

DEBATE

FRIDAY, MAY 28

See Notice Boards

# Salient

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

FORUM

"SHOULD STUDENTS GO STEADY?"

Chairman: Prof. Bailey.  
Speakers: Paul Dostraicher,  
Conrad Bollinger, Bernard Galvin.

"COMING SOON"

VOL. 18, No. 6

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WELLINGTON, MAY 27, 1954

By Subscription

## Even The Yanks Liked . . .

### "PIRATES OF FINANCE"

**"EXTRAVAGANZA**, Extravaganza, the big bonanza of '54"

It was with these words that Extrav. for 1954 got under way on Monday, April 5, at the Opera House. Although Victoria could gain only the wooden spoon at athletic pursuits, in this dramatic and histrionic triumph surely a gold cup should be the reward.

To quote from the "Dominion": "The Pirates of Finance" gives the public the most rousing chorus for years, the most broadly comical male ballet ever, and scenery and costumes that were on a particularly lavish and colourful scale."

This certainly paid rich dividends and to the great joy of the Exec. the show was a financial success, to the tune of nearly £100, having played to packed houses every night.

The stars of Extrav? This is a difficult question to answer, but in the opinion of the writer, the two comics, TONY FERRAS and DERICK HOMEWOOD, both in their rendering of "The Botanical Rakes" and in their "Fill-in" comedy piece, certainly deserved the great applause given them by the audience. Also deserving attention are Peter Crowe, for his impressive performance as Wol and also for his direction of the

Opera; and Judy Beaumont, who was especially pleasing in the aria "Strike Me Pink."

After weeks of hard training under the iron rule of Pat Christie, the Male Ballet produced some amazing contortions in the execution of their Flower Dance and also managed to break through a rendering of the Can-Can.

The interval entertainment demonstrating the activities of the Secret Police went down very well, and Hugh Price's imitation of the Prime Minister was outstanding.

On the subject of costumes, it is felt that the cast was let down badly. Fully realising the difficulties and problems which beset the wardrobe mistress of any show, we believe that better organisation could have been possible.

From the social point of view, it is agreed by the whole cast that organiser Wally Iles certainly deserves congratulations.

Finally, kudos to the co-producers Bill Sheat and Gavin Yeates, whose hard work ensured success.



We thought we should only print the top half of the "Folies Bergere" float. (For the rest—see page 2). Photo—Robert H. Smith.

## Process—1954 . . .

### THERE'S MUCH TO BE SAID

**P**ROCESSION of 1954 will go down in the annals of the Students' Association among the list of Significant Events. The true importance for Victoria was not the outcome of the incident—that was due primarily to the commonsense of the Wellington City Council—but that we really learned what the city thinks of the student body.

We had never been so foolish as to imagine that the fundamental cordiality of the contacts between the civic and student communities in Christchurch and Dunedin would be found in Wellington, but it was surprising to find such a depth of misunderstanding.

Granted that to the hordes of sober, industrious office workers in Wellington a display of noisy and unconventional conviviality is abhorrent; and granted that too many of the participants in past processions have been so mentally immature as to be a pain in the neck to all and sundry—the fact still remains that a leading article in the "Dominion" quite seriously put forward the suggestion that the sinister interests of the undergraduate body were undermining the City Council, and that this suggestion was taken up by a large number of correspondents to the paper.

The suggestion is of the type which is too ludicrous for rational discussion. Unfortunately, however, that does not prevent people with no knowledge of the University treating it with the seriousness usually extended to statements from such a source.

The suggestion, and that contained in a letter to one of the dailies here, that Victoria is "a hotbed of Communism" (that is a quotation) could do more harm than 2000 students hell-bent on mischief, because they are a perversion of the truth.

To a part-timer who has only one lecture a fortnight it is palpably obvious that pressure groups of this sort could not possibly exist at the College; and it is equally obvious that the people who so lightly made these damaging statements did not have the faintest idea of what they were talking about. There was, of course, no concrete example of how the sinister interests or Communist cells worked; and it can only be hoped that the more intelligent readers look for some confirmation before they accept statements as fact.

It was perhaps as well that the statements were not denied officially and that the only reference printed was the satirical one the president made at Undergrads' Supper, because there is no real defence against such statements. You can't prove a negative, and the most sensible course was the Association's ignoring of them.

It was significant that of the many letters sent to the Wellington dailies, about 50 per cent. were mildly deprecating about the themes of undergraduate iniquity, and the remainder took up the themes and enlarged on them. Belief in such absurdities was rather startling.

On the more pleasant side, there were several bouquets to be handed round.

Primarily, to Mr. Macalister and the Council for taking a stand on a business unimportant in itself, which had developed into a matter of principle. A light touch and sense of humour were required chiefly, and that was Mr. Macalister's strength and Mr. Hardy's weakness.

Secondly, to the Exec., for dignity in a situation where it would have been unsurprising and excusable if they had lost their temper. The statements of the president and Denis McLean were the best possible.

Thirdly, to the decorous participants in the procession.

Councillor Hardy is reported as having said that procession was fun-  
(Continued on page 2.)

## Galvin Appointed Controller

### WINTER TOURNAMENT AT WELLINGTON

**T**HIS year, Winter Tournament will be held at Wellington. This means that Victoria will be host college. As chairman of the New Zealand University Tournament Committee, Mr. B. V. Galvin will be responsible for ensuring that Tournament is a success. Mr. Galvin, present Secretary to the Executive at Victoria, has an immense job on his hands, in seeing that the complete Tournament runs without a hitch from beginning to end.

However, the Victoria contingent to Christchurch for last Easter Tournament will know that Mr. Galvin, who was then Senior Tournament Delegate for Vic, is quite capable of doing a good job, so long as he gets the support of all students.

Delegates for the Victoria sports team at next Winter Tournament will be: Ron Barber, sports controller, and Pam Beck, corresponding member. Other officials—T. Hill, programme controller; John Wright, publicity controller; Cliff Terry, billeting controller; J. Hutchison, ways and means; J. D. Dalgety, social controller; R. Gilbert, finance controller; J. Marchant, headquarters controller; and D. Lescher, Tournament Ball controller.

"Salient" wishes all these people the best of luck—they've a big job on their hands.

## EXEC ELECTIONS

June 18, 21, and 22

Nominations Close

June 12

# Salient

An Organ of Mutual Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington

## JUST IN PASSING...

**B**OTH from an international and from a University point of view, the May vacation has been a period of interest and not a little anxiety to many people. We ourselves feel that the defeat of the French armies in Indo-China will have implications which this generation will have to face in the future, notwithstanding the arguments to the contrary concerning a "second Korea" and "American interference." We believe that the victory was not that of a subject people asserting themselves; rather does it appear to be a further step towards world domination by the forces of Communism. And although New Zealand remains part of the "free world" at the present time, this is mainly due to the coincidence of our fortunate geographical position. There is no guarantee that such will be the case in the future, and if it be that we are attacked, to whom are we to turn, if we do not desire to become another satellite in the Communist regime? We believe that this question must be answered with some degree of urgency.

The vexing problem of the three condemned Niueans has been solved. It is clear that the reprieve was granted, not because the appealing parties had advanced good reasons for the death sentence to be commuted, but because public opinion would have revolted against a death sentence being put into execution at such a distant date from when it was passed. This may have been the motive of the appealing parties when they took the case before the Privy Council—an attempt to stay the execution for such a length of time that it would have been well-nigh impossible for the Executive Council to resist a further appeal for clemency. We are not saying that this is so, but it is well known that public opinion carries great weight when politicians are asked to make up their minds on questions such as these. We hesitate to comment on the correctness of the sentence which the three Niueans received; indeed, at this stage, no further argument is necessary.

Finally, in the sphere of University affairs, we would offer our congratulations to those who contributed to the success of both Extrav and Proceah. There may be a lot to criticise in both these functions, but we believe that there is no need to set perfection as the criterion and so we satisfy ourselves with the (mainly kind) comments printed in this issue.

—D.D.

## Letters to The Editor

**D**EAR SIR, I feel "Cecilia"—presumably a music student wise enough to conceal his identity under a pseudonym—has somewhat misjudged the quality of the instruments at present in the Music Room: I, for one, should not have described the Steinway piano as "rickety". One can only assume "Cecilia's" personal ambitions as a pianist have been undervalued by the authorities at Victoria, as a musician with a mere modicum of experience of good instruments would unhesitatingly class the College Steinway as a sound reliable piano, if not of the standard of Solomon's own. I would certainly agree, however, that the sustaining pedal could do with a dose of black lead.

The harpsichord needs no justification in print—it is not merely an inferior type of piano, but an instrument with a literature as individual and characteristic as that of the violin. The keyboard music of the fifteenth to seventeenth centuries is not to be dismissed lightly, and it is as much of an anachronism to play this on the piano as it would be to play Chopin on the harpsichord. Historical inaccuracies, even in musicians, are inexcusable. The Music Department's instrument is a "genuine" harpsichord (Kirchmann, 1758), not one of the bloated modern so-called copies: undoubtedly it has

deficiencies—a somewhat temperamental action being one of them—but it more than compensates for these by the opportunities afforded to the music student of hearing Baroque and pre-Baroque music performed on the instrument for which it was written. (I trust nobody will resurrect the hoary old argument about Bach's possible preference for the piano, had he known it as it is today. His comments to Frederick of Potsdam are in themselves sufficient rebuttal.)

Yours, etc.,  
S. M. RHIND.

In a special disciplinary procedure instituted by the Student Guild of the University of Liverpool, 150 students were temporarily suspended from the Guild for having thrown stink bombs, flour and soot at the Shakespeare Theatre, thus causing public irritation at the occasion of "rag day." Rag day is the terminal event of the so-called pantomime week during which students traditionally stage demonstrations each year. The theatre, however, had purchased immunity by subscribing liberally to a student charity collection, a fact of which some students knew nothing. In a sort of court martial the disciplinary committee of the Guild of Undergraduates suspended first three, then a further 97 students for a week, depriving them of the privilege of using guild premises, and participating in sporting and social activities. The same evening another 50 students pleaded guilty of having participated in the jamboree. They were included in the suspension. (The Times/Daily Telegraph, London.)

**D**EAR SIR,—As Ian Rich has provocatively put an interrogation mark after his headline on the Hollywood version of Julius Caesar one is tempted to take up arms, even if unaware of the finer points of the camera's art. I disagree with your critic mainly over the character of Anthony as played by Marlon Brando. His presentation of the oration in the forum scene was decidedly inferior to that shown by an actor whose name I cannot remember in a film strip on the death of Caesar owned by the Education Department. Here we see an actor stressing the craftiness of Anthony in putting across a speech magnificently designed by the dramatist to say one thing and mean another. The somewhat "childlike" simplicity of Marlon Brando contrasts with his astutely double dealing part. He spoils Shakespeare's balance of the "conscientious" characters, Caesar and Brutus, matched tragically against each other, with their crafty self-seeking associates, Mark Anthony and Cassius.

Another point of difference. The actors, I agree, do not appreciate the poetry—but—"the little poetry the melodrama possesses". Tut! tut! Though the play is not studded with lyrics I plead that poetry is there. In contrast to early work the dramatist has incorporated his poetic genius in the genius of the playwright and we must not expect the obvious lyrical outbursts we get in earlier plays, such as "Romeo and Juliet".

"Julius Caesar" is now a melodrama? Here is a definition of a melodrama given by the Concise Oxford Dictionary: "Sensational, dramatic piece with violent appeals to emotions and happy ending" or

the more strict definition as melodrama was when popular in the nineteenth century: "play with songs interspersed and with orchestral music accompanying the action."

As for introducing the camera's art to Shakespeare's, there may be a place for this, but I would like to see just one straight film of an acted version in the Stratford Memorial Theatre.

Yours, etc.,  
E. R. BLOOMFIELD

An institute for the study of Gandhist philosophy has been opened near Nagpur in the Central Province of India. The institute, which includes an international house for students from all countries, will be known as the Gandhi Gyan Mandir. The three buildings just inaugurated were constructed by teams of the Service Civil International, an organisation of voluntary work camps for youth founded in Europe in 1920, to promote friendship between countries. Volunteers from several European countries and from the United States worked with others from many parts of India to build the centre. (UNESCO, Paris.)

Men students at McGill University (Montreal) can earn 20 dollars a day by submitting to experiments now being performed by the McGill Psychology Department. The object of the experiments is to determine the effect that the limiting of his senses has on a man's mental functioning. A student who needs part-time work can earn his money by lying in a small cubicle, with his ears covered with earphones, his eyes blinded by goggles, and his hands gloved and immovable. Some students have lasted only nine hours, some for five days. (McGill Daily, Montreal.)



... and here's the bottom half. Out of respect for the participants, our photographer left out the middle.

Photo—Robert H. Smith.

## PROCEAH '54

(Continued from page 1.)

mer in his day. Allowing for the march of time and the thinning of the Hardy blood, the councillor did have a point there which was echoed by dozens of less senior graduates. Proceah, itself was quite a good display—chiefly because more work than usual had been put into the floats. And the main reason for the dullness of the gap between the arrival of Prof. Fadiman and the beginning of Proceah, itself was chiefly the lack of preparation on the part of the boys who put on individual performances round town. As usual, they relied too heavily on noise; and grass skirts and football jerseys were practically a uniform.

Couldn't we have a little more originality? The year before, one of the biggest successes of Capping Day was the lanky individual who wandered round in a top hat, helping the

Traffic Cops; and his success was due largely to the fact that he was more witty than noisy. The citizens who expect something funnier than whitewash and hakas are paying us the compliment of recognising that there is such a thing as academic humour.

There remain two more points. First, it was a singularly happy circumstance that Cr. Hardy is called Hardy, which is a fine sort of name, with plenty of atmosphere and lots of well-recognised connotations. How much more dull if he had been called Smith!

The last point comes under the heading of Incidental Information. It is reported that the Bachelors' and Spinners' Clubs have lodged an official stake to next year's float demonstrating Victoria College the Hotbed of Communism, and that they have requested the Proceah controller to request Mr. Kevin O'Brien to enact on another float the salient points of the 1948 "purge."

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**SCIENCE FACULTY . . .**  
**"SALIENT" VISITS SOME CLUBS**

IN the Science Faculty there are a number of very active societies which each year provide a programme of activities such as lectures, films, expeditions and discussions which are found interesting, not only by students from the appropriate department, but by many others.

The lectures give one an opportunity to discover which problems are receiving particular attention in research in this country, and often provide an extremely lucid introduction to relatively unknown subjects. Though given by experts, lectures are rarely too difficult for freshers to understand.

I visited the President of the Biological Society, who was particularly enthusiastic as this is the Society's 21st year, and it plans even more ambitious activities than previously. "The field trips, evening meetings and lunch-hour film shows which the society has held in the past will be continued this year," he said. "Field trips of one or more days' duration are made to such places as Mana and Kapiti Islands, the Tararua Range, the South Coast of Wellington, and so on. At each evening meeting a guest speaker discusses some topical subject of general as well as of biological interest.

The showing of films at lunch time has proved extremely popular, as many as a hundred students attending some screenings.

The Chemistry Society has as yet considered no business more serious than their float for Process; their usual activities are films and lectures.

The Photographic Society has as its main aim the completion of a new darkroom in the army hut by the Low Temperature Lab. Members will be able to develop and print their photographs and the society will provide a service as recorder of college

activities. Lectures for beginners will be held as well as the usual ones for those interested in advanced methods and unusual subjects.

The Maths and Physics Society has prepared a promising programme for its thirty-fourth year (biologists note). The speakers include a geophysicist, a nuclear physicist and mathematicians. Professor Hughes has agreed to address the society. This should be of wide interest and may help end the childish dislike of philosophers which some scientists profess (vide Fred Hoyle). As usual, the year's Honours bods will be required to give an account of themselves. A finalised programme, printed in a convenient form, should be available in a few weeks.

"Salient" hopes to report some of these activities in future issues, because we believe they are of interest to a wider public than they usually reach.

**ROBERT H. SMITH**  
**PHOTOGRAPHERS**

For All Student Activities.

**EXTRAV—CAPPING**

**RAPID HIGH QUALITY SERVICE.**

**"SEEK JUSTICE, NOT APPEASEMENT"**

**A REPLY TO THE PEACE COUNCIL**

**REV. DR. M. MULCAHY,** Catholic Students' Guild chaplain, was the chief speaker at the Guild's last meeting of the first term. He dealt mainly with the responsibility of Australia and New Zealand as outposts of Christian civilisation in the South-West Pacific and as a bridge between the West and Asia.

In passing, he referred to the "Appeasers," one of whom, Rev. F. J. Hartley, had spoken at V.U.C. before Easter, was reported at length in the last issue of "Salient." Dr. Mulcahy stressed the importance for the peacemaker of seeking justice. "Seek for peace and all you get is appeasement. Seek for justice—to have the rights of individuals and of nations respected—and you will get real peace.

"Of course, every international difference should be settled by negotiation, and not by force. So should every difference between individuals, between families, and so on. But the purpose behind such negotiations should be right. There might be a genuine desire to find a basis of agreement in some just and fair compromise. There might be, on the contrary, merely a desire to keep the other side talking, while the time gained was being put to use in consolidating strength. For that side, peace was merely a weapon. Such was the Kremlin's motive throughout the four-year negotiations period after World War II. That period ended

with the balance of power quite altered in the Soviet favour . . . . ."

The speaker held that the only way to make sure of at least some sort of just bargain being struck now was some equality of power between the disputants, and that meant a solid front of firmness from the West. Strong regional alliances, such as Nato and Anzus, were an aid to justice being achieved, and so, to peace. If they really desired peace, the "Peace Council People" should not be so constantly working to have the West weaken itself unconditionally. That was precisely what the Reds wanted. He hoped that the free world would take a positive stand, not with the flabby Peace Council plea of "cease-fire," but in the truly Christian demand for "justice"—justice for individuals and for peoples, including free elections and the recognition of all personal, family and national rights. The pre-requisite of peace was the elimination of injustice everywhere, and that included the Soviet system, too, which was directly causing such overwhelming misery among the eight hundred millions now in its grip.

Dr. Mulcahy thought that unless the Peace Council gave up its appeasement tactics and took up the fight for justice everywhere, it revealed itself as just another fifth-column movement, and its Australian and New Zealand branches merely parts of that legion of fellow-travellers and undercover agents working industriously (up to last month under the direction of V. M. Petrov, from Canberra) to implement the Kremlin plan of softening up Australia and New Zealand for the advance of the Red Armies down the line of the Moscow-Sydney axis, which is the aim of Communist global strategy.

**SPINSTERS' and BACHELORS' UNITE!**

**S.C.M. SUNDAY SERVICE**  
 May 30, 4 p.m.  
 Little Theatre  
 Tea to Follow  
**ALL WELCOME**

IN an interview with the Hon. Angela Phipps, "Salient" learned that the next function of the Spinsters' and Bachelors' Clubs is to be an Investiture, to be held in the Upper Gymnasium on Friday, June 4.

The Hon. Angela said that a large number of guests are being invited, and that she is confident that the function will compare very favourably with the similar ceremony held in Wellington earlier this year. Her experience in the preparations for that event will, she is assured, prove most useful.

Asked about details of the Investiture, the Hon. Angela said that the awards will commemorate deeds beneficial to the academic, civic and national communities, and that the arts will not be forgotten, nor even the world of trade. The recipients will represent a variety of Faculties.

On behalf of the Spinsters' Club, the Hon. Angela stated that the Club is debating whether or not to seek affiliation with the Delilah Club of Oxford University. The members of this club go out only with male students who wear beards; it is a recognised convention that the beards need not be grown by the wearers. The Hon. Angela said that the Duke of Edinburgh wore a beard some years ago and looked simply divine.

"I have always believed that love is the most beautiful thing in the world, and has nothing to do with sex."  
 —Letter in "Women's Own"

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## Rugby . . .

## THE "SICK MAN" REVIVES

SATURDAY'S win has enabled Varsity to keep within striking distance of the Jubilee Cup. During the term holidays, Ponoke defeated Varsity, using tactics which broke up the open play of the students and so causing their first defeat of the season.

Next time out against Petone, the genius of Bob Scott was the rock against which our hopes were dashed. Last Saturday, playing Wellington, one of the weaker teams of the competition, a depleted University side, contrary to the gloomy predictions of a local paper, gave an entertaining display and gained a well-merited win. The points difference could have been much greater, but two or three rulings by the referee whittled down Varsity's possible margin.

Forwards played a solid game and the big guns of the scrum, Nepia, Burden and Baran, formed the nucleus of a solid rucking unit. In the opinion of the writer, the Varsity scrum could unbend just a little in their high standard of clean play. Without condoning dirty play, it was obvious in one of the games which University lost, that a little more fire and righteous anger in the forwards might have convinced certain "knuckle-boys" in the opposing scrum that their tactics are not profitable nor in the best interests of the game—especially if they find themselves dealt with in like manner.

It was encouraging to see the promoted younger players performing so well, especially as the representative fixtures weakened the team considerably.

Any discussion of talent would be incomplete without the name of W. H. Clark. Sufficient to say that the superlatives lavished on him by many sports writers have been honestly deserved and most patrons at the Park are convinced that there are two Varsity players wearing No. 9 and white headgear.

We are pleased to see I. H. Kawharu displaying some of the form he revealed in last year's Maori team. Previously he has been relatively docile and inclined to drift across the paddock. With so many of the regular back-line playing in unison, it fell to him to organise the backs and initiate movements. He did his job admirably and if his play remains at that standard, the Varsity back-line will again be as lethal as it was last season.

Many people are regarding Varsity "as the sick man" of Wellington Rugby and delighting in the practice of metaphorically kicking a man when he is down. At the beginning of the season we said that Varsity was the best team in the competition. We still hold to that opinion. We have definitely got the talent and our two recent losses will be the spur to send Victoria again to the premier position.

—SPORTS ED.

## NEVIL SHUTE

WELL-KNOWN English novelist, Nevil Shute, holds some very interesting views on the future possible developments of the Commonwealth and its universities. In his opinion the Commonwealth will become more prosperous and the only link that will bind it to Britain will be the Royal Family. However, he feels that it will be more than a 100 years before any Commonwealth University or any other institution will be able to equal Oxford, Cambridge, or Harvard in the fields of higher education and research.

—E.A.W.

STANDARD PRESS, WELLINGTON

## WEIR HERE AGAIN

BACK TO THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE: The second term has started and even as we write this column, Weir men are returning full of good resolutions and home cooking, to the familiar haunts. Those who are more far sighted and have heard the old College proverb: "First term—too early for work, second term—too cold, third term—too late," have brought back warm clothing. In fact we think that it would not be vergin' on the ridiculous to say that some who are wise already are trimming their lamps with an eye to finals.

## Weir In Proceh

In the dark days before the lifting of the Council's ban on Proceh an Emergency Operations Committee was formed in Weir. Plans which would have done credit to a Stern Gang led by Heath Robinson were laid. One scheme for ringing a certain Councillor at intervals was considered and—we vouch for this—later discarded by Weir. But no action was taken until the final Council decision was made.

When the ban was lifted, "Operation Laurel" (remember Laurel, the cove who used to sling custard pies at Hardy?) was swung into action. Capping Eve was a dark and stormy night, and a hapless constabulary was out in force and warm overcoats. We don't know who was out to keep them amused, but we have heard that many on beat duty had a fruitless vigil . . . others were entertained by explosions in the Taj Mahals and Parliament Buildings in the city; some were so intrigued by an explosion outside the T.A.B. that they insisted on going in to look for burglars. . . . others again applied themselves diligently to removing notices and a certain road block, complete with detour signs . . . there was also a mighty explosion on the steps of the Central Police station—so the Police laundry staff informed our junior reporter. . . .

A great amount of effort was put into floats and Haka Party organisation. The Mau Mau battle and Clifton C. Fadiman welcome were schemes devised in Weir and lights in the Home burned undimmed throughout Thursday night as the banging of hammers and barely repressed expletives of the frustrated poster staff went on incessantly, with only the occasional break for a little stimulant—coffee of course. Guy Fowles (O.C., Emergency Committee), Terry Corbett, Rory O'Connor and Laurie Sinclair, were just a few of the stalwarts who worked unceasingly to ensure the success of Capping Day activities.

And the Proceh itself . . . well, you saw it. Your Weir reporters can only express the hope that next year Wellington's University may follow the lead given by Halsey's boys—and be permitted to process through the main streets of our City.

Sackcloth and Ashes: Apologies to one Boon who was quoted in this column last issue as winning the Varsity tennis title. Barry was runner up.

Extrav. and Cappcade: Weir provided no Haka Party this year to draw or drive the crowds into the Opera House owing to an unprecedented number of members going away for the vacation. Several, how-

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## HARRIERS . . .

## SHAW BATON RELAY

LAST Saturday two fit and fast University teams splashed their way into the major placings in the first interclub run of the season. Running in conditions far from ideal Colin Candy at the end of the first lap had placed the "A" team in handy second position. Dick Gilbert, somewhat recovered from Extrav excesses, quickly closed the gap with an excellent run to take over the lead. The lead was consolidated by two good laps from Mike Trubridge and Tim Beaglehole so that with the University's three mile record holder, Graeme Stevens to take over from Peter Joyce, the clubs second successive victory in this event was assured.

Meanwhile a handy run by Bob Croker and a first class effort by John Hunt had brought the "B" team up into third place. This good work, kept up by John Riseborough, Ieuan Hyslop, and Tony Gow, was capped by John Mahon who dashed away from Scottish to gain second place.

Saturday's successes give some indication of the club's strength this season and suggest that provided the necessary training is done, there is no reason why University should not be among the leaders in the Masterton Relay or any other interclub event this season.

ever, took part both front and back-stage in one of the best Extrav for years. "Cappcade 1954" was extra good. We salaam to the editor, Ian (neither Sir Carol nor Sir John) Rich.

Footnote: Our Jolly Rugger Weather—Pressure Chepps, pressure—On the Ball 'till the daylight flees—type of paragraph. The Weir football team has to date been a decided success. Drawn entirely from Weir, but—and we would emphasise this—playing first and foremost as a Varsity team for the Varsity Club, the Weir Wonders (you wonder how some of them have the nerve to appear in shorts), are at the present at the top of their grade. As yet unbeaten, this team is playing a brand of fast open football which might well be emulated in the higher grades. Inter-Fac' sprint champion, Q. Almas, is at present top scorer, while G. C. (Give me a Comb) Harris must receive credit for much of the organisation. If you like entertaining football, we suggest you see these boys in action.

—J.D.—N.H.

A fine disregard for historical accuracy was shown by a member of the Otago Harbour Board at its monthly meeting recently. Referring to the plans of a portion of the board's equipment one member noted for his flowery descriptions, said: "They must have come out of the Ark when Noah sailed to discover America."

A CHAT WITH THE  
SMOKER

## BRIAR PIPES

THE prevalent idea amongst smokers is that when a pipe burns the fault is entirely in the briar. So far from this being the case, it may be entirely due to one or more of the following causes:

1. The dryness of the new pipe making it smoke hot and liable to burn—

To season or to make a new briar pipe smoke cool, pass cold water with sugar or honey added through bowl and stem before smoking it, or, if time permits, fill the bowl with this solution and let it rest for an hour or so. It should then be smoked slowly until a protective layer of carbon has formed inside the bowl to avoid the risk of charring the briar.

2. Filling tobacco too loosely in the bowl and quick smoking, causing it to flame instead of smoulder. This applies more especially to very dry tobacco—

For the first dozen smokes, please fill your pipe as tightly with tobacco as possible and more so towards the stem side of the bowl. Light up evenly and well. Press down the lighted tobacco after the first pull or so.

3. Smoking in the open in windy weather, producing a forced draught on one portion of the bowl—

To those who are obliged to smoke while driving, motoring, etc., a pipe cover is recommended.

Similarly cracking of the briar may be due to:

1. Allowing a surplus "caking" of the bowl; the outward expansion of the "cake" when the pipe is cooling being more powerful than the internal contraction of the briar, causing the latter to crack.

This often occurs when a heavily carboned pipe is being rested. The accumulation of "cake" should be removed periodically, 1/16in. thickness is a good margin to leave.

2. Emptying the pipe by knocking or hitting the top of the bowl (while still hot) against a hard substance will have a similar effect, although a pipe should be emptied immediately after smoking.

Heavy knocking of a pipe should be avoided as much as possible.

To clean a pipe, an ordinary woolly cleaner is best, dipped in methylated spirit.

Always remove mouthpiece by gripping same close to the juncture of bowl and mouthpiece, to avoid undue strain on the stem and possible breakage of the push or spigot.

Heavy smokers should always keep three or four pipes in use alternately. This ensures long life to your briar and pleasurable smoking.

Smokers must bear in mind that briar root, being wood, is of its very nature combustible and, therefore, cannot be absolutely guaranteed against burning.

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