was then asked about the role and influence of Communists inside the trade unions. He emphasised that many Union leaders are pro-Communist but that they were elected democratically. The deduction from this must be that those men have been outstanding for their leadership and organisational ability within the Unions concerned. "It is the Communists in the main who are taking an active interest in Union affairs."

An Enlightened Liberal

In their concluding remarks the Chairman, as well as the Students' representative, thanked Professor McHenry for his interesting and enlightening address. We too wish to express our appreciation and again welcome this opportunity of meeting speakers from abroad. Professor McHenry has brought to New Zealand the views of an enlightened Liberal, today such a rarity on the American Political Scene. We admire him for his fluency, presentation and his ability to establish immediate contact with his audience, a quality the lack of which is sorely felt in the New Zealand University.—G. WARNER.

Questions Too

At the conclusion of the address, questions were submitted to the speaker. It was noticeable that Professor McHenry was far less elusive in his answers than he was during his introductory remarks. Asked about

(Continued from Page 1)

songs and lyrics have been written, including "I Like to Kill," sung by Stew Scoones with a spine-chilling thrill. The others are: "I Can't Get a Girl to Practice On" and a semi-monologue, "Lady Macbeth's Song." Jeff's skill at composing parodies has produced "Salami," "Utopanella is Our Idea of Heaven," sung to "Isa Lei," and the Commo's song, "Yes, it's Time We had Another Revolution," sung to the melody of "Tiritomba."

Principal participants in this parodical parody is that "cultivated, celebrated, under-rated, leprechaun your friend J. J. O'Malley," who has come hot-foot from page 3 of the "Southern Cross" expressly for the purpose. Mr. O'Malley, Barnaby's fairy-godfather, now deep in the housing shortage at the bottom of page 3 of the Labour Daily, takes time off to give a pink flavour to Utopanella's politics. If anyone desires to meet him before the show he may be found there, complete with cigar and pink wings, and together with his leprechauns, amiable ghosts and the odd fairy. At great expense Gus the ghost has been able to summon Peter Brazer-Bread, Bob Dimple Fire, and Walter Cash Sugar to assist O'Malley in his double-dealing efforts. These crafty curs, together with Learned Saw, MacBeth and his spouse, and Anthropus, comprise the supreme gutless corporation which is noted chiefly for its bilge and wind. Such is the presiding body of the newly formed Utopia.

Blimps and Commos

In Act II O'Malley invites the Blimps to call witnesses in support of their form of government, and the evidence produced by the Wallahs of Wall Street is faintly reminiscent of the daily utterances of the Chamber of Dominance. The witness called by the Commos is none other than the Crimson King of the Kremlin. MacBeth's line, "Hi Jo, what d' y' know?" causes consternation, but Jo's proclamation, delivered in oracular monotonous, confounds even the staunchest members of his party. The remainder of the plot centres around MacBeth's attempt to dispose of O'Malley and his régime with the aid of a by now rabid pack of communists and infuriated swarms of Blimps in bath-towels. O'Malley's fate will be obvious to all "Southern Cross" readers, and also to you, once you have forked out your three bob and seen the show.



You may be unaccustomed to public speaking . . .

Another Instalment of British Socialism

—Our London Correspondent

Spring has come at last. After the rigours of winter and a disappointingly wet, cold Easter, we have been enjoying calm, cloudless days, transforming the spirits of the people and the appearance of the countryside. With astonishing rapidity trees have budded and put forth leaves.

With Spring came the Budget, which met with a very mixed reception. The tobacco tax is certainly a heavy blow. Cigarettes at 3/4 for twenty, tobacco at 4/- an ounce, are indeed luxuries which many can scarcely afford. The "Daily Worker," and left wing Labour generally, have condemned it roundly as denying to the masses what has become almost a necessity, whilst leaving it for the rich people who can pay. It is doubtful whether it will effectively reduce consumption, which makes it merely a heavy ungraded tax (it produced one-eighth of total revenue last year). Yet the fact is that consumption must be reduced somehow (since we are not "allowed" to discriminate against America) and all schemes for rationing face the very real problem of the great variety and individual demand, with the consequent certainty of an enormous black market, either in cigarettes or coupons.

The new taxes on bonus issues and distributed profits have naturally been condemned by the Tories, on the usual basis of tirades about robbing the widows and orphans (i.e., of stockbrokers), ruinous State expenditure (i.e., on social services), and reducing incentives (i.e., of profit margins of fifty per cent. common in recent balance sheets). The real criticism also applies to the concessions and income tax allowances, in that they hardly go far enough. But the Budget is balanced and by orthodox standards it is a moderate one, but it is hardly a revolutionary socialist one (which no one expected). In fact, the only criticism that W. J. Brown, M.P., in his unconsciously humorous polemic in the "Evening Standard," could level against it was that it was neither too easy (which he would have liked personally) nor too austere.

The case of the civil servants who were dismissed or refused transfer, apparently at the secret instructions of M.I.5, a branch of military intelligence, is extremely disturbing. No public case has been brought against them, and their sole crime seems to consist in their being Communists. Such police State methods are deplorable, particularly in the English public service, whose record of fairness and openness is long, honourable and unique. The Civil Servants' Union is taking the matter up (it has been widely featured in the newspapers) and it is to be hoped that they will expose and eliminate this danger to civil liberties.

WOMEN

What speculation is more supreme
Than to entrust your heart
To a woman's care?
What youth's wistful dream
Can lips of a strange woman bear?

Ships laden with silk and spices
Sail out of the placid harbour to the sea.
Man knows no woman's devices
She is twice fckled as the sea.

Words are instrument of conception
Lips when meeting never plead untrue,
Only action proves deception—
And time shows their rightful hue.

Last night you crushed me in your arms and kissed me
As if I were some rose that gave delight
I was your queen and thou my lord and only
First lover of my life
But thou didst take and cast me
As a flower that has waned
And last night's beauty that was so thrilling
Has faded with the night.

If love could be so changing
I can die a thousand deaths
But thou O Death must only
Lie with me this Night.

—OMAR HJUMAS.

There once was a girl who said "Strike Me pink, here's a poem in Spike.
All about me!
How famous I'll be!
And how awfully clever of Mike!"

With encouraging enthusiasm the members of the Literary Society gathered on Monday evening to hear Professor Gordon's address on Katherine Mansfield.

The atmosphere was one of general well-being and hopeful optimism as Professor Gordon prefaced his subject with a brief account of the failure of the similar Phoenix Club in 1939 and 1940, and congratulated the Society on its spontaneous outburst this year.

As we were introduced to the authoress as a short story writer, poet, and novelist and New Zealander, our interest changed to something more familiar and intimate. We were very much aware of her as a Wellingtonian; as one who had looked on the familiar hills and harbour as her home, and who had reached across the years as readily as her mind leapt the distance she travelled, to recapture the sights and sounds of our own land.

Professor Gordon presented us with two aspects of the subject. Katherine Mansfield's place in the development

MANSFIELD

of the short story, and her position in relation to New Zealand writing. The unreliability of all sources of biographical material was emphasised, and, aware of the impersonal outline of her life, her childhood and adolescence spent in Wellington, her departure to England and numerous European journeys from there, we experienced with Professor Gordon disappointment that her husband, John Middleton Murry, should have so successfully barred the way to a more personal and complete understanding of her journals and letters. It was with his help that most of her early material was published in England, but it is regrettable that he controlled and abridged the greater and more important autobiographical writings he published after her death.

Katherine Mansfield as a short story writer has been considered unique. Her development of the technique, though attributed by some to a close observation of the writings of Tchekov, established itself as a new and original form of writing—rather an interpretation of character or mood than a development of the patterned form of the 19th century. Critical opinion accepts that she did something vital and original for the short story.

Although she did most of her writing in England, it is with gratification we realise that she turned continually to the scenes of her childhood and youth for the sources of her inspiration and material; and it was with pride we claim her as a New Zealand writer.

Lunch Hour Bach

Starting in the second week of term, on every Wednesday from 1.15 to 1.45 p.m., Mr. Frederick Page will play the second book of Bach's "Well-Tempered Clavier." Four Preludes and Fugues will be played at each recital, which means that the series will last for six weeks. Whether you are a serious student of music or just a dilettante, you will find these recitals the most enjoyable way to spend the spare half-hour between having lunch and speeding back to the Library at 2.

Cercle Francais

A French Club has at last been formed at VUC bringing us into line with the other colleges. AUC and CUC have similar clubs well established already, and OU has started one this year.

The aim in forming the club is to increase the interest of French students in language once proses, lectures, and exams have been forgotten. In order to do this it is important to have a club in which the majority of students would be able to take an active part.

The officers of the club are:

Patron: M. Gazel.
President: Miss F. M. Huntington.
Secretary: A. S. G. Butler.
Committee: Elizabeth Florance, Barbara Fougere, Geraldine Lawrence, J. Finlay, F. B. Hogben, J. G. McArthur.

As we have been rather late in starting we will only hold four evenings during the second term this year. The dates have been arranged so as not to clash with the meetings of the Wellington French Club to which a number of students belong. The first meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 28. Watch the notice boards for the programme.

SCM BOOK SALE

The New Zealand Student Christian Movement is holding a sale during May. There is a large range of good religious books of special interest to students, which will be sold at greatly reduced prices. Come to SCM Headquarters, 153 Featherston Street, and see for yourself.

RELIGION AND EDUCATION

Exchange Article calls forth protests

Let it be clearly stated first that we agree with Professor Taylor on his fundamental point, that is—It is obvious that doubt is an integral part of the normal functioning of intelligence and that this intelligence is to be regarded as being effective in all spheres of thought. Religious dogmas, therefore, cannot be considered as exempt from critical enquiry. We make this statement in order that we may safeguard ourselves against misinterpretation.

Such misinterpretation is likely to be forthcoming in view of the fact that we believe that in disposing of religious dogma Taylor has not adequately dealt with the function of religious experience. To us there appears no necessary conflict between the "fundamental basis of religious faith" (rightly interpreted) "and of University Education."

Religious Experience

It is necessary then to consider what are the fundamental bases of religious faith. This takes us on to a consideration of the nature of religious experience, because faith is the outcome of such experience (as it is likewise the basis for further experience). Now it is the essence of the religious experience that it signifies both a passive and an active adjustment to the universe. There is a note of submission, but also one of inclusion. At the same time it is an outgoing attitude. There is in it, as Dewey would say, a change of will conceived as the organic plenitude of our being. It includes such feelings as reverence and abundance.

Such an experience becomes faith (in our interpretation) when it is used as the basis for the concrete workings of intelligence, the affairs of daily life. This faith is not based on supposed communication with some impossible, transcendental being but has its roots in the natural religious experience.

Doubt

As stated in the introduction we believe that doubt is an essential pre-requisite for the concrete workings of intelligence. But, although the "dogma of doubt" is a healthy enough battle-cry, its function is a restricted one. That is, while the open minded attitude is the best correlate to the wide-open universe, in itself it is insufficient. Doubt is not enough. The progress of intellectual inquiry in University Education is to be fostered as much by religious experience as it is to be made effective by doubt. It is just such experience which, transferred from dogmatic objects, makes the ideals of

life a possibility. Without such a religious background these ideals will not become real for us.

It is only by the transference of such religious values as those of reverence and abundance that we can overcome our complementary impatience and selfishness in social dealings. Possibly there may come a time when we are purely rational (the aspiration of Freud). In those "Methuselan" days doubt may be sufficient. Meanwhile, it is not a case of too much faith, as Haldane asserts, but rather of misplaced faith. We need essentially the complementary and progressive adjustment of faith and doubt to objects we conceive as most worthwhile. Doubt alone is insufficient, unscientific. It

is but a negative aspect of experience. Without the positive, the religious, it is as useless and onésided as the religious dogma it seeks to overthrow.

Just in case we be misinterpreted, however, we must assert again that we are speaking of a religious aspect of experience which is as natural as the scientific aspect. It is important that this be separated from a religion with its usual impossible supernatural claims.

Unless this religious experience be consciously and explicitly dealt with within education along with the claims of doubt it is likely to have unsatisfactory outcomes; either (1) by being connected with scientifically invalid dogmas, or (2) by being supposedly rejected from experience and then insidiously and surreptitiously exerting its influence on doubtful political or other dogmas.

In education not only doubt but the conscious acceptance of what is religious in experience is necessary. It is such experience which enables us to envisage our society as one "in which sensitive and responsible personalities seek to enter with sympathy

and understanding into the lives of others as a pre-requisite of their own self-expression." (V. T. Thayer, "American Education Under Fire.") Doubt alone could not accomplish this.

Agnosticism

Professor Taylor's mistake is in confusing agnosticism and doubt. Agnosticism is, as Dewey would say, a shadow cast by the eclipse of the supernatural. We must doubt in order that we may find out, not because some Murry, inaccessible and super-natural being lurks behind whatever we can know. In this case our doubting is a function of our intelligence, not a sign of a pale and impotent scepticism. Obviously Taylor means the desirable use of doubt. He should be more careful, however, in the use of his terms. In equating the two he has not only thrown out the dogmatic idealistic bathwater but also the naturalistic religious baby.

As Whitehead says, "Exactness is a fake" (Ingersoll Lecture, 1941). But he also says: "The fact of our religious vision, and its history of persistent expansion, is our one ground for optimism. Apart from it, human life is a flash of occasional enjoyments lighting up a mass of pain and misery, a bagatelle of 'transient experience.'" ("Science and the Modern World.")—

B. SUTTON-SMITH and P. S. WILSON.

Another Criticism of Togatus' Article

Professor Taylor's article in your issue of April 23 deals with an important question, but does not appear to me to do more than restate part of the problem. No honest attempt is made by the Professor to consider possible approaches to the question. He admits personal bias in his last paragraph, and then proceeds to make two definite statements. He adduces no proof for the latter one except the quoting of Russell and Whitehead, neither of whom, although eminent in their particular fields, can be called impartial or even remotely so when dealing with religious matters.

In his opening paragraph, the Professor states the fundamental questions, or some of them anyway. "Is there a God" is a question which must be answered if one is to have any logic in religion at all. The article fails to state whether attempts have been made to answer the question, and whether any success has attended such efforts. The way in which the article omits to draw attention to the endeavours in this field by men as eminent as the learned professor or even Earl Russell leaves the inference that the only satisfactory answers are supplied by faith alone. Later on an effort is made to whittle away the bases of faith, and this leaves an uninformed reader with the general impression that religious belief is after all an unstable and unreliable thing.

I have not time, and I do not desire to occupy the space to deal thoroughly with the article as it stands. It is a shallow treatment of what it admits is a vital subject, but it covers a very wide field, and therefore requires an extensive rebuttal.

Taylor Doubted

Nevertheless a great deal of truth is stated, but I feel that wrong inferences are drawn largely on account of the omission of important aspects of the subject. For instance the Professor says, "Nothing can influence closed minds" and leaves it at that. He omits to point out that some men of

religion have had minds which stand out as being as open as the human mind can be within the limits of reason.

He lumps together the concepts of Virgin Birth and Relativity and states that both are born of human experience and liable to error. In the first place, how he denies Virgin Birth on the ground of human experience is difficult to see, as if there were no Virgin Birth there would be no question of experience liable to error. However, the main point here is that those who believe the doctrine of the Virgin Birth believe first that it depends upon the existence of God. If that is proved, then the question of the Virgin Birth is removed from the plane of human opinion, experience or decision entirely. On the other hand, exponents of Relativity do not believe that the theory's origination or its exponents, however brilliant, possess Divine omniscience. Therefore the two questions must be approached from different angles. Although the point just considered is but a small part of the article, it serves to illustrate the difficulties which exist throughout the whole treatment.

In conclusion then, I have no objection to the treatment of the subject either for or against religion. I do feel however that the article attempts to cover too much ground in a limited space, and secondly that such ground as is covered is not considered in a scientific manner. There is too much

Tournament

Dear Sir,—It seems to me that Tournament plays an important enough part in student affairs to deserve an accurate write-up. I was glad to see, and would like to compliment "Salient" on the excellent reporting of the NZUSA Conference, but would like to have seen the same care extended to Tournament. The arrangements for Tournament used up a lot of my time, but I would gladly have given more for an accurate report.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the way our representatives bore with those two wearying journeys, and of the cheerfulness and helpfulness of all concerned. It is no small tribute to VUC team members that they were so successful under such conditions.

The amazing feat of Stan Campbell in getting the teams to Auckland; the work of the Junior Delegate, Brian Sutton-Smith, or Denis Griffin, Miss Patterson, Miss Rosie and the cafeteria staff and all club secretaries should go on record.

In conclusion, I will add an appeal to all club secretaries and team members in the future. Keep in close contact with your Tournament Delegates. A detail that seems small to you can prove shattering to the nerves of a harassed delegate—particularly in times of crisis such as Tournament 1947.

P. G. MORRIS,
Senior Tournament Delegate.

unproved hypothesis, too much unscientific argument and too much left to inference. When dealing with a subject so important, a properly equipped writer could well have avoided all the flaws and submitted a thesis containing closely reasoned argument. After all, "Salient" is a University paper, both writer and readers are University people and articles in such a paper should not savour of the modern "Digest" variety.

—K. B. O'BRIEN.



... not the sporty type ...

Chem. Soc. Forum on Industrial Chemistry

Twenty students attended the meeting of the Chemistry Society, held at 7 p.m. on April 23. The object of the meeting, the subject for which was "Aspects of Industrial Chemistry," was to give students some idea of the type of work they might be employed on upon graduation. Four aspects were presented by part-time students working in outside laboratories.

Mr. Cryer, covering the board with a maze of organic formulae, dealt with the chemistry of the production of high octane gasoline. An interesting point brought out in the course of the lecture was the fact that the increase in octane rating of gasoline caused by the addition of lead tetraethyl is not clearly understood.

From his experience with a consulting analytical chemist Mr. Beck brought in some useful points of view, many of which could be taken more notice of in the teaching of analytical chemistry. "In analytical chemistry," he said, "It's not what you do, it's the way that you do it that counts. Routine methods, of which there are hundreds, are only of limited utility and are not to be followed slavishly but merely used as a guide in tackling a particular problem." He drew some interesting illustrations from samples he had handled at various times. Judging by the number of brewery samples the work seems very interesting.

Complete with sections of his product, Mr. Saxton from Exide Batteries delivered his address on "Storage Batteries." He stressed the importance of absolute purity of materials used in forming the battery; small amounts of foreign metallic impurities being extremely deleterious to the life of the battery. Chemical control of raw materials is thus very important.

"Paint Chemistry," dealt with by Mr. Harris, has many ramifications and in the process of transforming the art of painting into a science the chemist and physicist is being increasingly employed. Increasing amounts of pure research are now being done in this field, one of the problems being considered being the effect of the various higher fatty acids on the properties of paint.

Each speaker answered a number of questions on his subject. The meeting concluded over supper.



... not very dramatic ...

Reply to Swedland

Dear Sir,—Mr. Swedland's considerations as to the essence of science are interesting but too restrictive. His demand—"controlled experiment"—excludes even a large part of chemistry besides sciences such as meteorology, geology.

Lord Kelvin considered the essence to be measurement. All sciences as they become more complex become mathematical and metrical—this would seem due to innate limitations of the human mind. A third school considers scientists intuitively know what science is.

If science cannot be defined, certain aspects can be shown. Essential to a science is a theory to correlate many facts. Conclusions arrived at statistically without a theory or with unsubstantial theories are of little interest, even though often of utility. Much meteorology is still statistical with no unifying theory.

Discrimination of facts is a second desideratum. Coincaré calls it selection and I understand "controlled" means discriminating. There is an infinity of facts but most facts are too special to be of interest. Implicit in the above is observation of the external environment.

The argument is the same as between formalist and intuitivist schools in other branches of knowledge.—J.R.J.

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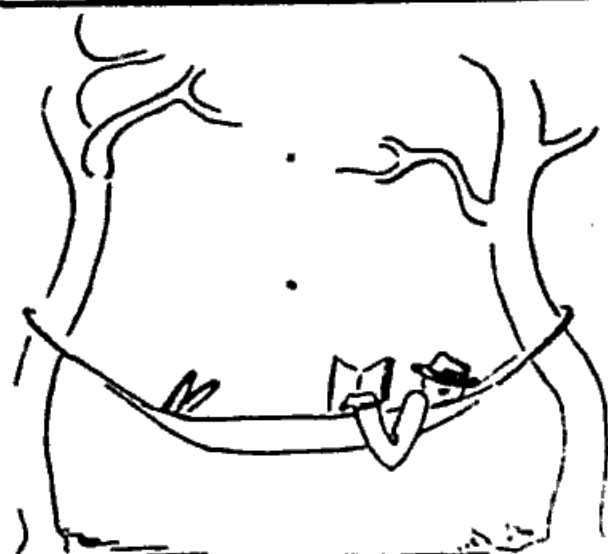
TRAMPING and CAMPING
REQUISITES and
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Politics and Science They Must Mix

Professor Goldschmidt, geneticist, has come and gone—but the trumpets which heralded his arrival are muted at his departure, and, while here, he added not a micron to his stature! Not that the Professor failed to substantiate his claim to an eminent position in his special field of science—that will never be disputed—but that he used this very eminence from which to propagate his own political and philosophical beliefs and opinions, dressed up in the guise of facts—this is the measure of his failure.

His first salvo was fired soon after his arrival in New Zealand in a published interview with the "Listener." Even allowing for the fact that "journalists don't write to tell the truth but only to make what they call a story," this story, entitled "Science and Politics Won't Mix," was far from being the discourse of a reasoning and well-informed scientist. The latter part of the article degenerated into a splenetic attack on science, especially genetics, in the USSR, and particularly on the person of Lysenko. To quote, "unfortunately this man went in for theories and wild impractical ideas which are based on unrecorded experiments and are worthless to science." Strange, is it not, that although the Vavilov-Lysenko controversy has been fought and re-fought in the scientific (and non-scientific) press of Britain and America over the past eight years there appears to be no record of any attempt by Lysenko's detractors to repeat the experiments and thus settle the matter in the only way open to scientists.

That Lysenko, in his earlier theories, was "guilty" of making claims which went beyond the evidence of his experiments appears quite likely; but this is a failing to which any scientist may fall heir. In fact biologists among us may recall that Dr. Goldschmidt himself once held the rather extreme theory that, as J. B. S. Haldane puts it, "All genes differing from the normal are merely re-arrangements of the standard type of chromosome and it is therefore incorrect to speak of genes in the wild or standard type of a species," and later, "Goldschmidt argues that therefore genes are an illusion." Whatever the fate of this idea there can be no doubt that its effect would be to stimulate further investigation with a consequent clarification of our ideas on the nature of genes. And so with Lysenko! His theories should have had the same effect but most of his opponents outside Russia seem to have contented themselves with mere verbal refutations, "which are worthless to science."



... and perhaps politics don't burn
you up. . . .

Later he says, "he (Lysenko) got political power and was able to suppress completely applied genetics in the USSR, and so everybody works only according to Lysenko's views." Lest any of his readers accept this at Dr. Goldschmidt's valuation let them refer to "Science," weekly journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, January 31, 1947. There they will find a review of the current work of Soviet geneticists from which it is evident that, far from the ideas of Mendel, Vavilov, Morgan, Sturtevant, Wilson and Fisher being suppressed, these men are assigned their correct places in the mosaic of genetic research. Further, nowhere among the names of about fifty Soviet workers in this field will they find that of the "dictator" and "usurper" Lysenko; 'tis more than passing strange that the "boss" of Soviet genetics finds himself overlooked in such a review. Could it be that there is in fact no such "boss"?

Had the Professor contented himself

with this public attack the ripple would soon have died down; but in another place, addressing a gathering of scientific workers, he repeated these canards and went on to attack "the planners in science" in his own and other countries. "No real scientist believes that science can be planned," asserted Dr. Goldschmidt. That must be held to include Needham, Hogben, Huxley, Bernal, Haldane, Gowland Hopkins, Gregory and Watson-Watt, all members of the British Association of Scientific Workers, with the avowed objective of planning science; men who need no recommendation here as "real scientists." Even such a doughty opponent of planned science as Professor M. Polanyi finds himself having to say in 1946, "Do we still believe that it is proper for scientists to spend public funds for studies such as the proof of Fermat's theorem or counting the number of electrons in the universe?—No, we do not generally accept, as we did in the 1930's, that it is proper for science to pursue knowledge for its own sake, quite regardless of any advantage to the welfare of society."

It is evident from an appraisal of the results of the Professor's tour that he has contributed little to cement the friendship between the scientists or the people of our respective countries at a time when this is so urgently necessary. This is something which all forward-looking people will regret deeply, for scientists are now in a position to play a more decisive role in the counsels of the world than ever before, if they can but learn to think as clearly on social and political matters as they must in their laboratories and lecture rooms.—W.O.

Wet — No Fish

A group of thirty hearty vagabonds from the Tramping Club spent Anzac week-end at Waitewaewae. The trip was very well organised—even I had to carry a tent. Harry Evison as leader prepared a very comprehensive list of instructions. Everyone obeyed these and took no prunes, sheets or nighties.

Those who are not familiar with this particular track may be interested with this description. The track is relatively easy to follow once you have found the beginning, but some of us were rather hazy about the beginning—the girls hitched a ride right past the turn off. Part of the track follows an old bush tramline, which is easy to follow if you don't slip on the wet sleepers or fall through and break your neck. Some of us tried that, too—no casualties reported. The track then follows a stream up, crosses a plateau and goes down the Arapeto to the Otaki river. A few minutes' paddling—if the river is low enough—brought us to Waitewaewae bivvy, where Do McLeod and Lister Paul had the welcome mat out and a billy on the fire.

First half of the party arrived about 5 p.m. Friday night. By 10 p.m. the second half began to arrive with the news that four of their number had camped for the night half-way along the track—don't ask me why they didn't arrive till 8 p.m. the next night; how should I know?

Some of our more energetic members decided to climb Mt. Crawford on Saturday morning. They came back rather early and reported a beautiful view of mist and rain. Saturday evening saw us all round

the fire singing and telling yarns—both new and old. Harold Gretton tells me confidentially that the singing was of a particularly high standard—he should know. Maybe we could record a few more of the men for Extrav.

Six o'clock saw some of us up and getting ready to move back to civilisation and Extrav. rehearsals. On the trip out it rained, as it can rain in the Tararua's. Still, who's worrying about a little rain, or even a lot of rain? I had a very happy week-end, and came back to respectable society thoroughly convinced of the virtues of double bunking and all other good things connected with the Tramping Club.



Wednesday, May 7—
Undergrads' Supper.

Thursday, May 8—
Procession.

Gramophone Club (Schubert Song Cycle).

Friday, May 9—
Capping Ceremony, 8 p.m.
Capping Ball, 10 p.m.

Saturday, May 17—
Opening Night of Extrav.

Thursday, May 22—
Closing Night of Extrav.

Monday, May 19 to 23—
SCM Camp at Masterton.

Wednesday, May 28—
Chemistry Society Meeting.
Speaker: Dr. N. H. Parton.

Friday, June 6—
Hockey Club Annual Ball at Rose-
land Cabaret.

Biol. Soc.

1. **A Talk by Miss Ralph on the Canadian Trip.**—The biology room was well filled on the night of Tuesday, April 22, to hear this talk. Miss Ralph began by introducing Mr. Hall, who was secretary of the Biological Society when it initiated the trip.

There followed a description of flying fish which the party saw while on the boat. A discussion on the so-called "flying" of these fish was interesting. Miss Ralph then described the electron microscope which she saw in Boston.

A series of 60 coloured lantern slides was a feature of great interest. We saw Universities in California, New York and many in Canada. Most of these sported a beautiful campus, with long, tree-lined paths, to say nothing of swimming baths and sports grounds. All students are required to do a certain amount of Physical Education and to take part in sports as a part of their course. Most Universities have a compulsory medical examination of all students entering for a degree course. Other slides showed places the party visited, such as New York City and the Rocky Mountains.

2. **Anzac Week-end Trip to Tauherenikau Valley.**—Sixteen biologists and geologists set off for the Tararua on Friday morning, beginning a most enjoyable and productive trip. The main feature was the adoption of a new method of studying the biology of the valley. Two quadrants, each of 12 feet radius, were chosen, and every plant and animal in these areas was identified. Next day we went up the valley and studied aquatic life and birds, while Midge McLaughlin, geology adviser, stayed in the hut and cooked a six course meal. After the trip, Alleyne Crawford, botany adviser, stayed up till the small hours setting up fungi, while next day, Marshall Laird, entomology leader, was kept well occupied identifying bugs.

3. **Film Afternoon.**—Films were shown of the bird and marine life of the Great Barrier Reef.

4. **A Trip to Kapiti Island** will be held in the first week of the May holidays. The party will be limited to 20.



... in fact, maybe the clubs leave you cold. Perhaps you came to Vic to work, but don't be in the dark—join a few clubs, go to Extrav, and persuade your friends to buy "Cappicade."

The last available records show that the Old Fogeys played tennis with the Upstarts in April, 1938. On Saturday, April 19th, eight years later, the Old Fogeys (past students of Victoria) thrashed a team of present-day students by five games to nil. Each team consisted of four doubles' pairs, the players and results being:

Past:	Present:
1 H. Burns	G. Napier 6-4, 5-6, 6-2
M. Foley	H. Ngata
2 C. Scott	B. Bready 6-0, 6-2
J. Black	J. Craig
3 M. Foden	J. Metekingi 6-1, 6-4
C. W. Batten	Mac. Matheson
4 S. Beere	H. McNeill 6-3, 6-2
R. Stout	K. Pranker

The last match, Foden and Batten v. McNeill and Pranker was decided on one set only (6-1).

The best game was played by the No. 1 pair. Services were hard and accurate and Foley sent the ball into every inaccessible spot on the court. Napier and Ngata combined well and the latter played some deadly cross-court shots.

However the highlight of the afternoon appeared when post-mortems of

Tennis

the games were being held. Colonel Beere and Mr. S. Eichelbaum made what were apparently joking enquiries concerning "the cup." Several facetious comments were made by Ken Pranker until it became only too clear that an "actual" cup was being sought.

This had been presented by Mr. Eichelbaum but with the lapse of eight years had been quite forgotten. When it is unearthed from its present hiding place it will be engraved and presented to the veterans. The "Upstarts" team wishes to thank the opponents for providing the cost of the balls and a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. Mr. Eichelbaum, whose efforts made the match possible, is congratulated for his keenness and his astuteness, but we warn him that "Old Fogeydom" has had its day. (No replies thank-you. Ed.)—"ONE OUSTED UPSTART."

Women's Basketball

The 1947 season has started well for the Basketball Club. We have entered three teams in the competition. As yet the teams have not been graded, but we hope to have two Senior B teams and one Junior A team. We have been practising hard for the last three weeks and all the teams show promise. The influx of many talented Freshers into the club has heightened our chances of success in the competition. We are confident that we will be more successful this year than we were last year.

The committee for the year consists of Gay Nimmo as President, Avis Reid as Vice-President and Marie Irwin as Secretary. Other members of the committee are the team-captains.

Men's Basketball

At the annual general meeting held recently the following officers were elected:

Club Captain: P. J. Anderson.
Sec.-Treas.: L. B. Piper.
Committee: B. Beecroft, L. D. Swindale.

The popularity of the game has increased remarkably and any time after 1.30 on a Sunday at the Sports Centre, Wakefield Street, or 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday, the four Varsity teams can be seen in action.

The Club is very keen to promote the game in the College; firstly because

of the high degree of physical fitness that can be obtained from it, and secondly because of the amount of teamwork it builds up within its members.

To the people who say "I haven't the time" or "I don't know the rules," just send the following:

Each of the four teams plays one competition game a week. Usually the A team plays on Tuesday night, the C and D teams play on Thursday night, and the B team on Saturday morning. The time spent is about 30 minutes.

The next proud fact is that 20 of our 30 members had never played the game at all, until three weeks ago; yet their progress has been remarkable.

The A team, now playing in the B grade but with every prospect of promotion into the A grade at the end of the first round, has secured the services of several new but experienced players, namely, L. Piper, an acquisition from the Hutt Valley; and Murphy, a centre with overseas experience, and these, together with Moral, a promoted B team player, have joined the "old school"—Anderson, Swindale, Crewdsen and Beecroft (captain of the team)—and are being welded into a very efficient combination by L. Cross, a very experienced and able coach.

Both Murphy and Beecroft have been placed in 1947 Wellington Rep. Teams.

The B team with several newcomers, among whom are Hitchings and O'Keefe—both very promising players who seem capable of holding their own, while the learners of C and D teams have every prospect of outstanding improvement.

Swords

With a membership of nearly fifty the swords club is continuing its meetings this year with an increased enthusiasm. As dark green skirts have been procured by the women members, Tuesday night gatherings now have a much more uniform appearance.

Members of the club attended and, we think, enjoyed the annual dinner, held at The Tavern, to which we were pleased to welcome our instructor and Mrs. Dixon. The dinner was followed by a dance at the Majestic Cabaret.

With the increased membership of the club, not nearly sufficient foils, masks and jackets are available, but with supplies in the shops and the hope of a further grant from the Exec., the committee is confident that the club will remain as adequately equipped as it has been previously.

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Winter Sports Clubs Prepare for Coming Season

Once again sports clubs have got, or are getting, their "winter woolies" out, and steamy breaths (from exercise) can be seen clouding the winter air. Kelburn Park resounds to the vigorous coaching of a multitude of footballers; while in odd corners other groups of sportsmen get into huddles over tactics. Hockey, soccer, outdoor and indoor basketball supporters are very vigorously slaving to keep fit(?), though many stiff and weary limbs are still being dragged homewards after the season's early games.

Unfortunately for the clubs concerned, and perhaps fortunately for many others, the Gym. will not be available for regular practices until after Extrav. However, the eight clubs are doing their best under difficulties, and we hope this will not prove a major drawback in their activities during the season.

Hockey

After two practices had been held at Karori Park, it was possible to make a tentative selection for the six teams to be entered for the local competitions. Of the seventy-odd men available many are Freshers or Returned Servicemen, and it will be impossible to allocate them to final team positions until the competitions have been in progress for some time. The Committee has been looking for a non-playing coach—but so far without success. To make up for this deficiency it intends to make senior players responsible for the lower grade teams which certainly have dire need of coaching.

On Saturday, 26th, the season opened. The results—Five losses and a win by default—were largely due to a lack of understanding between players who had possibly never seen each other before, let alone played together.

1st Grade.—This lack of combination was evident in the seniors' first game which was lost 1-3 to Karori. Against the formidable halves and forwards fielded by Karori, only two regular members of last year's Varsity seniors were available. Despite this handicap, the team put up a staunch fight and did remarkably well against such opponents. In goal Froome was outstanding—his reliability and hard kicking were largely responsible in keeping Karori's tally so low. Duxton and Johnstone, last year's tournament combination, did everything that was asked of them. Stairmand, O'Connor and Persson, all newcomers to VUC hockey, were by no means overawed by the occasion and on Saturday's form they should continue to fill the half-line billets throughout the season. With the exception of Tilley on the left wing, the forwards showed little inclination towards the fast and constructive play that is an essential for senior competition. The spoiling tactics adopted by their opponents and condoned by the referee were obviously bewildering to those who had learned their hockey in the comparative calm of the lower grades.

HOCKEY BALL

The Men's Hockey Club is holding its second Annual Ball on Friday, June 6, in the Roseland Cabaret at 8.30 p.m.

A very cordial invitation is extended to all students and their friends to attend this gala occasion.

2nd Grade.—Lost 4-8 against Upper Hutt Warriors. Again a hitherto untried combination was put into the field against a team that had changed little since last season and lack of combination again lost the day. Kiddie and Sutherland of last year's Third Grade played solid hockey which the forwards were unable to turn to account on the day, although they give promise of forming a very strong line in future games. Harry Gajadhar, Horner and Orman, showed that they could still make individual penetrations even though effective inter-passing was sadly lacking.

3rd Grade A.—v. Tech. Old Boys, lost 1-2. Handicapped by forwards playing out of position this team was unable to press home the many good scoring movements that were initiated by a fine set of halves.

3rd Grade B.—v. Trentham Army, won by default.

3rd Grade C.—v. Island Bay, lost 3-5. Little appreciation of positional play was the deciding factor in this loss. Ian Carron was prominent as centre-forward, making some penetrating runs but lacking the support to pull them off.

4th Grade.—v. Tech. Old Boys, lost 1-8. With only nine men playing, there could be but one result. Players must advise the club captain if they are unavailable.

Rugby

After a couple of Saturdays' practice, the rugby club began its participation in the Wellington Rugby Union's competition on Saturday, April 26, recording on that day 3 wins and 4 losses, the latter all by substantial margins; no very auspicious start, certainly, but with the progress of the season, and the consequent increase in fitness, combination and team-work, this record should be substantially improved.

At present training facilities are very limited. The power shortage makes the use of the club's floodlights on Kelburn Park impossible, and Extrav. rehearsals monopolise the Gym. The club therefore expects all its members to do as much training as possible on their own, and to attend at Weir House weekly for scrum practice, and team talk. Watch the notice board for details of time, date and place of practices, and remember that attendances at practices is the best guarantee of a game on Saturday.

Results of last Saturday's games are as follows:

Senior A lost to Onslow 6-18. They were beaten by a fitter team, though it remains to be seen whether Onslow can maintain their freshness and vigour throughout the season.

Senior B lost to Taita 3-22. There is good material here and it should not be long before this team does itself justice.

Junior A beat Athletic 15-6. The performance of this team was distinctly encouraging. The forwards worked well and gave their backs a feast of the ball, and it was only early season lack of practice that prevented a win by a much larger margin.

Junior B lost to Oriental 6-22 after leading 6-3 at half time. Once again lack of fitness took its toll, though the team showed signs of developing into something good.

Third A beat Upper Hutt 11-3. If one can judge by keenness and by last Saturday's performance this team should finish the season in the upper part of the competition. Saturday's effort was a very fine one.

Third B beat Petone 8-3. This team, like Third A, composed mainly of Freshers, played very well to defeat the redoubtable Petone XV. on their home ground. Keenness has been a feature of this team also, and we expect to find it near the top of the ladder every week.

Third C lost to Berhampore 3-26. It was most unfortunate, to say the least, that only nine of those whose names appeared on the board turned up for this game. Some, we know, were unable to play, but many did not notify anyone of their inability to turn out.

If you cannot, for any reason, turn out on any particular Saturday, please notify either your coach or Cathol MacLeod, Teams' Officer, Phone 46-599.

Table Tennis

1947 should prove a record year for the Table Tennis Club. Sufficient was seen of the wealth of new players at the opening at the Star Boating Club last Monday (there was an attendance of over forty) to indicate that Varsity should be very much on the map in Wellington table tennis from now on.

It is proposed to enter eight teams in the Wellington Association competitions, i.e., one in each grade from "A" to "H," and we also have strong hopes of wresting the Table Tennis Shield from Auckland at the Winter Tournament in August.

An innovation in Wellington table tennis this year is the institution of an "H" grade. This grade will be confined to players who have not played inter-club table tennis in the past. So if any freshers are interested in table tennis but have yet to play competitively this is the opportunity to begin. The first month will be of necessity devoted to the classification of teams, but later (when the club resumes tenancy of the Gym.), "A" and "B" grade players will be available to coach new players.

Any information concerning the club will be answered any time during the day by the Secretary, A. W. Graham (Tel. 42-995) or the Club Captain, K. Wood (Tel. 44-107).

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