

Salient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria University, Wellington.

Vol. 21, No. 7

WELLINGTON, 11th JUNE, 1958

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FORECAST OF OVERCROWDING

In its Annual Report to the University Council, presented in May, the Professorial Board drew attention to the fact that "Unless the Government authorises an immediate start on the University's building programme the University will be driven within a short time to limit student enrolments."

FORECAST STUDENT NUMBERS

In 1955 the Education Department produced an estimate of student enrolments at the constituent institutions up to the year 1965. These figures showed that Victoria University, from an enrolment of 2,300 in 1956, could expect an increase to 4,000 in 1965. Subsequently, in November of last year, revised estimates were produced which indicate that in 1965 we can expect between 4,330 and 5,190 students, and by 1972 between 5,650 and 7,250.

Enrolments in the years immediately preceding World War II were of the order of 1,000 students. During the war numbers fell somewhat, but from 1946 onwards the rush of returning servicemen increased the numbers to a little in excess of 2,000, a figure which remained stable for the next ten years. It was at one time expected that as the demand from ex-servicemen was satisfied the student members would revert to something near the pre-war figure, but as this group of students began to diminish, numbers were kept up by new entrants from the schools, reflecting the increased birthrate of the post-depression years.

This article was specially written for "Salient" by Dr. Culliford, Part-time assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Public Relations Officer for the University, and a Senior Lecturer in the English Department.

The rapid increase, however, is just beginning. Student numbers increased by 150 in 1957, to give the highest enrolment ever at this University. This year they have increased by a further 250, and, as the Education Department's forecasts indicate, we can expect an annual and substantial increase in student numbers for many years to come.

There may be economic or political developments that will affect these forecasts, but the people upon whom the forecasts are based are already born, crowding the schools, and about to crowd the universities. Victoria is not alone in this problem. The increases Auckland has to face are greater, and Canterbury and Otago, in a more modest fashion, can look forward to a similar experience.

UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS

At the end of the war this University had, for teaching purposes, the main Arts building, begun in 1906 and added to in 1920 and 1921; and the Biology Building, two stories of which were completed in 1938. To cope with the immediate post-war increases a number of steel

huts were erected both on the University site and on City Council land, and the wooden Little Theatre Building was constructed for the joint use of the University and the Teachers' College. Since then two houses have been purchased in Kelburn arade, a third floor added to the Biology Block to compensate for steel huts removed to make way for the Science Building, and the Science Building itself is nearing completion.

THE PRESENT SITUATION

At first sight it would appear that the massive Science Building, dominating the University site, must provide an answer to accommodation problems for some years to come. But in fact the relief afforded is not great. The Departments of Chemistry, Geology and Geography can expect to function efficiently and handle a good many more students than they have at present, and the nine extra classrooms in the building will provide a solution to one problem that was becoming urgent.

As enrolments have increased, so there has been an increase in the size of a number of small advanced classes that have been normally held in Professors' studies. The need to hold such classes in lecture rooms has led to a steady pressure on teaching space, with the result that on most evenings in the week every classroom is in use, and classes effectively too large for studies nevertheless have to be squeezed in to them. The new classrooms in the Science Building will ease this pressure.

Otherwise the gains for general teaching purposes are small. Apart from the fact that the huts formerly occupied by the Departments of Geology and Geography had arrived here after arduous service with the American Army in the Pacific, and have now completely outlived their useful life, the lease has expired on the City Council land where they are located, and the University is obliged to dismantle and remove the buildings. So the only gains in space for general purposes are the two floors of the present Chemistry Wing, erected in 1906 and designed for the teaching of Science; and four classrooms on the top floor of the Science Building.

FUTURE PROBLEMS

The effects of the imminent substantial increases in enrolment are going to be felt in two ways. In the first place the Library, built in 1920 when the total enrolment was of the order of 600 students, cannot seat more than 200. By accepted standards a University Library should be able to provide one seat for four students; this year the Library can provide one seat for thirteen, and unless there is some relief the figure will reach one for twenty.

In the second place the number of teaching staff is related directly

to the number of students, and as enrolments increase, so do the number of lecturers. With the normal forecast increase in staff, every staff study will be occupied by the end of 1959, with every room that can be shared being shared.

These two are the main factors leading to the consideration of limiting student numbers. This University has never turned students away, but the question of the University's obligation to the student body is becoming more pressing. At what point does the swamping of Library facilities lead to a deterioration of standards that can only be detrimental to all students attending the University? And at what point does an adverse staff-student ratio bring about the same effect?

Is Victoria a Glorified Night School?

Where is the prestige of Victoria in the capital? Why are students all treated as though they are attending a glorified night school and not a seat of learning as Victoria should be?

The first answer that we can give to this is shown in a recent edition of the "Evening Post." Look at the figures for attendance at the University. Out of a total roll of over 2,500 only a mere 800-odd are full-time students. Can it be that the students themselves do not treat Victoria as a University at all? Surely it is not true that we are only attending a night school. But if we are not then why is it that in the Calendar every year we find that most important units (or rather units that are taken by a large number of students) are all after five in the afternoon. If this is not to enable the students to attend the university after their normal day's work, then what is it? It should be that the students are putting their university studies first but, instead, they are going off to work—and the studies are only second to this. And not only that. The powers-that-be condone this. Otherwise, why the timetable as it is?

—R.S.L.

THE BUILDING PROGRAMME

With these two needs in mind the University requested the approval of the University Grants

Committee, in 1955, for the planning and erection of a building to house the Library and provide for classrooms and substantial accommodation for members of staff. This was wholeheartedly supported by the Grants Committee and recommended to the Government, but consideration was deferred. The question was reopened last year, and the matter is at present under the consideration of the Government.

The proposed site of this building is to the east of the Science Building and beyond and encroaching on the Little Theatre Building, so that use can be made of the gully here to provide as much open fronted basement area as possible. The Library portion will have seating for 1,000 readers and storage provision for a stock of 200,000 volumes. It will be so designed, however, that it can be readily expanded to accommodate 1,500 readers and 500,000 books.

There will be studies for 140 members of teaching staff, a number of classrooms of various sizes, and special laboratory and other provision for the Department of Psychology.

Such a building, however, will be a major undertaking, and in view of past experience will take at least six years to complete from the time that the Government gives authority to proceed with planning. But in six years' time the roll will have almost doubled.

In the meantime it may be possible to make some small increase in reading room space by using the Cafeteria-Common Room area that will become vacant when the Student Union Building is completed. This will not, however, solve the problem of staff accommodation. To meet this need the University Council has proposed to the Government an extension of the present Biology Block, this to be used in the meantime largely for staff studies.

The Departments of Botany and Zoology have outgrown their present premises, but their needs can be met in the meantime by the provision of one further laboratory and certain ancillary services. By 1965, however, extensive further provision will be called for. If permission is soon forthcoming to make a start on the Arts and Library Building, this building can be completed by 1964. An extension of the Biology Block, if started soon, could accommodate the extra staff due to arrive between 1959 and 1964. When the Arts and Library Building is completed these staff members will occupy the studies in this new building and the entire Biology Block will be converted to meet the needs of increased enrolments in Botany and Zoology. In this way the University can to some degree meet the problems of the immediate future.

THE RESULT OF DELAY

If the Arts and Library Building had been approved in 1955, it could have been completed in time for use during the session of 1962, when the maximum forecast enrolment is 3,900. If it were approved today it could be in use for 1965 when the maximum forecast enrolment is 5,190. Each year's delay now means a further increase of 400 in each of the years following 1962, and an overloading of facilities to an extent that can only deprive the students in our University district of what they have a right to expect.

The Council and the University Grants Committee have pressed matters as far as they can, and the decisions now are to be made by the Government. Provision of more accommodation is a matter of the greatest urgency, but in view of the delay over the Arts and Library Building it is a matter of some doubt as to whether the nature of this urgency is yet fully appreciated in Government circles.

Situations Vacant

Under the Volunteer Graduate Scheme for Indonesia you can work in Indonesia for a period of about two years. The New Zealand Government pays the fares and other expenses, but while in Indonesia you will work for the Indonesian Government on the basis of equality with Indonesians.

No New Zealanders have yet worked under this scheme, as the final details await signature of the Djakarta Government, but some 20 Australian graduates have helped meet the critical shortage of trained personnel. More importantly, they have worked on the basis of equality with Indonesians to help improve the relations between these two countries.

The Indonesian Ambassador to Australia (N.Z. has no diplomatic or trade representatives from Indonesia) has this to say:

"For the first time in our experience white people have been ready to live among us on our own standards of salary and living, to share family life with us and to become real members of our community."

The rates of pay are much lower than in New Zealand, but it is still possible to live reasonably well. Many of the Australian graduates have returned to Indonesia for a second term.

One of the Australian graduates has this to say of her experience: "Once you have lived in Indonesia with Indonesians and have come to know something of their hopes and aspirations, their hospitality, their culture, the warmth of their friendship, and the beauty of their countryside, you will find yourself a changed person in many ways."

For enquiries about the scheme, see Brian Shaw at the Union Office.



WHAT WAS WINNIE THE POOH'S SECRET VICE?

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ENGLAND RIGHT OR WRONG

*"And all are bred to do your will
By land and sea—wherever flies
The Flag, to fight and follow still
And work your Empire's destinies."*

—KIPLING.

"Empire is to me a lovely euphonious name which cannot be entirely displaced."

—DR. MAZENGARB.

Only a few months back we read, supposedly with a feeling of patriotic ecstasy, of the glorious military operation in Oman—how wonderfully successful were the R.A.F. in destroying mud forts! How the poverty stricken villagers must have run like mad dogs before the rockets and cannons of the British jets! All the old imperialists—Palmerston, Disraeli, Kitchener, Rhodes, Kipling—must have turned over in their graves with sheer excitement.

BRITANNIA RULES THE WAVES. Now we read of the dispatch of a warship to the Maldive Islands. For some time Britain has been in trouble with this small protectorate over the establishment there of an air base. An agreement was reached some time ago for the establishment of a base on the small island of Gan, one of the Maldive group. It was agreed that the few hundred inhabitants of the islands should be transferred elsewhere at British expense and resettled. Since then there has been a change of government in the Maldives and the new administration has shown itself very critical of the agreement establishing the base. So when the British High Commissioner in Ceylon recently visited the islands in an effort to patch up the trouble he travelled in a British warship. Naturally enough this has drawn a protest from the Maldive Government alleging that Britain is bullying a small nation at naval gunpoint.

"THEY ARE LIFTING THEIR HEADS IN THE STILLNESS TO YELP AT THE ENGLISH FLAG!" The Chief Minister of Jamaica, Mr. Manley, said recently that the attitude of Britain and the United States toward a proposal for the capital of the West Indies Federation was one of arrogance and contempt. The proposed site is Chaguaramas, Trinidad, where there is a United States naval base. Mr. Manley said Britain had stated it was unable to request the United States to consider leaving Chaguaramas to make way for the capital in the light of conclusions of a report on the subject. "The conduct of the British Government in publishing a one-sided statement designed to prejudice and embarrass, and indeed prevent, any more consideration of the matter in the West Indies is an insult and an outrage to the people of the West Indies and the Federal Government," said Mr. Manley.

"FRIEND OF THE ENGLISH, FREE FROM FEAR." I note with interest that terror stalks the Bahamas. A Politically explosive situation threatens to blow the islands' economy sky-high. Unexplained acts of terrorism and sabotage have shocked the ruling millionaire clique at a time when wealthy free-spending Americans are flocking to this fashionable winter playground. Root cause of the trouble has been the constant rejection by Britain of demands by the 100,000 Negro population who make up 82% of the population for an articulate voice in the government. For years, the Bahamas have been ruled by a white group whose families have lived on the islands for generations. For years they have held a safe majority in the House of Assembly, giving them a firm hold on political and economic power. There is plural voting, and one vote is given to every company registered in the Bahamas; and, moreover, an extra by-election vote is given to anyone owning property in a constituency even if he does not live there. But when what appeared to be a minor squabble about wages touched off a unanimous general strike, Britain adopted its traditional remedy for curing its colonial troubles and flew in a battalion of British troops.

"AN' THEY GAVE US EACH A MEDAL FOR SUB-DUIN' ENGLAND'S FOES." In Malta two Ministers of the former Government of Mr. Mintoff have been charged with intimidating people during the recent general strike organised as a protest against British treatment of Malta, a nation awarded the George Cross during the last war. The arrested persons, at the mercy of the British Governor, are the former Education Minister and the former Minister of Health.

Should we therefore agree with Dr. Mazengarb that "Empire" is a lovely euphonious name that cannot entirely be displaced?

MUSIC SOCIETY

It appears that the Music Society has an extremely active committee this year. Already they have held one highly successful student concert featuring the works of Bach, Vivaldi, Mozart, Schubert, Malapiero, and Bartok—and it is obvious that the standard of concerts and lectures on musical subjects during the Second Term will be unusually high.

The first of these functions, on June 11th, will be another Student Concert, highlights of which will be the "Vivaldi Violin Concerto in G" and "Four Hungarian Folk Songs" by Matyas Seiber.

A film evening has been arranged for June 18th and an interesting programme concerning the music of India and the making of instruments used by the natives of the Belgian Congo will provide a stimulating contrast to the main feature, "The Glydebourne Opera".

On July 3rd, Mr. William Ngata will lecture on "Maori Music, its traditions and its place in the culture of New Zealand". In conjunction with this talk, the Music Society is happy to present a display of Maori carving, greenstone and the famous "nose-flutes". All of these articles have been kindly lent by the Dominion Museum.

Other programme possibilities being investigated, include a combined International Club-Music Society evening, a concert by the Malcolm Latchem Quartet or the New Zealand Woodwind Ensemble, a lecture by John Hopkins (conductor of the National Orchestra), a concert of works by New Zealand composers, and some short programmes provided by Gwyneth Brown (piano) and Joan Wood (soprano).

These functions, interspersed with student concerts, will provide a very interesting series. Watch the notice-boards for further details.

* * *

The "Sub-groups" of the Music Society have started the Second Term in great style, and all of these groups will welcome inquiries from anyone interested in joining.

The String Group, under the direction of Peter Komlos ('phone 6473M, evening) is at present rehearsing chamber music, but hopes, if the response is overwhelming, to branch out into the playing of orchestral music.

The Choral Club meets each Thursday morning at 10 o'clock in the Music Room, C.6. Works being studied this year include early Polyphonic pieces, music by 18th and 19th century composers, and the more recent works of Britten, Vaughan Williams, Rubra, and a number of New Zealand compositions. Any inquiries re this Club should be made to Suzanne Green (conductor), 'phone 76-120.

The Woodwind Ensemble requires a competent clarinetist and also a bassoon player. Anyone interested should contact Jillian Huthnance, 'phone 60-700, or Robert Irwin, 'phone 34-590.

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GOD DEFEND

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"The Reverend Samuel Marsden was a magistrate at Parramatta, N.S.W., where he was known as 'the flogging parson,' because of the severity of the punishments he imposed on convict servants for breaches of the regulations, laziness, insubordination or absconding. But in New Zealand he has the reputation almost of a saint."

—"Roaming Round New Zealand", by Frank Clune, p. 23.

'UTTER STUPIDITY

"I cannot imagine anything more stupid than to go on producing butter," the Minister (of Finance) stated, when instancing the fact that every pound of butter sold since January, 1956, had been disposed of at a loss."

—"Manawatu Evening Standard," 15/5/58.

UNDERSTATEMENT?

"At least, in Miss Doolittle's well-known words, it is not very likely."

—"Truth," 20/5/58.

POURING OIL ON TROUBLED LIPS

"I am 17 years of age and I have never been out with boys other than by brother and cousins, the trouble with me is, that I am too shy. I have been asked out by a number of boys, but I always make some excuse because I am told that when a boy takes a girl out he expects her to kiss him goodnight. I would rather drink a bottle of castor oil than let a boy kiss me goodnight."

—"Letter to 'Truth,' 20/5/58.

LEADING A DOG'S LIFE

"The Communist Government of Kerala State, South India, has banned 'space dog' projects, the 'Times of India' reported today. There has been a space dog craze in many areas of the State, and one enthusiast, Anthan Kali, has fired dogs several hundred feet into the air in containers attached to crude 'rockets.'"

A Wellington bookselling firm recently sent to its customers a list of books available from stock. The list was headed "Increase New Zealand Production". Among the titles were "The Sexual Responsibility of Women" and "Sex Perfection".

ANCIENT

The order remained in Malta for 268 years, bringing with them the chivalry of the European courts and the learning of their age and leaving the Royal University of Malta founded by Grand Master Verdala in 1552. . . . Today the University which enjoys full autonomy is the oldest in the British Commonwealth.

—"The Student, January, 1958.

WOT, NO CANADA?

"U.S. Honour for David Low FREDERICTON (New Brunswick), May 16.—The world-famous New Zealand-born cartoonist David Low received an honorary doctor of laws degree at the University of New Brunswick yesterday."

—"Evening Post", 17/5/1958.

DEATH OF A TOMBSTONE MAKER

Concern at the prohibition of granite importation into New Zealand was shown at the New Zealand Master Monumental Mason's conference held in Wellington last Tuesday.

"There is no substitute or suitable granite in New Zealand," said the Dominion president, Mr. A. H. Fisher, "and the stoppage may mean the extinction of the trade."

—"Dominion," 2/5/1958.

NEGATIVE RABBITS?

"There are 300 per cent. less rabbits here than there were eight years ago when I came to the district. We farmers can deal with our own."

—"Mr. G. Creighton as reported in 'Timaru Herald,' 12/2/1955.

SHOT

The Honourable M. Moohan Scores First Bull of 1958 Season.

—"Large headline in 'Standard,' 7/5/1958.

"NOW GET THIS STRAIGHT!"

Rugby is a man's game and can involve plenty of hard, rugged play, but we as a club will not tolerate incidents such as kicking an opponent.

(Chairman of the Management Committee of the Ponake Rugby Football Club, "Dominion", May 13th, 1958.)

THE STILL SMALL VOICE

"You'll have to speak up," said Mr. L. P. Leary, Q.C., of Auckland, counsel for the defence, to a witness in the Supreme Court at Palmerston North. "Pretend I'm a turnip at the other end of the garden where you work." Witness, a market garden labourer, "I don't think that I would shout at a turnip."

—"Truth," 20/5/1958.

MR. FOR-AND-AGAINST

"At the time of Suez, Britain and the United States seemed to be betraying the principles New Zealand held sacred. Yet they were holding on to things New Zealand cherished to save our way of life."

—"Said Mr. Nash speaking at the Coral Sea dinner of the New Zealand-American Association, 'Dominion', 19/5/1958.

SILLY OLD MACBETH

"... Shakespeare both ridiculed the aristocracy and sailed into the bourgeoisie. If he had made a contemporary king look as silly as Macbeth he would have been up for lese-majesty."

—"From an article entitled 'Art in Our Service' in the Communist Party Journal 'Labour Review', August-September, 1957.

"... LEST THE DAUGHTERS OF THE PHILISTINES REJOICE"

"The 'Southern Cross' should not have printed what that American judge said, that most men had love affairs before marriage. It cannot be true and it is not a help to a mother trying to bring up two sons to lead good decent lives."

(Signed) DISGUSTED,

Silverstream.

—"Letter in 'Southern Cross,' March 24th, 1950.

GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES

LONDON, April 16.—"A vicar was said today to have printed a bachelor of divinity degree for himself on the parish magazine printing press. Now he was working as a night porter in a London hotel "as a self-imposed sentence and to gain moral strength," the "Daily Sketch" reported.—N.Z.P.A.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO SYSTEM

"The Californian State Legislature is drafting a Bill to curb the activities of more than 50 establishments which issue academic degrees on a pay-as-you-go system. In one case it was found that a "college" established for the sole purpose of making money in this manner had received replies from all parts of the world to advertisements offering bachelor of arts degrees at a flat rate of £3/7/10. One man told an investigating committee that he had paid £357 for a Ph.D. from a so-called 'Golden State University'. When it arrived in the post he found he had been sent a B.Sc. for good measure."

"THE LITTLE PEOPLE"

"A fairy story will enliven a pre-Budget Cabinet meeting called by the Prime Minister of Eire (Mr. de Valera), the 'Daily Telegraph's' Dublin correspondent reported. The Prime Minister will have to decide whether his Cabinet believes in fairies or whether to punish 20 State employees because they do, said the correspondent. The men, employed by the State Land Commission, refused to build a fence through a piece of land at Belmullet, County Mayo, because it was known locally as a one-time palace of fairies, "the little people."

"... AND UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"

"Rock 'n'roll should replace 'traditional, stately church music' to encourage youth attendances at church, says the Rev. Allan Walker, superintendent of the Central Methodist Mission in Sydney. 'Youth today does not feel the beat of conventional church music,' Mr. Walker said."

AND

"A young bespectacled parish priest who specialises in organising rock 'n'roll sessions for teenagers in his parish in Warrington, Lancashire, became the eighth Baron Vaux of Harrowden yesterday, said the 'Daily Sketch.' He is the Hon. Peter Hubert Gordon Gilbey, a Benedictine monk."

STUCK!

Why didn't the woman in England who got stuck in the lavatory appeal to the Privy Council?

But whatever the deal, we had better make pretty certain that we don't have almost all of our trade with Britain, for we's had a pretty nasty lesson that it is not safe to let Britain keep an economic stranglehold on us. The best way to avoid this is to vastly expand trade with Japan (yes, our ex-enemy) which is one of our natural markets of the future. Japan already buys a great deal of our wool, and if we buy her manufactured goods she will be able to afford to buy butter and cheese and meat. Perhaps the Japanese will only be able to pay lower prices for our goods, but many of her goods are cheaper than those the British make, and so things should just about balance out. We will have to keep a wary eye on the Japanese to make sure that they buy as much as they sell, but that won't be an impossible task. Similarly we should try to expand our trade with West Germany, the United States, and the Soviet Union (a potential but slightly dangerous customer for dairy products). This will give us strong bargaining power in this and any further showdown with the British.

What happens in London in the

continued on page 4

OUR TRADE POLICY

The tremendous fall in prices of our exports to Britain in the last year or so has brought to a head the question of our basic trade policy, Preference to Britain. Now that we have seen just how much preference Britain is going to give to us, the ugly suspicion rises in our minds that we have been had, played for the biggest suckers in history.

During the last war we New Zealanders sweated our guts out sending meat, wool, and dairy produce to an embattled Britain, as well as sending thousands of troops overseas. Before the war we could go whistle with our exports but when Britain was in trouble she came crying to us for help and we gave it. We stinted ourselves, sent farm produce to feed and clothe her people at half the world price! Britain wouldn't forget that, we were told. Not only that but we sent thousands of soldiers to fight Britain's battle against the Germans and Italians when they were needed desperately here to fight the Japanese who were surging through the islands irresistibly, their bombers reaching as close as Australia. Just a little further and the Japanese would have overrun us for our army was in the Middle East. Our land nearly became a battlefield but we sent our soldiers away to help the British!! Surely they would remember that, we thought.

After the war we continued for years to send Britain produce at low prices, and we continued our mercy scheme of "Parcels to Britain", rationing ourselves so that we might send millions of free parcels to the British. We even gave the British a gift of £1,000,000 sterling to help her in exchange difficulties. We bought hundreds of millions of pounds worth of dear British goods when we could have got them cheaper from West Germany, Japan, or Italy, because we believed that if we helped the British surely in our of need they would help us.

And did the British feel grateful for our sacrifices? Did they buy our goods on a fair preference as we bought theirs? No! They continued to sell us their products under the protection of high tariff barriers, but bought from wherever they could get things cheapest, giving us only nominal preference for our goods. They allowed butter to be dumped on their market at less than the price it was selling in the countries producing it, and expected us to lump it. When Holyoake went to Britain to try to get a fair deal for our farm products he got what

amounted to the brush off from the British Government and an unfriendly British Press which told New Zealand not to bother Britain with her troubles.

And yet at the same time they expected us to continue to buy British. They sent the Queen Mother around to stir up patriotic sentiment, while they bought dumped butter and let the bottom fall out of our market without a murmur. What was sauce for the goose apparently was not sauce for the gander, for it was all right for Britain to buy products from the Argentine, with its wartime Fascist sympathies, from Austria, which was part of the enemy German Reich, and from Sweden, which fattened on selling armaments parts to both sides during the war, but it would have been disloyal for New Zealand to buy cheap goods from Germany, Japan, or Italy.

Now Skinner has gone to Britain to try to negotiate a new deal with the British Government. The failure of the Holyoake mission has shown that we can't deal with the British in a polite way, so Skinner had better get really tough with the British Government and make it clear that unless they give us a fair deal we will stop buying British goods entirely and swing all our orders to Germany and Japan. We should have done this far sooner when our prices first began to slide. If we had caused tens of thousands of British workers to become unemployed through not buying, the British Government would have hastily patched up an agreement (and maybe if we did a trade deal with Russia we would get more attention).

BRAVE NEW WORLD

The inflamed brains of America's advertising industry have recently been investigating the old idea of scenting-up products to provide an olfactory catalyst for a sale. Using chemical scents they prompt pleasant mental associations in the customer's mind as he looks at the merchandise. Ads for frozen strawberries make people's mouths water by incorporating a synthetic chemical in the printing ink which gives off a delicious effluvia of the ripe fruit.

More and more U.S. food stores use chemically produced odours of fresh bread, peppermint, savoury cheese, ham, mince pies and fragrant tobacco. Even washing machines have been sold to the accompaniment of a small of fresh, crisp laundry.

Experiments are now in progress to "syncroscents" films. As the film unrolls an operator presses the right buttons, spraying the audience with smells of sea-spray, new-mown hay, petrol fumes, and so on. More exotic scents will be cheaply synthesized, and Hollywood will try to associate various perfumes with its film stars. Thus the grim predictions of Huxley's *Brave New World* take shape as Monroe undulates into focus through a cloud of Chanel No. 5. We have the movies and the smellies. Aldous Huxley's feelies must be just around the corner, and if Hollywood is going to be really up-to-date and logical it will start installing its electro-mechanical equipment any time now.

FREUD AND YOU

Meanwhile the psychiatrist has entered the advertising field and up and down Madison Avenue the hucksters are earnestly consulting resident sages of the unconscious. These highly paid hacks of the conference room are working (quite correctly) on the theory that a consumer's brain is a hindrance to effective advertising. In return for their salaries they perfect schemes to by-pass rational processes and assist their sponsors' sales by manipulating the public's unconscious wish-fulfillment drives and other hidden mental quirks. For example, in one campaign a brassiere firm instructed its artists along lines suggested by the psychiatrists. They prepared media which played on the submerged exhibitionistic tendencies present in most young women. "I DREAMED I STOPPED TRAFFIC IN MY MAIDENFORM BRA" ran the ads with illustrations of slim maidens sleepwalking in the firm's product before a multitude of admiring men in Times Square. This advertisement paid off in millions of brassiere sales.

For the greeting card industry the analysts turned up the fact that the fastest selling cards were those that had designs incorporating the classic Freudian symbols. A lot more candles have been put on the Christmas cards since then. Freudian theory is no novelty to the hucksters but the attempt to condition consumers by playing on sexual energies has got beyond the beach-girl-selling-tractor stage. More and more sexual stimuli of a kind varying from the commonplace to the pathological is being employed.

SUBLIME OR . . .

A new enterprise called the Subliminal Projection Company has patented a technique for exposing T.V. audiences to invisible commercials. The advertising matter is flashed on the screen for a fraction of a second at an intensity of light lower than the propaganda being shown, with the result that the additional propaganda is absorbed without the conscious knowledge of the viewer. Vance Packard, author of *The Hidden Persuaders*, suggests the method of flashing "sexual" or "emotional" symbols, in the middle of regular T.V. commercials. "You might flash a picture of

This article by Brian Bell appears in a current issue of Bell's "Broadsheet", a new Wellington literary miscellany which is issued periodically. It draws attention to new developments in psychological warfare against the consumer, and poses some whimsical questions about the New Zealand social situation when such techniques are adopted in this country.

a couple making love, or a mother breast-feeding her baby right in the middle of an automobile or cigarette commercial," he explained. "It wouldn't be 'visible' and the emotional impact would be unconsciously very powerful." The sexual symbolism of the automobile is almost unconsciously established in American life. The association of cigarette smoking with breast-feeding may or may not be tenuous. But to judge from what we already know, breast-feeding images should help the sales of anything in the U.S.A.

It seems a good case could be made out for saying that American males exhibit strong tendencies to infantile regression. Freudians make much of their milk drinking, cigar munching, gum chewing, etc., and European anthropologists are always commenting on their apparent confusion between sex and food. ("Cookie", "Honey", "Sugar", "Sweetie-Pie", "Sugar-Candy") Hollywood and the balloon-bust, the obsession with breasts, the whole massive Colossus of Momism—these things have gradually convinced the world that American women wear their infants too early or too late.

THE RIDICULOUS

Advertisers knowingly exploit these trends. On the semi-pathological level there is the case of the nauseating Liberace. His T.V. sponsors utilise all the trappings of Oedipus symbolism in selling to women past the child-bearing age (where most of his following is concentrated).

The "psychiatrists" who trollop their clinical knowledge to the hucksters are not alone in this whole disgraceful trend; a great body of other professional men is equally guilty. More and more social scientists are doing the same, and there is nothing seedy about these men's qualifications. Included among them are men best in their fields. Some of Harvard's and Chicago's leading social anthropologists, sociologists, and research psychologists are listed in "A Directory of Social Scientists Interested in Motivational Research". It contains names and facts about 150 available "social scientists" mainly on college campuses. Price 25 dollars. As this trend gains momentum, pure research will disappear and in America these faculties will become

mere appendages of Madison Avenue.

SOCIETY A BAS

At one time the psychiatrist and the social scientist studied irrational elements in human behaviour with a view to learning more about the condition of man. They hoped to increase the scope and texture of knowledge, and perhaps they hoped to find ways to cause irrationality to be less prevalent, or less dangerous. Now these scientists will hire themselves to men who manipulate irrationality for profit, who wish to increase the extent of it as it is useful to commerce. This is no passing craze. Since 1950 "the depth boys" have been building Motivational Research into a nationwide concern—an integral part of the huge advertising industry.

How will New Zealand be affected by these new currents of American social dynamics?

Will New Zealanders lovingly accept the smellies?

Five years from now will the National Film Unit and the Dominion Laboratory combine to spray cinemas with appropriate smells of sheep-dip, ensilage and superphosphate?

When T.V. comes will the "hidden flash" technique be used to indoctrinate New Zealanders?

IMAGES

Technically at any rate, what could be done for cigarettes and automobiles could also be done for politicians. In America the subliminal technicians will be cunningly identifying Dulles with Abe Lincoln, Eisenhower with Jefferson, and Faubus with Franklin Roosevelt. How rapidly will our own politicians respond to this new weapon? Speaking as a New Zealander who has devoted some thought to our national character I recommend the following images for New Zealand politicians. When television comes, no election candidate could fail if he subliminally projected these images immediately following a close-up of his face looking sincerely at the electorate. They would be useful both "associationally" and "subliminally."

WE RECOMMEND

A sun-tanned shearer, knee-deep in sheep, abusing the foreman or punching the boss's nose . . .

A cheerful, hirsute, grinning New Zealander, prancing on the duckboards, and flicking his mates with a wet towel as they queue for the shower after the football match . . .

A tall, open-shirted Kiwi, sharing a bawdy joke with the boys around the keg at the R.S.A. Hall.

A laconic lantern-jawed Hillary grinning democratically behind the dog team . . .

A pipe-smoking boxing parson piggy-backing the children on the lawn of a State House . . .

continued from page 3

next few weeks will determine our trade future. Obviously we cannot continue at the same high level of trade with Britain we had two years ago, but if Skinner is tough enough, and the Government ready to be as calculatingly mercenary about trade as the British are, we will be able to force out a fairly equal trade agreement. But we must be scrupulously careful not to buy more from the British than they buy from us, and make enough foreign trade agreements to safeguard ourselves against any collapse of our British markets.

And if we don't get a fair trade agreement then maybe we should say goodbye to the British and try to join up with a more powerful and economically strong country like the United States.

—D.P.

BADMINTON

Seen at Badminton Club night last week . . . Perry Preston-Thomas, eminent toiler of the pack in Varsity's Jubilee Cup team. Post—keeping fit for his labours on the Rugby field. His example demonstrates one approach to a game which is rapidly gaining in popularity. For those who prefer to enjoy themselves while keeping fit as Perry does or the purists who have found that Badminton is the most interesting and pleasant winter game to play, the University Club has a great deal to offer. It is whispered through the corridors that Badminton is THE game this season. One of the advantages of this sport is that it takes as little or as much energy as the individual cares to put into it. The social player can play quite passably well without the need of any really strenuous exercise and the mesomorph who will blow up if he does not get rid of some of that energy can really let himself go. Such a change for him after the frustrations of tiddley-winks and ping-pong. In short, it is a game for all. It is quite the easiest thing to learn after basic education in falling off logs, and yet it takes years to become completely practiced in its more subtle arts.

The organisation of the University Badminton Club is quite new and complete. It bears no resemblance to the chaos that pervaded the scene last winter. It is probably a manifestation of the sudden surging interest in the sport, and this is most welcome. The Winter Show building is once again available, the club having use of courts on Wednesday evenings weekly, which is quite satisfactory. Inter-club is under way for the more serious, and a club ladder is being established with Tournament in view. Altogether things are in a very healthy condition and the interest of a number of Colombo Plan students is most welcome.



CHANGE OF TACTICS

An open letter from the Navy Department inviting young men to join the R.N.Z.N.V.R. is displayed in several places, around the University. The letter is headed by a series of pictures, presumably typical of naval activities. One of these pictures is of an obviously drunken sailor, while another shows a sailor walking arm-in-arm with an attractive girl. Does this mean that the old recruiting slogan, "Join the Navy to see the world" has been replaced by "Join the Navy for wine, women and song?"

EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

The annual executive elections are almost due, and as usual we can expect to have to choose between a long list of candidates who are completely unknown to the average student. Students will stand and be elected with the votes of students who have never met the candidates concerned. No wonder there is such student apathy and no wonder so few students bother to vote at all. Under such conditions democracy breaks down and gives way to government by the ignorant.

Some effort must be made to introduce the candidates to the students. It is not enough to expect the voters to rely entirely on the "blurb" sheet brought out by "Salient", especially when we recall that the "blurbs" are usually written by the candidates themselves.

I would suggest that some responsible University organisation (might I suggest the Debating Society?) should arrange for five-minute lunch-hour addresses to be given by all of the various candidates, each address to be followed by the answering of questions. So that all candidates should have an opportunity to speak, the talks could be spread over a period of several days. The logical venue is the common common-room, as this would enable students to listen to the addresses at the same time as they eat their lunches.

If these suggestions are put into effect, we can expect to see much less apathy and a far greater enthusiasm among the students. Let us then stage an "election campaign" and follow this up with the biggest vote yet recorded.

—T.J.K.

What are these elections that are coming up? What is Exec? Can I stand? Can I vote? What do I get out of it?

Questions of this sort are always asked around the cafeteria and commonroom—or rather whispered in lecture-rooms by the sort of student who never looks at the caf or common-room—about this time of the year.

A resolution of the annual general meeting of the Stud. U. in 1956 instructed the powers to be, through "Salient", to issue a broadsheet explaining just what the elections were for, and just what being on the Executive involved. It has been decided that an article in a prominent place in "Salient" could be squeezed into the confines of a definition of a "broadsheet". So the Hon. Secretary and the Editor of "Salient" have put their heads together, and this is the result.

The elections which take place in June every year are for the purpose of electing an Executive to manage the affairs of the Union.

THEY

Executive consists of thirteen persons:

● **A President**—who "shall be responsible for the general supervision of the affairs of the Union", who is usually male (but has been, on at least two occasions in V.U.W.'s stormy past, a female) and has, by hallowed tradition (but not by law) usually been an experienced member of the outgoing Executive.

● **Men's Vice-President**—must be male, also customarily an experienced Executive member; he "shall assist the President in his duties and shall in the absence of the President be and act as President of the Union and Chairman of the Executive".

● **Women's Vice-President**—must be female, is an equal of the Men's Vice-President.

● **Secretary**—the cornerstone of the whole structure, is expected to do three or four times as much work as anyone else. Only qualifications imposed by tradition is willingness, but incumbents are usually also people of imagination and vision. May be of either sex. Duties include: "acting as Secretary of the Union and the Executive and of all committees of the Executive to which not other person has been appointed as Secretary; keeping all necessary or usual minute books, copies of all correspondence and such other books, papers and records as may be required; seeing

that all meetings, notices and other acts and things required to be done . . . are duly summoned, given and done and shall do all things in his power to carry into effect the Constitution; have such other rights and duties as are conferred or imposed upon him by the Constitution or by the Executive."

● **Treasurer**—wherever possible the Treasurer shall be a qualified accountant or B.Com.; otherwise candidates must have passed Accounting II. Duties include "supervising the financial affairs of the Union".

● **Eight Committee members**—four men and four women.

ALL WORK

These people meet at least fortnightly in term-time (meetings usually last until 1 a.m. or later after a 7 p.m. start) and you will have read enough of their minutes (copies are pinned on the notice boards) or stray reports in "Salient" to gather an impression of the sort of things they discuss.

But attending Executive meetings is not the only duty of Executive members. There are countless sub-committees of the Union (Finance, Capping, Cappicade, Extravaganza, Blues, Publications, International Affairs, etc.) on which they have to take their share of jobs. The Secretary is a member of almost every one of these committees. And there are a host of other jobs to pass around—Health Scheme controller, liaison with University Clubs, Procession Controller, Capping Ball controller, Tournament controller, International Affairs officer, Congress, etc.), all of which involve a great deal of inglorious sweat.

NO PERKS

What are the perks? There really aren't any unless you call a degree of limelight a perk. Until this year, Exec. members had to pay for their own tickets to Extrav., to Capping Ball, and for their own beer after Procession. The only free show for all Exec. members (and this is something which they organise, and share with everyone

ASIAN STUDIES: WHY NOT

It is distressing to read of the attitude of the representatives of the University of Auckland towards the introduction of Asian Studies as part of the B.A. degree course; however, it is in, and the present class of 25 is managing well in its work. The credit must go to Professor Palmier, who has to work single-handed in his Department, and his efforts are the more meritorious when one considers the number of his public appearances.

Certainly Wellingtonians—if not Aucklanders—are beginning to realise that South-east Asia is not a remote and isolated area, but is an integral part of the present and particularly the future.

Professor Palmier has taken time off on a great number of occasions to date to speak to various groups, learned societies and others, and while one might disagree with much of what he says, he is doing more than most young professors find time to do these days.

MATURITY?

Are we afraid of our Colombo Plan students? At times one would think so. The Christian religious groups zealously proselytize devout or traditional Buddhists and Muslims, and woo them with films and teas and buns. Hardly the attitude of a mature University group!

OVERLAPPING

The V.U.W. International Club is to convene an Inter-varsity conference of International Clubs in Wellington, to coincide with Winter Tournament. It seems that much of value could come from this conference, and it might perhaps be wise for the V.U.W. Club to see that a representative of N.Z.U.S.A. is invited along, as some of the matters to be discussed overlap into what has been hitherto the latter body's field of action.

EAST IS EAST

This column has heard that at a recent meeting of the Resident Executive of N.Z.U.S.A., our National

who is getting capped that year) is Graduands' Supper—and there it is necessary to listen to a lot of speeches, some of which are always dull.

"LESS TANGIBLE"

The prospect is generally a gloomy one. But there are rewards less tangible but more lasting in the way of positive results shown for sound service. And the work of administration is in itself enjoyable to the ideal Executive member.

Now you know whether you are the sort of person who ought to stand—or whether your mate is whom you were going to nominate.

Don't let the picture we have drawn put you off. You are probably just the person the Union needs, and there is a worthwhile job waiting for you which you will find satisfying if at times strenuous.

Nominations for all positions close at the Executive Office (in the Wooden gymnasium, end of verandah) at 12 noon, Saturday, June 14th.

The ballot-box will be in the main foyer, together with the roll (all students who are members of the Union—which means all who are taking at least two units—can vote) at convenient times on Thursday, 19th, Friday, 20th, and Monday, 23rd June. The roll is open for inspection now on the Executive notice board, or at the Union office.

Results of the elections are announced at the conclusion of the A.G.M. on Wednesday, 25th June. Be there.

Union, there was great flurry over the fact that N.Z.U.S.A. had not been invited to an Asian Student Leaders' study seminar at Aloka from the end of July.

This column believes that New Zealand's place of the future does not lie as a part of Asia. We are not, and we cannot be, ethnically close. Geographically, we are somewhat distant from the nearest Asian country, Indonesia. Certainly we might do well by cultivating trade with Asian countries to provide a surplus market for our butter and meat and cheese.

But we are not part of Asia. Surely our place in the future is, as was suggested by a speaker at the N.Z.U.S.A. Congress in January, that of "mediators between East and West". This column hopes that the Department of Asian Studies will be built up in time into one of the best, and that New Zealand graduates might spend time overseas bringing some of their inestimably valuable characteristics to the Asian, and particularly South-east Asian, countries.

New Zealand students will do most, in the long run, neither by adopting an isolationist policy, nor by endeavouring to worm our way into Asia for varied and largely unconscious motives of fear. Idealism has a very real place in New Zealand policy; we will do most if we understand Asia as well as we can, and constantly act as mediators between East and West, a bridge which, no matter how solid, cannot be said to lean to this side or to that. A detachment would benefit New Zealand, geographically so isolated; and for all of the unfortunate concomitants of social security, this country has a great deal of lasting value, which can profitably be shared.

U OR NON-U?

Two thousand pounds is a fair profit for an amateur show, particularly a student show, and when one considers that "Extravaganza" is an amateur show which this year ran for nine evenings to make that sum, the achievement is the more worthy of comment.

The show was, of course, good; but one wonders whether the expenditure of some £200 on a professional orchestra was not the beginning of the end, whether with any more polish the show would need to recruit professionals? And of course whether a student show should have many non-students among the cast list.

Should "Extravaganza" ever lose the student touch, the student cast, the student or ex-student producer, the student script-writers, then this column believes that it should fold up, even if it is making £5,000 profit. Because the public do not want a professional student show. And Extrav. has always been a student show, all the more fun because of that, livable with because it was amateurish and lacked polish and (nearly always) a plot. Let's unprofessionalize Extrav.

This column proposes to offer comment, satiric and otherwise, on various matters at various times. Contributions will be welcome, particularly if they intelligently oppose my dogma.

—Ezra.



LET'S HAVE A BINGE

Among the Orientation Week activities was a recruiting campaign by the E.U. This took the form of a banquet to which Freshers were invited and it apparently was a most lavish and successful evening. So far so good. But the next episode relates an application to Exec. for the cost of their function.

The final instalment was the granting by the Exec. (Tuesday, 27th) of the sum of £31/14/4 to cover the cost of the Dinner.

It seems rather obvious that this is either favouritism or a deliberate misapplication of student funds.

When the Budget for the coming year was discussed it was stated that this year V.U.W.S.U. would be operating on a "shoe-string" budget. Surely the granting of large amounts for recruiting campaigns is incompatible with this statement.

It would be interesting to see the result of a similar application by,



EXEC. NOTES

It was reported by Dave Wilson, on behalf of the Blues Committee, that this year there arose an anomaly in the awarding of blues.

A certain member of the Cricket Club had to be left out of the Senior team due to the fact that there already existed in that side a spin bowler of note and so he was obliged to play in the Second Grade team. This meant that although he was considered to be of a standard that was high enough to warrant the awarding of a "Blue" he had not played in a Senior side and thus could not be awarded the "Blue" that he deserved.

The Cricket Club have appealed in favour of the deleted member.

N.Z.U.S.A.

P.A.Y.E.

For those of you who have already thought of the injustice of students being forced to pay income tax under the P.A.Y.E. system, despite the fact that they would not exceed, in their earnings, the exemptions allowed, you will be pleased to know that Mr. Galvin and Mr. Stannard (N.Z.U.S.A.) are to approach the Commissioner of Taxes as to the problem.

Prominent among their aims is the release of repayable funds at the beginning of the academic year.

INTERNATIONAL

The V.U.W.S.U. Exec. decided to support the offering of a scholarship to the best student of the South-east Asian area generally. Alternate proposals were Malaya or Indonesia.

Because of the lack of National Student Unions in some of the countries, it is thought that adequate publicity to the N.Z.U.S.A. scholarship will be sketchy but V.U.W. were under the impression that it was nevertheless advisable to offer it to as wide an area as possible. (A fluent command of English is required for any applicant).

PARKING

The parking problem at Victoria has been referred to the House Committee.



Censor's Comment:

1. To suggest that the Executive is culpable of favouritism or of deliberate misapplication of student funds, is to misrepresent the facts.
2. Executive was presented with a "fait accompli": the E.U. had already incurred debts which it was, apparently, unable to pay.
3. Executive was not given any prior indication that such an event was contemplated.
4. Executive prefer to maintain the good name of the Union by assuming the otherwise bad debts of its affiliated clubs.
5. Because of this unauthorised activity, the E.U. have foregone their 1958-9 grant, and have received, in lieu of that, a nominal £1.
6. The Philosophical Society's proposed expenditure for the year was £8; the Society had £6/10/- in the bank; the grant of £2 is, therefore, a liberal one. If the Society wished more to expand its activities it should have taken steps to indicate that fact to the Finance Committee. We are not thought-readers.



REVELATION IN THE LIGHT OF REASON

A Short Essay in Six Parts

Being a study of the Historical and Archaeological evidence in support of the claims of the Christian Religion.

T. J. KELLIHER

Many regard the tales from the Old Testament as myths to be looked upon in the same manner as the tales about King Arthur or even Brick Bradford. Yet it is interesting to find that even the most fanciful of them are being proved historically true by the modern science of archaeology.

Take, for example, the story of the Flood and Noah's Ark. In 1929, while excavating on the site of Ur of the Chaldees in the Middle East, Sir Leonard Woolley discovered an eight-to-ten foot layer of water-laid clay. The many tens of feet above the clay contained numerous pieces of jars and bowls made from a potter's wheel. This was evidence of a high standard of civilisation. Below the clay were rough hand-made pottery and flint implements. The clay, then, represented some stupendous flood that followed on the Stone Age and was followed in turn by a completely new culture. Further excavations showed that the flood had extended over the whole of the then-known world, the kingdom of Sumeria. A distance all told of 400 miles by 100 miles.

Among the ruins of the library of Nineveh archaeologists have discovered twelve ancient clay tablets which have given us the text of what is known as the Epic of Gilgamesh. This epic confirms for us the story of Noah's Ark. Its similarity to the account in Genesis is striking. In both, the Flood is a judgment for wickedness. The waters, in both, were derived from "the foundations of the deep" as well as from rain. Each account relates that the ark floated in a northerly direction and that animals were taken into the ark to preserve their lives. Each describes how a dove and a raven were sent out when the flood was subsiding. The year when all this happened? About 4000 B.C., the scientists estimate.

Throughout history nothing, has gripped man's imagination as much as the story of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. There is no doubt that it happened. The pottery fragments found round the Dead Sea show that the region was inhabited during the Canaanite period, around the time of Abraham, but not again until Roman times. It seems that the precise site of the two cities, known as the Vale of Siddim, lies under the southern part of the Dead Sea. This part, to the left of the peninsula of el-Lisan, is only 50 or 60 feet deep. If the sun is shining in the right direction an observer can clearly make out the out-lines of underwater forests preserved by the extraordinary high salt content of the Dead Sea. The rest of the Dead Sea is quite different. To the right of the peninsula the ground slopes sharply down to a depth of 1,200 feet. It is important to realise that this whole area is the scene of intense volcanic activity. The sea itself gives off poisonous odours of petroleum and sulphur and oily patches of asphalt float on the waves. Everything points to a gigantic volcanic eruption causing the Vale of Siddim, with its evil cities, to sink beneath the waters of the Dead Sea. As for Lot's wife being turned into a pillar of salt,

this was no case of transubstantiation. Quite obviously she was overwhelmed and covered by salt flung into the air.

The story of the infant Moses in the bulrushes has received striking archaeological support in the Sargond-Legend. This story on cuneiform tablets goes: "... My mother conceived me and bore me in secret. She put me in a little box made of reeds, sealing its lids with pitch. She put me in the river ... etc." The Bible account goes: "And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch and put the child therein, and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink." You can see the resemblance for yourselves.

Even the story of the fall of manna in the desert is not as far-fetched as it seemed. The London "Times" of July 19th, 1932, records an interesting parallel in Southern Algeria. There were falls of a whitish, odourless matter of a farinaceous kind, which covered tents and vegetation each morning. As a matter of fact, manna probably has a purely natural explanation. Botanists have proved that it is nothing more than a honey-like secretion exuded by Tamarisk trees and bushes when they are pierced by a certain type of plant-louse which is found in Sinai, etc. In botany the tamarisk tree is even known as "Tamarix Mannifera", or Manna-bearing tamarisk tree.

—T. J. KELLIHER.



2 AM

OUT OF STEP.

The Editor,

Sir,—My name is David A. Bank. I have, since your last issue of "Salient", been much harassed by groups of violent fanatics, all apparently eager to burden me with the onus of a letter "Christianity is Irrational", written by a Mr. D. Banks. I plead with desperate earnestness that I be spared further embarrassment. Much as I appreciate a place in the public eye, I am forced to consider its pleasures sadly disproportionate to the cost. As for my real views, I have grievously learned that their expression brings nothing but the merciless and bitter invective that has proved the most effective weapon of the zealot. I therefore remain, STAND UP, STAND UP FOR...

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BOOK IMPORTS — SWEEPING RESTRICTIONS

An article in the latest issue of "Critic", the student paper at Otago University, protests at what it calls "the iniquitous 40% cut on book imports" into New Zealand. The restriction is part of the policy of import control introduced by the Government to counter the serious balance of payments problem New Zealand is facing at the present time as a result of a drastic fall in prices for her export produce, and the high level of imports over the past twelve months.

The article says the position concerning book imports is extremely disturbing, and one that calls for strong representations to be made to the Government for a review of the case. The article continues as follows:

The situation is very much the same with overseas magazines. It has been reported that most city bookshops are, or will be, unable to supply all their regular customers with certain magazines, and have no copies left for sale over the counter.

Their predicament is becoming so acute that it is expected that suburban fruitshops and other shops that sell magazines only as a sideline, will shortly have their allocations of overseas magazines cut out altogether so that the larger booksellers will have some chance at

least of meeting their orders from regular customers.

So the position is that many people who rely on overseas magazines for a commentary on news and current affairs (not to mention their personal enjoyment) will just have to go without this very necessary information until such time as the restrictions are eased.

In the book line, though the effects have not yet been felt, the situation is even more disturbing. Although textbooks, religious books and technical books are exempt from restrictions, all other books, novels, poetry, plays, literary criticism, books on the arts, philosophy, history, science, and children's books, are cut 40 per cent. on those imported in 1956. This will actually mean that only about 50 per cent. of the books that would have been

imported this year will be available. The University Bookshop, for example, has less than 50 per cent. of the import licences that it needs for this year.

An extremely important result of the cuts will be the inevitable lowering of the quality of the books available. Quite obviously the booksellers cannot afford to import books they do not sell readily, and the import of "best-sellers", whatever their quality, will appeal most to retailers already faced with a falling-off in profits. What might be called "cultural" books are, as a rule, the least popular with the general public. They are usually, for this very reason, fairly highly priced, and it is therefore a more attractive proposition to buy several lower-priced and more popular novels for the same price.

It is to be expected that the booksellers will do their best to keep up a supply of good books, thus avoiding a rash of Mickey Spillanes and Carter Browns on the shelves, but nevertheless a general lowering of quality, and non-availability of "important" books must be expected.

The Government, of course, regards it as essential for the economic welfare of the country that cuts be made in practically all imports. But

there are considerations that tend to be overlooked.

Last year, private imports into New Zealand totalled £268,000,000 in value. Of this sum, £2,000,000, or a little more than one halfpenny in every pound, was spent on books. It is true that it has been estimated that we have to reduce our imports by about £70,000,000 on last year to balance our import-export sheet. But how much does a saving of £800,000 contribute towards this sum? The question to be asked is: "Can this small saving possibly outweigh the disadvantages of having our supply of intellectual, informative and cultural books limited?"

It may be argued that on principle the booksellers should not be given preferential treatment over other importers; that they must suffer restrictions as well as other retail bodies. But opposed to this is the fact that cuts on book imports constitute the violation of an even more democratic principle—the freedom of the people to read what they like, when they like. The freedom of circulation of the newest ideas and discoveries is an essential part of the free world tradition.

—Contributed by "Critic", Otago, to the News Bulletin of N.Z.U. S.P.C.).

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Sir,—May I point out that the athletes who were in such "hopeless condition" against the Australian Universities' team at Hataitai Park may have performed somewhat better than your sports writer would have us believe.

First, during that same meeting, individuals amongst the Vic. representatives managed to jump a distance that would have gained a third place at the national championships, defeat the present Wellington centre 120yds. hurdles champion, throw the javelin far enough to have been placed at the centre championships and run well enough to equal or better inter-faculty records over 100, 200 and 440 yards. Among the lesser lights at the meeting were three other competitors who, along with some of those mentioned already, had performed sufficiently well over the summer months to merit inclusion in a list of the season's best performances by Wellington athletes. The athletic critic who compiled the list gave third ranking to the three in the discus, 220 yards hurdles, and one and three mile events and remarked that "University were the outstanding club, gaining 12 out of the 50 placings in the lists and figuring in more than half the events."

A week later virtually the same competitors travelled to Christchurch where, in spite of their apparently hopeless condition, they gained four firsts, four seconds, and two thirds. On the Easter Monday five of them were among the seventeen selected to represent N.Z.U. against the Australians, and a further two were included in the North Island medley relay team.

A number of conclusions can perhaps be drawn from the above facts:

(a) The standard of N.Z.U. athletics is low, if so many Vic. athletes can do so well. In view of the performance of University athletes at centre and national championships and the rapidity with which N.Z.U. athletic "Blues" standards are raised, this theory may be discounted.

(b) Victoria has evolved a revolutionary training system which creates champions and near champions in the space of a week. If so,

I have yet to hear of it.

(c) Your sports writer did not take the trouble to acquaint himself with what actually happened at Hataitai and is therefore not qualified to make a competent judgment on the standard of competition.

Secondly, I would like to comment on his remarks concerning the performances of two of the Vic. representatives in particular. In mentioning the 880 yards I trust the very high standard of the opposition was borne in mind. A. A. C. Blue, the Australian, had been placed fourth in the Australian championships a short time previously, while R. Anderson, the Wellington centre runner, is present junior N.Z. titleholder in this event. Against such national class opposition the efforts of the average club runner will obviously fade in comparison. One can only applaud the very determined efforts made by F. Walkley to foot it with such opponents.

I was rather relieved to find that at least one runner, R. Irwin, was "a possible exception" to the general sad state of University athletics, although even here your writer was obviously reluctant to make concessions. To ease the latter's mind may I make brief mention of Irwin's record during the '57-'58 season. A first in the centre quarter-mile (he bettered the Wellington record), sixth place at the nationals (the first time all six finalists had broken 50secs. to qualify), second in the N.Z.U. event and a member of the N.Z.U. 4 x 440 relay team which broke the New Zealand record.

May I suggest that while clubs appreciate any publicity, favourable or adverse, received in these columns at least let it be accurate. If your sports writer cannot attend the meeting he wishes to comment on let him ascertain the facts before he writes, and if he does attend and knows little about athletics I am sure club officials would only be too glad to provide him with the material he needs.

Finally, may I follow your writer's lead and close with a quote, the words of a modern psychologist: "Every . . . man is a genius at something as well as an idiot at

something. It remains to discover what . . ." Your sports writer, at any rate, appears to have solved part of the problem.

P. J. JOYCE,
Club Captain, Athletic Club.

REPLY:

First I must express gratitude for your criticism of the review, short though it was, of the visit of the Australian athletes. Often a sports writer feels that at Victoria the interest is not in the achievements of our members as members of the university but as individuals. However, I must point out that your criticism is for the most part quite invalid.

Firstly, we should keep in mind that it is a review of one day's activity and so only the results of that day will concern us. That is to say, that even though there may have been in the team some very competent performers it is only their performances on the actual day that we are to appraise. Also, it would be appropriate if I mentioned here that I was present on that day.

Secondly my criticism of F. Walkley. I think that I, personally, am in a better position to judge his performance than most, having run against him and seen a lot of his competitive running since 1951. It was by this standard that I felt that I could judge him as harshly as I did.

As far as R. Irwin is concerned I rather suspect that you were in such a frame of mind at reading the review that you had come, quite naturally I grant you, to think that I could not say anything good about members of that team. This was, however, not the case but as I was interested in the team as a whole I did not single out persons for praise as this had been done quite adequately by the daily papers. It was rather to give students an overall picture of performance by the Victoria team.

One would suppose, in the light of Mr. Joyce's letter that Victoria had a very high standard of athletics but this seems to be contradicted by the fact that at 1956, 1957, 1958 Easter tournaments Victoria has always been in last place. It is for that reason as well as those that I have set out that I think that Mr. Joyce has little basis in fact for his outburst.

SPORTS EDITOR.

MOANING AT THE BAR

The Editor,

Sir,—I am instructed by the Annual General Meeting of this Club to write to you and to inform you that this Club dissociates itself from all remarks expressed on legal education in the issue of "Salient" dated 27th March, 1958.

I would be glad if you would circulate this information through your pages.

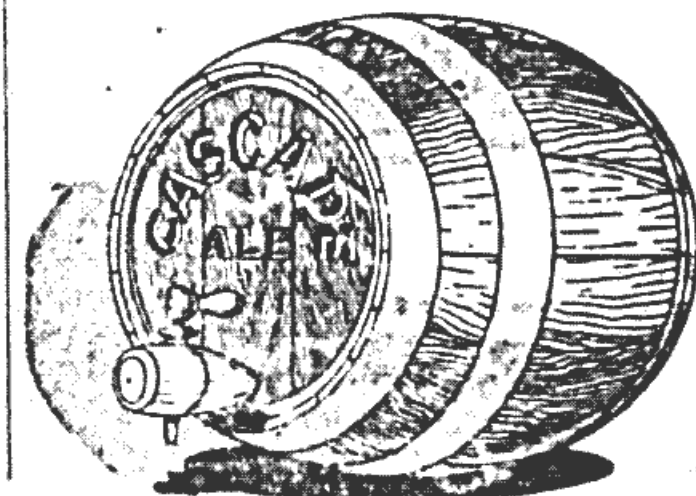
I am also instructed by the same meeting to inform you that this Club would appreciate any future articles dealing with legal education being submitted to the Club so that a contemporaneous comment of the Club may appear in the same issue of "Salient."

It is felt that the Club, being the voice of the student members of the Law Faculty, should be able to express an authoritative opinion on the question of legal education as affecting students of this University and we would therefore earnestly ask that we be given the right to publish comments on any future articles in the same issue of "Salient" as the articles appear in.

Yours faithfully,

GUESS WHO,
Secretary.

"Salient" sees no reason why the Law Faculty Club should be extended privileges which no other University club possesses and feels that the proper procedure is for the club to express its "authoritative opinions" through the correspondence columns of this paper.—Ed.



STUDENT LIFE IN ASIA

BURMESE STUDENT ELECTIONS

NANYANG UNIVERSITY

Rangoon University has a fast-growing population of 9,000 students and is situated six miles from town. It has a detached atmosphere of its own. There are about twenty hostels, which accommodate about 40% of the whole student population. These hostels are spread out over a very large campus which also has a scenic lake used for boating and for pleasurable social activities.

Most Burmese students wear their own national dress. The man uses a "longi" (sarong) shirt and inevitably carries an umbrella, and instead of shoes for his feet he wears Burmese slippers. Their lovely girls, who have radiantly smooth complexions, are similarly dressed, except that their blouses are usually of a provocative nylon. The average Burmese student, whether in Rangoon or Mandalay, struck me as being very modest, quiet and preoccupied. He is exceedingly hospitable when he is introduced, but otherwise appears indifferent to the stranger. It is the same with the girls who at first gave the deceptive impression of being cold.

Established in 1920, the Rangoon University within a few years had already built up for itself a deep and revered tradition for service to and leadership of the Burmese masses. Burmese nationalism got its inspiration from the University and the students have always been associated with the fighting spirit and aggressive leadership. This tradition, unfortunately, has been carried forward even after independence.

Student elections are run on the basis of party politics. Each hostel of about 150 students has a "social and reading club", that is comparable to our hostel committee. There are two political parties, the Students' United Front (S.U.F.), which is leftist and anti-government, and the Vanguards who are moderate. The S.U.F. at present holds the reigns of student government. The political machinery used by both sides is amazing, and politics is treated seriously. Both parties have hard core leaders in every hostel and these people organise "political cells" which become very much alive as soon as three months before election. During the period of campaigning there is an air of secrecy and restlessness permeating everywhere. Each side claims that there is moral and financial aid coming to the other from the chaotic political scene outside the campus. Very unfortunately, student politics is not confined to purely student problems and there have been a few student inspired demonstrations.

The elections, say the students, are really hectic. After months of energetic and strategic planning, election day is eruptive. The whole student population is represented by only nine student leaders who control the entire student government. This appeared to be somewhat ridiculous, as this system can provide for representation of broad student opinion only. Hence the anxiety to get the right party into power. Election fever runs very high and thousands of students—boys and girls—wait right through the night in the open field, to hear the latest in the count. There is dancing, and singing over microphones, and general rejoicing after every announcement. The rivalry is healthy and spirited and students show strong enthusiasm for Union work.

Despite their politics, which many of us would disapprove of, we nevertheless must respect their spirit. The Burmese student is first and foremost a good and proud Burmese citizen. He is dedicated and

strongly nationalistic, and he is deeply conscious of his duty to his country and people. He does not regard a University education as a means to a better life for himself. There is no snobbery but rather simple modesty. He is sensitive to his people's needs, and is therefore not selfish but selfless. His degree, he feels, will place him in a better position to serve his country. I met one Burmese boy who had obtained a high agricultural degree. He was typical of his colleagues, for he was not going to work for a fat salary, but for the elevation of his poor folk in his native province in interior Burma. It is therefore natural that the Burmese people look up to the University as an institution that is their very own; dear, precious and inspiring.

Social life in the University is limited. There is little that you can do in Rangoon. The city is dirty, dusty and neglected. Life in this dejected city, that has suffered from the devastation of the Second World War and neglect afterwards due to the insurgent trouble, is dead after 10 p.m. The students, when not busy with politics and study, spend



their time at the cinemas. Dance halls are few and expensive. The average Burmese undergrad. does not usually come from the middle class family. He does not therefore enjoy the comparatively expensive and luxurious living of the student here.

Dances and balls are held in the campus. The boys at the hostels sometimes form serenading groups that visit the girls' hostels when the nights are clear. We joined some of them on one such occasion. The serenading party would sing outside the women's hostel gates, which are closed as early as 6 p.m. The women show their approval by looking out of their windows or corridors, and would often send for a "request" to be played or sung through the co-operation of the hostel gate-keeper. The Burmese girls are just as active and enthusiastic about University life as are the boys. But the girls are very conservative and it was not often that we saw boys and girls in groups. The type of male who fusses and frets over women is definitely an oddity in Burma.

Burma is a Buddhist country. The thousands upon thousands of pagodas all over the country offer clear testimony to the grip the religion

has on its people. But the Rangoon and Mandalay students, we found, generally regarded religion as a deterrent to their country's progress. The poor peasants spend beyond their means to build or maintain pagodas or temples. Economics, not religion, they feel, was going to improve the lot of the people.

A committee was organised to realise his plan with Mr Tan as chairman. The new institution was to be named Nanyang University. Its basic principles are to endeavour to embody both Oriental and Occidental cultures for betterment of world-wide relationships and to help develop a new Malayan culture from the Chinese, the English, the Malay and the Indian cultures. It aims at providing an opportunity for the youth of Malaya to receive higher education and to train teachers for high schools, specialists and technical experts and new leaders for Malaya and Singapore.

In 1953 Nanyang University was incorporated and registered with the Government of Singapore and with the Government of the Federation of Malaya. Funds for the establishment of the new university began to pour in from all levels of the Chinese people in Singapore and the Federation of Malaya. Millionaires, bankers, estate owners, merchants, teachers, students, workers, artists, taxi-drivers, trishaw coolies and others all sent in contributions.

Five hundred and twenty acres of

Chinese-styled building topped by a beautiful pagoda-like structure. The green-tiled roof and red walls are characteristic of Chinese architecture. Large funds have been used for the purchase of books. According to the Library's annual report, 800,000 volumes were purchased for the initial year.

Initial classes began in 1956. Five hundred and eighty-four students were registered in the 11 departments for the opening year.

The University consists of three Colleges in its initial stage: the College of Arts, the College of Science, and the College of Commerce. There are five departments in the College of Arts—the Departments of Chinese Language and Literature, History and Geography, Education, Modern Languages, and Economics and Political Science—the Departments of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology, and two departments in the College of Commerce—the Departments of Accounting and Banking, and Industrial and Commercial Management. The total enrollment is now 900 students, taught by a staff of 67 faculty members.

—Contributed to "Student Mirror" by "The Asian Student," San Francisco.



land, consisting of beautiful hills and level land, were donated as the site of the new university. Four main buildings, the College of Arts, the College of Science, the College of Commerce, and the Library, were soon erected. Besides these, there are SEVENTEEN two-storeyed and three-storeyed hostels, four two-storeyed residences for deans of faculties, and 14 residential bungalows for professors, which are completed and now in use, and four more big three-storeyed apartment buildings containing over 70 flats for professors and staff members are expected to be completed soon.

The University Library is the most attractive building on the campus. It is a four-storeyed

has on its people. But the Rangoon and Mandalay students, we found, generally regarded religion as a deterrent to their country's progress. The poor peasants spend beyond their means to build or maintain pagodas or temples. Economics, not religion, they feel, was going to improve the lot of the people.

—Ramon Navaratnam in "The Malayan Undergrad", reprinted in "Student Mirror."