

Secretary, Treasurer Resign Emphatic Protest

At the last meeting of the executive (Monday 8th), Secretary John Marchant threw down the gauntlet of his resignation. It was picked up.

At the same time, committee member Tony Ellis moved a motion successfully excluding "Salient" representatives, including the Editor, from the meeting.

Reasons given by the Secretary for his action were outlined in an explanatory note affixed to his letter of resignation which he tabled at the close of the five-hour meeting.

After the Secretary had read his letter, Miss Gillian Hemery, 3rd year Arts student (recently elected) said: "We have tried to find out about the organisation . . . we have not received any indication as to how we have failed . . ."

Mr. Marchant then left the room. Said men's vice-president Jim Hutchison: "If he had been on the executive for a longer period last year, he might have been more tolerant."

Men's committee member Ellis then moved "That we go into committee from the time that Mr. Marchant left the room." It was proposed by others that "We go into committee from the time the letter of resignation was presented . . ." There were some objections to this—Miss Hemery said: "Mr. Marchant's not here . . ." but the motion was put and carried without dissent.

"Salient" staff members left the room.

Twenty-three minutes later, when the meeting came out of camera, Mr. Marchant and "Salient" representatives returned.

Chairman W. Iles then moved "That we regret Mr. Marchant's offer to resign, and that we ask him to reconsider, and that we accept his offer to remain in office for a period of two weeks." This motion was carried with Miss Grocott recording her dissent.

Asked by the Chairman if he had anything to say, Secretary Marchant replied: "That decision was not made today or yesterday, but has been accruing over several weeks . . . I am quite firm in my own mind about my resignation. I am also very grateful that you ask me to stay in office."

Committee member Rich: ". . . we do regret that he has made this decision . . ."

Tony Ellis: ". . . exceedingly so . . ."

The chairman declared the meeting closed, and set the next executive meeting for Monday, August 22, at 7 p.m.

The following is the complete text of Mr. Marchant's letter of resignation and accompanying statement.

"I pour contempt on any person elected to Executive office who does not fulfil the obligations and functions of his appointment; I have no regard for anyone who does not attempt more than that which is his clear and simple duty.

"Executive office is an exacting task which requires hard work and much personal sacrifice.

"Passive armchair administration and mere lip-service are a crippling curse and a sure sign that consciences are shrivelling and hardening and dying.

"Already many election promises appear as a fantastic collection of shuffling insincerities.

"I can no longer be a member of an elected body which has in its number some who are failing in their duty as servants of our Association.

"I therefore present my letter of resignation."

Mon. August 8, 1955

"The President,
VUCSA.
Dear Sir,

I write this letter to tell you of my determination to resign as secretary of the Association and as a member of the Executive.

"I shall be happy to continue in my office for a period of no longer than two weeks from now until a date which the Executive may determine.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MARCHANT,
Secretary."

Editorial Comment

MR. MARCHANT'S resignation from the Secretaryship of the Students' Association is his most emphatic protest against apathetic members of the Executive.

"Salient" expresses its fullest confidence in Mr. Marchant, whom "Salient" regrets has found it necessary to take this drastic step. It will be argued that, as he has himself been elected by the Student body, he has a responsibility to fight that apathy inside the executive.

Mr. Whitta's resignation from the Treasurer's office is ostensibly on the

grounds that, without Mr. Marchant, the Executive will become another "caretaker Government" and that he can carry on his duties as well as before outside the Association. With this latter course "Salient" agrees, but suggests that Mr. Whitta's attempt to coerce the Executive into refusing to accept Mr. Marchant's resignation, while laudable, may not achieve its purpose either.

For Mr. Whitta, it appears an easy way out.

"Salient" suggests that the wisest plan for Executive is to refuse to accept either Mr. Marchant's or Mr. Whitta's resignation and, with consciences now brought to life, go ahead with their work of administering the funds and protecting the interests of the Association generally. Mr. Marchant's protest has done by this time as much as it will do, and if he cannot withdraw, the Association loses a conscientious Secretary.

Mr. Whitta's resignation, as he intimates, will not make much difference.

Mr. Marchant's protest is directed against some who do the absolute minimum of work—even less—and who are borne along by the few whose time and energies are wholeheartedly devoted to furthering the interests of the Association.

It is unjust for the few to have to do, on top of their own duties, the work allocated to others.

The whole sequence of events does in "Salient's" view indicate most strongly that there is something wrong with the present system of election and representation. Too often those who are elected are not capable. An overhaul of the system is necessary, but now is not the time. Finals are nearly upon us and we could not do the task justice.

The more the basic issues become obscured, the harder it becomes to find a solution.

SOCCER

THE team to represent Victoria University at this year's Tournament is, with one exception P. Naidu (from the senior side), comprised of players from the 2nd and 3rd teams.

The team is as follows:—

P. Naidu: Consistently plays an outstanding game at right wing for the senior side. He is very fast and has superb ball control.

S. George: Always maintains a tireless defensive game at centre half. This player tackles hard and well.

R. Holland: At wing plays a good game and centres the ball well.

D. Saxton: Back, has a powerful kick, and uses his weight to advantage.

A. Gopalan: Shows good form in his goal-keeping position.

D. Law: Plays a fine game at half-back.

C. Louis: Is very nippy at centre forward and takes a centred ball very well.

M. Clements: Is a very tenacious player at full-back.

B. Goffman: Half-back, has missed several games this season due to an injury, but is now back on his old steady form.

T. Steiner: Half-back, is a keen lower grade player who always produces a fine game.

J. Youles: Plays a solid positional game at half-back.

B. Reddy: Has represented Victoria at Tournament on various occasions. He has just recovered from the effects of an injury to his right knee but should be in good form.

MINIATURE RIFLES

Four members of the team have shot previously in tournaments, and the fifth, a newcomer to the sport, is capable of returning good scores when on form. The team misses Brian Bradburn who will now be shooting for Auckland; and Jim Mansell, who has been shooting well for VUC in inter-club matches, but is unable to make the trip.

Ysabel Corkill: Representing VUC for the third time; has been shooting consistently well this season; gained third place in both Wellington and Wairarapa Championships recently. In Wellington team this season.

Bryden Williamson: Has a large number of possibles to his credit

DELEGATES' MESSAGE

ONCE AGAIN Winter Tournament is upon us—this time in the "Sunny South" in the City of Dunedin. Victoria this year will be entering the lists with a fine record from last year's Winter Tournament.

REMEMBER that last year's team won the Shield: It is up to you, the members of this year's team, to retain it.

REMEMBER that when you hit Dunedin you have two duties—to have and to hold. To have a good time, and to hold the shield.

On paper, our teams appear quite strong, but it is in the field that they must prove themselves. May good fortune guide you and the might of right be with you.

VICTORIA PRO VICTORIA

JIM HUTCHISON, TONY ELLIS, Delegates.

NEWS FLASH.—(Rec. 5 p.m., Thursday, N.Z.U.S.N.-A.)—On Friday, August 12th, a party numbering 130 will depart from the Port of Wellington on board the s.s. "Maori" on the first stage of a voyage of exploration into the deep South.

We are told that they are in search of the famed W.T. Shield which, although previously discovered in Wellington last August, has since gone missing and it is believed that it will be found in the vicinity of the Octagon. Because the area is still only in a semi-civilized state, our representatives are well-armed with a varied assortment of armament ranging from miniature rifles to shuttle-cocks.

Leader of the expedition is Gentleman Jim (Sweaty) Hutchison, with Monsieur Toni Ellis—a renowned swordsman and fencer—as his second-in-command. Other well-known members of the team are Messrs. Gilbert and Stevens of long-distant running fame, Boon and Carver, whose prowess with the machet and spoon will stand them in good stead against all-comers, and representatives from Fiji and India, Messrs. Naidu and Reddy who will (respectively) storm the defences of the opposing force, and defend our own. A speedy frontal attack is expected from NZU Blue-holders, Salt and Darroccott in their own specialised field, and the success of the expedition will be partly assured if they succeed in their quest for the "basket" in which a portion of the shield is kept.

The female representatives include Mademoiselle Diana Fussell, another fencer, Miss Hazel Blick who, with the support of her five female cohorts, will join the male team in the "basket" search; and Miss Myrna Bertrand, whose hard hitting tactics should bring her within shooting distance of her goal.

A secondary delegation attached to the expedition are Messrs. Iles, Marchant, and Elder Statesman Whitta, who will be occupied with "peace talks" when victory has been assured for those fighting under the green and gold banner.

Those at home wish all members of the expedition success in their varied fields—Play the game—make friends, and above all, strive with all your might for success. You have earned your representative status—but show that you have deserved it and uphold the name and honour of the University to which you belong.

this season. Selected for NZU team last year, and has represented Wellington this season.

Dick Patston: Another Wellington representative, and is shooting for VUC for the second time.

Walter Iles: Representing VUC for the third time; will not let NZUSA interfere with his shooting this year, and should do well.

Nick Turner: Has been shooting for less than a year, but turned in good scores this season so far. A little inconsistent, but with concentrated practice should be an asset to the team.

FENCING

THIS year the Fencing Club is fielding its usual strong team. It comprises: Dawn France, third place-getter in the Intermediate Provincial Women's Foil Champs which was won by another team member, Alison Hancock. Both Dawn and Alison have several years' fencing experience to their credit and pro-

vide between them a disconcerting variety of style so important in a strong team. Diana Fussell leads the women's team and is a senior fencer with much Tournament experience claiming first place in the intermediate last year.

On the male side we have another intermediate provincial in Christopher Beeby who has hit form in a formidable manner after a year's fencing "black-out." Kent Beard is a tall newcomer to University fencing and apart from claiming third place in this year's intermediate division is a power to be reckoned with especially in the sabre which unfortunately is only unofficial this year. Alan Wilson has also clinched his place in the team after years of research into style and he has developed a powerful quadruple disengage.

The captain of this year's team is Tony Ellis, an experienced fencer who has improved greatly since last year and without the burden of, organisation on his shoulders (Tony was fencing controller at Wellington in 1954) he is well qualified to lead the strongest side we have fielded since the Hampton era.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

UNDER the guidance and firm hand of their coach Harry Gajadhan the VUC team has improved a great deal over that which put up such a miserable show at last year's Tournament and the girls are venturing South full of confidence that they can meet the other University teams on an equal footing.

Captain of the team is Myrna Bertrand, of four years Tournament experience and a NZU player and VUC Blue of 1953-54. Her knowledge of Tournament play should have a steadying influence over some of the new and inexperienced players. Another who has quite a few Tournaments tucked away behind her belt (or wherever women tuck things away) is Audrey Wellwood, also a VUC Blue holder. Jo Herschberg is attending her second Tournament and has already done very well this season in gaining a place in the Wellington "A" team.

Two newcomers to University hockey are Mary Huntly and Cherry Pointon.

Mary, a Wairarapa girl, is the centre-half and her keenness and fitness has set a fine standard which other members of the team could well have tried to attain. She will be an excellent pivot in her centre-half position and should play a large part in guiding the fortunes of the team. Cherry, a Wellington "B" representative for the past two years, will be the mainstay of the backline and her strong hard hitting will serve her well.

ARTS LAW AND COMMERCE GRADUATES

Graduates who are interested in a career in

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

are invited to write to or call on

MR. E. A. MISSEN,

Superintendent of Staff Training, Public Service Commission, University Senate Buildings, Bowen Street, WELLINGTON, C.I.

WOMEN'S INDOOR BASKETBALL

THIS has been one of the VUC club's most successful seasons for many years as they have fielded two teams in the local senior grade and both have had their fair share of success. But their good fortune does not extend to include Winter Tournament. Over half of the "A" team are not available to go South and so the team includes more than the usual quota of first year players which to a certain extent diminishes their chances of retaining the Holland Shield.

New-comers to the team are Kath Bedingfield, a fast, active and most promising guard; Jennifer East, who plays with enthusiasm and determination and who is improving with every game she plays; Ailsa Smith, another guard who has good ball-handling and neat footwork but who lacks experience on the court; and Fenelope Miske, a neat and cool player who is useful both in the guards and in the forwards.

With the team again are Judy Dayeaport and Ann Couling who made their debut at Tournament last year. Both are playing much improved basketball and have the experience of a season in the senior "A" grade to give them confidence. Judy was top scorer for the VUC "B" team last year and we hope she will be among the high scoring Tournament as well. She is playing a good fast game and has a fair variety of shots. Ann Couling will be the mainstay of the guards. She is re-earning the ball well and overcoming a tendency to foul.

Two veterans of the VUC team will be Betty Beasley and Hazel Black. Although this is only their second appearance for Victoria they have both been playing for several years. Betty is the captain of the VUC "B" team and is a steady if unspectacular forward with some unorthodox shots that can be quite disconcerting. Hazel Black came to VUC last year from CUC and had a most successful season. She captained both the VUC and NZU teams at the Tournament and played for the Wellington and North Island "B" teams at the National Championships. This year she has played for the Wellington "A" team and will again captain VUC at Dunedin.

Lack of experience and team co-ordination are likely to be our greatest difficulties but with plenty of solid practice, enthusiasm, optimism and our fair share of good luck we hope to retain a little of the halo which so unexpectedly fell on us last year.

GOLF

THE following team will represent Victoria on the Otago Golf Club's Balmacevan links: B. R. Boon, H. R. Carver, D. V. Barry, H. J. Bennett. Boon and Carver were members of the VUC team which won the golf last year and thereby contributed 6 points to Victoria's overall success. The team this year is as strong and, on paper, should contribute some points.

Barry Boon: Well known veteran of Varsity Tournaments, Barry is known in Wellington golfing circles as a reliable and experienced player. On a handicap of 3 he may be expected to score well.

Pete Carver: Last year's NZU champion, now on 4, should again perform well. He has been playing regularly at weekends and has also competed with some success in several local tournaments.

Dave Barry: An aggressive player from Manor Park on an 8 handicap; if on form should be a decided asset.

Brian Bennett: On a 10 handicap, takes his golf seriously and is a consistent performer.

In addition to the above team a South to play in the NZU championships.

SKI-ING

DURING the first week of the August holidays 34 skiers from the six universities will gather for the annual ski tournament, to be held this year on Mt. Ruapehu.

Victoria are the hosts this year and through the courtesy of the Ruapehu Ski Club accommodation has been arranged in their hut and lodge.

Victoria will be fielding a fairly strong team in the men's section, but even so, it is expected that Canterbury or Otago will be very hard to beat. Harry Clifford, Head ski instructor at the Chateau Tongariro, is to set the slalom, giant slalom and downhill courses, which will no doubt be up to National Championship standards.

Those representing Victoria will be: Bernie O'Shea, Sven Vartik, Tom Garland and Mike Edmonds with Jim Larson as emergency.

MEN'S INDOOR BASKETBALL

THE members of the team are as follows:—

R. SALT, Captain (Forward), Hawke's Bay 1951-52, VUC Blue 1953-54, NZU Blue 1954 NZU "A" 1953-54, Wellington 1954-55.

P. DARRACOTT (Forward), Otago "B" 1952-53, NZU "B" 1952, Wellington "B" 1954, VUC Blue 1954, NZU "A" 1954, NZ YMCA 1954, Wellington 1955.

J. LEWIS (Centre), Wairarapa 1950-53, NI "B" Grade 1951, Wellington "B" 1954, NZU "A" 1954, VUC Blue 1954, NZ YMCA 1954.

VUC MEN'S INDOOR B.B. TEAM 2
E. WRIGHT (Guard), OU Blue 1954, Otago "B" 1954, NZU "A" 1954, Wellington 1955.

C. HOY (Guard), Wellington 1955, **P. DOOGUE** (Guard), NZU "B" 1954, Wellington B 1955.

J. McPHEE.

VUC MEN'S INDOOR B.B. TEAM 3

The club is having a lot of trouble finding eight people to travel to Tournament and at present have only six certainties.

However, the team will field a very strong forward line with Salt, Darrocott and Lewis. Salt and Darrocott were members of the Wellington team which won the North Island Champs at Gisborne last month and both these players have been consistent scorers in the local competition. This combination, all NZU players last year, has shown when on form that they are the best attacking forward line in Wellington.

Another member of the NZU "A" team last year in E. Wright, formerly of Otago, ensures a sound defence and provides a valuable set shot when the team is faced with a tight zone defence.

Other guards include C. Hoy, a young player, who until injured a few weeks ago was improving consistently and it is hoped that he will return to form quickly when he resumes his place in the team. Both these guards have played for Wellington this season in provincial games.

P. Doogue will prove a valuable player from the "B" team being able to fill both the centre and guard positions and having gained experience at the North Island "B" Grade Champs. where he represented Wellington.

Unfortunately G. McDermott and J. Hamilton (of swimming fame), two promising "B" team players were not available. It is hoped that John McPhee, a guard with plenty of ability will be able to travel with the team.

If the members of the team play up to form Victoria should again win the Title. Two factors which the team will have to note if they are going to repeat last year's win are quick service from guards to forwards in fast breaking play and the ability to move the ball in order to break a tight defence.

TABLE TENNIS

MEN: Alan Robinson, Roly Woods, Wim Verhoeven, Tim Twist.

WOMEN: Elizabeth Lesser, Val Henderson.

The men's team this year is, on the whole, not as strong as last year's, having only one "A" Grade player instead of three as in 1954. Alan Robinson is the only "A" grade man and he has already established a fine record in the game. He is the present NZU Champion and also the 1954 Wanganui singles Champ. Roly Woods, the other member of the top-bracket is an "A" Reserve player in Wellington but he has the experience of last year's Tournament in which he played very well.

Both of the other two players are "B" Grade and both have put up some very good performances in Club games.

The women's team however is equally as strong as last year and both girls will be very difficult to topple.

Although it is hoped that Victoria will once again take the Table Tennis Championship we do not expect the points to come as easy as in 1954 and so we will enjoy the competition all the more.

Answers to Correspondents:

A.J.: (1) Re AGM reporting—Inadequate we agree, but proportionate to interest taken in it. (2) Criticism was on specific points and was factually correct. The opinions could be construed as constructive in potential.

J. B. Collett: Referred to the secretary of the Students' Association, who is taking action.

James Hunter Caple: Noted.

HARRIERS

VICTORIA has taken all the trophies in the Cross-Country section of Tournament for the past two years and there is no reason for doubting that it can be done again this year. The team is as follows:—
Dick Gilberd, Graeme Stevens, Tony Gow, Ian Sussex, Rod Orange, John Ryan and Bob Crocker. Only two of these (Ryan and Sussex) are new to Tournament, but they have already gained sufficient experience in top-grade competition this season to allay any fears concerning their performance.

Individual performances are as follows:—

Dick Gilberd: The present NZU title-holder, Dick so far this season has been running on his natural stamina and has not yet reached the high peak of fitness that enabled him to take the title last year. However, with solid training he could repeat last year's performance as the rugged Dunedin course should find him right at home.

Graeme Stevens: At the moment Graeme is running better than ever before and will also be a strong contender for the title. A brilliant final lap in the Masterton relay and a rugged third in his first assault of the 10 mile Vosseler Shield course brought him to Club Championship honours at Paekakariki recently.

Tony Gow: Is another who should be well to the fore, as his time in the Vosseler was only 4 seconds slower than Stevens'. Tony is remarkably fit at present and has forced his way amongst the best in the province.

Ian Sussex: In a few months has proved a powerful and consistent runner. He put up fastest time for his lap in the Masterton Relay and rolled home in 14th place in the Vosseler, content that nobody had overtaken him during the preceding nine miles.

Rod Orange: Is having his first season in open competition and opened his account by putting up second fastest time in his lap in the Relay besides running well in the Shaw Baton.

John Ryan: Who finished about two yards behind Orange in the Club Champs has sustained his form well since. His intelligent running and his handy knack of sticking close to Sussex for much of the journey, should serve him well.

Bob Crocker: Is not yet as fit as he was for last year's run but he has the matter well in hand and will be a man to watch at Dunedin.

Victoria's prospects are bright. Everything will depend on the man who runs fourth in the team, as only the first four in count for the Dixon trophy. Whether he be Sussex, Ryan, Crocker or Orange he must finish well towards the front. And solid work by the three top men will be necessary to keep the opposition out of the major places.

DRAMA

FOR this year's Winter Tournament drama contest the VUC club has chosen to present excerpts from Andre Maurois' "The Art of Being Happily Married." The play is light and sophisticated and we feel that it suits our cast well. Those included in the team are a mixture of Drama Club personalities, some others not so familiar to the public eye.

The leading roles are being taken by Heather Scott and Laurie Atkinson. This is the first time that either of them have been members of a Tournament team but they are both showing an extremely good understanding of their respective parts, and are also fortunate in possessing pleasant stage personalities.

John Marchant, who had a small part in last year's play and who will be remembered by all for his most convincing acting as a waiter at the drama dinner and party, is another member of the team. He plays the part of an elderly French professor who more or less controls the whole works of the play. With the professor is Gillian Hemery who, as a girl student wishing to find out the facts of married life, has found a part which for some reason or other seems to suit her admirably.

The production is in the hands of Susan Blair and Rosemary Lovegrove, both of whom have had considerable experience in dramatic work both in and out of the University. Stage manager is indispensable Laurie Crighton, while set designer Bob Brockie and wardrobe mistress Noeline Johnston round up the team.

MEN'S HOCKEY

THIS years team is up to the standard of most previous VUC XI's and although we do not (in our usual modest way) express great confidence in our own ability to win the Seddon Stick we feel sure that we will not disgrace the Tournament by our presence. There is a solid stratum of senior players together with an influx of keen and promising younger members.

Bruce Bornholdt: (Full-back). This is Bruce's second Tournament and he is an experienced senior player. (Watch out girls). An ex-Hutt Valley High man he has on occasion played some good hard shots in the Wellington competition.

Murray Humphries: (Goalie). Murray made the senior team this year and has acquitted himself well against all Wellington forwards. He played at last Tournament and should have the full confidence of his teammates this year. Like Jaget Inder he is tall, dark and handsome with a tendency to kick.

Robbie MacArthur: (Full-back). First time up for VUC but is a strong man of the Senior Reserve grade. Has determination, a hard hit and a gentle manner.

Keith Beresford: (Right-Half). Another senior man of wide experience. A solid and reliable half especially on defence. Has shown an interest in the importation of Australian ideas into the game.

Bob Calkin: (Centre-Half). An NZU player of both 1953 and 1954. Bob is the most experienced player in the team despite his youth.

He has now curbed a tendency to distribute the ball indiscriminately and directs it in a more defined and controlled manner.

Bruce Buxton: (Left-Half). Another experienced campaigner who saw the light and came to us from Auckland. He is an excellent positional half capable of stopping any right wing one way or another. Most tenacious and angles his passes well.

Barry Cathro: (Half). One of the younger members showing distinct promise and Tournament experience should do him good. (In more ways than one).

Tom Ellison: (Forward). Like Cathro a product of Taranaki and a player who is capable of a sound performance in any position. A senior player this season and good in the circle and on the piano.

Noel Civil: (Forward). Centre forward in the senior team and determined in the circle. Highest goal scorer. A Whangarei man who is prepared to forget the past and concentrate on the future.

GOVIND BHULA: (Forward). An Indian boy with clever stick work and constructive play. He is a senior Reserve player of note but no relation to either Babu or Balbir Singh. At the moment we are trying to find out however if he is connected to Community Sing.

Dave Mummery: (Forward). An ex-Palmerston North man and a solicitor to boot. Dave has represented VUC at a previous Tournament and he is a determined player who if all else fails will argue his way into a goal.

Don Matheson: (Forward). Represented VUC last year and is a capable forward on all occasions. He has been a strong player in the Senior Reserve grade and should prove an asset in Dunedin.

Trev de Cleene: (Forward). An ex-Canterbury player who saw the error of his ways. A senior team member whose heart is often in his mouth especially in the circle. Like the Australian marsupial Trev is fast on the hops.

The VUC hockey team war-cry... "A handle downed is a tanner drowned."

BADMINTON

THE badminton team this year is almost the same as that which won the event in 1954. It is as follows (provisional):

Men: Jim Thomson, Graeme Russell, Larry O'Neill and Richard (Ted) Schroder.

Women: Louise Grieg, Joan McIntyre, Pauline Woods and Helen Wilkinson.

Three members of the team have so far represented Wellington this season, Mr. Russell and Misses Grieg and McIntyre, while all the other players have been hitting the ball well and have been in strict training in order to achieve some semblance of fitness for the trip South.

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S A L I E N T S U P P L E M E N T

12/8/55

At an emergency meeting of the Executive last night the resignation of Mr. Whitta was discussed at length but the matter was held over until 29th August. Mr. Whitta's resignation followed that of Mr. Marchant's tendered on Monday, 8th August. Subsequently, Mr. Whitta asked permission to withdraw his resignation.

As soon as the meeting was declared open Mr. Rich moved: 'That the Executive go into committee.' Chairman Iles refused to accept the motion at that stage. Mr. Iles then read Mr. Whitta's letter of resignation and his letter withdrawing that resignation, which read as follows:

'President,
V.U.C.S.A.

Dear Walter,

Following our telephone conversation regarding this whole resignation affair I wish to withdraw my conditional resignation. It seems to me that John Marchant may still be made to continue in office; and that being so, I am quite prepared and willing to pull my full weight in the position of Treasurer.

Upon reflection I can see that I would be better able to inaugurate my pet, the Health Scheme, from inside the Executive, and there are a number of things I wish to push through before I leave that august body.

Finally may I say that I sincerely believe that John can be persuaded to continue in office and I shall do my part in this direction.

10th August, 1955.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) J. M. WHITTA.

Mr. Iles then gave an account of telephone discussions between himself and Mr. Whitta prior to the meeting. Mr. Whitta stated that: 'Walter asked me if my resignation was definite. I replied that it was dependent on John's resignation.' This had been explained in his first letter, as the initiative that he (Marchant) had been injecting into the Executive would be gone.

Miss Fussell: 'What about the initiative that you were injecting?'

It was then moved, Lescher/Fussell: 'That the Executive do not permit Mr. Whitta to withdraw his resignation.'

Iles: 'I would prefer a positive motion.'

The motion was then withdrawn and it was moved, Hutchison/Powles: 'That Mr. Whitta be given leave to withdraw his resignation.'

Mr. Marchant had been approached by Mr. W. Iles during the day concerning Mr. Whitta's resignation. When asked to clarify his views on Mr. Whitta's resignation, Mr. Marchant said: 'If the Executive accepts Mr. Whitta's resignation I may well see my way clear to ask the meeting to accept the withdrawal of my resignation.'

Whitta: 'This is a most interesting problem.' He went on to say that Mr. Marchant's earlier statement did not seem to point a finger at any one member of the Executive. 'My resignation therefore appears to be the easy way out for him.' Mr. Whitta had thought that his resignation would be discussed on 22nd August after Mr. Marchant's. This smacked of conniving, he said. 'It may not be so, but that is the way I am inclined to look at it. The whole purpose of my resignation was to follow Mr. Marchant's. This Executive means a lot to me. Perhaps I have suffered more than anyone else from 'Salient's' bad publicity (reference to slating of old Executive in 'Salient', July 1st, 1955.)' Mr. Whitta said that he had contacted Mr. Mason who had told him that there was nothing else that he (Whitta) could do to help him. 'I have always been willing to do whatever has been asked of me. I have one or two pet schemes that I am interested in, like the Student Health Scheme. I feel that I have shown the requisite initiative and have pulled my weight in the Executive. I could say more but I now request the Executive to allow me to withdraw my resignation.'

Iles then pointed out that some of the criticism directed against Mr. Whitta as Treasurer was unjustified. The job was a sinecure at any time.

Whitta: 'He cannot do much as Treasurer but he can as an Exec. member.'

Hemery: 'The issue is really a question of voting between two people.'

Whitta: 'That's the way he (Mr. Marchant) put it, but I hope I can still persuade John.'

Mr. Hutchison then stated that as Mr. Whitta was an N.Z.U.S.A. Delegate leaving that night he would suggest that discussion on the resignation be held over till the next meeting. He did not agree with the attitude of either the Secretary or the Treasurer in resigning. 'It is like deserting a sinking ship' he said. The Secretary's resignation was not directed against anyone in particular but it appeared there was a certain amount of connivance, with little credit to those concerned.

Powles: Stated that 'We should not be driven to choose,' between Mr. Marchant and Mr. Whitta.

Rich: Agreed saying 'All Jim's points are good ones. But apart from that I don't like to see the Executive say 'no' to a withdrawal of a resignation. I would rather that the matter was left for a while. John (Marchant) has given the view that either Mr. Whitta or he will have to resign.' Mr. Rich then indicated that he would support the motion that Mr. Whitta be permitted to withdraw his resignation.

Grocott: 'The elections were recent. Mr. Whitta was unopposed. He had already been in office a year and if he was thought to be unsatisfactory, why was an opponent not found.'

Mr. Iles then explained that the Treasurership was the only position which requires a qualification (only a qualified accountant could have stood against Mr. Whitta).

Fussell (to Whitta): 'What would you do if we accept Mr. Marchant's resignation?'

Whitta: 'I cannot say. I feel that I can still persuade Mr. Marchant to withdraw his resignation.'

Barnett: 'Mr. Whitta has made clear to us his position. I would now like to hear Mr. Marchant clear up his own position.'

Mr. Marchant then read a statement: 'Ladies & Gentlemen, By the severity of my action we have suddenly become the centre of critical interest. To many my determination to resign has been misunderstood and in some cases sadly misconstrued.

My purpose has been to shock you into the realization of the remarkable responsibility which Executive office imposes. If you are sensitive you will have been terrified, as I have been, by the magnitude of your task. Where thirteen people are required to minister to the needs of the many College clubs and societies there is no room for anyone who does not throw himself wholeheartedly into his work. Those of our number who have worked hard and conscientiously within the limited time which is available to them will be clean and settled in their consciences; those of us who have been tardy will be spurred into action if we are worthy and those who lack real interest will consider their resignation.

I promise further outbursts if some who have been tardy do not reveal a new spirit of real enthusiasm and work.'

Grocott: 'Mr. Marchant's action is irresponsible.'

Iles: denied that there had been any connivance: the meeting had been called on his own authority to consider Mr. Whitta's resignation and to clarify the position. In view of the fact that Mr. Marchant's resignation statement was in general terms, he felt that the sooner the position was clarified the better. He was quite sure that it was not possible to withdraw a resignation without the permission of the body to which it was addressed. 'I do not feel that the resignation should be withdrawn, nor do I feel that it should be accepted at this stage. I suggest that the resignation lie on the table until the meeting of 22nd August.'

Whitta: 'I can see the purpose behind this, but I would like to go south on the understanding that the withdrawal of my resignation has been accepted. I feel strongly about this attempt to condemn one member of the Executive.'

Ellis: 'Would you resign again if Mr. Marchant does not withdraw his resignation.'

Whitta: 'I will not want to resign again if Marchant resigns. The position has changed considerably since Monday night.'

Rich: 'It seems that the people here must decide whether they want Mr. Marchant on the Exec. or Mr. Whitta. This is not the time to decide it.'

Hemery: 'Why does Mr. Whitta think that Mr. Marchant will reconsider his decision within two weeks when he has been considering it already for a period of some weeks?'

Whitta: 'Because of the new circumstances which have arisen.'

Marchant: 'I have not tried to remove you. I still hold to my first statement. I would have achieved my purpose if anyone who had a twinge of conscience resigned. I promise further outbursts if some who have been tardy do not reveal a new spirit of real enthusiasm and work.'

Hutchison: 'What would have been the position if you had been elected President? Would you still have resigned?'

Marchant: 'Most certainly.'

Hemery: 'Do you hope to get somebody better and go against the whole idea of a voting system? If everybody in the world were not given a second chance a lot of good work would not have been done.'

Marchant: 'I would be prepared to give a second chance.'

Grocott: 'Thank you very much.'

Fussoll: Then said that she felt that Mr. Marchant was underestimating the authority of his position. If, instead of resigning, he had gone to the people to whom he was referring and had spoken to them individually, it would have carried a lot of weight. Much more perhaps than he thought.

Barnett: 'If Mr. Marchant resigns whenever things get slack he is setting himself up as a subjective judge.'

Marchant: 'I am entitled to do this. 2,000 others are doing this.'

Ellis: 'People should be able to do whatever they like as long as they don't hurt others.'

Whitta: 'Because I am going south tonight and a taxi is leaving shortly, I would like the motion to be put.'

Hutchison: 'Can I withdraw my motion.'

Iles: 'Only with the consent of your seconder and the leave of the meeting.'

Powles: 'I don't want to see us make a hasty decision. I withdraw my seconding.'

With the leave of the meeting the motion was withdrawn. It was then decided on the motion Hutchison/Lescher: 'That the resignations of Mr. Marchant and Mr. Whitta lie on the table until 29th August!(all members of Executive could not be present at the next scheduled meeting on 22nd August and Mr. Marchant agreed to remain in office until 29th August.)
