Vol. 20, No. 1

WELLINGTON, 4th MARCH, 1957

6d

1957 FRESHERS WILL USE NEW STUDENT BUILDING

"Unless there are many major alterations to the proposed plan of action ,those who join the College in 1957 may well expect to enjoy the pleasures of the new Student Union Building within the next two or three years," said Students' Association President, John Marchant, in a statement to "Salient" last week.

'It is very much hoped that the working drawings will be ready in time to allow for the calling of tenders and preliminary work to be done in readiness for a start to be made on the building later this year."

This statement followed the glad news announced a fortnight ago that the Government had approved the sketch plans for the building, and agreed to increase its subsidy of the project to £2 for every £1 collected by the College with a maximum grant of £100,000 in the first instance, and in the second instance a subsidy of £1 for every £2 collected by the College with a maximum of a further £15,000. Authority has also been given to raise moneys by loan. The building will cost just over a quarter of a million pounds.

Plans for a new Student Union Building at this College have been discussed on and off over the last thirty years. One look at the decrepit Gymnasium (the dirty cream wooden structure on the south side of the tennis courts) will convince the meanest student of the need for a slight improvement in the standard of student amenities. Compared with Students' buildings in the other three university centres, we stand shamed.

A Students' Building Committee was set up by the Students Association in 1935, and an energetic beginning was made to raising funds. After a stormy career (including a motion by a pre-war General Meeting to donate the proceeds to help Jewish refugees escape from Europe), the work got seriously under way immediately after the war when a levy was added to the Students Association subscription especially earmarked for the Building Fund.

This levy began at 4/- per head, and rose slowly until last year, at the end of a wordy battle, it became £1 per head (which accounts for the apparently large sub of £3,5/- which

you are now paying). The plans for the new building are kept at the Students Association Executive Room, and are open for inspection by students. The building is to be two full stories, plus two half stories, and will occupy the space at present occupied by the tennis courts—with a grand view north-ward over the city and harbour to-

wards the Tararuas. The basement floor contains only a gymnasium. The ground floor has the Caf (a big one, with a severable dining room) Students Association offices, and a Games Room (for indoor sports). The first floor is chiefly taken up by the Common Rooms-a large common one, and slightly smaller ones for the respective sexes, though all are connected by folding doors which can be thrown back for gala occasions. This floor also contains an excellent Little Theatre, with all necessary attachments, its upper reaches extending to the next floor up, and its lower reaches to the ground floor. There are also a few club and committee rooms, and a reading room. On the roof, the caretaker has a flat, and there is space for the addition of a further story-

some day. Our chief points of criticism would be of the small space allotted to club rooms. Surely the whole heart of the

college is its little groups of en-thusiasts, and if the ne woulding is not to be a hime for them it can hardly function as the incubator of our corporate life. Already the S.C.M., the Photographic Club, and possibly others, have jerrybuilt shacks scattered about the grounds to hold

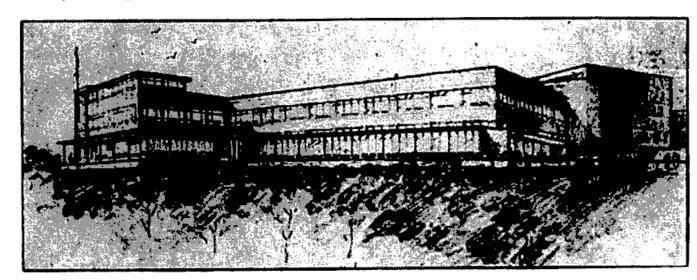
their lares and penates. Will the new building not gather all these under its all-sheltering wings?

However, the plans are now finally approved, and maybe we should sink our differences in the general delight

foot page 2 please

Reporting to the Exec. on the Union Building, Mr. Iles stated that it was hoped to have called for tenders and started building before the General Elections in November. This would mean that if there were a change of Government the new administration could not shelve the project. When approached by a "Salient" re-porter, however, the Right Hon-ournble Walter Nash, Leader of the Labour Party in Parliament, expressed his pleasure at the decision to commence the Student Union Building, and in addition said that he would regard its construction as a special priority. The Student Building would satisfy many essential needs and he hoped that the work would begin at an early date.

Mr. Nash added that he would support the extension of further hostel accommodation.



The architects say it will look like this

at Curious Ninth Annual Uproar Cove

"Congress is a stimulating intellectual experience." "Congress is one long magnificent party." "Congress is an absolute disgrace-bottles, drunkards and other nonsense. . . ." "Congress is a pleasant, quiet, relaxing holiday." But whatever Congress is it is a memorable experience. It is an institution, an abomination, a riot, a time for discussion and controversy, a time for sun and sport, and one of the highlights of the extra-curricular year.

Congress controller Mr. P. D. Gibbons, as well as proving an organizational success, was a hit in his morning attire of pyjama trousers, gabardine raincoat and green beret at a dashing angle over one eye. Ably assisted by Ted Woodfield and Harry Chambers, business manager, he pro-vided a smoothly running Congress with lecturers who were not only a success in the lecture hall but who led the social life with riotous abandon.

Maori life and customs came very much to the fore under the forceful leadership of Peter Gordon of Auckland and Jim Ritchie of V.U.C. who entertained the populace with vigorous hakas and action songs: They even succeeded in training half congress to follow them with conspicuous clustiness. They contributed to the were unit social life at this year's congress, notable for the comparative absence of parochialism which has come much to the fore in past years.

The usual congress activities such

as the trip to Ship's Cove, the olympics, the fancy dress ball and the items by the colleges proceeded with their accustomed hilarity. We regret to announce that V.U.C. failed to win the Congress Olympics being beaten by Auckland because of lack of coordination and parochial spirit; the latter was by no means lacking amongst the former who were strongly defensive.

Professor Buchanan, his wife and Mrs. Lenart took the prize at the fancy dress ball by appearing as the Middle East situation. Mrs. Lenart as the Middle East, and a most seductive Middle East, appeared flanked by a vigorously seducing swashbucking communist proletarian Professor Buchanan loaded with roubles and Mrs. Buchanan representing the U.S.A. seditiously rattling her dollars.

Peter Cape staged a comeback of "Under the Wooden Mountain", a play for voices about the daily doings of the Congressites, "sleeping in the

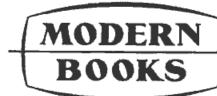
lectures", "drinking in the cabins" and "climbing in the yard arm" of Captain Charlie's "Rongo" while "the sun slips down the frying-panned sky."

Neville Beach and Peter Gordon who recently represented the "New Zealand University Students' Association" at a COSEC conference in Ceylon spoke on their experiences. COSEC is an international student body which meets each year to try and gain a world-wide understanding of student affairs and to help each other by an exchange of experiences in student politics. Neville Beach brought before Congress the long debated issue at N.Z.U.S.A. as to how much interest should be taken at conferences at a student level in international affairs. Although New Zealand seems to think that there is too much discussion of international politics at overseas conferences it is noteworthy that N.Z,U.S.A. spends much

page 4, please

I got that book at . . .





48a Manners Street

What No Digs?

A very limited Accommodation Service is being run by Executive. If board is required or available, contact Accommodation Officer, Miss Le Fort, or advertise in "Salient" at 1d. per word.

WHAT'S ON FOR FRESHERS?

Orientation week and beyond.

Monday, March 11th, 7.30 p.m.: Principal's address in C3, followed by Freshers' Welcome and Dance (9 p.m.-1 a.m.) in Gym.

Tuesday, 12th: "How to Study," by Prof. Bailey: C3, 8 p.m. Wednesday, 13th: "Use of The Library," by H. G. Miller. C3, 8

rary," by H. G. Miller. C3, 8 p.m.
Thursday, 14th: Evening for foreign

students. Friday, 15th: FRESHERS' BALL,

Gym., 8 p.m.-1 a.m.; dress semiformal, subs. 3/-.

Saturday, 16th: Women's rowing, Wellington Rowing Club, Jervois Quay, 10 a.m. Cricket and Tennis Clubs meet in afternoon. Contact secretaries.

Monday, 18th: Science Faculty evening, Staff Common Room, 8 p.m. Tuesday, 19th: Commerce evening, Staff Common Room, 8 p.m. Christian Science film, Room C2,

8 p.m.; Anglican gathering, same time. Wednesday, 20th; Drama Club, Little

Theatre, 8 p.m.
Thursday, 21st: Arts evening, Staff
Common Room, 8 p.m.
Miniature Rifle Club, Buckle

Street, 7 p.m. Friday, 22nd: Rowing Club Dance, Gym., 8 p.m.

A WHOLESALE INITIATION IN VIC. LIFE.

BOOK EXCHANGE

Manager: Brian Davies.

DURING THE FIRST WEKS
OF TERM USED BOOKS WILL
BE ON SALE AT THE STALLS
IN THE LOWER GYMNASIUM. BOOKS FOR SALE
SHOULD BE HANDED
IN DURING ENROLMENT
WEEK.

FOR OUR FRIENDS

All those interested in any kind of "Salient" work should come to our first term-time meeting in "Salient" Room, Upper Gym., at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, 12th March, or else write to The Editors, c/o V.U.S.C.A.

SALIENT

MONDAY, 4th MARCH, 1957

THE STATE OF THE UNION

The President issued the following statement last week (or was it some else?):

"Some Freshers will have already dipped their hands deeply in the mire of adulthood, but most come to University still relatively innocent. They are likely, then, to be bowled over by a tidal wave of sex and drink. As students we can to a very large extent chuck off the inhibitions and codes of childhood without accepting the responsibilities of adulthood.

"There is a wonderful licence about the University which tempts many to plunge right into the cesspool. This is the testing-ground: those who keep their heads after floundering around for a year o rtwo will eventually pull through. The unfortunate minority will either grow permanent blinkers, become narrow-minded and intolerant, or will so like it in the cesspool that they remain there always—indecisively poised between being children and being grown up.

"So let's be frank. University is not all clean fun and games. Nor could it ever hope to be. We are men and women trying to find out what it is to be adults—and a certain amount of sin and grime are the inevitable background to our individual gropings."

WHACKO PASSION

"The passionless pursuit of passionless intelligence": an American professor of fifty years ago defined the object of university education in these terms. He has been widely echoed by academicians over since, and some have even suggested that his formula should become the motto of the student press.

But the professor's name has been forgotten, and his dictum has reached posterity solely by virtue of its having earned a blistering attack from Jack London engaged at the time on a lecture tour of American colleges on behalf of the Socialists: "The reflection of this university ideal I find-conservatism, deadness, unconcern towards those who are suffering, who are in want. . . Raise your voices one way or the other! Be alive!"

The same words were used by Dr. J. C. Beaglehole in a symposium

. The same words were used by Dr. J. C. Beaglehole in a symposium conducted in this college eighteen years ago on whether the one-year-old "Salient" was fulfilling the requirements of a college newspaper:

"The main thing in university journalism is that it should be alive. It can't be alive without a series of rows, and the noise of battle which surrounds 'Salient' is therefore a healthy sign. It should also, I think, be in a broad sense political, if it is to have any relevance to life in our time—and in our time academicism and private jokes would be too sterile and intolerable.

It should be indignant, and 'Salient' is sometimes indignant. On the other hand, I should like to see the paper more consistently grappling with books, pictures, music, and the problems of the University; also . . . I should like to see it play the fool a bit more often."

In those days "Salient" set out to fill a fairly ambitious role. The previous year when it replaced "Smad" as VUC's newspaper, it had announced, "The change has been made... because it was felt the spirit of Olympian grandeur or academic isolation from the affairs of the world should be dropped and replaced by a policy which aims firstly to link the Upiversity more closely to the realities of the world; and secondly to comment upon, rather than report in narrative style, the activities of college

In nineteen years the tide of radical thinking which brought forth the first "Salient" has ebbed and flowed and ebbed and flowed again; and the faults of "Smad"—grandeur, isolation, narrative-style reporting and all—have become characteristic of "Salient" also.

Now "Salient" 57 proudly announces that this year we have adopted new editors, new printers, new regularity and new policy. Conservatives will note with relief that we retain an old name. If they dig deeper they will actually discover that we are merely turning back to the vision of 1938. The Editors are are idealists and (what usually goes with this) dogmatists. If we find a "Truth" we will bash you ever the head with it—whatever your own beliefs may be: no punches barred and no apologies to anyone. We are happiest in the midst of controversy, our paper will revel in stirring up trouble. We shall dig stale fish out of rubbish bins and instead of decently burying them will flap them under your noses.

Our columns are open to all creeds, all people. For, more important to us than being of our way of thinking—is Passion. Don't forget that nos habebit humus (or avernus, according to tsate) a long, long while: so while we are alive, let's live!

B. and W.

STAFF

(Subject to alteration.)

Editors: Conrad Bollinger and Antony Wood. Features Dept.: David Stone, Kath Blakelock. News: Gay Jackson, Fay Sligo. Literary: Jack Sadlier. Illustrations: John Gamby. Sports: Applications will be considered.

ISSUE THAT WASN'T
"Salient" regrets that owing to
printing difficulties the last issue for
1956 could not appear. The printers
have been changed.

"SPASMODICALLY"-MY FOOT!

A most unfortunate error occurred in the 1957 Introduction to V.U.C. (on sale at Exec. Office, price 1/-). The offending clause read, "'Salient' appears spasmodically throughout the University year." Editorial policy has changed radically and this remark should be amended to read 'Salient' recently has been appearing spasmodically and erratically, but in '57 will be published at fortnightly intervals throughout the University year."

N.Z.'s Left-Wing Monthly
HERE & NOW

A LONE VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS OF AUSTRALASIA

Annual Subs. £1, available at Modern Books.

The Christian Science Committee on Publication for New Zealand

invites you to the TV film

"THE EARTH SHALL BE FILLED"
"HOW CHRITIAN SCIENCE HEALS"
ROOM C1, TUESDAY, 19 MARCH,

8 p.m.

WHAT'S COOKING?

Lex Gentium Lux

That could well be the motto of the present Students' Association Executive.

At least three vacancies were known to be coming up in the summer vacation, as Miss Lovegrove, and Messrs. Ward and Canham, were being called elsewhere for the advancement of their several careers. It is perturbing enough that persons should stand for office knowing that they will be able to hold it for little more than half its term. And it is more perturbing that the two vacancies that have occurred so far (Messrs, Ward and Canham), have both been used by the Executive to swell the already oversized representation of the Law Faculty on the Executive. But what is clearly the most disturbing feature is that there are now no full-time men students on the Exec. Full-timers may be in a minority at Vic. but should they be totally unrepresented?

It could have been an excellent opportunity to introduce young enthusiasts to a brief term of administrative experience. But we have two men, both with plenty of knowledge of student affairs; and yet in the few months of office they shall enjoy, there will really only be time to learn the ropes. If we must indulge in broken terms we might at least use co-option to train the next genera-

/We have nothing against Messrs. Mummery or Bathgate as prospective Executive members. Everything we know of them both indicates that they are as good material as we have seen on a V.U.C. Exec. in a long while. But the fact of their Faculty allegiance (and their age), especially in the light of past events, makes their promotion look unpleasantly like a coup d'etat.

Sir Anthony (Ship me somewhere east of Suez) Eden may have thought New Zealand would be a quiet haven for a discredited politician, but he was foredoomed to feature largely in V.U.C's 1957 Extravaganza. We hear that John Dawick, John Gamby, and others are busy on a script which includes Anthony and Cleopatra, and someone called Colonel Asser. We hope Sir Anthony may have had sufficient rest at seaside hideouts to face the bright lights of Wellington for at least one evening during V.U.C's brief Opera House season, which, incidentally, promises to be briefer (and later) than usual this year.

Students under the age of eighteen should note that they are still eligible for concessions on public transport. For further information apply to the City Council Transport Department. Our Exec. is also considering requesting concessions for all full-time students in view of the recent substantial fare increases — another burden on light pockets.

STUDENT BUILDING

(from page 1)

that the Government has actually decided to come across with some cash, and that the laying of the foundations is said to be in sight. We are therefore prepared to refrain from saying what we had in mind about Salient Room losing its present harbour view in favour of a dingey outlook onto a light-well and a kitchen smoke-stack, and about the extraordinary style of the general architecture.

We therefore refrain from cynical asides when John Marchant says: "I am delighted at the assistance which the Government has given us, and at the kind remarks of the Minister of Education (Mr Algie) when commenting on the impression made on Cabinet by our decision to increase the regular student contribution to the building.

"No one building will contribute more to our corporate life than the new student union.

"I have no doubt that Victoria will increase in stature and grow away from its present status, which is often likened to that of a glorious night-school, as a consequence of the Government's happy decision."

4S . . .

mebody Down Herekes Marlon Brando

main trouble with Somebody ere Likes Me" is that so much as been seen before. Every-who saw On The Waterfront remember Marlon Brando ng, stumbling about with his ammed into the pockets of his and blowing mistily into the morning air; then remember gruff, so hesitant, so gosh-l cute as he first finds himself ited in a nice girl? Well, its just me in this film, except that the s not Brando but Paul Newman. a so in the credits at the begin-And many of the bits that traceable to On The Watermight make Frank Sinatra and Novak and Eleanor Parker and Preminger feel they had lost hing somewhere, recently.

story concerns a slum-child Eastside New York who grows petty thief and street-brawler, becoming world middleweight sional boxing champion. The hey put it in the film, it's about poor boy who becomes a good, ne. (Incidentally, at the film's he hero's parents still appear living in the same lousy old as they were at the beginning. my I see it, this goes to show t the end the champ could not been both good and rich. I he either could not afford to is parents, in which case he was ch, or else he could help them d not want to, in which case a not good. Curious).

ne can ignore the fact that a ent may be found for almost other shot, one discovers in ody Up There Likes Me a few ble elements. Newman, as I aid, is just a Brando-boy, but a good one; beneath the man-s and between the mumbles occasional pieces of very sensicting, particularly in one or two scenes with his wife. He is h guy who can be tender con-

Angeli as his wife was no than usual. A nity, because ad a good part and an important The hero's hysterical mother little tedious, despite a most sting physiognomy, and his r, a has-been deadbeat ex-boxer dnick, was far from impressive. as too much the has-been deadex-boxer nogoodnick, and barely at all. Everett Sloane as the trainer-manager was one of est among the minor parts. (You remember him as the character he Big Knife" who called every-darling" with a German accent; he was the one who possibly the most guffaws and least wed them.)

photography was interesting, if imes lacking in originality, and oxing scenes were always excit-

religious overtones implied in tle were tasteless and out of altogether. This is in keeping the clumsiness and lack of nation which mar what might been a first-class story; the of success threatened by past is fraught with possibilities, re they have played down the inherent in such a situation mphasised the sentiment, with ting sacrifice of integrity and

are told that Somebody Up Likes Me is based on the life ky Graziano himself, who did middleweight champion some go. It is to be suspected that, many Hollywood biographies, kers of this film have done a ce not only to the public and ma, but also to the life they to depict.

bring Young Man

te is a big-name movie. In place it stars he-man Burt glamorous Lolobrigida ty-boy Tony Curtis. Even by Robert Krasker and

DRAMA AMONG THE CHERRIES

In the Little Theatre, as Time would say, a Shambles. There is a cast, dazzling lighting, no scenery and a sense of inadequacy. Realism could go no further, even in Russia at the turn of the century. This, however, is a Twentieth Century
"Cherry Orchard," and Margaret
Walker will be producing for
us with all the sensitivity she commands. She produced The Crucible, The House of Bernada Alba, and Antigone, for Unity as if you didn't remember, and if she has any-thing to do with it, you will remember The Cherry Orchard, the V.U.C. Drama Club's major production for

Up to now (February 19) rehear-sals have been discussions and group reading, intensive study of character and (here's something) some adaptation from the original by Natasha Tver who found a translator's English not quite up to Chekhov's Russian, all matters of deep, deep, Twentieth Century despair. Let us now praise the coffee shops, some of which are open after rehearsals.

The use of 'despair' may be misleading; the despair is that of the cast - Chekhov meant The Cherry Orchard to be a comedy, the story of an estate sold into the hands of a businessman of peasant stock. The important part of the estate is the graceful Cherry Orchard itself which is to become a monstrous subdivision for middle class people. Elizabeth Gordon plays Madame Ranyevskia, a Prodigal Mother, somewhat set in her ways; Meg Anderson, her daughter; and John Dawick, the eternal (idealist) student. Lopshin, the moneyed

peasant, is played by Graeme Eton. They are supported by Heather Scott, Trevor King, David Vere-Jones, Colin Bickler and Geoffrey Barlow. scenery is designed by Peter Camp-

There will be a great deal of publicity from our scribes who will keep you reading till finals, but Drama Club will not come to an end when the axes begin to bite into the Cherry Orchard. The year's new members will come into their own when the Club holds an evening in the second week of Term and reads Shaw's Dark Lady of the Sonnets and discusses the year's programme. If you can act, dance, stitch, daub, produce or work in wood (build things) you are more than qualified to join us.

WHERE TO GO WHAT KNOW AT V.U.C

Newcomers to Victoria College should not allow first impressions to discourage them. After a week of trailing around in its medieval gloom through tangling corridors the atmosphere will suddenly become quite hospitable, and, on occasions, even homelike.

The vital spot to locate in the building is the Cafeteria. This is in the basement immediately below the telephone boxes at the north end of the ground floor. Don't be misled by the name, and feel obliged to eat there for the Caf. is the intellectual centre of the college and many a new political theory has been born there among the philosophers who linger long after cups of coffee have gone cold and been absent-mindedly drunk.

At the end of the Cafeteria corridor past the Women's cloakroom is the Common Room artfully camouflaged behind a tobacco-born smoke-screen and filled at all times with students of the Arts Faculty.

A notable fact about V.U.C. is that it has a Common room Uncommon in that it is a common common room.

Those students who prefer to learn by swotting will find the atmosphere of the Library more conducive to work if a trifle rarified. This noble scriptorium is to be found on the first floor to the left of the main staircase. The first plunge is alarming but the cars appreciate the next.

Exec. room, where such odds ond ends as stationery, V.U.C. badges, locker keys, past editions of Cappicade and Exec members may be found, is at the end of the verandah of the archaic building rejoicing in the title of Gymn, which teeters above the site of the new Student's Union Building (better known as the tennis courts). In charge of the office is the Executive's permanent secretary,

Mrs. Yaldwyn. The Administrative office is the continued page 4

Defend New Zealand God

Not Angels, but Angles

"Party politics, Labour National, is comparable with North Island versus South Island, husband versus wife, and nation versus nation. The solution lies in a fuller perspective as in the case of a right-angled triangle in which the square on the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares on the other two sides. This principle will give us unity and peace, while the other two sides make for perpetual division and war. New Zealand can lead."

-Letter in the Evening Post,

Clear Thinking

an effective team.

"Mr. Holland said the country was getting good value for the money spent on the Police Force. What other workers work overtime without

any special pay? he asked.

Mr. Hackett: "Nurses in hospitals."

Mr. Holland: "They are not police-

-Dominion, 26/10/1956.

What a Common Commonwealth

"A.British Commonwealth comprising Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand is the dream of fighter ace Group Captain Douglas Bader, who is now visiting Christchurch. 'Chuck out the others who don't give a damn about us we'll do a lot better without them with money being spent in countries that always stick together no matter what,' he said."

-Evening Post, 6/11/1956.

Considering the reputations of these assembled talents the film is

somewhat disappointing; but consid-

ering some of the flops with which

each of them has been associated, it

is much better than might have been

feared. Carol Reed in particular

continues to walk the artistic tight-

rope. Here he neither stretches him-

self to his full height, as displayed

in The Fallen Idol and The Third

Man, nor does he wobble as uncer-

tainly as in The Man Between. In

this film one is impressed by Reed's

competent craftsmanship, rather than

by the exciting direction of earlier successes. Krasker does better with

some fine camera work on the trapeze

acts in The Big Top, which generate

a considerable amount of excitement.

looks shapely in her spangled cos-

tumes, talks enticingly in strongly-

accented English and can be suitably

fierce when called upon to display temper. Tony Curtis is his usual

unsatisfactory self. . Burt Lancaster

on the other hand acts with force and

conviction. He is an experienced and

effective player who seldom goes wrong. As written, the character he

displays has no great depth, but Lan-

caster does manage to make it real.

wrapeze is not going to go down on everybodys list of film classics;

it is nevertheless an entertaining

spectacle, neatly put together and

effectively photographed in Techni-

—P.J.D.

color.

What of the players? Lolobrigida

The Last Word

"SEX MUST STOP." -Weekend Billboard, Nov., 1956.

Nothing to Lose but his Cows

"This 14-stand cowshed on the property of Mr. F. P. Walsh, President of the Federation of Labour, in the Wairarapa, near Featherston, makes the milking of the 250-260 cows on the farm a relatively easy task. is the largest milking herd in New

-Caption to a photograph in The Weekly News, 4/7/1956.

Too Deep for Words

"A police constable admitted in the Magistrates' Court, Lower Hutt, yes. terday, that a statement he produced in evidence on a charge of theft had been typed by himself after the accused had already signed the blank sheet of paper while intoxicated. It contained the words 'I plead guilty',

"Mr. Drummond, S.M., said that for reasons upon which he was not prepared to elaborate, he would not accept the typewritten statement."

-Dominion, 13/2/1957.

Bearer of Gool Tidings.

"SIR ANTHONY ARRIVES, PET-ROL PRICE CUT."

-Dominion Billboard, 22/2/1957

directed by Carol Reed, who work as DRAMA . .

"THE FAR FROM EXCELLENT HISTORY OF THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

"The Merchant of Venice" is a silly play, at times boring and ridiculous. It was with some trepidation that I went to see Richard Campion's last production for the Players. Let me state straightaway that I was not bored. Like so much of Mr. Campion's work there were two or three good points and the rest was frankly The play came to life in two scenes in which the producer was not hindered by Raymond Boyce's messy The end to the first act when Shylock knocks on his door waiting for his runaway daughter to let him The second scene when the production, the acting, and the set combined to make effective theatre was the scene when Shylock is being taunted by the Gentiles.

Why was Raymond Boyce allowed to design such sets? They were clumsy, messy, and I should have thought completely impractical to tour with. I think we might have been spared the canal which looked like spilt paint, and balconies which made me fear for the safety of the actors. A simple semi-permanent set, without lots of Cecil Beaton drapes, would have been much more effective. and the audience would have been able to have heard some of the tab scenes, instead of crashes and bangs of the scene-shifters behind.

Mr. Lilburn's introductory music called to mind the "Journey Into Space" theme ("A Merchant of Venus?") and the trumpet pieces would have been more appropriate to the death scene in "Hamlet".

The play, from an actor's point of view, belongs to Shylock. John V. Trevor was excellent. He commanded one's attention as he slinked like Olivier's Richard III around the stage. And in his downfall we pity him. The only other two actors with any merit were Sydney Falconer as Portia and Kenneth Adams as Launcelot Gobbo. Miss Falconer was a gay, delightful Portia, but her "quality of mercy" speech was forced and embarrassed. No doubt this was due to the fact that this was one speech that the audience knew and an unusual hush came over them when she began it, Kenneth Adams was an amusing Gobbo, though something might have been done about this costume, which made him appear as if he were wearing a pair of "Jockey" underpants!

It was well worth seeing for these three performances.

-L.D.A.

N.Z. DOES WELL IN INTERNATIONAL VARSITY TENNIS

The first tennis test played at Stanley Street courts, Auckland, between New Zealand Universities and Australian Universities on Tuesday, 15 January, resulted in an easy victory for New Zealand by twelve matches to four. Such a margin, however, would not be a true indication of tennis in the respective Universities. M. Callaghan, N. Rae and Miss B. Bradfield in particular of the Australians played well below the form expected of them after their performances in the New Zealand Championships a few days earlier. The New Zealand team played well, however, and is to be congratulated on its fine showing.

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Woolf was never really extended to beat Mike Callaghan, 6-1, 6-1 The Australian had difficulty in handling Woolf's heavily spun service and lost many opportunities by netting drives and volleys when he had made openings for winners.

The most interesting match was that between John Montgomerie and Kev Adams. Both players exhibited fine form and the result could have gone either way, Mongomerie eventually winfning 9-7, 7-5.

Although Boon was taken to three sets by Rae there was no doubting his superiority once he had settled down. Boon served and volleyed powerfully and these departments of his game won him many points.

In the top women's singles Betty Nelson had little difficulty in beating Betty Bradfield who made many mistakes, 6-1, 6-2.

Raewyn Dickson played well to beat Joan Decker. 6-1, 8-6, but was forced to give of her best in the second set. Miss A. Emslie was the only Australian to win her singles and her victory over Miss S. McEwan was

well deserved.

The play of the Australians improved in the afternoon when the doubles were played. In the men's section both matches went to three sets before the New Zealand team finally wen. Australia wen both the women's doubles, Betty Bradfield and Joan Decker teaming well to beat Raewyn Dickson and Betty Nelson. It was hard to associate the Miss Bradfield of the morning with the Miss Bradfield of the afternoon. Her touch returned and she played many winners with fine serving and volley-

New Zealand teamed well in the mixed doubles to win three of the four matches, Lye and Miss Hopkinson going down to Adams and Miss Emslie.

Results with New Zealand names first were as follows:

Men's Singles

B. Woolf beat M. Callaghan, 6-1, 6-1; B. Boon beat N. Rae, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3; J. Montgomerie beat K. Adams, 9-7, 7-5; D. Lye beat C. Allen, 6-2, 6-3.

Women's Singles

Miss B. Nelson beat Miss B. Bradfield, 6-1, 8-6; Miss R. Dickson beat Miss J. Decker, 6-1, 8-6; Miss J. Hopkinson beat Miss J. Hemming, 6-0, 7-5; Miss S. McEwan lost to Miss A. Emslie, 1-6, 2-6.

Men's Doubles

* Woolf and Mongomerie beat Callaghan and Rac, 3-6, 9-7, 6-4; Lye and Boon beat Adams and Allen, 6-1, 2-6, 8-2

Women's Doubles

Misses Nelson and Dickson lost to Misses Bradfield and Decker, 3-6, 9-7, 3-6; Misses Hopkinson and McEwan lost to Misses Hemming and Emslie, 2-6, 6-8.

Mixed Doubles

Woolf and Miss Dickson beat Callaghan and Miss Decker, 6-4, 7-5, 6-4, 7-5; Montgomerie and Miss McEwan beat Allen and Miss Hemming, 6-1, 6-1; Boon and Miss Nelson

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Hard at Work

While most students were grinding away at vac. jobs before returning to the trials and tribulations of the academic life, Exec. members had already once more taken up their onerous tasks. The first meeting of the year was held on February 7, when 1957 Stud. Ass. affairs were set in motion. Nor did Salient escape our Tribunes' all-seeing eyes. After previous years have seen uneasy relations between Editor and Business Manager, and both and Exec., it was obvious that two Editors would break the much tried Exec's back. So the Business Managership was abolished and instead our affairs are directly under the watchful care of the Treas-urer. Lest, too, we get bloated heads, the Editors now have only half a vote each on the Publications Committee. But the great blow was when, after it had been suggested that Salient have use of the V.U.C.S.A. Office facilities, former staff member E. A. Woodfield (Jr.) moved that "when the staff of Salient use these facilities they pay for them.". Seconded by A. A. T. Ellis, eloquent pleader for better conditions for Salient at one or two of last year's S.G.M's.

(Carried). Other business was the co-option of Messrs. J. D. Bathgate and D. R. Mummery.

A further meeting was held on February 21, when Miss Anna Duncan was co-opted to the Exec., and the Liaison tasks of the resigned members were divided among the new.

Mr. Mummery, after expressing keen interest in the activities of the Women's Hockey Club, was rewarded by being appointed their Liaison Officer in succession to Mice. Officer in succession to Miss Lovegrove. A report was presented by Walter Iles, a representative on the S.U.B. Planning Committee, describing the improvements made in the amended plans resulting in slightly more space, especially in the Theatre which now will hold 400 instead of about 347; also, some layatories have been abolished (Cf. Letter from India), and a box-office added was also revealed that Vic. will be without tennis courts for about a year, and worse still, if anything goes wrong with the raising of money by public appeal we may end up with everything we have up till now lacked. but without almost the only facility now available—namely the Gymn. which will have to be demolished to make way for the Second Stage.

Despite the complaint of Mr. Carver that the Exec. accepts sub-committee reports without weighing them sufficiently carefully, several knotty problems were past onto yet more sub-committees ("There is plenty of time to consider"), either appointed on the spot, or agreed upon for the future. The Exec. then went into a huddle to consider the report from our College Council Representative, Maurice O'Brien. Although few pre-sent day students know of him, our records show that Mr. O'Brien was first appointed five years ago, at which time he had long been associated with student affairs. As our representative he reports to the Exec. on what has past at Council meetings. He has occasion consulted the Exec., and is "always ready to bear their views in mind.")

beat Rae and Miss Bradfield, 7-5, 8-6, 6-5, 6-1; Lye and Miss Hopkinson lost to Adams and Miss Emalie, 63, 8-6, 2-6.

(by Special Correspondent)

To Lose One Spoon

Within six weeks of the opening of the new term, Easter Tournament 1957 will be opening in Dunedin. As usual, teams will fare forth from Wellington to do combat in crocket, tennis, swimming, rowing, shooting, athletics, women's outdoor basketball. This year they go with the Wooden Spoon in their baggage, and a determination to lose it while they are in Dunedin.

Clubs are already getting their star performers into trim. Freshers and others who have distinguished themselves in any summer sport, but maybe are unknown to the college's sporting hierarchy, should contact club secretaries as soon as possible,—their names are in the Fresher's Handbook or available from Mrs. Yaldwyn, at the Students Association Office (at the end of the veranda in the Gymn.)

It is probably time that Vic ngitated for an alteration in the rules proscribing the participation in Tournament of students who have played for outside (i.e. non-college) clubs in the immediate past. Without such an alteration it is doubtful whether Vic can ever field the best possible teams from among its students. With it, there would be the added strength of many who have developed other loyalties prior to coming to the College but could still do their bit on important occasions.

At the moment we have to accept this rule as it stands. Even so, we can still bestow this honorific spoon (it's not as useful as it sounds, being big, carved, and clumsy) upon some other deserving college.—Stand-in.

Service Not Working

A general depression seems to have settled over the Student Employment Service. Gill Le Fort, the Student Employment Officer reports that very few students used the Service though the advertising of the fact that it was available seemed adequate enough. It would appear that most students prefer to find their own vacation jobs. If that is so then; as Miss Le Fort says, it is hardly worth all the trouble that is taken in filing all the jobs.

To be sure none of the jobs offering were particularly interesting and there were very few with decent wages, especially for women. While men can, if they are prepared to work for it, earn as much as £30 a week, it is impossible for girls to earn more than about £15 a week even by working overtime in factories.

It seems likely that the entire situation is a vicious circle brought about by that dark shadow in Varsity life, student apathy, as much as anything else. Probably we have no-one to blame for the present situation but ourselves and it seems likely that unless the College proves a more fruitful source of labour, it will get even worse.

K.B.

Recent relations across the Tasman have been somewhat strained. Australian arrangements for student exchange this summer were not all they might have been. N.Z.U.S.A. Resident Exec. was gravely disturbed over disorganisation and lack of information. At least one student arrived in Sydney shortly before the International Congress to find that, contrary to reports Fecsived here, the Congress had been transferred to Melbourne. Student Exchange requires efficient co-operation on the part of both countries to work. It is understood that a strong report will be tabled at the N.Z.U.S.A. Easter Council meeting, to which the N.U.A.U.S. President, Mr. Thomas has been invited. Nor has it helped matters that at the International Students' Conference at Ceylon last year, Australian and N.Z. delegates, although usually co-operating, on this occasion strongly disagreed on a major issue. Salient hopes to publish a complete account of this breakdown of relations in its next issue.

ANNUAL UPROAR

(from page 1)

of its time in discussion of this nature. Peter Gordon described his experiences during a goodwill tour on South East Asia after the conference and gave a most interesting account of his impressions while travelling. He emphasised the lack of co-ordination amongst students of different political and religious beliefs within the colleges and the importance of politics in student elections. This resulted in there being campaigns as wide and often much more heated than our own parliamentary elections. An appreciation of this is essential to an understanding of the outlook of the Asian students.

The discussions at Congress were not as lively as in past years. Students confined themselves to naive questions and delivering minor lectures on some obscure point. This was very disappointing as one of the most notable features of past Congresses has been the full blooded controversies which raged from one end of the camp to the other ail day and night. Only during the last few days did the old argumentative spirit seem to reappear. The old congress hands appeared to have lost the vigour with which they had in past years lept on the old favourites of religion, sex and politics. There was a lack of enthusiasm for channelling the discussion into new and fruitful lines indicated by the lecturers during their addresses.

Nevertheless the addresses were probably among the best over presented at Congress. On the other hand the rest of congress seemed extraordinarily quiet and unanterprising, both in the lecture hall and outside.—Curious Cove, Jan. 25th—Feb. 1st.—G. Jackson.

WHERE TO GO

(from page 3)

rectangular building best approached by those unfamiliar with the land-scape from Kelburn Parade. It is here that pessimists buy copies of last year's exam. papers, optimists lodge complaints about the sub-Arctic temperature of the lecture rooms, and bursars collect money at the end of each term.

These being the pressure centres of the college, it is necessary to have the jargon to go with them.

Students Association.

Better known as the Stud. Ass. the Association is one to which every student automatically belongs. It is represented by the Exec., the chosen few elected by two per cent-of the students after the usual incredibly inactive election campaign.

N.Z .U.S.A.

This is a national Students' Association representing all the constituent colleges of the University of New Zealand and deals with matters which concern all colleges.

COSEC.

This organization, the Co-ordinating Secretariat is the result of a schism in I.U.S. (International Union of Students) about four years ago when certain of the western nations felt that the parent body was becoming too Leftist in its views and broke away to form a separate organization. As the situation is at present, some nations have associations with both bodies—this applies particularly to the Latin-American and Afro-Asian students—and members of either association can send observers, and in some cases, delegates, to meetings of the other.

w.u.s.---

This is another international association wider in membership than I.U.S. or COSEC and is concerned more with cultural work among students and student relief.

—F.S. & K.B.

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