

Salient

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

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WELLINGTON, 20th MARCH, 1957

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University Senatē votes for

TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION

- Students' fees are the largest single element in financing the University of New Zealand. It is just and reasonable that students should have a voice on the body which fixes those fees and decides how they should be spent.
- The University is an adult community. Its governing bodies at every level, including the University Senate, are concerned with some element of student problems, and should therefore contain some element of student representation.
- Quite apart from the students' rights, the Senate would itself benefit greatly from having some of the scholars at the receiving end of the production line present at its deliberations, as well as scholars at the imparting end.
- No one can express the views of students on such a body except a student or someone elected by and directly answerable to students.

These are among the points made by Auckland's Law Professor A. G. Davis and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of New Zealand, Dr. G. A. Currie, in proposing and seconding a motion at the Senate meeting on 1 March:

"That the Senate promote legislation to amend the University Act to provide for the appointment as a member of the Senate of a nominee of the Executive of the N.Z.U.S.A., provided that such person should be a graduate of the University of N.Z. of not less than 2 years' standing."

The resolution was moved after a letter had been read from the Executive of N.Z.U.S.A. requesting (for the 9th year in succession) that the question of having a student member on Senate be considered.

Not Agreed to

After a lengthy and heated discussion of the official minutes) "not in agreement, the resolution was (in the agreed to".

The voting is not officially known, but it is believed that with a number of the Senate's 30 members absent, at least 9 members supported the resolution. "The vote was by no means overwhelming," a member of the Senate told a "Salient" reporter.

Among opponents of the proposal we are amazed to discover some of the comparatively enlightened academic personalities from the colleges, including Dr. Williams (V.U.C.'s principal) and O.U.'s Dr. F. G. Soper. Dr. Williams claims to have been converted in the course of the discussion, which in view of the level of the only opposition argument publicized (see box on this page) leaves us speechless.

On the students' side were the Chancellor (Sir David Smith), Dr. G. E. Archey, Mr. W. H. Cocker and Mr. E. C. Fussell—the latter saying he felt the stipulation that the representative should be a 2-years' graduate was unnecessary, that students were more or less grown up and should be able to select anyone they pleased to represent them. "Salient" endorses Mr. Fussell's remarks, but since the Senate turned down the proposal even with the limiting proviso, it is clear that too much democracy cannot be introduced to this august body all at once.

In the Colleges

The New Zealand University Students' Association has been agitating for a student say in Senate for at least 9 years. Student representation on the Councils of constituent colleges has been accepted for some time: V.U.C. blazed the trail (as always) in 1938, and other colleges followed. It is understood that at one college the President of the Student Association becomes the student representative automatically. The V.U.C. system (by which the representative is appointed by Student Association Executive for a 5-year term and reports back to a closed meeting of Executive) was a radical one when introduced, but cer-

tainly lags behind now. Student representation should be as direct, fresh, and responsive to student opinion as it can possibly be.

The present constitution of Senate is: Academic heads of colleges (ex-



BAINAL

"Salient's" first prize for the most fatuous public utterance of the month goes to Mr. D. W. Bain, Canterbury College Council appointee on the University Senate, who in the debate on the resolution on student representation on the Senate, is reported to have said:

"The arguments in favour of it could equally be used to justify representation of primary school pupils on Education Boards."

—"Evening Post," 1.3.1957.

officio), 4 Government appointees, 8 College Council appointees, 2 Agricultural College appointees, 5 Court of Convocation (graduates) representatives, and 3 from the University Academic Board.

Without dimming the brilliance of this galaxy, it would be reasonable for N.Z.U.S.A. and all its constituent associations to EACH have a representative on the Senate. But as long as there is resistance to the whole idea of students being represented, maybe N.Z.U.S.A. is wise to limit its proposals to a single representative at this stage.

The chief argument presented against the idea is understood to have been that student questions don't enter

Victoria Story . . .

WHATS IN A NAME?

Wellington papers gave some prominence in 1956 to endeavours to change the name of Victoria University College.

It all came out of the general move inside the University of New Zealand towards complete autonomy of the constituent colleges which are shortly expected to become universities in their own right. On the Professorial Board and the College Council, certain persons suggested that advantage be taken of the opportunity to slough off the anomalous name "Victoria" and bring it into line with the other three colleges which all take their names from the surrounding district.

The idea is known to have been advocated by Professor Richardson (Zoology), and by a group of "old boys" including Mr. H. R. Sansum (who for many years gave invaluable service to the Students' Association as Librarian of its records).

Even the Dominion's jester, "The Dom", was moved to comment:

"The idea of Professor L. R. Richardson that Victoria University College should be re-named the University of Wellington is sheer inspiration.

In a simple stroke, I believe, that strange gulf between the city and the student would be bridged, and the new unity would benefit the university and give fresh dignity to Wellington. 'Victoria University College' has always sounded to me more appropriate for a place of higher learning at Ballarat or even perhaps Bendigo."

"The Dom", like many students, may not be aware of the origins of our name.

On the dust-jacket of Dr. Beaglehole's golden jubilee volume on the history of the college, it is described as "a university college designed to be at once a royal commemoration and a democratic manifesto".

It was named, of course, in honour of the reigning sovereign, a lady remembered today chiefly for her total lack of sense of humour or a waistline, her penchant for multiplication, and the coincidence of her being on the throne during the most drum-banging and flag-flapping period of British history.

And it happened like this. The bangers and flappers took advantage of the fiftieth and sixtieth anniversaries of this lady's accession to the throne to indulge in a couple of real orgies of banging and flapping. On the second of these occasions, Seddon was Prime Minister of New Zealand, and radical democrat as he was, was transported into a state of "loyal ecstasy" similar to that attributed by the "New Statesman" to a later New Zealand

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AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES FENCING TOUR

into Senate discussions: College Councils are the loftiest places where students are concerned, and their voice is rightly restricted to those bodies.

This argument is, of course, palpable nonsense. The agenda of Senate meetings is constantly crowded with questions of vital interest to students to the solution of which student representatives could contribute valuably.

In the past year, for example, the question of the required standards for entrance to the University, and the obviously linked question of more adequate facilities in the colleges (especially in the matter of buildings) have been constantly before the Senate. Could any questions be of more vital significance for students?

The evident need for a national single university policy on establishment of special schools, higher staff salaries and student bursaries, freer interchange with universities overseas (regardless of diplomatic curtains), and the historic movement of the colleges towards autonomy, have all been considered by Senate. The students of New Zealand have views on these matters which at present they can express to Senate only indirectly.

University education has been described as many things. But realistically it is a process of receiving a certain amount of knowledge (and a certificate to prove it) in return for hard cash. It is a very sordid commercial business.

But the University is the only commercial institution where the customer is not only always wrong, but is not even represented when the question of how wrong he is, is being considered.

It was a long, hard fight to get representation on the college councils, but victory came in the end. N.Z.U.S.A., and the whole student population of New Zealand, must keep up the pressure to win the same right at Senate level.

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ORIENTATION

The Principal in his annual speech emphasised recent material progress made at Victoria; several major projects are either under way or shortly to be commenced. Dr. Williams also pointed out that this may be the last time students enrol at V.U.C. By next year the name may be "Victoria University of Wellington," further recognition of the near autonomy of the various Colleges.

The professor of Education, Mr. Bailey, again pointed out that half the Freshers will fail their exams. The Professor gave detailed advice on how to study, for ability alone is by no means sufficient. The Librarian, Mr. Miller, gave a factual and valuable account of how to use the Library.

SALIENT

WEDNESDAY, 20th MARCH, 1957

STUDENTS and POLITICS

While we were in the middle of exams last year, or just recovering from them, the big world was reverberating with the sound of British and French tanks rolling into Port Said, and Russian tanks rolling into Budapest. Mankind was, in fact, teetering on the brink of catastrophe.

A few of us signed a couple of petitions circulated by the College's left-wing clubs. Most of us just shrugged our shoulders and went on with our petty business.

When the history of our times comes to be written in a longer perspective, it is very likely that it will seem to have been dominated by two great movements which in fact form (as, say, the Renaissance and the Reformation did) two aspects of a single sweeping current: the movement of colonial and nearly-colonial nations in the capitalist world towards full dignity and self-government, and the movement inside the Communist world which has been dubbed "destalinization" — the struggle to throw off the horrible machinery of political dictatorship while retaining and extending the positive economic and social gains of the socialist system.

Viewed together, these movements represent a powerful new "hurling time" unparalleled in any earlier era of history. And it was easy to view them together in late October and early November when the tanks of Bulganin and Eden were rolling in unison to crush them both.

Those few of us who registered our protest—however feeble—were dimly aware that we were acting in line with some sort of student tradition. After all, the radical drive among the Egyptian populace for a more adequate living standard and an end to having the fruits of their labour used for the benefit of fat foreign powers, was sparked off by the university students of Cairo and Alexandria; and it was that drive which (regardless of the power-game being played by Nasser) brought about the nationalization of the Suez Canal Company. Similarly, the Petofi Group of Gomulka-type Communists whose demonstrations triggered the events in Hungary, was centred on the University of Budapest.

Repercussions in other parts of the world also highlighted the politically active student as a force in arousing the slumbering conscience of nations. In Oxford, London, Colombo, Bagdad, Peking, Mexico City — in all the

Student will note with approval the newly painted approaches to the Caf. and inside. The Caf. managers are to be congratulated on the new attractive cloths.

I got that book at . . .



MODERN BOOKS

48a Manners Street

places where protesting placards appeared before the British and French Embassies—students were at the forefront.

And perhaps more significantly, the protesting voices raised within the ranks of international Communism against Muscovite policy in Hungary, have also come from intellectuals. In France, Picasso and Jean-Paul Sartre; in Italy, Carlo Levi; in Britain, Edward Thompson, Hyman Levy, and VUC's post-grad. scholar Ronald L. Meek; in New Zealand, not just the well known Communists associated with the Here And Now group, but almost the entire strength of Wellington's once notorious University Branch.

Questioning orthodox beliefs and challenging authority when it oversteps the bounds of its legitimate domain (as it always does), are the age-old prerogative of students and thinkers.

V.U.C. has in the past acquired a certain notoriety for exercising this prerogative. From the Debating Society's motion questioning New Zealand participation in the Boer War (1900), through the investigation of the staff and syllabus by a Parliamentary committee following the conviction of a girl graduate for selling leftist literature (1921), to the Students' Association's "red manifesto" (1941), and the demonstration outside the Netherlands legation against aggression in Indonesia (1947), the tradition has been kept alive in this college.

From time to time, with the self-conscious intention of burying the tradition and shaking off the notoriety, it has been suggested that politics should be kept out of our student journal. The first issue of Salient last year, for example, contained a statement that editorial policy was to be just that. The Socialist Club vehemently expressed an opposite viewpoint. But it was not alone.

The Attorney-General, Hon. J. R. Marshall, said at Grad. Supper in May: "It is good that students should be critical, even if they are critical of the Government."

He was merely echoing an utterance of Rt. Hon. S. G. Holland himself who, in a special message to Salient in March 1953 said: "It is a necessary part of a university education that the student should be encouraged to examine commonly held opinions and to criticize the statements of his fellows."

What better forum is there for students to do that examining and criticising than the columns of the student press?

Mr. John Martin, 3rd-year Arts student, has now been appointed "Salient" Sports sub-editor and Gabrielle Jackson is editor of material concerning non-sporting clubs. Club secretaries should notify these two of all forthcoming events and interesting results.

Our College Debating Society is the oldest club in the College, and has had a colourful history. Its policy appears to be still its traditional one of arranging the topics so that religion, politics, and sex rotate. It was recently described in the "Evening Post" as "belonging to the dogmatist school—one has to be careful not to be trodden on by a hobby-horse a speaker is riding. Participants have a go at any subjects. Here also the interjector seems to reach his subtlest. P.P.'s from the present Prime Minister down (or up?) have felt the deflationary effect of the interjector's barb when speaking at the annual visitors' debate."

This is just a warning for those newcomers who attend 1957's first debate, which is likely to be held this coming week. It will be (as per tradition) on a Friday night in the Little Theatre (long wooden building behind the half-finished Science Block).

*There once was a student of Weir,
Who had a great weakness for beer,
And each year re-assailed
The same subjects he'd failed
At the end of the previous year.*



In spite of our faultless system of check-upping information, a number of errors seem to have crept into our first issue.

DEAR SALIENT

One Pat, Two Smacks

First issue of Salient 1957 looks attractive, most of it was well laid out, and it seemed more informative and more entertaining than the first issues of the past few years. But why write editorials if you have nothing to say? And why don't you get a few of the starry-eyed variety of students to review films and plays? The cynical adolescent pose rubs a bit thin.—GRADUATE.

That Man Again

The critique of "Merchant of Venice" was, I notice, signed L.D.A. Is this the same tedious old gentleman who recently celebrated his 80th birthday in the "Evening Post"? If so, what the devil is he doing at V.U.C. at that age? Because I don't think our staff could teach him much. But even if he is among us, is that any reason why his senile vapourings should overflow the correspondence columns of the daily papers into the more precious (because less frequent) Salient? —DISGUSTED

Decade-nt

It was with some surprise that I saw a photograph of Harry Evison (sometime Secretary, V.U.C.S.A., some time President V.U.C. Socialist Club) in the "Evening Post" (11.3.57) as one of the teachers departing for Indonesia, complete with Mr. Algie's blessing. The last time I saw a press photograph of this gentleman he was carrying a banner bearing "HANDS OFF INDONESIA" as its device. He was participating in a demonstration against the Dutch regime in Indonesia ten years ago, before that country became an independent state. — "THE OLD GUARD"

The Rule of Law

You claim that the co-optation of Messrs. Bathgate and Mummery is a move "to swell the already oversized representation of the Law faculty on the Executive." Many of your readers, unacquainted with the facts, may be misled by this fantastic, and completely inaccurate, statement.

Before the resignation of Messrs. Ward and Canham, the faculty position on Executive was: Arts—4 men, 5 women; Law—3 men; Commerce—1 man.

If the Arts students on Executive agreed with Salient (and at least one does) why didn't they nominate Arts students for the vacancies? The only

WE APOLOGISE

● For the statement that in the new Student Union Building "the basement floor contains only a gymnasium". This statement was the result of a careful study of the plans (on which one floor, clearly containing only a gymnasium, is mysteriously labelled "Gymnasium Floor") and a misleading explanation given us by an Executive officer of the Students Association. We understand that the Gym. Floor is, in fact, closer to the attic.

● For the assertion that an Extrav. script was being written by "John Dawick, John Gamby, and others". We understand from both the gentlemen named that they are working on two entirely separate scripts. The one we described is apparently Mr. Dawick's

● For a number of misprints, one of which suggested that the Davy Crockett Cult had won a place in the Easter Tournament schedule. The game we intended to refer to was "Cricket".

● For suggesting that men full-timers are "totally unrepresented" on the Executive. Men's Vice-President, Mr. Woodfield ("Salient staff should pay for office facilities") bears aloft a lone banner.

● For leaving the "5" out of the "25 per cent." who were mentioned as electing Executive.

member of that faculty whose name was put forward was Mr. Polson.

The present representation on Executive is: Arts—2 men, 5 women; Law—5 men; Commerce—1 man. So Arts still has a majority. And if Men's and Women's Committees are to be considered separately (which would support Salient's argument as far as the Men's Committee goes), the numerous women students from all faculties other than Arts are quite unrepresented! Do we hear Salient crying: "Injustice!"?

In my opinion there are more Law students than Arts students who are interested in student affairs. Consequently, if Salient advocates proportional representation, the Law faculty should have a majority.

—P.V.O'BRIEN.

Editorial Comment: Mr. O'Brien's figures prove the total absence of Science students from Executive. Why, when one large faculty is quite unrepresented, should vacancies be used to swell the proportions of those already adequately represented?

The Road to Church

The pseudo-Byronic posturing of your "State of the Union" leading article was a curious anachronism. Perhaps it gave the satisfaction of deceiving a few. But Byron had a degree of genius which makes any subsequent would-be-big-time, soul-torn profligate (intellectual off course), appear rather smalltime and outmoded. Between the lines one gathered that the leader writer would sooner or later compromise his faith in irresponsible ungoverned liberty as the way to wisdom, by respectably marrying in a church and settling to a more rational way of life. Then, perhaps, he may feel a little ashamed of his inordinately revelling in the cruder aspects of juvenile behaviour.

The publication of a misleading article is however, not a legitimate enjoyment of irresponsibility for a leader-writer.—J.H.J.C.

Inquiry?

I trust the admirable editorial sentiments: "For . . . more important, is Passion" are shared by those responsible for the architecture of the new Student Union Building. In particular I refer to the mention in your front page article in the first edition to "a Games Room (for indoor sports)." I mean, will it be big enough?—PLAYER.

EXTRAVAGANZA

CASTING MEETING

Thursday, 21st March.

Ballet Chorus, Principals, and Other
Nebulous Functions.

Watch Notice Boards for Venue.

FILMS . . .

ANASTASIA

Anastasia is the story of a beautiful young woman who appeared in Paris in the 1920's, and was claimed to be the younger daughter of the Royal Family of Russia, who according to rumour was supposed to have escaped when the rest of her family were executed. According to the film the young woman, suffering from amnesia, appears from nowhere and is discovered by three racketeers who fraudulently endeavour to establish her as heiress to the Russian Royal Family's fortune, amounting to some millions deposited in the Bank of England.

Anastasia is played by Ingrid Bergman who received for her performance the award of the New York Film Critics' Circle. I hope she gets an Oscar as well, for she certainly deserves it.

Yul Brynner as leader of the racketeers was excellent, though one was constantly reminded of his performance in "The King and I". The makers of "Anastasia" seem to have read in the fan-magazines that Brynner is the man most women would most like to be tyrannised by. As a result he seemed too domineering, though from the ecstatic giggles with which he was rewarded his interpretation seems to have been accepted by the females in the audience.

Martita Hunt as Lady-in-Waiting to the Dowager-Empress gave the only performance that was grossly out of place. As a scatty old rouged-up floozy she would have been more in place in a Comedy of Manners. Helen Hayes, as the Dowager Empress gave a restrained and effective performance.

The director seems to have devoted most of his attention to the actors, with the result that the camera-work is rarely more than competent, though at no point is it less than competent. Some of the opening scenes, in fact, particularly those by the river, were extremely beautiful.

The only serious drawback to the film was the ending, which was decidedly trite. Here, the film departed from the play on which it was based to give us a Happy Hollywood Ending. A great pity in view of the sensitivity which characterized the film as a whole. J.S.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Mr. Shaw, who is always up to mischief in some theatre or other, is being played again by Victoria's Own Drama Club. G.B.S., as we of the inner circle are wont to name him, had a theory, or at least a verdict, on most things, and one which he argues most eloquently is that Shakespeare was a man (a very worthy one) who had many of the finer parts that had made Shaw the greatest of all English dramatists.

"The Dark Lady of the Sonnets" is his last word on Shakespeare's encounter with that woman; it appears to him that far from being the homeless flouted victim of a frail woman, Shakespeare, because of his manly qualities and Shavian opinions, was very much the questing poet in search of Gloriana and one who had no illusions about the hand-surrogate, Lady Mary Fitton. Why Lady Mary Fitton? That is another story upon which Shaw wastes a great deal of his preface.

Briefly, Shakespeare, while waiting for an encounter with his dark lady,

God Defend New Zealand

Narrow Viewpoint

"In a specially published pamphlet the Federation of Labour says: "The industrial labour movement must be concerned with alcoholism even from the narrow viewpoint that it interferes with a person's working life, reduces his earnings, tends to disrupt industry and lower the standard of living generally." —Dominion, 4 March, 1957

De Gustibus . . .

"One of the bigger differences between the Founders' Society and his association was that the Founders' Society drank liquor at its gatherings and the Early Settlers drank tea at theirs, the Chairman of the Wellington Early Settlers' and Historical Association (Mr. C. J. S. Harcourt) said at the association's annual meeting last night." —Evening Post, 1 March, 1957

Shakespearean Christmas

"Dickens's immortal 'Christmas Carol' was re-enacted at the Shakespeare Society's Christmas party in Wellington recently." —Dominion, 20/12/1956

Following Yonder Star

"A religious film with a Christmas flavour—This Sunday night at 7.30: "THE MIRACLE OF BETHLEHEM—starring BILLY GRAHAM." —Advertising Handbill, distributed in Wellington, December, 1956.

Queue Up

"FOUND, £1 note; owner describe, pay advertisement."—Ad. in Evening Post, 4 March, 1957.

"Young lady requires evening work, anything considered."—Ad in Evening Post, 28 February, 1957.

Insulted

"A visitor to the National Gallery said: 'As a young mother, I am absolutely insulted by Moor's monstrosity "Mother and Child". I have two children and they don't look in the least like that.'" —Evening Post, 9/3/1957

Cabinet Minister at Work

"Dean Eyre has shown himself to be a Minister with drive . . . He likes to see things for himself, as witness his recent Wanganui River trip."—Freedom, 20 February, 1957.

A Gentle Echo on the Pursuit of Knowledge

Elder:

(1) Victoria praise be you preserve your mode and gait Victoriante Hellfire consume the New Morality and Others you exorciate. Let me number myself cream-faced latest among your laureates. Rats.

Echo:

(2) I lost some mana, Victoria, I'm not the man I was I was huffed My Bursary by Mister Algie's men I goofed and goofed Hygeia-, Athene-, Persephone-wise and still it's got me bluffed; Now say: Should I with Gertrude Stein, or Ep-, or Eel- be stuffed?

(3) Victoria (hear me gentle Echo) when to this University I came at first the goose (Hey! pensive Echo!) was honking high. Lest I displease you, what do you surest find most lewd and nasty? Honesty.

But the women and (damnation, listen Echo!) grog set all awry. How must I be t'ensure your fury's dilatory? A Tory.

Oh! . . . ECHO! . . . could there be something diverting your eye? And what is it most surely makes you see red? A Red.

(4) So behind those bricks of Mockery-Boldish by my name on a roster If I pursued the Most High Truth —how could I see Him? S.C.M.

They say that even for a pre-New Deal P.P.T. Bursar I lacked lustre. How, then, to arrange a person to Person interview? E.U.

The Teachers' College yarns back at me, a Hole, what juster O Victoria, how may I woo you so that you keep quiet? Keep quiet.

Than ivied penance supported in Purgatory among wee paternosters? Echo, though I inspire you still I will dry you up. Hell dry you up! (8) —J.G.

(5) Victoria I brought for thee the year's new milky pup, This Fresher, suffused with the usual Reader's-Digested pap And Willow-Willow-Wylie—he badly needs a word to set him up. Set him up. (6)

Fresher: (7) Er . . . Urghh! Victoria, how sing the sweet thing for which I'm here? Air.

Kind Echo, do you play to all my certainties destroyer? Yeah! Echo, how tell the clay the sweet shell rests upon? 'S a bum!

O how shall I fortify my self 'gainst your abuse? Booze. What best defends me, Echo, from your acrimony? Money.

MARGINAL NOTES

(1) The Elder Student, Horridly Seamed and far gone in Venery, consulteth with the Echo, Victoria, and receiveth a Playful Admonition.

(2) Victoria, never too subtle, Prescribeth Further.

(3) The Echo, Victoria, permitteth her Attention to wander, but maketh the Best of it.

(4) The Echo, considerably Awed by Dantesque Imagery, loseth a little Ground.

(5) The Elder Student produceth a small, revolting object from his Fob.

(6) Followeth a Long Silence, broken only by Echo's Dalliance with a waterfront whistle.

(7) The Fresher engageth the Echo's attention.

(8) This sheweth that all Freshers and certain others may learn, by keeping quiet, to detect certain other Echoes, Perhaps.

Chamber Music

Students under 21, and not gainfully employed may now join the Hutt Valley Branch of the Wellington Chamber Music Society, at the reduced rate of 25/- per annum. Applicants should send money, name, addresses, and telephone numbers to V.U.C.S.A. Secretary, c/o Exec. Office, IMMEDIATELY.

EXTRAVAGANZA

Once again the Greatest Show On Earth is going through its preliminary contortions. The Extrav. Committee has organised amazing programmes including a Queen's Birthday visit to Hastings. Scripts are available and all that remains is for the cast to be selected.

The Casting Meeting will be held on Thursday, 21st March at the place advertised on the notice board, and it is from those present at this meeting that the cast will be selected. A large number of the old stagers will be dropping out this year and Principal openings will be in abundance. Hairy legs are required for the Male Ballet and everybody is required for the Chorus. Numerous hands are needed to help backstage and also in the wardrobe, so whatever your interest may be in Extrav., and it is certainly one of the most enjoyable facets of University life, the Casting Meeting is what you should attend. Ask any of the 1955 players how they enjoyed the Hastings trip! If their stories do not make you eager to join the show, then perhaps you would not enjoy it anyhow.

RECORD SALES

The S.C.M. Second-hand Book-stall which closed last week has again proved its worth for both staff and students. It is estimated that 3000 books were handled, and about 900 people used the service. The supply of English books was particularly good and the stock of Law, Commerce, and Science books compared favourably with former years. As usual, however, History and Geography students tended to retain their copies.

The management greatly appreciated the help and co-operation given by the Students' Association, the College staff and the many S.C.M.'ers who rallied to the cause.

Sellers please note:

The return from the sale of books and any books unsold must be collected on 28th or 29th March.

DRAMA CLUB ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, March 20, in the Little Theatre at eight. Freshers' Evening—Shaw's "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets."

April 1-6 in the Little Theatre at eight. Major Production for 1957 —Chekov's "The Cherry Orchard," produced by Margaret Walker. Bookings at the Phoenix Bookshop, Willis Street (Penguin Books). Price 3/6—Students 2/6.

Maths and Physics

The first meeting of the Maths. and Physics Society this year, is to be held on Thursday, 28th March. The speaker will be Prof. J. T. Campbell who will speak on the "Literature of Mathematics". The talk is one that all mathematical students should attend.

The following Thursday, Dr. Bull, who was recently in Greenland, will speak on "Physics at Low Temperatures".

This talk should be of wide general interest.

THE ANNUAL ACADEMIC MASS and Communion of the Catholic Students' Guild will be held at St. Gerard's Church, Hawker St. on Sunday 24th March at 10 a.m. All members of the Guild are invited to attend. The preacher will be the Rev. Fr. K. Maher S.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the G.S.G. will be held in the Little Theatre at 5.45 p.m. on the same day. A buffet tea will be provided. There will be an admission charge of 2/6 to cover costs.

For further activities of the Guild watch the Notice Board.

PRINTERS OR JUST INEFFICIENCY? Students during the end of enrolling were writing out their life-stories for Stud. Ass. on little snippets of paper. The cards had run out.

INDIA WILL BE THE HEART OF THE WORLD

"As I sit here in this huge new building, I feel I am right at the heart of a country that is so industrious and rejoicing in its upsurge. And today with such unrest in Europe and the Middle East one can't help feeling that here is going to be the heart of the world."

Tus writes former VUC student, Roseanne Gordon, from Delhi, early in November, where she was working on the New Zealand section of the Secretariat of the Unesco Conference.

Roseanne was travelling in company with Jane Barnicoat, well known around the College—especially to the Colombo Plan students to whom she acted as hostess on behalf of the Department of External Affairs. Jane also had a job attached to the Conference.

"Being here in India, everything seems so vital," she writes, "and one realises what a backwash New Zealand is. Even if one didn't like the splendid new shape India is taking, one could spend a lifetime discovering

WHAT'S IN A NAME (from page 1)

premier on a subsequent royal occasion.

The education policy of Seddon's Government was generally enlightened. Its legislation helped to make the system of universal education more effective and the opportunities for advanced study more nearly equal.

University education had been pioneered by Otago in 1870, and Auckland had followed over the next dozen years. Seddon himself became enthusiastic about the idea of a university college in Wellington "for the sons and daughters of poor men" to commemorate the Queen's diamond jubilee—thus combining his progressive ideas in education with his loyal fixation on his sovereign lady.

In 1897 he introduced "An Act to promote Higher Education by the Establishment of a College at Wellington in Commemoration of the Sixtieth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria." His supporting speech began: "I think it would be a grand thing in this Jubilee year if we could establish this Victoria College..."

So Victoria College it became, and Victoria it has remained for sixty years (if we include the two years between the Act and the foundation, and the further seven years between the foundation and the official opening).

And who would change its name now? Victoria College has long since lost the automatic association her name once suggested with her long-deceased royal fairy-godmother on the other side of the globe. She has developed an individuality of her own. Thousands of students have passed through her care, many with outstanding academic distinction. She has acquired a certain notoriety for bust-ups and hullabalous, and for keeping her head throughout and fearlessly defending the rights of free thought and discussion, and steadfastly refusing to be stampeded by downtown pressure.

Thousands of graduates think affectionately of "Vic", and as "Vic" she will continue to be known whatever her current guardians may do to her official name by deed poll.

Besides, the only positive alternative suggestion—"University of Wellington"—might possibly consolidate her relations with the city, but the district served by V.U.C. is not just the city, or even the province, of Wellington, but the "University Middle District" which includes Taranaki, Hawkes Bay, Nelson and Marlborough.

I am no sentimental monarchist. I realise that Wellington is adequately littered with memorials to the old lady concerned—Mt. Victoria, Victoria Street, the Victoria Hotel, Queen's Drive, Queen's Wharf, the squatly stolid statue in Kent Terrace. This, apart from any possible confusion with the Australian state such as appears to worry "The Dom", might be sufficient grounds for changing the name—if the name had not become part of V.U.C.'s tradition. But it has. So let's leave it alone.

—VICTORIAN

its fascinating history which can be felt everywhere one turns—in Buddhism, Hinduism, among the Moslems and the Sikhs—in the ancient temples, the old tombs, and great white mosques. The leaders of the States have been so respected not only for their wealth, but because they have so often been talented people—poets or employing poets and artists. When we were in Hyderabad for three days it was good to hear the people talk of the poor old Nizam—now devoid of his wealth—as a poet and scholar of Persian, very well loved by the people (if not by his hundred wives).

"All the time there is movement and colour—the sound of the wooden mallet beating out silver on the shop floor mingles with the brass bells of the passing bullock wagon. The craftsmanship of the silversmiths, the woodworkers and the weavers is wonderful and minute. We came all the way up from Colombo second class by train, spending a few days in Madras and a few in Hyderabad. The trains are very dirty but quite bearable, and everyone has been wonderful to us as we were always the only Europeans travelling. I guess the few others about must fly.

"On the whole English is widely spoken, for it is a unifying language—there is very little connection between Tamil and the other southern languages and Hindustani in the north. Now, of course, there is a move to make Hindi the national language, but it is limited and cannot cope with the technical terms. It sounds rather like our news in Maori.

MEN'S SANA . . .

One activity that Dr. Williams particularly recommended was participation in some of the many, varied classes organised by the Physical Education Officer, W. H. Landreth. Many students of mediocre sporting achievements at school can be shy and bashful but Mr. Landreth is especially keen to meet and help these people as well as those who wish to develop further some special aptitude or to keep fit for out-of-season sports. "I urge, any, all of you, to go and see Mr. Landreth." (Mr. Landreth's room is in the Upper Gymnasium.)

International Vic. Vac.

Largely through the good offices of Peter Morris (Senior Lecturer in charge of Post-Primary Teachers' Bursaries, and sometime executive member), a handful of V.U.C. students obtained jobs at the beginning of the long vacation, assisting in the running of the Colombo Conference, in Parliament Buildings.

One of the lucky students remarked: "Pay was good, by Public Service standards, and possibilities of overtime made it at least fair in comparison with more lucrative vacation jobs. But it was a grand opportunity to see New Zealand tackle its biggest-ever assignment as host to an international conference, apparently with great success, and to get a glimpse of the inside workings of the Plan."

Strangely enough, the major task of the Conference was only to prepare an annual report on past progress and briefly outline future tasks. The real work is arranged bilaterally between the member countries.

In the main, V.U.C. students acted as general rouseabouts.

A few dashing females were graced with the title and dignity of "hotel

"On each of our three laps we were with people—mainly men—who were willing to tell us all about the country and its problems, and we had a terrific time experimenting with food.

"From Hyderabad to Delhi—1040 miles for 24/7!—we were with two Sikhs. The two nights we were on the train we were thankful for our sleeping bags, for we lay on them on the wooden seats. In the morning there was a terrific performance of washing, oiling, tying up hair, and sitting cross-legged to mutter prayers. Then I shared breakfast with one of them—chapatis and churd. From Madras to Hyderabad the carriage was very crowded, and people cooked their own meals on the floor. I 'slept' on my suitcase head to head with a Hindu bloke and foot to foot with a Moslem, while Jane and a fat Hindu woman in sarree shared a long seat. Jane kicked the poor woman, who snored violently.

"We have discovered that there is quite an art in aiming at the hole in the floor—i.e., w.c. without w. or c.

"Beggars are prohibited, so come to the non-platform side of the train, but on the whole beggars aren't very numerous. A few old leprosy cases. Begging is still a racket in that often the aged won't go into homes as they know they get more by begging, and still parents maim children so that begging is their profession.

to be continued

LIKE NIOBE . . .

Mr. C. J. C. Marchant, in his presidential welcome, broke Victorian tradition; he was quite amusing. His introductions of the Exec. started uncertainly when the Vice-Presidents confused their sexes, but then all went swimmingly and the meeting ended in weeping, as the audience watched tears streaming down the Exec.'s faces while the sobbing President praised them. (It is understood that chemical experiments took place next door.)

ON SKIS

At long last the Ski Club hut, a joint venture with Auckland U.C. Ski Club, is nearing completion. It's not complete but nearly so, with the walls up, the roof on, the concrete floor down and the window frames installed. That's a lot of work done. Ahead of us we have the construction of a ski-room and the fitting-out of the interior. All contributions of labour and material gratefully received. Watch notice board for the frequent working parties.

Also on the programme are the AGM with possibly a film of a working party, a kitchen evening party (bring something for the hut), etc.

WHAT'S COOKING?

Seductive Invitation

In V.U.C.'s red postwar days, the Students Association was affiliated to an outfit with the incredible title "World Federation of Democratic Youth," known locally as Woolfdee. Like the student and trade union internationals formed at the same time, WFDY fell victim to the cold war, western affiliates withdrawing and leaving the rump to become increasingly Kremlinised.

VUSCA stayed in, rejecting repeated rightwing moves for disaffiliation, till the war scare of mid-1950. We were represented at WFDY's first two biennial "World Festivals of Youth and Students for Peace"—Prague 1947 and Budapest 1949. The three festivals since have been graced by a few New Zealand student left-wingers, but VUC as such has been absent.

This year, the Festival is in Moscow repeat Moscow. Mr. Lutsky of Wellington's Soviet Legation states that it will begin on 28 July, and that "he was able to say that there would be no difficulty whatsoever about visas. Russia would welcome New Zealand representation."

The odd local Party-liner (if there's one left) will be sure to be going—but that won't further the cause of peaceful co-existence very far. What is needed is as many ordinary students as possible to get there—not just to participate in the Festival convivialities, but to see Russia for themselves, tell ordinary Russian students what they think about it, and break down the barriers by frank interchange.

Equality of the sexes. Yes, at last! Men have invaded another former female monopoly. At least two men have lockers. Until the change-over to a common Common Room it was taken for granted that lockers were the women's prerogative. But they now have a better: men no longer have a segregated common room, women of course, do. It is time that the persecuted sex was organized to gain equal facilities.

S.C.M. Bookstall manager Brian Davies was worried at having well over £1,000 worth of books in the easily-entered gym. Last year the V.U.C.S.A. Secretary had to write to the parent of a child complaining that, although repeatedly ordered off, her son persistently haunted our collapsing barn. It is most surprising—not to say disturbing—that despite all the valuable equipment and books housed at Vic. there is no night watchman. Are these rambling buildings so fireproof, earthquake-proof, thief-proof and vandal-proof that we can afford such laxity?

The bloody slaughter in Hungary last year has had repercussions even in New Zealand student circles. N.Z.U.S.A. with the support of the constituent Colleges has agreed to do everything in its power to help refugees interested in University study. Exec. member Miss Janette McCracken, holding the portfolio of International Affairs Corresponding Member, is handling this problem in the V.U.C. area. As far as is known at the moment there are at least eight concerned, but Miss McCracken is having great difficulty in tracking them down since some of their addresses supplied by the Labour Department are now out of date. Therefore any newly arrived refugees interested in the University should contact Janette McCracken, c/o V.U.C.S.A. Exec. Office.

Two highly successful dances were held last week. The first, immediately after the President's address, was preceded by an invasion of the Weir Haka party, who, yelling and gesticulating, carried off the most ravishing Fresher girls. The Ball on Friday was packed out. Door takings were £70 or £80, and 60 dozen Coco-cola bottles were sold. The dance ended on the tennis courts.

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