

N.H.—There will be no more Salients until the new term starts. Then we will print eye-witness resumes of the Tournament events, sporting and otherwise. Owing to the fact that we have already enough copy to fill the two Salients in the new term we would appreciate if intending contributors (other than those persons writing to the Editor) contact the Editor before they go ahead with their contribution.

# Salient

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

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## A HIDEOUS OUTLET FOR SEXUAL REPRESSION

### THE ZIP-FASTENER AND OTHER CLOTHING HABITS ATTACKED BY A MERE MALE

UNLIKE most of the other ridiculously mediaeval customs which society seeks to impose on us, the wearing of clothes still persists at Victoria. Our inside correspondent tells us that this old-fashioned attitude is due more to the pitiful heating system than to any feelings of modesty. However, we wonder how many students have been interested and amused by the many different modes of dress which one sees around the College. This surely is a subject which should have a universal interest.

There are some who would say that they have no interest in their dress, they are here to do a job of work, nothing else. They take no interest in the corporate life of the College, or their fellow-students; they arrive at five to the hour and leave right after their lecture. There are others who, realising their own inability to appear anything but slovenly, take a sort of inverted pride in looking as untidy as they can, just to show that they "don't care." This article is not for them. It is for the discerning student who has enough interest and insight to recognise the types we are describing, even if he does not agree with what is said about them.

After close study we have been able to divide the men students into several distinct classes.

For most students university is the first real opportunity they get to express their own taste in clothes. Many of these find that the shock of changing from a school uniform into something reasonably sophisticated is too much for their little minds to bear. They do not, in the approved psychological manner, withdraw into themselves or develop a split personality, but unconsciously seek to continue wearing a uniform. It is for these mental invalids that the College blazer is provided. They then have no need to make a choice of clothing, or to expose themselves to the slightest criticism. It is an unobtrusive pond-scum green, "everybody" wears it, so the wearer is shielded from the slightest comparison with his fellows, which would of course be bad for his ego.

At the other extreme there are those who feel that they have left their schooldays far behind them; they are the "Junior Executives." They try to emphasise this by adopting a mode of dress which they feel is characteristic of a sober businessman. With horribly striped stiff collars (sometimes slightly soiled, because their desire to appear mature does not extend to washing the neck), stringy little ties with imitation egg-stains, and late-Victorian suits flapping ludicrously above their ankles, they are taken seriously by no-one except themselves.

The "Campus Man" is another of the well-known types around the place. He is easily recognised by his baggy corduroy trousers (red, green or purple), and his violent pull-over. Sometimes reindeer course across his massive chest, or at least you can see where they have been. He is also accompanied by a foul pipe which he puffs ostentatiously, in spite of the fact that it nearly makes

him (and everybody else) sick. He likes to think of himself as the ideal "college" man, tough, hearty, and oh, so handsome! He likes to boast about his beer-drinking prowess, or how little work he has done, or what a fool he made of himself at football last Saturday. Though he would die rather than admit it, he probably has read too many college stories in "The Saturday Evening Post."

The "Spiv" as a phenomenon is not as plentiful here as the others, because it is not associated with the intelligence or the inclination to study. However, it does occur, and the sight of bottle-green gabardine suits with matching shoulder pads, crepe-soled shoes, and fluorescent ties

four main divisions. So much for the men; now for the women.

Women students cannot claim to be uninterested in the way they dress, since their chief aim in life is to get a man and they know the value of dressing attractively to achieve this end. Although the girls vie with one another in displaying attractively their outstanding points, most of their efforts are directed towards camouflage. This, from our limited observation of student life in the raw, is just as well.

Although we may be stepping outside our field when we criticise women students, they might find it interesting to see themselves through a man's eyes. Why wear angora wool with one of those snappy, up-to-the-minute costumes? Surely they call for something equally smooth and chromium-plated? Angora is reserved for the sweetly delicate type, not the suave and self-assured hip-dancer. This applies also to those with the "fuller figure" (as they say in the corset advertisements). Fluffiness of this kind does not flatter those bouncing rolls of fat; it makes the wearer look like a run-away sponge cake.

The panacea for all ills of the figure today seems to be gabardine. Girls think that because they are able to ooze into a skirt of this material it will iron out all those bumps in the wrong places. This, of course, is far from true. A well-

that is not always an advantage. Besides, they are far too ostentatious for that to be the only reason for wearing them.

It is impossible to do more than to "touch the hem" of this subject a deeper introspection may have been more interesting. This article, although it is no more than a few jumbled impressions, may show that other people are interested in what you wear even if you are not. Next time you choose a neck-tie, show a little consideration for those who have to look at it all day!

—R.C.P.

### Mating Made Easy

ALTHOUGH chess is a sport which is commonly supposed to demand some degree of intelligence from its devotees, readers of Salient will no doubt be surprised to learn that there is a Chess Club in this College.

In its short life the club has undertaken a multitude of activities. Among themselves the members are engaged in an absorbing struggle for the College Championship, and outside the college the two teams which have been entered in the Wellington Chess League's competitions are in the running for first place in the B and C grades respectively. All are welcome to the meetings held every Monday at 7.30 in C.2, particularly new players. No previous experience is necessary, as the club has a staff of experts who are always ready to explain the moves to beginners. If swot is getting you down, if you are bored, if you are lonely, come along to C.2 next Monday and find yourself a mate, even if it is only a checkmate.

—J.F.D.P.



"No clothing problem here, but I wonder where the zipper is?"

is a familiar one. This type is usually as intellectual as it looks, which explains its absence from any of the cultural organisations. Their carefully yellowed fingers and swept-back hair style are among their most treasured possessions. They are generally uncommunicative, partly because they put themselves above the common run of students, and partly because their vocabulary is monosyllabic.

There are a few more minor factions which could have been dealt with, such as the dashing type—the otherwise conservative person who sports a yellow tie or a fairisle jumper with a most convincing air of bravado—but most male students have a leaning towards one of the

chosen ensemble of this kind is certainly most attractive, but that vast majority with figure deficiencies had best keep to the shapeless skirts of heavy wool which are kinder to Miss Five By Five.

Just a word about zip-fasteners. This device, originally conceived as something completely utilitarian, has now become a hideous outlet for sexual expression. It snarls at us brassy from the most unmentionable places, whereas formerly we only saw it on the hips. We realise that our innocent varsity girls may be being led astray by some foul-minded manufacturer, but the invitation they offer is clear, even if unintentional. We know they are quicker and more convenient, but

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## Drama . . .

**T**HIS year the V.U.C. Drama Club is sending what it hopes will prove to be a strong team to Winter Tournament. The play that has been chosen is G. B. Shaw's farce, "Poison Passion and Petrification or The Fatal Gazogene." Because it is a period play and should be performed with a complicated setting, it presents many production difficulties. However, the Club is confident that the play will go down well with a Tournament audience. The team for the most part consists of students who have only been associated with the Drama Club this year.

The team is:—  
**Anne Flannery**, who had the female lead in "The Rivals," V.U.C.'s major production earlier this year. Anne is a committee member, and wardrobe mistress to the Club. She has been particularly active in her year's association with the club. Anne also attended a previous Tournament, representing Canterbury Drama Club. In the recent One Act Play evening held by the club Anne Flannery, with Gavin Yates, put on "A Marriage Has Been Arranged."

**Janette Nichol**, who has appeared in two one-act plays put on by the Drama Club this year, one of which "The Cardinal's Learning" was chosen as our entry in the British Drama League's Festival.

**Diana Lescher**, who has also appeared in several one-act plays this year.

**Ross Gilbertson**, who represented the club in last year's Tournament also. Ross has taken part in many of the club's activities this year. He has been in several one-act plays and worked in the backstage crew for "The Rivals."

**Ian Rich**, who also did backstage work for "The Rivals," has been in several one-act plays during the year, and was also in an entry for the British Drama League's Festival.

**John Marchant**, who has been active in the club's activities and has appeared in a one-act play this year.

**Garth Young**, who will be in charge of offstage effects (they are quite a number), prompt, stage manager, and in charge of the music (which also plays an important part). Garth has done similar work for the club this year.

**Gavin Yates**, who is producing the play, and playing a small part in it, is well known in the Drama Club. A committee member, and at the moment engaged in retrieving and sorting the club's library, he has appeared as juvenile lead in "The Rivals" and presented, with Anne Flannery, "A Marriage Has Been Arranged." Gavin represented the club at the annual meeting of the N.Z. Drama Council this year and, with Anne Flannery, will perform a similar duty at the University Drama Council during the Tournament period.

Although naturally not expecting to win the competition, the club is confident that when the time comes the team will put up a commendable performance.

## Debating . . .

**T**HE Joynt Scroll Debating Team this year consists of Frank Curtin and Jim Milburn.

Frank, who will be leader of the team, is an experienced speaker who has been a member of the Debating Society for over five years. He first represented V.U.C. last year at Lin-

coln. He is at present the President of the Society, and is a past winner of the Union Prize for Debating and the Plunket Medal for Oratory.

The other member, Jim Milburn, is a past President of the Society who, by his brilliance this year, has shown that he is the finest speaker the Society possesses today and, at his best, is probably the equal of any who have represented the college in the past.

He is like Frank, a Plunket Medalist and Union Prize winner. He represented Vic. in 1948, 1949 and 1950, but was not available last year. He has met with more success in the role of supporting speaker than as leader because of his ability to select the vital points in an opponent's case and destroy them.

On the whole, the team is probably one of the strongest to represent Victoria for many years and should have an excellent chance of scoring the first victory for V.U.C. since 1943.

## Women's Indoor Basketball . . .

**T**HIS year, for the first time, Women's Indoor Basketball is officially included in Tournament. Due to the fact that Tournament is being held during term time, V.U.C. will be sending a weakened, but very keen, team.

The following are the players who will represent Victoria:—

**Elaine Foote** and **Ysabel Corkill**, both prominent in outdoor basketball and new to indoor; have played well in interclub competitions this year and are promising shoots.

**Judith Kilsby**: Also an outdoor player now to indoor. Uses her height to advantage in the rear court.

**Vivienne Fleming**: Also new to indoor. Was unfortunate to put her knee out but will be fit enough and should benefit from the play at tournament.

**Shirley Thomson**: Also new to indoor is fast and intercepts well.

**Judith Allanff**: Also new to indoor. Should pull her weight in the forward court.

**Beryl Hargreaves**: New to indoor basketball—is a keen player.

**June Lee**: Has played indoor before, but due to an injury to her knee has not play much this season.

**Diana Sutcliffe**: Played in tournament 1951. Her experience should be a great help to the team.

**Lillian Gracey**: An outdoor player, new to indoor, is dominant in the rear court.

It is a pity that Victoria cannot send more players with tournament experience, but this team is capable of surprises.

## Harriers . . .

**S**OME of the members of the Harrier team have run very well at times this season, but all have put up some very disappointing performances, which makes any prediction of what will happen at Christchurch little more than a guess or wishful thinking.

Three of last year's team, T. H. Beaglehole, A. C. Gow, and N. B. Matheson are running again. Matheson and Gow are fairly fit and should run well under any conditions. Beaglehole, after a very patchy season, at last, to have struck form. Of the three new members of the team, R. C. Croker, S. F. G. Ward, and A. D. S. Whitelaw, Croker should do the best. Ward ran a splendid lap in the Masterton Relay but does

not appear to be as happy over hills as he is on the flat. Whitelaw has improved steadily throughout the season.

The team has been doing some solid training and while it seem unlikely that it will bring the Dixon Trophy back to Wellington it should, with luck, gain one of the minor places.

## Soccer . . .

The prospects of the team are very good, although the holding of Tournament during term has made two of the regular senior players unavailable. With five regular senior players in the team and the remainder well-qualified for tournament play, Victoria's team should be one of the hardest to beat. It is the strongest team to represent Victoria for several years.

**T**HE following players will represent Victoria at Tournament this year:—

**E. A. Harris**, centre half and captain, is a former Canterbury representative and has played in several Chatham Cup finals. He was vice-captain of the N.Z.U. team in 1951 and has a V.U.C. Blue. He is captain of this year's first eleven which is unbeaten in the championship.

**B. K. Reddy**, right half and vice-captain has been a regular member of the V.U.C. first eleven for several years. He represented N.Z.U. last year and is a V.U.C. Blue.

**A. H. Preston**, inside right, is a member of the V.U.C. first eleven and in 1951 represented N.Z.U. and gained an N.Z.U. Blue. He was awarded also a V.U.C. Blue.

**G. W. Watson**, right wing, is a regular first eleven player who represented N.Z.U. in 1951. He with the above three player provided more N.Z.U. players than any of the other colleges.

**W. Aldridge** centre forward, is the leading goal scorer in the first eleven. He will be playing in his first Tournament.

**B. E. Legge**, goalkeeper, in his first year at V.U.C. is playing senior A football. With several others of the team he has represented Wellington secondary schools.

**F. F. Brown**, forward, **R. G. Lea**, full-back, **G. D. Hollyman**, half-back, and **H. R. Harris**, forward, are all members of the second eleven who will be playing in their first Tournament. It is an interesting fact that these four players with Aldridge, Legge and Preston have all played in the Wellington College first eleven.

**E. D. Laws**, full-back, has played several games for the first eleven, having had some football experience in England.

**W. Millwood**, half-back, has represented Wellington in the under 20 team and is playing senior reserve football this year.

The goalkeeping position will be well looked after and the full-backs both head the ball strongly and have solid clearing kicks. The half-backs line will be very strong. All three players have well above average ability. The forward line is expected to function better on the right side because the players are together each week and know each other's play. After coming second to Otago last year by one point the team is confident of doing better this year.

## Small-bore

### Shooting . . .

**A**LTHOUGH the team chosen is not as strong as would have been had the tournament been held during August Vacation, nevertheless it is certain to compare more than favourably with the teams from the other colleges.

This year will be a memorable one for University small-bore rifle shooting since this will be the first time that a University team has included women members.

**G. Harris**: Shot for V.U.C. at Dunedin where he represented N.Z.U. against Otago last year, and was a Wellington B grade representative in the same year. This season he has again reached a high standard and it is expected that he will shoot very well in Christchurch.

**Ed. Williams**: An American Full-bright student, has had plenty of match experience in U.S.A. On several occasions Ed. has shown us just what he can shoot when "the pressure is on" and is certain to be among the top scorers at the Tournament.

**Ysabel Corkill**: Although new to shooting this year, has made remarkable progress, which she has con-

firmed by gaining fourth place in the "C" grade at the Wellington championships and third at the Hutt Valley championships. She has shot well in all competition shoots, and is probably the most consistent shot we possess.

**Pam Beck**: Pam is also new to shooting this year and has shown promise right from her very first shoot. In the "C" grade at the Wellington championships she gave us a sample of what she is capable of shooting by gaining second place and in inter-club matches she has helped to keep the team in first place.

## Table-Tennis . . .

**T**HIS year's team will be the "strongest ever" and should find little difficulty in collecting all the titles and winning the tournament.

**Vivian Fleming**: Vivian is the present N.Z. Universities singles title-holder. She has been playing consistently well this year and won all three titles at the club championships just concluded.

**Elizabeth Lesser**: Elizabeth represented V.U.C. last year. She was beaten only by Viv Fleming in this year's tournament play-off. With Miss Fleming she won the women's doubles title of V.U.C.

**Bryce Jones**: Bryce represented Victoria at Dunedin last year. He is the Hastings doubles title-holder and was a quarter-finalist in the North Island open this year. He is undefeated in inter-club competition and was runner-up to A. Darroch for the Varsity singles title.

**Orm Collins**: Orm represented Victoria in 1950. Although handicapped by a broken ankle this year, he has been playing exceptionally well and won the Victoria combined doubles title with Viv Fleming.

**Rodney Grubi**: Rod plays for Vic's top team and has done very well in inter-club competition. He was runner-up, with Bryce Jones, for the Varsity doubles title this year.

**Gordon Cullingford**: Gordon was a reserve A player for Canterbury last year. He has an unorthodox style which makes him very hard to beat and he should prove an asset to this year's team.

## LETTER

### Who Missed the Mark?

**S**IR.—I wish to comment on Mr Rich's review of "The Tales of Hoffman." I have never seen an opera. I attend films to be entertained and to escape for a while from mundane existence. Tonight I watched the filming of "Tales of Hoffman"—was entertained and for two hours adventured with Hoffman.

If opera is like this I like opera. Perhaps I was drugged by trick photography, technical ingenuity, exaggerated make-up, miming and singing. If that is so it is not an unpleasant way of being drugged—have no hangover and enjoyed the drug while effective.

Was the second act vulgar? Mr. Rich has informed us that half-naked women, barely covered, were portrayed. Oh, Mr. Rich, no wonder you closed your eyes.

In short Mr. Rich your criticism has missed the mark. No one cared whether Tcherina wore black shorts or scarlet shorts or whether doll-makers' workshops have bright yellow gauze or dull brown scrim. Its the effect that counts. And I sincerely believe that this filming of "The Tales of Hoffman" has captured the spirit of the opera and successfully conveyed it to a film audience.

P.A.W.  
 P.S.: Congratulations editor, "Sali-ent" improved every issue.

[We accept your congratulations and point out that the paper is only as good as the material in it. If Mr. Rich's criticism missed the mark then your letter has not even fired. If you have not seen opera (and obviously know nothing of film, opera or ballet) then with what validity can you say that this film captures the spirit of opera? Obviously you did have a hangover, and you were drugged, perhaps with those half-naked women that you were so careful to observe. It is rather futile to assert that "no one cared whether Tcherina . . ." when it is apparent that Mr. Rich cares and you care enough to comment on it. Please remember in future that the paper is only as good as the material in it.—Ed.]



# "Les Enfants du Paradis"

## Carne and Prevert Triumph

**ENGLISH** and American film studios are, compared to the French, fairly well off economically. They have technical resources that are almost unknown to the present French cinema; but taken all in all is the average film better? Technically, perhaps, but often "the heart of the matter" is missing. What we want is "more matter and less art."

It is a common fact that great works of art often spring from economic frustration; Dostoevsky's novels, Beethoven's music. And a handful of films produced by French script-writers and directors during the occupation of their country by the Germans. It would be an exaggeration to say that this occupation was the cause of the success of the French cinema, but it is true to recognise that the artist was the only one to draw a new creative inspiration from suffering, repentance and compulsion. They had the pride of getting over, by this newly gained inspiration, good taste and intelligence in spite of the lack of material for film-making which grew a little worse each month.

Marcel Carne and his script-writer were artists of this period, but their creative talent was not new but directed along a different channel. Whereas before they had produced films that carried the "creative interpretation of actuality" to the highest flights, they now turned their abilities to providing appropriate film fare for the cruel-reality soaked French people. Their films of this period were romantic.

"Les Enfants du Paradis" is a product of this mood. Carne and Prevert wanted to help their countrymen forget their difficulties and hardships. They gave them a story of the past, a story with a theatrical setting. But the film goes deeper than this.

"All the world's a stage; and the men and women merely players" is the film's motto. The curtain goes up and we see a section of those players en masse—in a street of 19th century Paris. A gallery of infinite human characters gathered together in the Boulevard du Temple, with its vaudeville theatres and pantomimes, its freaks and sideshows, its clowns, strongmen and motley crowds surging along in search of pleasure. The "three francs" side shows; one advertises to show the Naked Truth. But when you get inside it is half-covered with water.

### ACT ONE

Out of this cast of players the producers pick their leading actors—the beautiful Garance and the mime player Baptiste Deburau. Baptiste loves Garance and she returns her love in spite of the advances of Lacenaire, a petty crook, and Frederick Lemaître, a young and unknown actor. Count Edouard de Montray who offers her, with his fortune, an escape to a new life is also one of her suitors, but Garance is not for sale. However, the Count leaves his card with her and begs her to call on him if she needed his services. Meanwhile the criminal Lacenaire is plotting a hold-up; he fails and the innocent Garance falls into the hands of the police in his place. As she is about to be arrested she remembers the Count and shows the detectives his card. The detectives are frightened and Garance is allowed to go free. The curtain falls on Act 1.

### ACT TWO

Five years later Baptiste and Frederick have become the idols of Paris. Baptiste is married, but not to Garance who has disappeared. She is now with the Count de Montray, still madly in love with her; but Garance's heart still longs for Baptiste. Finally, the two silent lovers meet but their happiness is short-lived. Let the film's programme finish the synopsis: "Garance realises that it must be so when Nathalie, Baptiste's wife, finds them together, for she knows that she no longer has the right to be happy with the one she loves. She leaves, alone, bound for an unknown fate, down the Boulevard du Temple—which, invaded by masked revellers on a day of riotous carnival, is seeth with mass madness."

The story is not original and startling; it is merely the thin wire to support the clay. It is an illustration of what the French call "malaise," which Roger Manvell describes as "a poetic feeling for emotional frustration, anticipating sorrow and destruc-

ing purgation." But that is not, by any means, the main theme. Carne is dealing with something fundamental governing human behaviour; the relationship between the mass and the individual.

The crowd throws Baptiste and Garance together; they are eventually parted by the crowd, ruthlessly intent on its own pleasures and indifferent to the heartburn of the individual. We are, all of us, actors on a stage, absorbed in our loves and petty intrigues, but the thrusting and impersonal crowd in the pit or the gallery or the dress circle will demand their pleasure, scream and revolt if they are not satisfied. They will eventually make us or undo us.

"All the world's a stage" . . . and Marcel Carne loves and understands the players. He has portrayed humanity with a sympathy that is not inspired by patronage and cheap sentimentality. The film is the art of seeing better and the test of a true director is: "Does he help us to see better?" With Carne I would say "Yes." We see humanity through the eyes of a man who has a catholic,

humane and ironic outlook. That's all we want from a great director.

Technical brilliance can go to blazes. There's none of it in "Les Enfants du Paradis," but it's more aesthetically satisfying than "The Tales of Hoffman."

Although without inspiration, Carne uses his camera well, pausing to pick up a detail here, moving to underline a line there.

Any camera-inspiration Carne may have had has been cancelled out by his script-writer's slightly too wordy script. But even if there is too much dialogue what we get is brilliant, if not from a cinematic point of view, Jacques Prevert is a miracle. Without the characters he has provided, without the situations, without his felicities of expression, without the aptness of the philosophy in his lines and without his wit, "Les Enfants du Paradis" would not be what it is. His flare for situation and witty dialogue provides one of the funniest scenes I've seen in the cinema for years. The rehearsal of the play by the three authors in black and the First Night when Frederick brings the house down by ad libbing left, right and centre, mainly to the right where the three authors in black sat, stiff-backed, in their box. In fact, Prevert handles all the backstage panic and excitement in such an ironic and understanding manner that it's certain to set any member of a drama club (and laymen, too!) on a roar.

Prevert and Carne are loyally backed up by the brilliant cast who seem to have as much enthusiasm for human nature as they have. Acting honours must go to JEAN-LOUIS BARRAULT, who as Baptiste (a part which reminds me of Dostoevsky's Idiot. The whole film reminds me of Dostoevsky's and

Dickens and Dumas. The same teeming parade of people in variety.) He is memorable as the tragic clown, passionately in love with Garance, played without fuss and with effortless charm by Arietty. They both do much to preserve the unity of the theme and to illustrate its meaning. Pierre Brasseur does a magnificent bravura as Frederick and he goes deeper than mere Flynn bumptiousness.

Of the minor parts the Count de Montray is for me the most interesting. A down and out prig, who loves no one but himself, I'm not surprised he does not like Shakespeare. He is a man so caught up in his own lust that he is finally murdered because of his jealousy. The murderer is Lacenaire, an unpleasant study in villainy, and it's a pity his career finished interestingly. He kills the count in cold blood (in a Turkish bath, too, incidentally, a fitting place for such a person) sits down and awaits the arrival of the police, glorying in the fact that he has achieved the true criminal's final goal. And, of course, there is always the director of the "Funabules" to provide comic relief, which of course most producers do. How does the producer of the Tournament play like the idea of a three franc fine for every unwanted giggle or resounding crash backstage?

"Les Enfants du Paradis" does not follow the mood of Carne's apparently greater films. It has no serious social message to grind; no stark observation of the more unpleasant side of life. It is escapist, provided for audiences in occupied France. And I think perhaps the French liked it, or if they did not they came out of the theatres with a better understanding of human nature.

—IAN RICH.

# "Peking Nearer Than London"

## Quaker Tells the Truth On China

**A DETAILED** description of the "moral regeneration" which the new Government has brought to China and a stern reminder that Peking is closer to us than London, highlighted an address given in the College last week by Mr Courtney Archer. Mr Archer is a New Zealander who went to China with the Friends' Ambulance Unit in 1945 and has since been working with Rewi Alley at Sandan. He spoke in C.3 on Tuesday, August 5, to a meeting of over 150 people, sponsored by the S.C.M. and the Socialist Club. Mr. James Bertram was in the chair.

Quietly-spoken and carefully factual, Mr. Archer immediately impressed his audience with his sincerity and his thorough knowledge of China and her people.

Mr. Archer attributed to the war the impetus for recent events in Asia. Japan had shattered the White Invincibility illusion, and resistance to Japan had taught the Asian peoples how to organise themselves. Western governments had failed to recognise the altered mood of the Asian people—who were demanding self-determination and economic advancement. Both these demands implied an end to colonialism and foreign exploitation.

"The success of the Communists has not been in conversions to Marx's philosophy," said Mr. Archer, "but in their practical tackling of these two demands."

### LAND FOR THE PEOPLE

One of the hardest tasks had been the breakdown of old barriers between China proper and the national minorities in the Republic. Years of racial discrimination had to be overcome.

Immediate result of land reform was an increased standard of living for the man on the land. With an end to rack-renting and crippling taxation, peasants felt they were working for themselves, and worked with a will to increase output.

The Malthusian myth that China was suffering from over-population was exploded by the fact that large arable areas had never been cultivated. Productivity had greatly increased since 1949. The sending of grain to India during the famine was made possible by a hugely increased grain harvest.

### CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCH

Greatest characteristic of the government had been the honesty and democracy of the administration. Ordinary local inhabitants had been brought in at all levels. "The new Government has developed democracy from the grass-roots—upwards from the ordinary people."

All facets of life were controlled

by organisations of the common men and women. There was complete freedom to criticise, and an end to corruption and privilege. There is a strict insistence on honesty, and everything relating to the people's livelihood is fully discussed by everyone concerned before it is carried out.

"Christian missionaries have described this change in moral attitudes as a 'spiritual regeneration,'" said Mr. Archer. "They are a tremendous moral challenge to the Christian church."

As on the land, the fullest democracy, and "criticism and self-criticism" had been carried into the big urban work-places, and even into the schools.

### FAR EAST : NEAR NORTH

Mr. Archer described the role of students in the revolution. Under the Ku Min Tang, the enthusiasm and idealism of young students were frustrated by police pumping and brutal persecution. Many ran away to the north to join the People's Army. Today they were occupying responsible positions. Universities have a new role in training older as well as young citizens.

"The picture I have given you of China today is not entirely the same as the one presented in your newspapers," said Mr. Archer. "Some people in New Zealand tend to get emotional about changes in Asia, and when that happens, truth is the first casualty."

"The people of China are our neighbours. What happens in our Near North affects us. Peking is a great deal closer to us than London."

Mr. Archer ended his address by appealing to students to make sure that New Zealand sent a big and representative delegation to the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference in Peking next month. The chairman announced that a collection was being taken up for this purpose—which topped £5/10/.

### WHAT ABOUT MISSIONARIES?

Questions were many and varied,

but mainly concerned details of the Chinese scene.

Of the position of the Christian, Mr. Archer stated that religious freedom was guaranteed both on paper and in practice. He had seen the congregation going into the Southern Baptist Church at Sandan the day he left. Unsatisfied, the Full-bright questioner rose again to describe how several missionaries had been killed and tortured.

In reply, Mr. Archer said that like everything else, the Chinese Churches were being increasingly run by Chinese. Closing of missions was largely the result of U.S. embargo on finance. In practice, any way, many missions had little effect on the ordinary people. The simplest home in a mission compound was more lavish than a landlord's, and at most only 5 of China's 500 million were Christians. Most mission hospitals (except Quakers') were almost full of paying patients—which meant the wealthy. Missionaries were linked in the people's minds with overseas interests.

Mr. Archer's experiences of justice under the new regime made the "torture" stories hard to believe, but he said that some missionaries had been political agents first and missionaries second.

Of Corso aid to Sandan, Mr. Archer said that Government aid had made it unnecessary. They would rather Corso money went where it was needed—to Greece, Pakistan, etc.

### EVIDENCE OF GERM WARFARE

On germ warfare: Mr. Archer had seen a Peace Committee exhibition in Peking of evidence that U.S. forces had used germ warfare in Korea and North-East China. Photographs, documents, statements by P.O.W.'s, combined to make up a convincing case. "The only question I have," said Mr. Archer, "is: 'Was the evidence found at the places and under the conditions stated?' I don't know the answer—but I do know that the Chinese scientists who made the investigations are among the best qualified in the world—most of them educated in Britain or the U.S. I know one of them personally, and hold him to be a man of integrity. Still, the only final answer can be given by an impartial investigating commission acceptable to all parties."

On land reform: There certainly would be collectivisation of land at some later stage. "Mutual aid terms" already pointed that way, but further mechanisation was a necessary preliminary.

On trade: China would welcome N.Z. wool and dairy produce, and had much to offer in return—notably tea and silks.

At vote of thanks was carried with a hearty round of applause. Although the meeting closed before 10.30, a group of about 30 members of the two sponsoring clubs gathered around supper, and cross-questioned Mr. Archer until 1 in the morning.

—C.B.

# TOURNAMENT PROSPECTS AND TEAMS

## Men's Hockey...

**T**HE team which is to represent the V.U.C. Men's Hockey Club at Winter Tournament this year appears to be one of the strongest of those which have worn the green jersey over the past four years. Built up around a solid nucleus of five regular senior players is a combination which should go a long way towards winning a Hockey Section of Tournament, and thus gain valuable points for Victoria in the contest for the Tournament Shield.

There is in this team an admirable blending of experienced players with younger players who are likely to profit much from the gains of Tournament. Indeed, it is the last factor which is most important. Win or lose, our team is sure to play a high standard of hockey and every member of the team will gain in knowledge and experience from playing in such a competition.

Hockey in the New Zealand University Colleges is at present on a very high plane as shown by the record of the N.Z.U. team in Australia last year. It remains to be seen how this year's team fares against the touring Australian representatives. V.U.C. is represented in the N.Z.U. team by Gattfield and O'Connor, with Compton and Cryer as reserves.

The following is the team to represent V.U.C. at Winter Tournament:—

Coates, the goalkeeper, has been playing excellent hockey this season and his wide knowledge of the game will be of great value to the team. In recent years he has represented Wellington and last year he toured Australia in the N.Z.U. team.

Gatley, one of the younger players, who was a member of the Palmerston North Boys' High School first eleven last year, will be one of the full backs. He is a skilful player, adept

at setting the team quickly on attack.

Gattfield, the captain, will be playing at centre half. His sound tactical knowledge and leadership, apart from his own play which is always of the highest standard should stand the team in good stead. Last year he represented N.Z.U. in Australia.

Revell, an acquisition from Dunedin, where he represented Otago Colts, has been a regular member of the senior team since he was promoted early in the season. He is a reliable half or full back.

The other half backs, Little and Shelton are members of the second grade, second division team, where they have played good hockey this season.

The forward lines promises to be one of the strongest departments of the team.

Two senior players, Cryer and Hambly should be able to direct the attacks to good purpose. Cryer is a former Wellington rep and was an N.Z.U. player in Australia last year. He fills either the right wing or an inside forward position. Hambly, a product of Gisborne High School, is a fine inside forward or left wing. He has played excellent hockey in Wellington this year and represented Wellington against Hutt Valley for the Ross Cup.

Dry and Brown, from the second grade second division team are valuable members of the team. Dry is a versatile player who was selected to represent Wellington second grade against Hutt Valley last season. Brown, a member of last year's Tournament team is an inside forward of great determination.

The other three team members are from the second grade, first division team which is unbeaten up till now.

Oaks, a right wing or inside right, has played hockey in Christchurch before coming to Wellington. He played for V.U.C. in last year's Tournament and also represented Wellington's second grade this year.

Nealon, is a centre forward of great ability who takes the trend of play

## Tournament Chances Indefinite

**T**HE coming of August brings with it the Winter Tournament. But this year the pre-tournament activity has not reached its customary fervour. There have been the team selections, final adjustments the last minute billeting and travelling adjustments but there has been something missing. This can be put down to the action of the last college—Canterbury—in holding the tournament during the last week of tour term. Because of this many teams are travelling at what will not be full strength.—The absence of prominent players in a number of sports has taken much out of the achievement of selection. But this attitude will not enable Victoria to relinquish its almost hereditary right to the wooden spoon. By the tone of their reports, however, it can be seen that some clubs still held out hopes of reasonable success.

The table tennis team is confident of victory and judging by previous tournament standards their confidence is not unfounded. The members champion soccer team who can go to tournaments should give the side added strength. The devotees of fencing although not claiming their usual invincibility should be amongst the points winners. The other teams should give a good account of themselves but they are mostly of an untried variety. In the cultural field Joynt Scroll and Drama, Victorians appear to be more favoured.

To all those who are representing the college congratulations on your selection and may that offensive piece of wood be not among the trophies you bring home from Christchurch.

B. V. GALVIN, Sports Editor.

with great skill. He has represented Waikato colts, Auckland country colts and Wellington colts (1952).

Turner, a fast left wing gained valuable experience at last year's Tournament and should give a good account of himself both on and off the field. He represented Wellington second grade against Hutt Valley last year and was left wing for the Wellington colts team in 1951 and again in 1952.

## Women's Hockey...

**A**LTHOUGH there is a considerable percentage of new players this year owing to the departure of several of the "old hands," we still hope to render a satisfactory account of ourselves at Tournament. Some of our players lack the necessary experience, but they are all keen to prevent the standard set by last year's team from falling too low.

B. Haldane the goalie, has shown a decided improvement since the beginning of the season. If she could learn to kick the ball with as much confidence as she hits it, she would be very hard to pass.

Ruth Oderkerk, our right full-back is unable to go to Tournament, so her place has been filled by P. Barr, a dependable player, who usually manages to be in the right place at the right time.

E. Kingdon, the other full-back, is a most reliable player, with a good clearing hit and a sound tackle.

Among the halves, the captain, L. Holland, is playing her usual admirable game on the right. The mainstay of the team, she has a naturally strong hit, which she directs intelligently, and is capable of a nice spin of speed.

A. Wellwood, the centre-half, is a good pivot for the team. She swings play well, and with her hard hit makes excellent scoring opportunities for her forwards, but she must remember that fitness is essential.

P. Simmers, at left-half, shows a terrier instinct for sticking to the ball and to her opponent which could well be imitated by the rest of the team. She has good stickwork, and backs up her forwards well, but should try more variation in directing the ball.

The forward line is composed almost entirely of new-comers, who have not quite the combination of last year's forwards but they are all willing players.

P. McKenzie, at right wing, is capable of very neat stickwork at times, but should centre the ball sooner, when past the "25" line. She is well supported by the inner M. Bertrand, who has perhaps the best hit among the forwards, added to plenty of "push." She does, however, need to better her stickwork. S. Wilson, as centre-forward, is a fairly consistent and steady player,

who keeps her position well, and makes a good pivot for the forward line.

S. Hutchison, left inner, has also improved considerably. Her passing is generally good, and she hits well, but needs to improve her stickwork, and to correct a tendency to hang back with the halves.

R. Baird is the most improved player in the team. She is fast, with excellent stickwork, and if she could learn to centre the ball harder, her play would be worthy of any representative team. The two emergencies, J. Brown and G. Lescher, are both careful players. Combined play is the only play which will bring results, and if the Victoria team will remember this they should get good results.

## Men's Indoor Basketball...

**A**S Canterbury insists on holding the Tournament in our term time, Victoria will be represented by a team much weaker than otherwise would have been the case. Still, this chicanery on the part of Canterbury has not prevented us sending down a team, of whom two have had previous Varsity Tournament experience.

This all-star line-up is headed by veteran fast breaking forward Singh ("The Shadow") Moral. An N.Z.U. Blue and Wellington representative for several years, he is a man to be feared.

Other members are:—

Don Read: This is his third season and he is an accurate shot.

John Wright: A high-jumping guard who made the N.Z.U. "C" team last year.

Norm Harris: Was at Tournament last year and is now showing his best form ever.

Ross Nelson: His scoring average in competition games is encouragingly high.

Paul Cullinane and Trevor Hill: Two late additions to the team, should both do as well as expected.

## Fencing...

**W**ITH only one member of last year's team available, the team this year is rather inexperienced. But while, perhaps, it is not as strong as some of the unbeatable sextets we have had in the past, Victoria should be well in the picture at Christchurch.

The team is: Mary Ellis, Beverly Hoggard, T. H. Beaglehole, H. R. Harris, R. A. Knox, D. Wilson.

## VICTORIA VICTORIOUS!

### Savage Shows Class

**W**ITH possibly only one game to play, Varsity have maintained their two point lead over their closest rivals, Wellington. Hutt joined the growing list of the vanquished with greater reluctance than have most. Had fortune smiled on them Hutt could quite easily have become the only team to inflict defeat on Varsity twice in the one season.

It was an uneven game; one in which the likelihood of overwhelming victory was replaced by the possibility of defeat within the space of fifteen minutes. Seldom before has a team given two such contrasting exhibitions as did Hutt on Saturday. The first-half saw them completely at a loss in finding an effective counter to Savage.

In the first 40 minutes Savage played havoc with the Hutt defence. The Valley team fielded a player who although he would be flattered to be mentioned in the same breath as Hennie Muller, attempted to play a game characteristic of that now almost legendary figure. Savage realised this after the first scrum and decided to serve his backs only when this forward was out of position. Indeed he showed the two methods with which the loose forward could be overcome. By either a running half back or long well directed dive-passes. The first method he exploited in the first half and second mainly during the latter half of the game.

Only after what must have been a severe dressing-down during half-time did Hutt live up to their reputation of being a strong well-balanced team. In the second half Hutt obtained more of the ball and gave their fast back-line greater opportunities. Especially in the closing stages of the game they showed up hitherto unknown weaknesses in the Varsity defence.

The Varsity forwards proved the stabilising factor. At no stage did they allow the Hutt pack to get on top. In the line-outs particularly

Varsity showed their superiority.

Although in this aspect of the game Smith was as ever the dominating figure his all round play was not up to his previous games.

Fisher played his best game of the season. He was given greater opportunity by the rearrangement of the forward play in the loose. Murray was not as prominent as usual but gave good account of himself in the tight.

Osborne was the main personality among the outside backs. His kicking and tackling played a major part in helping out the Hutt's attack during the second spell. Battell confirmed the good impression he made last week. This propping and change of direction made the opening for Page's try.

Jarden was on good form with his kicking securing eight points from penalties and conversions. A tendency to hang back and not follow his half when he moved on the blind seemed a flaw in otherwise sound display.

The game against Wellington next week should be the deciding one for the Jubilee Cup. After Wellington's enterprising game in the curtain raiser on Saturday an excellent tussle seems possible. Should Varsity win this game then their struggle for the coveted trophy is at an end. It is no overstatement to say that the best wishes of the whole college goes with them in their bid for the symbol of Rugby supremacy in Wellington.

—SPORTS EDITOR.

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