

# Salient

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## Principal's Address...

### "TAKE PART IN STUDENT AFFAIRS"

ON Monday, 8th March, the Principal of the College, Dr. "Jimmy" Williams, addressed the Freshers in his usual manner. The speech of welcome was as of old, some of the phrases verbally identical to those used last March, but nevertheless interesting to those who could hear.

Dr. Williams welcomed the students to the University of New Zealand, and pointed out that although the U.N.Z. is primarily a degree-conferring piece of machinery, V.U.C. is part of U.N.Z. Thus V.U.C. begins to take over where U.N.Z. leaves off. V.U.C., as with the other constituent colleges of the University of New Zealand, now, said the Principal, takes an increasing interest in what goes into a degree—liberal arts and science degrees were arranged to give the student as wide a general education as possible.

He requested students to take as general a part as possible in student affairs, in sporting life at the College, and the cultural clubs. Toleration for "the other man," so essential for a critical and alert mind, can be mainly gained by full participation in student functions.

Among the distinguished ex-members of the College, Dr. Williams mentioned Professor MacLaurin, one-time President of the now world-famous Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Hon. Mr. Marshall, M.P., the first ex-student of V.U.C. to gain Cabinet rank. Students should realise what a wealth of opportunity lies before them: it is up to the students themselves to make the most of it.

The differences between secondary school and the University were stressed by the speaker: here the students would have to do a certain amount of work outside the lecture rooms. Set books were provided for the various subjects: it was the duty of the student to assimilate them properly. "Books on learning are great matters; but it is the job of the university to promote learning." A sometimes fatal hesitancy on the part of students to approach members of the teaching staff was becoming more apparent.

Dr. Williams, in concluding, reiterated his contention that University life, more especially for the full-timer, would play a very important part in enabling the general student to better understand the world about him, his fellow-men, and, most important, himself.

—BRIAN SHAW

"Salient" records herein its sincere sorrow at the news received on Sunday last that two members of the Academic staff had been killed in an aeroplane crash at Kulang airport, in Singapore. Professor R. O. McGechan, Dean of the Faculty of Law, and Mr. W. F. Monk, senior lecturer in History were among the 31 passengers killed.

To their relatives and friends we offer our sympathy.

## McCaw Addresses Students

FOLLOWING the Principal's address, Mr. Malcolm McCaw, President of the Executive of V.U.C.S.A., addressed the Freshers. He pointed out that he, with the Executive, was for the first time making a speech in C.3. (The Executive had entered with the Principal and had heard his address.)

The reason for this was, he said, two-fold: the students introduced the Principal, thus endorsing staff-student relations; and the President could say what he wished, without a continual barrage of interjections. Mr. McCaw pointed out that all affairs of the College affecting students were run by students—Capping Ball, Process, Extrav., "Salient," the various College clubs and societies. The annually elected Executive controlled the finances of the Association—some £5000 annually.

"Take a pride in V.U.C.," suggested McCaw. "Don't criticise what you see." At this point an alarm clock, ringing gaily, was lowered from above. The President's address then closed briefly, and Weir House took over. Experienced Miss M-P. Barnao was chosen from the crowd by a member of the haka party who, after a few antics, led the way to the Upper Gym.

Here free cokes followed an initiation ceremony led by Roger ("Night-watchman") Harris. Then dancing took pride of place on the agenda, and "a pleasant time was had by all."

We would like to congratulate here Miss P. Beck, Women's Vice-President on the Executive, who was controller and organiser of the activities for Freshers' Week, which have all been a wholehearted success.

NEXT WEEK

Special Weir House Issue

WATCH FOR IT!

# Salient

## EDITORIAL

WHEN a student comes to this College, the impressions gained in the first week or so are apt to colour his or her whole University career. Unless some effort is expended towards creating the contrary impression, the fresher may find himself adopting the all too common view that he is here for one purpose only—that of extracting sufficient facts from his Professors to gain a better qualification in his chosen career. Thus he becomes, in a very short time, one of the "dull grey mass" or even an "ivory towerist".

The activities of "Freshers' Week" were, we thought, one very effective method of dispelling the too narrow view mentioned above. The Principal's address and the ceremonies following were well and enthusiastically attended by those for whose benefit they were arranged. We would therefore congratulate Exec. members and others who were responsible for the planning and organisation; to the freshers who attended, we would extend the sincere hope that they will continue to participate sensibly in a full University life.

### Exec. President Honoured

A FITTING crown to Malcolm McCaw's highly successful year as Stud. Ass. President was the award of a Travelling Scholarship by the N.Z. Society of Accountants. This scholarship is tenable for two years with an annual value of £200. In addition Malcolm will be given a position overseas where suitable experience can be gained.

This award is a fitting tribute to a man who, as scholar, sportsman and administrator, has made his mark at Victoria.

A prohibition of political propaganda in any form on campus has been proclaimed by the Senatus of the University of Lausanne, after the increase of Communist agitation at the University had caused some concern of late. Camouflaged under the name "Progressist Student Group," the Communists held assemblies on the University premises, collected signatures, distributed propaganda literature, and provoked political discussions on every occasion. The "Progressists" at once protested to the Rector against the decision now made, describing it as a "blow against the freedom of opinion" (Der Bund, Bern.)

—Student Mirror News Service.

Next Week—

WEIR HOUSE ISSUE

### Jottings . . .

MESSRS P. M. McCAW and T. H. Beaglehole, and Miss Diane Lescher, have been appointed delegates to N.Z.U.S.A. Council meeting.

Prizes to the total value of ten pounds are to be awarded for the best contributions to Cappicade. There's gold in them thar jokes, so get busy, bright sparks.

Three Extrav. scripts will be before the Selection Committee at the beginning of next month. Authors are Hutchison and Co., "Kismet," and Lescher and Co.

The Exec. decided at its meeting last Tuesday that a collection for charity during Proceah was impracticable. Bad luck—homeless doggies!

A travelling subsidy of £1 per person or part thereof has been granted to members of the Easter Tournament team. For this trip, V.U.C. will travel to Christchurch daylight on Thursday, April 15.

Appointments. — Corresponding member to N.Z.U.S.A.—Tim Beaglehole; Capping Controller—P. M. McCaw; Graduation Ceremony Controller—Pam Beck, who was in charge of Freshers' Week activities.

Second engagement in Exec. circles this year is tokened by the diamond and emerald circlet on the finger of Paddy Dougherty, the office secretary. The lucky man is John Mark, a farmer-of Stratford.

## Letters

### SPORTS CLUBS TAKE NOTE

Sports Editor,  
"Salient."

DEAR SIR.—As you are no doubt aware, Easter Tournament is being held in Christchurch this year. In our pre-Tournament issue of Canta we intend to feature comments on all four teams competing in the eight sports. This is, of course, specially in order to annoy the Sports Editors.

I would be very grateful if you would help me out by gathering the material on your own teams and forwarding it to me. I don't know what arrangements you have for collecting the guff for your own rag, but the deadline for copy for our pre-Tournament issue is April 6. I would like to have the copy a few days before that if possible.

I know I can rely on you to kick these Club Secretaries along, and, if they are anything like ours, they will need plenty of kicks. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours hopefully,  
DOUG. STEWART,  
Sports Editor, Canta.

### FRESHERS' CELEBRATIONS

The Editor,  
"Salient."

DEAR SIR.—I would like to take the opportunity of protesting about the disgraceful exhibition which took place at this year's freshers' welcome. It is unquestionably meet and proper that the beginning of the academic year should be celebrated in a fitting manner and it is traditionally the proper occasion for riotous orgies, etc., but I do most strongly feel that to make a mockery of a religious service is NOT the way to celebrate. The whole affair was in extremely bad taste and seemed almost to be calculated to offend the sensibilities of those present, particularly the freshers whose welcome it was supposed to be. While I do not think it was deliberately intended to offend (being, I suppose, the irresponsible idea of some misguided individual), I do nevertheless feel that if this is the best that the so-called "social club" can arrange, the sooner that club is disbanded the better.—I remain, etc.,

"AGOPANTHUS"

The first match of the Exec. Mixed Doubles Championship resulted in a 9-2 win for Malcolm McCaw and Peggy Thom against Ian Free and Pam Beck. The fortunate spectators were treated to a real exhibition of skill (the gentlemen) and enthusiasm (the ladies).

## V.U.C. PROF. ATTENDS I.L.O. CONFERENCE

**PROFESSOR ERNEST BEAGLEHOLE**, in addition to being Professor of Psychology at this College, is one of the driving forces behind one of the most significant developments in Technical Assistance at the present time, that is, I.L.O.'s International Committee of Experts on indigenous labour.

### Programme for Peace

In 1950 the International Labour Organisation decided that in order to make its guiding ideals of peace through social justice more practical it must strive to do something concrete for the several million indigenous workers who are at present included in many national states without being full participants of the national, social and economic life of their countries. To help I.L.O. to establish a programme of social and economic betterment for these indigenous workers the Director-General of the organisation established in 1950 an International Committee of Experts. The second meeting of the committee is being held in Geneva, Switzerland from March 15 to 26 of this year.

### Meeting of International Experts

I took the opportunity a day or two ago of asking Professor Beaglehole to comment on the programme at present in operation. He told me that the most important resolution of the first meeting at La Paz was an urgent recommendation that I.L.O. and other international organisations should co-operate in planning pilot projects which would demonstrate both to indigenous peoples and to the national states the feasibility of integrating indigenous workers into the social and economic life of their own countries.

It may be remarked in passing that New Zealand's effort, shared by pakeha and Maori alike, towards a greater social, political and economic integration of the Maori into New Zealand's national life arouses the keenest interest in many Latin American and Asian countries where the present problem of "native" integration is acute.

As a result of the committee's recommendation, I.L.O. and the other interested agencies established in March, 1952, a planning mission of experts in education, health, social welfare, agriculture and labour problems, led by Professor Beaglehole.



Professor Ernest Beaglehole.

The job of this mission was to visit the three Andean countries of Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, and after consultations with the governments of the three countries, an on-the-spot survey of the problem of native integration took place. It is not generally known that in the bleak inhospitable Andean plateau at an altitude of from 10 to 17,000ft some millions of Indians of the Quechua and Aymara stock (survivors of the people who once constituted the famous Inca Empire) live as aliens in their own land. Conquered by Spain's conquistadores in the sixteenth century, virtually enslaved thereafter, relatively unhelped by the war of independence in the early nineteenth century, these Indians live today a life of poverty, disease and illiteracy, despite sincere but often ineffectual efforts on the part of the governments of the three Andean countries to improve their lot.

In addition to a stocktaking of the progress that has already been made in the Andean Indian field the I.L.O. committee of experts at its Geneva meeting will be considering some of the problems of integration that face "forest dwelling" natives who are irrevocably being drawn into the circle of contemporary economic life without any understanding of the catastrophic effects that a modern economy is likely to have upon indigenous social life.

Behind the smoke screen of words, the mud-slinging, the name-calling,

the clash of ideologies and propaganda that constitutes the General Assembly of the United Nations and which makes many people from time to time impatient with what they consider to be the uselessness of United Nations today, a considerable amount of solid and important work is being carried on by the technical staff of United Nations and its organisations. This work is un-spectacular, seems unexciting, but is important because it is bringing technical assistance to the under-developed areas of the world, and is showing these areas how to short-cut a process of growth that has taken the developed nations two or three hundred years to achieve. (The Colombo Plan is, of course, another effort in this direction.) It is appropriate that New Zealand should be able to participate because of her wealth, her high standard of living and her experiences in the development of these international programmes.

—J.B.

### Why V.U.C.?

If the curious should ask why a professor of psychology should be concerned with problems of technical assistance, the brief answer is that it is human beings who want to change their way of life, and in many cases are being forced to change their way of life. Unless experts keep in mind the fact that they are trying to change the behaviour of persons, then plans are often technically perfect, but completely impractical. It is the job of the social psychologist to see that the human factor is kept well in the forefront in the planning of every programme designed to change social behaviour.

### PARODY TIME

(An entry in the "People's Voice" parody competition)

(Tune: "Doggy in the Window")

How much is that doggy in the window,  
The one with the wobbly eye?  
Since Sid and his pals have put the meat up  
I can't buy tripe or fry.

I must have that doggy in the window,  
It would give the family a treat;  
I don't want that doggy to protect them—  
I just want that doggy to eat.

—TONI ("People's Voice")

WHAT IS WEIR?

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

### ATHLETICS

**J**oin the Athletic Club now and start training for the Inter-Faculty sports on April 3. Athletics is one of the major college sports, contributing more points to the Inter-University Tournament than any other summer sport. Victoria came very close to winning the Winter Tournament last year, and should, with any luck actually win this year. If we could field a really strong athletic team this year we might well do the same with Easter Tournament. Freshers, unfortunately, are not eligible to compete, but you can contribute greatly by making more competition within the club.

Of greater interest to Freshers is the inter-Faculty sports meeting which should be outstanding this year as special celebrations have been arranged to mark the club's golden jubilee. The celebrations include a reunion and smoke concert on the 2nd April and the jubilee ball at the Majestic Cabaret following the sports on the 3rd April.

### ATOM PHYSICS AND POETRY

The well-known atomic scientist, J. Robert Oppenheimer, was in Brazil recently. During a press reception there, the representative of "Correio da Manhã" asked him — for a poem. Nonplussed, Oppenheimer said: "Really, this kind of thing hasn't happened to me at any press reception in all the world so far." Yet he sat down at a table, lit a pipe, and jotted down the following lines:

#### CROSSING

It was evening when we came to the river  
with a low moon over the desert  
that one had lost in the mountains  
forgotten.  
Wet with the cold and the sweating  
and the ridges barring the sky.  
And afterwards, remember,  
we had the hot winds  
against us.  
There were two palms by the land-  
ing  
and the vines by the hut were in  
flower.  
Far off, a dog barked.  
Then we heard the oars creaking  
and later  
the boatman called to us.  
We did not look back at the moun-  
tains. — J. Robert Oppenheimer.  
When he was later questioned on  
the relationship between atom phys-  
ics and poetry, Oppenheimer said,  
"Physics seek to express in a simple  
language something that nobody  
knows; poetry seeks to say things  
that everybody knows, in a language  
which nobody understands."

### . . . S.C.M. CONFERENCE

## "GOD WHO ACTS"

**T**HE S.C.M. Conference this year was held at Wesley College, Paerata, near Auckland. It would have been difficult to find a more pleasant setting. The opening service was held in the chapel on the evening of the first day, and the full daily programme began the next day.

According to the programme our day began at 7 a.m.; but those who weren't already up, whether for swimming or fatigue-duty, rolled out a good bit later. At 9 o'clock our Camp Devotions were led by Jack Lewis, Auckland S.C.M. Chaplain, and Chaplain of Conference, who had also written our study book, and from 9.30 to 11 we separated into our study groups—about ten in each—to prepare, and then to discuss, the day's study. The theme was "God Who Acts," studies based directly on the Bible, and helping us to get a view of the unity of that history of God's revelations of Himself to man; emphasis was on the completeness of the final revelation in Christ, and on the relevance and urgency of His purpose for us to-day.

We relaxed and continued discussing over morning tea, then met again for Luke Jenkins' Tutorials on Revelation, another view of the Conference theme, more specialised, but broadening our approach to it.

Wednesday morning was an exception. Study finished abruptly, and everyone rushed down to the main road to take up positions on either side. The Royal party was going past that day. We were prepared to sing Gaudeamus, but though we managed it for Mr. Holland, it petered out and was forgotten when we saw the Queen and the Duke themselves.

Afternoons were "free," which means fully occupied. There was cricket, tennis, and swimming, and concert items had to be planned. We went for long rambles in the fields, becoming suddenly active when we looked at our watches or realised we were in a bull paddock. Several days we could listen to music recording, or join in play reading, and of course there was Convention. This is the S.C.M. Parliament—each College has voting representatives—plus a number of decided and vociferous members. And then there were those normal discussions which arose and were pursued any time of day (or night) on subjects ranging from lipstick and tea to Pacifism and Alcohol.

At five we met again in Study Groups to pray together. Each of us could take part, asking God's help in difficulties of ourselves and others, thanking Him for what He had done for us, and realising how we had failed Him. Then we all moved towards the Chapel for general Intercessions, led by the Rev. W. Gardiner Scott.

In the evenings there were addresses—"World Affairs," by Professor Airey of A.U.C.'s History Department; "Science and Religion," by Doctor Farley, also A.U.C.; "Man and Woman," by Joan and Bruce Cochrane (Mrs. Cochrane was our Camp Hostess as well); on Saturday a panel, which we presented with a large variety of questions. After-supper discussions with the speakers continued vigorously, though with reduced numbers, well on past lights-out: it's odd, but the later the hour, the better the argument! Close of Day was taken by students in the Chapel.

We watched the Old Year out and greeted the New Year round our camp fire, taking part in a midnight service, and then singing hymns and carols as long as the blaze lasted. There wasn't much sleep fitted in that night—nor on our last day when there was square dancing on the lawn till nearly 3 a.m.

Our Sunday services were all held in the College Chapel. There was a seven o'clock Communion service for Anglicans, followed by the Communion service according to the Methodist order, to which the non-Anglicans were invited. That we should have to separate like this for the central service of our faith, which should express the unity of the Church, is an evil recognised and prayed about within the S.C.M. In the evening a poetical play by R. H. Ward, "The Destiny of Man," was performed.

Conference was nearing its end. On Monday evening the closing service was held, and on Tuesday the College was resuming its normal orderliness and peace again.

We had had a grand time, and our fun was increased by the fellowship we had enjoyed by studying and praying together.

—G.C.

The City of Vienna has made it obligatory for students to visit concerts and operas in the future. In an apparent effort to stir up a greater interest in music among the students, the city fathers have allotted a considerable amount of money for special opera performances and concerts which the students are to attend as part of their general education. Besides these free-of-charge performances, tickets at sharply reduced prices will be available for students, anxious to widen their musical knowledge, with the city government paying the difference. (A.P.)

## Knocknagree Congress . . .

## TRUTH AND THE SCHOLAR

THE last couple of the annual congresses of the University Catholic Society, N.Z., had been held at the Catholic motor camp at Raumati, and were characterised by the universal tendency of the Victoria Guild, when at Raumati, to talk a very great deal and to show a firm disinclination to go to bed at night. Victoria Catholics who had staggered home from Curious Cove therefore hoped that the sixth congress, organised by A.U.C., always a socially conscious college, at a resort built into the hills at a safe distance from the sea would be decorous, and with lectures intellectually stimulating but suitable for a little quiet sleeping. They found, however, that everyone at the congress talked their heads off, and, funnily enough, showed no inclination to go to bed at night.

Knocknagree is a pleasant place for a congress—a camp set in several acres of cultivated bush, about half an hour from Auckland. "Camp" is not really the right word, though, for there is nothing impromptu about the arrangements at Knocknagree. It comprises three permanent buildings—the chapel, the dining room and kitchens, and the main building, a hall and verandahs with what are euphuistically referred to as sleeping quarters.

The theme of the congress was "Truth, the Duty of the Scholar", and the facts tackled by the various speakers were: "Truth, the Challenge and Response," Father J. Mackey, M.A.; "Truth—Does It Matter?" Father C. Bowler, S.M.; "Science in the Service of Truth," Miss Mabel Rice, M.Sc.; "Law and Its Responsibilities to Truth," Daniel O'Connell, B.A., LL.M., Ph.D.(Camb.); "Tolerance, the Climate for Truth," Dr. F. H. Walsh, B.A.(Oxon.); and a panel of speakers discussed "Art and Its Reasonable Service."

Among the points made, and debated, at the congress were these:—

Man naturally desires the truth, and our mode of living depends on finding some aspect of it. But our comprehension of non-material truth is limited by our capacity to recognise casual relationships, and it is never easy to attain or retain. Descartes described the truth as a matter of intuition, and it was then that faith came in conflict with knowledge. St. Paul had said that through discursive knowledge we arrive at the knowledge of God; and the scholastics established an order of truth contingent as regards its existence, i.e., Descartes said, "I think, therefore I am", and the scholastics said, "Our knowledge of God comes through our knowledge of creatures; therefore it is necessary we should have a correct knowledge of creatures."—Father Mackey.

Father Bowler followed this up with a beautiful series of quotations, obviously gathered with loving care over the years, from a number of modern scholars who retain Descartes' distrust of the mind and metaphysics. My favourite was Bertrand Russell's, "Matter is a wave of probability emanating in nothingness." Father Bowler was occupied chiefly, however, in describing the

appreciation of the intelligence which precedes the action of the will. He discussed the hierarchy of the sciences and the bad mental habit which exclusive study of a science must engender.

Miss Rice, from the view of a professional scientist, quoted Maritain's principle, "In the modern world science has been the last refuge of knowledge and truth and spirituality". She enlarged on the fact that the relationship between God and nature is direct, for the latter has no freedom of choice. The testing-ground of the validity of scientific knowledge is therefore nature itself, for nature cannot betray God. The main equipment of the scientist: integrity and honesty.

That a bad legal system must be consonant with the demands of the natural law was Dr. O'Connell's thesis, which he illustrated by an examination of the law when geared to an unnatural philosophy such as Fascism or Communism. He defined the natural law as the direction of man's life in accordance with his nature. English law is based on this assumption, that there is such a thing as a reasonable man, and law is recognised by people because it is in harmony with their conscience. He described several examples of the courageous stands which English courts have made against undue Government restrictions with an appeal to the natural law, and said that in Europe especially there has been in the last 25 years a revival of natural law as the final court of appeal in the formation of a nation's law. The compartment between ethics and law is being broken down: the younger German jurists say they want the law of the State to be founded on the natural law, for it projects morality, the "ought", into law, the "is".

Even in cases where repression could be justified it is the Catholic policy to incline towards toleration, Dr. Walsh said, and quoted the present Pope: "Tolerance alone provides the climate for truth in the modern world." Tolerance isn't a simple topic, and there are all sorts of distinctions involved—e.g., between the obligations of individuals and of societies, and between sacral and pluralistic societies.

The forum on Art could best be



No—this is not the Rev. O'Shaunessy speaking on "Man and Devils". It is IAN FREE consuming Sunday Dinner at Curious Cove (Reported in last issue).

—Photo by B. Bradburn.

described in a long galloping ballad. Suffice it to say that John Reid was chairman, arbitrating between one representative of the right wing, Brother Stephen from Sacred Heart College, and three left-wingers. These latter, Father E. Forsman, S.Th.L., B.A., Pat Downey, an A.U.C. lawyer, and John Cody from Victoria, disagreed entertainingly among themselves and with the audience, who would insist on contributing its two cent's worth.

Among the guests at the congress were Archbishop Lliston, who opened it officially and met the participants, and Rosemary Goldie, for some years a member of the General Secretariate, in Switzerland, of Pax Romana. Her opinions were valuable, for she is travelling round the countries of Asia and the Pacific, and meeting students everywhere.

Incidental information: There was a barbecue one evening (sausages roasted whole); a formal dinner another evening, and while they allowed impromptu speeches, and a mock trial on another occasion, at which, Heaven help us, there were more impromptu speeches. There is a navigable stream at Knocknagree, which very appropriately, means Hill of the Brave (it's an Irish name). And there were also the six Victoria boys who went to Auckland in a car: on the way up the engine fell out at Cambridge (today small boys sell the fragments to tourists), and on the way home the engine fell out at Taupo: but they were home in time for the beginning of term.

The congress was held from February 5 to 8.

## DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS

### "Under The Sycamore Tree"

ONE of our reporters, hearing rumours of an important new V.U.C. Drama Club production, decided to go to a rehearsal to find out more details about the play and its personnel. He was met at the door by production manager GAVIN YATES: "Ah," he said, "you have heard of our new play—'Under the Sycamore Tree!'" "Yes!" our reporter replied, "can you tell Salient readers more about it?" "With pleasure—It is by the American playwright, Samuel Spewack, who has already been successful with such shows as 'Kiss Me Kate' and 'Boy Meets Girl!'"

"Under the Sycamore Tree" is a delightful comedy full of satire and grand burlesque. We have only to consider the plot. A scientist of the ants who live under the sycamore tree, has learnt of some of the ways of human beings by listening to the wireless and has decided that the ant colony needs some drastic reforms.

#### Ant Love

The action is mainly concerned with his progressive aims, such as bringing up the boy ant and the girl ant as human beings, or at least instilling in them that essential human quality—love or X. As he goes on his merry way, the scientist provides situations for Mr. Spewack to give us an ant's eye view of human beings, telling us to consider the ways of the ant and be wise.

"You will agree that the basic idea has possibilities and in his dialogue (with cracks about "The Reader's Digest", the human's love habits, etc.), Spewack doesn't disappoint. Overseas critics, both high-brow and low-brow have raved—"Mr. Spewack's ingenious fable"; "This brilliant satirical play"; Mr. Spewack's comedy of love-and-liberalism inside an ant-hill reaches the jackpot", etc., and J. C. Trewin has chosen "Under the Sycamore Tree" as one of the plays of the year—1953.

The play ran for months in London and we are happy and proud to give the first New Zealand Performance of the play."

#### Huge Set

Gavin then took us into the rehearsal room where Tony Treadwell was pondering over plans for the set. "We have an almost super-human task here, but thanks to a substantial grant from the exec. we shall manage." Our reporter had a look at the plan, and immediately became enthusiastic—it was really Under the Sycamore Tree with massive tree trunks, ant's tunnels, sycamore leaves, etc. "Do you mean to say we will see all this on the actual stage?" "Yes," replied Tony, "John

Wright, the stage manager and his team have started on construction already, and . . ."

"Quiet, please!" said a voice behind them. It was the producer, Mrs. Nida Martin, getting down to tinctures. "Jan, I want you to move centre right and kiss Melda's hand. You are now in love with each other. Is that too uncomfortable for you, Melda?" Mrs. Martin certainly gave the impression that she knew what she wanted and our reporter wasn't surprised to hear that she has just returned from extensive study overseas.

#### Now the Cast . . .

Melda O'Reilly, who plays "The Queen of the Ants" has appeared successfully in a number of theatrical ventures both at V.U.C. and elsewhere.

Pauline Kermode, who plays "the Girl" has appeared with "The Theopians" and in Repertory major productions. At V.U.C. her record is impressive: "The Rivals", "Cockpit", "To Hell With You", (Tournament play), and various one act plays.

Ian Rich, who plays the Scientist, has concentrated mainly on character parts, having appeared in the W.C.S. production "The Skin of Our Teeth", as Mrs. Ahtobus and in Spring 1950, Tournament and British Drama League Plays, and "High Tea" for V.U.C. Drama.

John Treadwell, who plays the Chief Statistician, has had a successful career with V.U.C. Drama Club, appearing in "Cockpit" and various one act plays.

David Mummery, who plays "The General" has also appeared in "Cockpit" and various one-act plays.

Chris Beeby, who plays "The Boy" is well known in French Club circles and has also appeared in V.U.C. Drama one-act plays.

Owing to space limitations, Dr. Currie's article on the University of New Zealand has been held over to next week.

## CRICKET

### The Team Surveyed

VARSITY'S seven consecutive first innings victories reflect the type of game they have played. This has been dictated by their formidable batting strength and their innocuous attack. The advantage of a first innings lead has never been fully pressed home. Indifferent and at times atrocious fielding has allowed teams to weather the attack and deprive Varsity of an outright win.

The batting has been built round the polished strokemaker Vance, and the dependable Larkin, and the ever-improving Thompson, Oakley, and McCaw have shown glimpses of the form which previously gained them representative honours. Perkins and St. John have contributed bright interludes of hard hitting.

The attack has been built round spinners, Thompson and Perkins, but neither has developed into match-winning bowlers. McEwen, a recent acquisition from the Hutt, has given the attack the extra punch it badly lacked. Martin has proved his versatility by changing from leg spinners to medium-paced swingers. Larkin has been called on to do a great deal of bowling and his accurate short-of-a-length swingers have gained many valuable wickets.

The standard of fielding has been generally low but St. John stands out as a shining exception. Dropped catches have proved very expensive and a poor fielding side will never win a senior championship. As many of the senior players are eligible for Tournament, Victoria's prospects are very bright in the cricket section of Easter Tournament. The side will be further strengthened by the inclusion of country players who are at present at home on vacation.

### Socialist Club

THE Socialist Club's first event of the year was their annual buffet tea, held in the Lower Gym. on Saturday. This was, as usual, a highly successful occasion, and was well attended by old and new members.

Toasts were drunk to the College, the Academic Year, the United Front and Socialism, with suitable speeches and replies.

The club's first lunch-hour discussion will concern the Niue Islanders.

### Post Grads.

CONGRATULATIONS to Ian Laurie and Bruce Tolley, both M.A. (French, 1st class honours), who have each been awarded a Post-Graduate Scholarship in Arts by the University of New Zealand. Also congratulations to Diana Lescher, who recently celebrated her birthday.

## CAPPICADE 1954!

"The Best Yet,"  
Says the Editor

**P**ERHAPS the most important publication of the 1st Varsity term is Cappicade, and it is for that reason I arranged an interview with the Editor.

Sallent: Goodmorning, editor. N' day?

Editor: "No. Let's get down to business please.

Sallent: Yes, of course. Can you tell us why you wanted to be editor of Cappicade?

Editor: Yes by all means. Ever since I was a child I have had a craving . . . no I won't tell you that. The fact is I have seen, during my two years at V.U.C., a growing interest in Cappicade, not only by the public, but also by the members of the college. Sales have increased, and suicides have decreased—which all points to a genuine demand for the type of humour and escapism that a "varsity" funny supplies or should supply. I wanted to be editor because I was fascinated by this stimulating game of supply and demand. It is my hope that we further sales even more by giving the public good, reasonably clean, topsy-turvy humour that the public expects and wants from a vigorous group of young people like ourselves.

Editor: Good that's the kind of thing we want. But make sure you have your article in early as you may miss out. A lot of good articles were lost last year because they were handed in too late to be printed.

Sallent: Mr. Editor, could you give us any idea of the theme of Cappicade, 1954?

Editor: I would like to very much out because of rival factions, it is a very closely guarded secret. Still I am willing to give anyone information if they write to me or get in contact with me. Also, there is the question of Cappicade Staff.

Sallent: Yes, I was going to ask you about that. May I be on it?

Editor: Certainly, but we want many more. Ask your friends who are interested to contact me.

With that I, the Salient reporter, left Cappicade editor to his long vigilance for articles. As I opened the door, I was smothered with light-weighted magazines which had fallen from above.

The editor laughed: "Ha, Ha. That little joke was just to remind you of the terrific weight of responsibility we have on our shoulders. Those magazines are copies of every Cappicade Victoria has published. There are a lot there and they are all very good. But it's interesting to note that their quality increases as the years go by. Tell your readers that Cappicade, 1954, MUST be a smash hit.



### Officers and Etc.

Selection Committee for Extrav. Scripts: Messrs. Braybrooke, John Carrad and Dave Cohen.

Producer of Extrav.: Mr. W. N. (Bill) Sheat, recently admitted to the bar.

Musical Director of Extrav.: Musician Garth Young.

Stage Manager of Extrav.: Huddy Williamson.

Wardrobe Mistress: Peggy Thom. Assistant Producer: Dramatist Gavin Yates.

Advertising Manager: John Wright.

Ballet Mistress: Miss Pat Christie. Business Manager of Cappicade: Tim Beaglehole.

Editor, Cappicade: Ian Rich. Business Manager, Spike: Ian Free. Controller for Freshers' Week: Pam Beck.



Shh! CAPPICADE Staff are composing funny stories!

Sallent: Do you think you will achieve your object?

Editor: Your question is wrong. It should read "Do you think WE will achieve OUR object?" because this aim is the concern of us all. An editor's job should be to collect articles, not write them. It's everyone's responsibility and the quality of Cappicade in the long run, depends on the ordinary student, who, if he tries, can be as funny as anyone else. 1954 lends itself for many parodies and jokes—what with the transport trouble, Sid's recent activities, etc.

Sallent: I agree with you wholeheartedly. In fact I have started on an article myself—a parody on the Provost case.

### WRITE FOR CAPPICADE!

Send Articles and Enquires to . . .

THE EDITOR, via Men's Commonroom Letter Rack.

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*It is better to have it and not need it,  
than to need it and not have it.*

## COSEC . . .

## O'Brien Back From Istanbul Conference

AS students interested in the International front will know, N.Z.U.S.A. last December appointed Messrs. M. J. O'Brien, LL.B. (President of N.Z.U.S.A.) and J. D. Dalgety, LL.B., as observers to the 4th International Student Conference of the International Co-ordinating Secretariat of National Unions of Students, held in Istanbul during the long vacation last year.

Cosec (as the organisation is called for shortness) very generously stood the expense of the return air fare of Mr. O'Brien.

Mr. O'Brien, who returned by Solent last Wednesday, gave a very interesting account of his experiences the following night, aided by Mr. Dalgety. The occasion was an informal meeting of the V.U.C.S.A. executive. We hope to be able to publish some of the more interesting portions of this talk next issue. Mr. O'Brien will table his report on the conference at the Easter Council meeting of N.Z.U.S.A. Mr. Dalgety also gained several important facts on student health schemes in operation in Universities in Britain, Switzerland and the United States. His report will also be tabled at Easter Council.

Among some of the significant problems of students which were discussed at the conference, the following appear: student accommodation fact-finding questionnaire; a recommendation that national unions work for the establishment of reference rooms, co-operative bookshops and printing offices; student health (Cosec was asked to co-operate with W.U.S. in its study of the problems of nutrition in the African University community, and found that it was desirable that a report be undertaken, based on a detailed questionnaire, on student health as a reflection on their living conditions); exiled students (conference recommended that the Secretariat enter into negotiations . . . for the founding of an international fund for exiled students; and asked W.U.S. to look into the matter of assistance for students of South America who have been exiled for political reasons); the role of students in society; student influence on university administration; survey of the structure and functions of National Unions of Students.

—B. SHAW

STANDARD PRESS, WELLINGTON

## VARSITY STUDENTS

## PART TIME WORK

The Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. of New Zealand Ltd., require the services of an office junior. The work involves mailing, filing and attending to the telephone, and would be suitable for a young lady who is working her way through university, as the hours of 9.15 a.m. to 3.45 p.m. would be acceptable to the company.

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### Freshers Welcome

*We were sweet and innocent, pure  
but shy,  
We gazed in awe at those almighty  
ones,  
Mounted on benches, quite staid and  
sedate.  
Then came fantasy, weird and  
strange,  
There appeared now an ownerless,  
fluttering hand,  
An alarm-clock, balloons and a bil-  
lowing mass  
Of paper.  
Then came the sudden impact of a  
strange combination,  
Rugby and tattoo don't seem to mix.  
Incredibly, too, the presence of a  
monkey,  
Bouncing on the tables,  
And grabbing pretty girls.  
And then the frantic conga,  
To the gym for dancing  
Led by the haka party  
Who didn't seem quite sober,  
Amazing as that seemed.  
And then, then came the MOMENT  
In a mixed, disordered way,  
We took the oath right soulfully on  
knees.  
Next the minions of the high priest  
took over  
And they KISSED  
All the girls  
(In a rather untender way).  
Following this the dancing  
On carpet of feet,  
And singing and smoking,  
Eating—and revelry  
And walking back home in the rain,  
Drenched,  
Damn it . . .  
—By Two Freshies Who Was There*

### Receptionist-Clerk

We require the services of an intelligent young lady of pleasant manner, as receptionist (counter and telephone) with light office duties. Please telephone for interview: Messrs. WILBERFOSS, HARDEN & CO. Public Accountants, Huddart Parker Building, Phone 70-566.

The announced gold-diggers' camp in Lapland, which was organised jointly by the Finnish and Danish National Unions of Students, was opened on August 15. Forty German and twenty Danish students will work there as gold-diggers. They have pledged 25 per cent of the yield to the Finnish National Union (S.Y.L.). There had been great difficulties in finding a promising digging claim for the students, because all rich yielding places had already been staked out for other groups of interested people. (Ylloppilaslehti, Helsinki.)

In their campaign against the housing shortage, the teaching staff members and officers of Helsinki University have undertaken a building programme which up to now has witnessed the completion of three large apartment houses, which can jointly accommodate 120 families. The interests of the University have been also considered in the building programme—apartments having been reserved for exchange professors and other visiting lecturers from abroad. (Ylloppilaslehti, Helsinki.)

## DRAMA CLUB

V.U.C. Drama's Major Production

Alec Guinness' London Hit!

"UNDER THE SYCAMORE TREE"

by SAM SPEWACK  
(Author of "Kiss Me Kate")

An Ant's-Eye View of Human Nature

Concert Chamber — March 29 to April 3

WATCH FOR FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS!