

# Firestone

## TYRES

PROGRESSIVE motorists all over the world are equipping with Firestone Tyres because exclusive Firestone values render service for which there is no substitute. The ride is in the rubber; the quality is Firestone.

Firestone Tyres are built to stand rough roads and trying climates. Built to save wear and tear of hard going, both for you and the car.

We endorse Firestone quality and recommend these tyres under all conditions, for best and longest wear.

A. Hatrick & Co.,  
LIMITED.

Wanganui - - - Wellington



*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

# “Overseas Vessels”



Are, happily, once again a welcome sight in our splendid harbour. The shipping problem of the world is being rapidly solved, and the days of censorship and scarcity of shipping have almost ceased to be.

## Have You Ever Realised

How terribly those days of ruthless sub-marining affected business? There was never any security that even when shipped the goods would be delivered.

## That was Yesterday — but

To-day marks the advent of better things. Even during the war we were enabled to a large degree to uphold the very high standard of excellence to which we had attained for generations past; and now we are confident that T.R.O. value will mean all and more than we claim for it to those who favour us with their patronage. Every season finds us ready in each of our extensive departments. Pay us a visit one day—we shall be happy to have the privilege of showing you through our Showroom, Fancy and Dress Departments.

For Men there are Clothing and Mercery Departments comprising the whole Dixon Street Corner.

Manchester and Furnishing are also worthy your attention.

On all Cash Purchases we allow a Discount of 1/- in the £.

# **Te Aro House**

**CUBA STREET - WELLINGTON**

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

# FLETCHER'S PHOSPHATONIC

This well-known scientific preparation, containing Phosphorus, Quinine, Iron, etc., in an agreeable and easily assimilated form, is highly appreciated by the large number of sufferers whose lost vigour has been restored by its marvellous tonic and recuperative properties.

**FLETCHER'S PHOSPHATONIC** promotes health, strength and energy, restores lost vitality and braces up the whole nervous system. It is a great brain food and the best remedy for weakness, depression and low state of the nerves, and a valuable stimulant to the digestive organs, and is the best tonic and pick-me-up for all affections of the nervous system.

It is sold in bottles at

**2/6 and 4/6 each,**

and for 6d. extra will be forwarded to any address by the sole proprietor

Sole Address:

**CHAS. A. FLETCHER**

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST - 292 Lambton Quay, Wellington

## Winter Sports!

**NEW GOODS** just arrived from the Best English Makers now on view at our Showrooms.

**FOOTBALLS** (Rugby and Association).—Gilbert's Match, Bryan's Shire, Bussey's Association. Also Inflators, Ear-Guards, Bladders Lacing Awls, etc.

**HOCKEY STICKS**—All weights, Rings, Shin Guards and Balls.

**GOLF STICKS**—R. Forgan & Sons and J. Dewsbury's "Rustless." We especially call the attention of Golf Players to our new assortment of Sticks, as every care has been taken in their selection. Bulgar Drivers, Brassies, Lofting Irons, Mashies, Driving Irons, Mid Irons, Cleeks, Putters, Golf Balls, Caddie Bags, Paint, Cleaners, Caddie Polish, etc.

**BOXING GLOVES**—Champion, Gold Cape, American Pattern, Sergeant Morley, and Pullman's Improved. Striking Bags, Punch Ball Gloves, Bladders, Swivels, etc.

**GUNS**—Bonnehill's, Hollis, Remington, and Webley-Scott's D.B.B.L. Hammerless.

**RIFLES**—Marlin, Winchester.

**CARTRIDGES**—Rifle and Sporting.

**JOHN DUTHIE & CO., Ltd.,**

SHOWROOMS: WILLIS STREET

**METALS & HARDWARE MERCHANTS**

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers*

# Striking Enlargements

BY  
**BARTLETT & ANDREWS**



Our Enlargements are remarkable for their *fidelity to the original, their depth and excellence of finish.*

Neither pains nor expense are spared in their production, and our name for skilful portraiture is upheld as much by them as by our other work.

Really Good Enlargements are preferable to mediocre paintings.

In enlarging from old or indifferent copies we take even more trouble than when the work can be done from our own perfect negatives.

Prices range from £1/1/-. Full particulars will be posted to anyone interested. Please send name and address as no canvassers are employed.

**BARTLETT & ANDREW, Ltd.,** *Bartlett Studio*

Phone 1233

10 WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON

Phone 1233

ENLARGEMENTS

::

MINIATURES

::

COPIES

## “The Leading Tailors”

---

College Students are reminded that we make a specialty of Dress and Dining Jacket Suits, and are urged to place their orders early for the present season.

---

A large range of the  
Latest English and Colonial Suitings just to hand

---

**KITTO & SON** 'Phone 2312

15 Manners Street

*N.B.—Ladies' Costumes a Specialty.*

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers*



# Cederholm & Son

THE ELECTRICAL  
ENGINEERS—

8 Manners Street - Wellington

---

THE RIGHT PLACE FOR  
ALL ELECTRICAL GOODS  
ACCUMULATOR CHARGING  
ELECTRIC LIGHTING, &c.

---

Red Seal Dry Cells always in stock  
Send your next order along to us

## Attention!

Do you know that to get the best service out of Footwear one of the most important things is a **Good Fit.**

# HANNAH'S Boots & Shoes

---

Are made over lasts which **Fit Perfectly,**  
thus insuring the **Longest Wear.**

WE SHOE THE FEET  
IN MANNER NEAT  
IN STYLE COMPLETE.

Our Price is Cheap!

Just let us prove it!

**R. HANNAH & CO., Ltd.**

260 Lambton Quay and 103 Cuba Street - - WELLINGTON

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

**Keen Buyers** Who deal with us do so  
— on account of the —

***Exceptional Value and  
Up-to-Date Styles*** of Our  
Goods

WE SPECIALISE IN GENTLEMEN'S ATTIRE

*Latest Overcoats* *Stylish Suits*  
*Reliable Underclothing*  
*Nobby Shirts* *Comfortable Pyjamas*  
*Newest Hats and Caps* *College Trenchers*  
*Serviceable Boots and Shoes*  
*Travelling Rugs and Bags* *Athletic Goods*

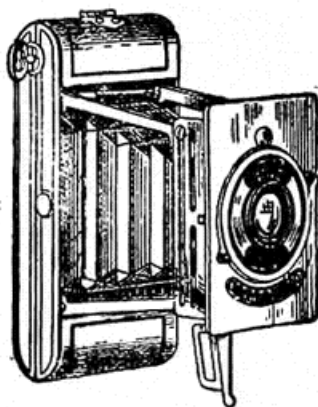
We appreciate your business and solicit a call

— Our Motto: "SATISFACTION" —

Only one address—

**WALLACE & GIBSON** - WILLIS  
STREET

Next the "Evening Post"



Agents for  
**ANSCO  
CAMERAS**

Best Film  
Cameras  
on the  
Market!

FOR EVERY

**Photographic Requisite**

CALL ON

**WATERWORTHS LTD.**

*Next Kelburn Trams*

*LAMBTON QUAY*

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

## Let the D.I.C. provide your Varsity Outfits - Special Section for Men

Get into line with a lot of other Students in Victoria College—buy all your Mercery and Clothing needs from the D.I.C.



Good Values tell all the time; it is D.I.C. Good Value and D.I.C. Quality that have won the approbation of those who make a study of Practical Economy. Again, the D.I.C. says: "Get into line!" Anything man wears from Boots to Hats, from Socks to Overcoats, from Ties to Toilet Requisites can be had at the D.I.C. at moderate prices. In future—shop at the D.I.C.! It's good business.

**D.I.C.** Box 1478 **Wellington**

## BEGG'S Pianos

CHAS. BEGG & CO. can point with pride to the following High-Grade Piano Agencies they hold. These are:

Brinsmead  
Foster

Challen  
Brewster  
Jesse French

Rogers  
Brasted

Intending purchasers of a Piano cannot do better than inspect the display of instruments by the above famous makers at the Showrooms,  
MANNERS STREET

**CHAS. BEGG & CO., LTD.**

The ALL-BRITISH FIRM

Established 1861

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

AN IDEAL GIFT  
The . . . 

**“ONOTO”**

## Fountain Pen

The ONOTO Fountain Pen is of all British manufacture, and to have and to hold an ONOTO Fountain Pen is a pleasure indeed.

The ONOTO has no superior in the world of Fountain Pens, and there are few if any equal to it.

The ONOTO Fountain Pen is self-filling, and many thousand words can be written with one fill of the Pen.

The ONOTO Fountain Pen never leaks, because it is honestly made.

The ONOTO Fountain Pen is British-built throughout, and possesses all the characteristics of honest British workmanship.

The ONOTO Fountain Pen is fitted with gold nibs, irridium pointed, in fine, medium and broad styles.

The ONOTO Fountain Pen enables the bad writer to write well, and the good writer to excel himself.

**The ONOTO Fountain Pens, Presentation Series, Gold and Silver Mounted, make Ideal Mementos and keep the Donors in pleasant remembrance.**

### PRICES :

The Popular Models, 20/-, 22/6, 25/-, 30/-  
Nibs to suit every hand.

Mounted Pens - - - 30/-, 35/-, 40/-

**WHITCOMBE  
& TOMBS, LIMITED**

Lambton Quay - - - Wellington

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

# NED PERRY

*The Tobacconist  
and Hairdresser*

We want your trade!

We study your wants!

We sell what you want!

---

*Note the Address* - 61 MANNERS STREET

*Footballs, Hockey, Golf, Tennis,  
— Cricket, Bowls, Croquet —  
Indoor Games, Guns, Rifles,  
Revolvers and Ammunition*

(Repairs Executed on Premises)

Large Stocks of **Sporting Goods** from the **best  
English and French Manufacturers** to hand

Inspection Invited at Our Showrooms.

**E. W. Mills & Co., Limited**  
Hunter Street - - Wellington.

*Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers.*

## BILLIARDS

### Keeps the Boys At Home!

Encourage your Boy to enjoy Billiards at Home. Let him play with you—man to man! Make him a red-blooded Boy—a boy of character with sporting instincts, who will always "play the game."



### The Alcock Billiard-Dining Table PRICE 29 GUINEAS

is built exactly like a Championship Table. Plays true for a lifetime, and teaches same proficiency as the Full-sized Table. The name 'Alcock' is a guarantee of Highest Quality and Greatest Value.

Easy Terms—"Play While You Pay"

Illustrated Catalogue Post-Free from

**ALCOCK & CO., Ltd.**

"The Billiard People"

Head Office and Factory:

**WELLINGTON**

Branch: Strand Arcade, Auckland.

Agencies:

Quill, Morris & Co., Ltd., Christchurch;

R. Wilson & Co., Ltd., Dunedin.

BAINES

11

Students are requested to mention "The Spike" when patronizing advertisers

## CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Editorial ... ..	15	The Soldiers' Grave ... ..	34
College Notes ... ..	18	The Late Lieut. Athol Hudson... ..	34
The Plunket Medal Contest ... ..	19	Easter Tournament Results ... ..	35
L. v. B. Op. 27, No. 2 ... ..	20	Free Discussions Club ... ..	36
The Capping Procession ... ..	21	Christian Union ... ..	37
The Presentation Ceremony ... ..	22	Students' Association ... ..	38
The Capping Dance ... ..	22	Athletic Club ... ..	41
The Graduates' Luncheon ... ..	22	Basket Ball Club ... ..	41
The Extravaganza ... ..	23	Debating Society ... ..	42
The Undergraduates' Supper ... ..	25	Women's Club ... ..	44
The 'Orrible Tale of a Corps ... ..	26	Hockey ... ..	45
What is a Student? ... ..	27	Glee Club ... ..	46
They Shall Not Make Haste .. ..	27	Football ... ..	47
Sincerity ... ..	28	The Editor's Chair ... ..	48
Sonnet ... ..	29	Correspondence ... ..	49
The Social Significance of the "Buster Brown" ... ..	30	To B.A.—or not to B.A.— ... ..	50
The Father: A Pastel in Prose	31	Exchanges... ..	50
Victoria ... ..	32	Last but not Least ... ..	51
Ave! ... ..	33	Answers to Correspondents .. ..	52
		Olla Podrida ... ..	52

# The "University Book Shop"

86 LAMBTON QUAY      WELLINGTON

**S. & W. MACKAY**, the old-established Educational Booksellers, are able to supply Students attending **Victoria University College** with all the **Books and Stationery** :: they require. ::

**STUDENTS** can arrange to open accounts with us.

*Note.*—The best *Fountain Pens* at Moderate Prices.

**S. & W. MACKAY**  
GENERAL BOOKSELLERS



### THE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE.

Standing—Mr. A. Jackson, Miss D. McLean, Messrs. M. M. Smith, R. V. Kay, Miss O. Salmon, Mr. W. A. Sheat.  
Sitting—Mr. P. Martin-Smith, Miss N. Joyce, Miss E. Fenton (Vice-President), Mr. A. Wiren (President), Mr. S. Mansfield (Vice-President), Miss A. Harie, Mr. W. Watkins.



No. 36



The



Spike

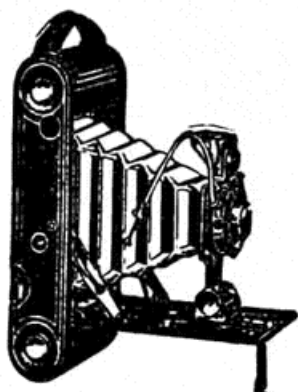
OR

Victoria University College Review

OCTOBER :: 1919

Published under the direction of the VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION and Printed by THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY OF N.Z., LTD., WELLINGTON.

To Photographers:



# Austral Papers

BROMIDE and  
GASLIGHT

**FAMED FOR OVER  
THIRTY YEARS**

## “Pearl” Platino Matte

gives effects closely resembling those of platinum.

## “Pearl” Velvet

furnishes prints that have most of the texture and gradation of carbon.

## “Pearl” Cream Crayon

Rough or smooth surface. The most suitable for artistic effects and sepia-toning.

## “Star”

Has a glossy surface, giving clear and beautiful half-tones with rich shadows.

## Nepera Gaslight Paper

The simplest printing paper known. No darkroom required.

## Velox

The original and still the favourite Gaslight paper.

*Postcards available in all grades*

OF ALL KODAK DEALERS AND

**Kodak (Australasia) Ltd.**

“The Kodak Corner”

Corner Lambton Quay and Willis Street, Wellington

# THE SPIKE

OR

## VICTORIA

### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE REVIEW

(PUBLISHED TWICE IN THE SESSION)

The Editorial Committee invites contributions, either in prose or verse, on any subject of general interest, from students or officials connected with the College. All literary communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR, Victoria University College, Wellington.

Subscriptions are now due, and are payable to Mr. W. A. Sheat, Financial Secretary, Victoria University College.

Vol. XVIII.

No. 2

## Editorial



SOCRATES: . . . It would not be in the least surprising if I were put to death.

CALLICLES: And do you think it is a good thing for a man to be so defenceless?"

SOCRATES: Yes, Callicles, so long as he has the one defence that he has never done any wrong to God or men either by word or deed. What does a man fear who is neither an idiot nor a coward? Not dying, but doing wrong.—Plato-Gorgias.

\* \* \* \*

At the present time the military institutions of this country are under scrutiny. Some want them extended and improved; others want them abolished; others are satisfied with them as they are. A university review ought to have something to say on the matter. What is the position? And what ought we to do?

\* \* \* \*

I. We have been at war with Germany—our aim, to “crush Prussian militarism.” We have won the war; what of “Prussian militarism?” It has been insisted, e.g., by Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson, that our real enemy was, not the German people, but a spirit, a system of thought, an idea, in a word “Militarism.” It was claimed that to crush this spirit was to make sure the peace of nations; in this sense it was a “war to end war.” To-day Colonel Sir James Allen, a member of the New Zealand Government, proposes to conscript the young men of the country and train them for war; in order to train them

“efficiently” to segregate them for four months in a military camp. What is to be said for this?

\* \* \* \*

II. First of all, what is to be said for war? We are agreed that on the whole it is not a good thing. In the recent war we lost several million men—among them men of promise. We have wasted more wealth than would rebuild Europe. Racial hatred and suspicion have gone into the very roots of our life. These are tremendous losses. What was it all for? It is said that great ideas were at stake and they were worth it all. Our enemy was the military spirit. And to defeat that the sacrifice were worth while; but is it defeated?

\* \* \* \*

III. The militarist spirit, it is said, produces war. Ours was a war to overthrow the spirit and to end war. But are ideas overthrown, is a spirit driven out, by force of arms? Whence come wars? we ask, and the answer is made as of old time: Out of the hearts of men. We do not improve the spirit of a people by blockading their ports or by defeating their armies; hearts are not changed by blows, but that way hatred and suspicion are increased. War never can end war. Neither war nor the preparation for war, will give us peace. General F. D. Maurice has recently told the people of America that to prepare for war is finally to get war. Lord Roberts asked the people of England “not to be led away by those who say that the end of this great struggle is to be the end of war, and that it is bound to lead to a great reduction of armaments.” (“Hibbert Journal,” 1914.) Is this true?

So far, then: (1) War never can end war, and (2) to prepare for war is to get war. Why prepare? Is war “necessary”?

\* \* \* \*

IV. There have been, there are, those who talk of the “biological necessity” of war. In war, it is said, a nation renews its youth; war is the exercise of a healthy organism; it is the “mystical blood-payment” for progress. There is enough truth in this to make it dangerous. Of course the healthy man is a fighter, “ever a fighter,” the poets remind us; Ruskin, in the “Essay on War,” and James, on the “Moral Equivalent,” repeat it—only to observe that there is scope enough for fight in time of peace. Darwinism is called to make a case for war as a condition of progress; but Darwin said: “In every country in which a standing army is kept up the finest young men are taken by conscription and enlisted. They are thus exposed to early death in war, are often tempted into vice, and are prevented from marrying during the prime of life. On the other hand, the shorter and feebler men with poorer constitutions are left at home; and consequently have a much better chance of marrying.”—(“Origin of Species.”)

\* \* \* \*

V. War never yet built up a nation in real greatness. It brings great evils in its train. The way to drive out the war-idea is by a better idea. Have we got one? What is it?—“Britannia Rules the Waves,” “Imperial Preference,” “Britain for the British,” the “Alien Enemies Act,” the “Yellow Peril”?

Who are its apostles?—William Massey, Sir Joseph Ward, Sir James Allen, W. M. Hughes, Lord Northcliffe, Horatio Bottomley?

We are presented with alternatives. Shall we put our trust in guns or in ideas? We can have—(a) Thoroughgoing military preparations, or (b) disarmament and education. (And on either Colonel Allen's proposals stand condemned. If (a), then his scheme is not enough; if (b), it is too much.) It may be said that a third possibility exists: we can have both. But there are two sufficient reasons why this cannot be: (a) We cannot afford both, and (b) true education, real enlightenment, is incompatible with a military discipline.

\* \* \* \*

VI. Not long ago we had almost no military forces at all in New Zealand. Then we had a territorial system; then the war and conscription; we have now a military machine and a big, well-paid staff; it is proposed to extend the old system. How far is all this to go?

The next generation is to grow up under conscription; it will be asked to allow further extensions. That way lie Prussia and Hindenburg.

\* \* \* \*

VII. During the war we heard a great deal about the principles we were fighting for—Liberty, Justice, Freedom, and the like. Was it all humbug? Do we put our trust in great principles? Do we believe that "Right must win" and "Truth will prevail"? Then let us rise to the height of daring of Athenian Plato and fear, above all, "not dying, but doing wrong," believe with our own Milton that truth will look after itself.

\* \* \* \*

VIII. War spells ruin. With our increasing skill in making engines of destruction we shall annihilate one another. We must, with the future in our hands—take all the hazards of the day and hold to our ideal. Perhaps the outlook is dark. "But I hope," says Mr. Lowes Dickenson, "I hope because of the young, and to them I now turn. To you, young men, it has been given by a tragic fate to see with your eyes and hear with your ears what war really is. Old men made it, but you must wage it—with what courage, with what generosity, with what sacrifice of what hopes, they best know who best know you. If you return from this war, remember what it has been. Do not listen to the shouts of victory, do not snuff the incense of applause; but keep your inner vision fixed on the facts you have faced. You have seen battleships, bayonets, and guns, and you know them for what they are, forms of evil thought. Think other thoughts, love other loves, youth of England and of the world! You have been through hell and purgatory. Climb now the rocky stair that leads to the sacred mount. The guide of tradition leaves you here. Guide now yourselves and us. Believe in the future, for none but you can. Believe in the impossible, for it waits the help of your hands to become the inevitable."

That is the argument against the proposals of the Minister for Defence. Sir James's sergeant-majors are not the men to teach us, and military camps are not the place to learn these new thoughts and this better way.



At the end of last term Miss C. Braddock left for England, the Senate having awarded her a travelling scholarship which she will hold for three years at Oxford University, in pursuit of more advanced study in philosophy. Towards the end of the term Miss Braddock was appointed assistant to Professor Hunter, the position being held this term by Mr. I. L. G. Sutherland.

Miss O. R. Salmon and Miss D. B. Maclean were also, towards the end of last term appointed temporary assistants to Professor Kirk and Professor Mackenzie respectively.

Mr. Ward's illness has cast a gloom over all students. Those preparing to settle down to pre-examination reading have found it strangely hard to do so without the accustomed care and presence, and few people could be so truly missed as the Librarian. We hope that he will soon return to us and the Library.

Professor Marsden has resumed his position as Professor of Physics, his return from the front coinciding very happily with capping. During his absence he has turned his scientific knowledge to practical purposes in connection with the war, and has thereby rendered invaluable service to the nation. All students of every faculty are glad to welcome Professor Marsden back again.

We were also fortunate in having with us at the Capping Ceremony Dr. Jenness, a former student of Victoria College, and now a noted anthropologist. Dr. Jenness accompanied Stefansson's expedition to the far north, where he lived among the Eskimos studying their language and customs. During his stay, Dr. Jenness delivered to the W.E.A. an interesting and instructive account of the Eskimos as revealed during his life among them. Dr. Jenness has since left New Zealand, again to continue the work in which he was engaged previous to going to the front.

It has been decided to establish at Victoria College a Chair of Economics, this being made possible through the Macarthy Trust. The new professor, who is to be appointed, will enter upon his duties at the beginning of the 1920 session. During the past though Economics had not reached the dignity of an established chair, students were still enthusiastic. At present no student would miss even a few minutes of a lecture through lateness.

The future popularity of this subject, now that it has been raised to the same status as other subjects, should therefore be assured.

The Victoria College Council has resolved that there shall be a Principal of Victoria College. It is not quite clear what part the Principal will play. The Council is taking no further steps until this point has been decided; but some day we shall

surely have a Principal, and there is the best authority for the creation of such an office. There are Principals at other Universities.

During the illness of the Librarian, temporary librarians—the choicest of the student body—have been appointed to carry on the work. Two were appointed—he was but an undergraduate, and an honours' student she. And these two, each in their allotted time, with diligence and determination, play the professional librarian, "holding demijohns of wisdom to the thirsty lips of men." But neither of them can translate a Greek quotation.

## THE PLUNKET MEDAL CONTEST.

*"Their untir'd lips a wordy torrent pour."*

The 13th annual Plunket Medal Contest was held in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall on the 13th of September.

His Excellency the Governor-General Lord Liverpool was present, and Captain Morice was in the chair.

The first contestant, Mr. J. McPhee, took Sir Julius Vogel as his subject. In opening, the speaker informed his audience that he had no hope of winning the contest, and it is true that as an effort in oratory his speech was not a very great success. Mr. McPhee did, however, deal with his hero in an interesting and original method. His style was fresh, and his manner free from the embarrassment which characterised some of the later speakers. Mr. McPhee holds his audience, and will probably develop into a convincing public speaker.

Mr. J. W. Davidson spoke on Eugene V. Debs. His speech was well thought out and carefully prepared. His language, however, would have been improved if it had been simpler, and he could with advantage have delivered his speech more deliberately and impressively. It seemed that the speaker had more enthusiasm for the life work of his hero than admiration for the hero himself. The speech was nevertheless a good one.

Mr. W. A. Sheat dealt with Mazzini. This speech was the most forcible and vigorous of the evening. The speaker showed some of the fervour of the orator. He forced his audience to listen. If he had paid more attention to his delivery he would probably have won the contest. Mr. Sheat has, however, the force of character, the enthusiasm and vigour necessary for an orator. He will win the Plunket Medal Competition if he will cultivate a smoother delivery and avoid several small defects and mannerisms.

Mr. C. G. Kirk delivered a speech on General Gordon. The speech was undoubtedly the best of the evening. The speaker's matter and arrangement were good. Mr. Kirk is a cultivated elocutionist, and it was because of this that he won the contest.

Mr. A. B. Croker spoke on Hannibal. His manner of speech was rather abrupt and jerky. The matter of the speech was good. In order to hold his audience Mr. Croker will have to display more sparkle and vivacity. There was such a monotony of tone in his voice that the audience was not held.

Mr. G. S. Troup delivered an exceedingly interesting essay on Sir Walter Raleigh. At times, however, he spoke rather too quickly. This speaker has a fervour in him which he probably has a difficulty in expressing. If he desires to arouse enthusiasm in others he will have to throw off his shyness and let



his audience know how deeply he himself is feeling. An orator must not be afraid of making a fool of himself. He must to a certain extent lay bare his soul to the people. Mr. Troup will be an orator if he is determined to be. He must, however, conquer a certain shyness of spirit.

Abraham Lincoln was the hero of Mr. A. M. Cousins. This speaker has still a great deal to learn in the arts of oratory. He has still to conquer his nervousness. His effort on this occasion will, however, prove useful to him in future contests. One point Mr. Cousins may find it useful to remember, namely, that the English language is just as useful as the "Australian," and much pleasanter to the ear.

Mr. F. H. Haigh spoke on John Redmond. The speech was interesting. Mr. Haigh has a pleasant voice and a taking manner. He will make a capable speaker. His speech on this occasion was, however, scarcely an oratorical one.

The Judges, the Hon. G. M. Thomson, M.L.C., Mr. J. T. M. Hornsby, M.P., and the Rev. A. E. Hunt, placed the speakers in the following order:—

- 1st—Mr. C. G. Kirk.
- 2nd—Mr. W. A. Sheat
- 3rd—Mr. J. W. Davidson.

Mr. J. T. M. Hornsby, M.P., in delivering the judgment made some criticisms on the form of the Plunket Medal Contest. Judges on previous occasions made the same criticism, namely, that the speeches are merely recited essays. The judges are apparently unaware that it was Lord Plunket's wish that this form of competition was adopted. Quite apart from this, there is a good deal to be said for an annual contest of this kind. A man may be a good debater and a convincing public speaker, yet he may be quite unable to touch people's feelings or arouse their enthusiasm. It is these two latter objects which those who compete for the Plunket Medal must keep specially in view. The Plunket Medal Contest does therefore seem to serve a useful purpose in the training of University speakers.

At the conclusion of Mr. Hornsby's remarks, His Excellency the Governor-General presented the medal to the winner.

---

## L. v. B. Op. 27, No. 2

Still is the night, still every living thing,  
 Still are winds that sweep broad heaven's face;  
 Still are the billowing clouds which in quick race  
 Have rolled upon their way—all birds that sing—  
 Their song is stilled; stilled now the ardent wing  
 Quick-beating; only with smooth silent pace  
 Steals o'er the slumbering earth in solemn grace  
 Spirit of sleep, with fantasies aching.

But yet far-off in distance infinite,  
 Heard but as in the passage of a dream  
 Sounds there the ripple of a purling stream,  
 Growing and gathering strength towards its goal  
 Rushing full bosomed in imperious might  
 Into the land-locked harbour of the soul.

J.C.B.





## THE CAPPING PROCESSION.

The procession is one of the most important parts of all well-regulated cappings. This year we were under the great disadvantage of having very few men with previous experience of such a procession, as none has been held between the beginning of the war and this year. The organisers laboured under the usual difficulties of revivers, in having plenty of enthusiastic, but few experienced, helpers. Nevertheless, the procession was a great success, and, with the wisdom gained through it, we should be able to make that of next year the sort of spectacle one dreams about after a heavy supper.

The starting point was St. Peter's Schoolroom, from which a move was made at noon. Motor and horse lorries were kindly lent by the G.P.O., Messrs. Curtis and Co., The Colonial Carrying Co., and Munt, Cotterell, Ltd. The procession was preceded and flanked by a cloud of skirmishers—the expression is a hackneyed one, but is used by all good war correspondents, and must therefore be put in—both mounted, as Indians, highwaymen, and cowboys, and dismounted, mainly ballet girls and other varieties of the gentler sex. The procession proper was led by the band, discoursing music which was, at times, distinctly good, and which varied from that to rotten. Its motor lorry was, part of the time, dragged along by Charlie Chaplin by the crook of his stick, but, at other times, managed to proceed under its own power. His Ex. the Gov., Sir James Allen, and Mr. Harry Holland, M.P., chatted amicably in the first carriage. The O.B.E. distributing agency was well patronised, and the writer has heard of a case in which a man, who could not get one in the usual distributions, obtained one from the agency. Fact! The city milk supply was well portrayed, and the departure of the interned Germans by the "Willochra" provided the topic of another waxworks. The crocodile was not worth the great amount of trouble expended on the making of it. While these main items must always provide the backbone of the procession, most of the fun is enjoyed and given by the miscellaneous horde of hangers-on of all descriptions, wild animals, ladies of all degrees of respectability, niggers, our mutual friend Charles Chaplin, et hoc genus omne.

On reaching Post Office Square, the large gathering was addressed by the Governor, while certain irresponsible members of the procession delivered rival speeches, and a game of football was started. A deluge of rain scattered both mummers and audience. The next couple of hours saw individuals and small groups amusing themselves in various ways, some disorganising "Kirk's" tea-rooms, others amusing the populace in the streets, others again celebrating in the time-honoured way.

On the whole it was a great success, and there should be no doubt that the next one will be a much greater success. It is not too early even now for anyone who has a brilliant idea, to store it away in some pigeonhole of the brain for use next year.

## THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

If any there be who still regret the depreciation of discipline, and the negation of militarism in our midst, it must have come as a pleasure and a shock to them to behold the decorum and rectitude wherewith the students attended to General Richardson on this most memorable event of modern times—the “Silent Capping” of 1919. Doubtless the uncouth Ennius, in his barbarous verse would, had he been present, have repeated in wonder, “Spernitur orator bonus, horridus miles amator.” As he wasn’t he didn’t, neither did any of us. The body of the hall was well filled, the decorations in position for the ensuing dance were entrusted with the sole responsibility of adding a festive air to the proceedings, and the platform was occupied by the staff, the council, General Richardson, and Dr. Jenness.

Mr. Clement Watson, Chairman of the Council, was commendably brief. On all sides, he said, efforts were being made to pick up momentum lost during the war. The Council intended to do their part by furnishing a new wing and endowing a chair of economics. A prosperous future lay before the College.

Brigadier-General Richardson was very enthusiastically received. He thanked the students for the honour they had done him and the New Zealand Forces, and congratulated the successful graduates. The war service of all universities was highly creditable. The Army realised the value of education, particularly with reference to reconstruction problems, and here, too, the universities had rendered valuable service. Representatives of Victoria College had gained one V.C., one C.M.G., five D.S.O.’s, nineteen M.C.’s, three M.M.’s, and one foreign decoration.

The graduates were then presented to General Richardson in the usual fashion.

Dr. H. Jenness then spoke on the part played by university men in scientific progress, especially in expeditions of exploration. He personally had just returned from an expedition to the far north of Canada, in company with some half-dozen other distinguished scientists. For such purposes, indeed, for fitting men to succeed in every walk of life, university training was invaluable. He wished the old College continued success.

During the evening some songs were rendered by the students in rather worse fashion than usual. Mr. Wilson gallantly did the utmost possible to instil rudimentary accord into their efforts.

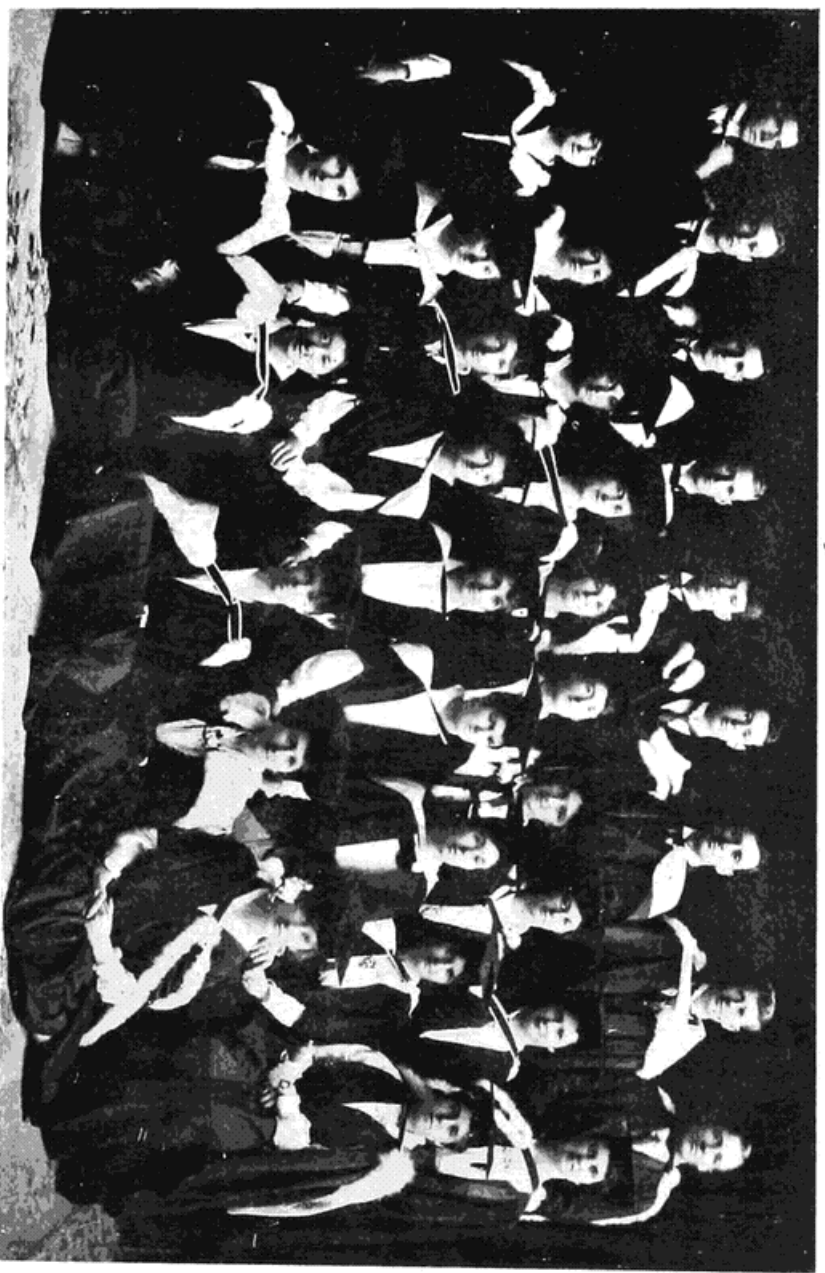
The floor was then cleared for the dance.

## THE CAPPING DANCE.

The dance followed immediately after the ceremony, held, for the first time for several years, in the Town Hall, which had been previously decorated for the occasion, to the great discomfort of those who had come to witness the presentation of the graduates. When the hall was cleared, citizens and students danced the night away, and learning proved no bar to happiness.

## THE GRADUATES’ LUNCHEON.

On Friday, June 20th, the members of the Graduates’ Association held a very pleasant little luncheon at the Kelburn Kiosk in honour of the graduates of the year.



THE GRADUATES, 1919

Mr. G. G. G. Watson, speaking on behalf of the Association, welcomed the additions to the ranks of graduates, intimating that he wished, in his welcome, to join with the graduates of the year the students returning from active service.

Professor Kirk remarked that most of the year's graduates were women, and that he thoroughly approved of a general matrimonial bureau on the lines of Mr. Watson's suggestion.

Mr. Wren then rose to reply on behalf of the year's graduates, remarked that he was too tired to make a speech, and sat down amidst general applause.

Professor Marsden, replying on behalf of the returned men, took the opportunity of bringing before our notice the new degree of Doctor of Philosophy that has been created in universities of the Old Country, and pointed out that New Zealand should not be behindhand in following the lead thus given.

Thereafter, the luncheon being happily disposed of, the newly-capped graduates dispersed in search of hoods and gowns for that great event—the photograph.

## THE EXTRAVAGANZA.

Now that a capping extravaganza has been produced on a scale, and with all the success characteristic of pre-war days, one's mind naturally reverts to the carnivals of other days in order to set up a standard of comparison. My memory goes back to the 1907 production, and covers in all some nine carnivals, though several of them are but sadly blurred shapes in the memory—"timid ghosts of dead forgotten things." Roughly, the capping productions have grouped themselves into two classes. The first class may be described as the musical extravaganza. In the words of F.A.M. (See "Spike," October, 1908), this was to be "a kind of glorified capping song, or series of songs, on topics of college interest, woven together by one central idea, into a literary unity. This kind of entertainment partook essentially of the nature of tableau vivant. Song, and not speech, was the medium of expression. There was a unity in such tableaux, but it was one of purpose. "Some general idea should be taken, it should be kept steadily in view all the time, and be implicit where it is not explicit." In this kind of entertainment the dramatic was aimed at, but I do not think was ever really achieved. Action, which is the soul of drama, is necessarily excluded from musical tableaux. And that brings me to the second class, one in which the dramatic idea was predominant. Here the authors taking as their material, not current events, but some one event, constructed out of it a dramatic unity. In such a play action and dialogue were all important, such songs as occurred, being merely incidental, not essential, to the purpose of the play. In 1908, in the production of the Hogben brothers, we had the first tentative approach to a play of this kind, and the following year saw a real, dramatic success in "Shackleton Out-Shacked." Curiously enough, in 1910 there was a reversion to the musical extravaganza. "The Bended Bow" was probably the most successful musical extravaganza produced by students of the College. It was also the last of its kind until this year. The years 1911, 1912, and 1913 constituted a period of transition, but in each of the three productions the dramatic idea predominated. Finally, we have in 1914 the most brilliant play of this class—"Boadicea"—by L. P. Leary.

It is not difficult to account for the different forms which the extravaganzas have taken, and, as the subject must be one of interest to such present-day students as contemplate the production of future carnivals, it would perhaps be as well to state the reason here. In the first place, in the earlier days when the musical extravaganza flourished, the production was the work of a number of students of distinct literary ability. They sought in the capping production a vehicle for the expression of their literary impulse, and such a vehicle they found in the musical extravaganza. Their aim was to make the capping play "literary," and in this they succeeded. But the inevitable reaction set in. As soon as this band of literary workers completed their courses, and went their several ways in the world, their places were taken by a number of students, in whom the literary impulse did not predominate so much as the dramatic. Hitherto the actor in the play had played a subordinate part to that of the author, but now the author slipped out of sight, and the capping play began to depend for its success, not on its literary quality, but on the dramatic ability of the players. The capping plays of 1908 and 1913 were largely the work of law students, who did not seek to be literary, but to amuse. Leary's play, "Boadicea," in 1914, stands by itself. It marked the culmination of the dramatic movement that had been developing more and more strongly in capping productions, just as "The Bended Bow" marked the culmination of the literary movement.

And now, after five years of Armageddon, we have had a capping play once more—"Der Tag." Let me state at once that I have felt nothing but a very large measure of admiration for the play, and a large, if less bulky measure of admiration, for its production. As regards the play, three things have impressed me. The first is this. One of Germany's professed doctrines in the recent war was that *Might is Right*. This, it is fair to assume, has led the authors to consider the true place of *Might* (or *Force*) in the universe, and they have come to the conclusion that force sanely applied may become a mighty instrument of progress. Their gospel is the *Sanity of Might*, not the *Justice of Might*. The play ends with *Japhetrow* (*Wisdom* or *Reason*) mounting the ladder of progress, while *Force* (*Satan*) stands at the bottom to assist mankind to climb upwards. The second thing to notice is that the play marked a definite return to the musical extravaganza; and, thirdly, in casting their play in this form, and not in dramatic form, the authors acted quite deliberately. Thus not only was the scheme of the play derived from that of 1910—the idea of force was dominant in both "The Bended Bow" and "Der Tag"—but, if I am not much mistaken, there was a strong similarity between the soldiers' chorus—"Trentham to Tauherenikau"—and the scene wherein Leary as a Roman praetor led his soldiers round the stage. Finally, it is necessary only to note that the "Run Through" chorus, and the times of at least four songs in "Der Tag" were adopted from "The Bended Bow." I note these things without any wish or intention to belittle the work of the writers of "Der Tag." No one is more appreciative of it. At the same time, as one who took an active part in the carnivals of 1911, 1912, 1913, and 1914, I cannot help noting with melancholy satisfaction that the most successful scene in "Der Tag"—the Bolshevik one—was also the most dramatic.

In the first scene of the play, E. Evans, as one of "the stunted souls that snuffle," made a popular hit, while Murphy, as



Hon. J. A. Hanan, was so remarkably like Sir Francis Bell, that most of the audience refused to believe he personated the former distinguished Minister. The gargle parade in the second scene was a very happy thought, while Mazengarb's representation of the amiable gentleman, who now represents His Majesty in New Zealand, was a sheer joy.

The third scene was very well conceived, but there was an unduly long wait at the opening before the Monks led on the unhappy Hunter, whose heartbroken mien would, indeed, have wrung tears from the eyes of a bookie's clerk. In the old days one could not have persuaded the glad girls to sing of Hell, and its saucy ways, for all the tea in China, but now they chirruped of the land of brimstone as blithely as a cricket chirps of the spring, tra la! Gad! it warmed one's heart to listen to 'em. As Duns Scotus Adamson, Miller had a very effective make-up, and was very effective in it, while Low and Pringle were very helpful as the Leader of the Monks, and the Ibesnistic Hunter.

The fourth scene celebrated the return to New Zealand of the Earl of Pukekohe and Baron Bluff. Kun Low (who is on no account to be confused with Mr. K. Low) provided a pleasant diversion, while the dance supplied by Misses Moore and Leitch and Messrs. Day and Watkins was so successful that the audience demanded an encore. I often catch myself wondering how long these Yankee travesties of the valse will be tolerated by the long-suffering British people. But that is by the way. The end of this scene, the entrance of the Bolsheviki, and their forcible conversion of the Labour and Government supporters was easily the most effective of the evening. Mazengarb again, as a well-known Socialist M.P., was right in the picture. He should prove invaluable in future carnivals. In the concluding scene I am afraid the audience's attention was diverted from the serious intent of the authors by the wicked, delicious, dazzlin', by Jove! saucy, naughty, entrancin', takin' appearance of the super-women. Gum! it was great! The scene was a bright and successful conclusion to a very successful carnival. The production must have inspired everyone with confidence for the future of the capping carnivals. A very special word of praise must be reserved for Miss M. Richmond, who was responsible for the designing of the costumes, and for Mr. Evans, who, as stage manager, had to face probably more difficulties than any previous stage manager had encountered. It must be counted everlastingly to his credit that he successfully overcame them.

\* \* \* \*

## THE UNDERGRADUATES' SUPPER.

The undergraduates' supper was the final scene of the Capping Carnival. After the extravaganza all the students (some still in full war paint as ladies and gentlemen of the future) marched along Manners Street to the Marble Bar, and proceeded to enjoy themselves. The orchestra played during supper, and in spite of lack of room there was a little dancing. After supper various healths were drunk, and several speeches made, mostly rendered inaudible by the merry clatter. The toasts honoured were: "The King," "The College Authorities," "The Graduates," and "The Returned Soldiers." After singing some of the old College choruses we broke up, having brought to a fitting end the varied pleasures of the week.

## THE 'ORRIBLE TALE OF A CORPS

It has arrived. With the erection of the new wing the College is complete. It has been re-invested in its old glory. For us "C" Company has ceased to be of interest. For us the Garrison Hall is but a name. The "Dandy Fifth," the old fighting fifth which in 1919 swung into eight hundred strong, has passed from our ken. The demi-gods are raised above the constellations, we have attained the aristocracy of arms—we have an O.T.C.!

It arrived in confusion and a welter of application forms. Its arrival was almost unheralded, and was strictly Spartan in its ceremony. Pompey himself, before his first triumph, could not have been more modest. One officer attempted to explain the inexplicable, another unpacked a valise and—Oddsfish! The College was peopled no longer by inoffensive students but by potential officers though, it was remarked, there was no need to inform other people of this because "what they didn't know wouldn't hurt them."

The evening of the first parade was just like other evenings. We have seen better weather, just as we have seen worse. The raindrops spattered the tennis courts with their usual catholicity, and Venus winked a wicked eye behind the College ventilators. A thin stream of khaki disentangled itself from various satchels, note books and law volumes, and endeavoured to find its way across to the Gymnasium without losing its puttee-strings on the way. There several loud-voiced individuals descended upon the alarmed crowd which strove to huddle itself in various corners of the Gym., and, as the result of some energy and a munificence of bad language, the huddlers were hauled from under sundry forms and tables and forced into three roughly cast groups. An irate person attired in a "Samuel Brown" informed these groups that they represented the Military Law Section, the Topography "Tourists" (who never travel save as Burton in map or card), and the mysterious "No. 3 Section," which at present is investigating at first hand the inner workings of "right turn."

The Military Law Section, we understand, are kept busy explaining why a man should be shot for stealing three eggs from an incubator. Certain members of it anticipate being sufficiently far advanced in 1925 to give an opinion upon the trial of Lieutenant Crampton. The Topography Section are at present engaged in reconstructing the frontiers of Europe in accordance with President Wilson's principles, while some members of it are also employed in what Chesterton calls "that innocent game for children" of painting the map (as well as the town) a brilliant red.

Urgent information has also just been received that the corps is not an officers' training corps, but an experiment. Let us hope that as such it will be a success, though one is dubious of the capability of the Defence Department to repeat, isolate, and vary the phenomena.

## WHAT IS A STUDENT?

Amidst the clamour for reform and reconstruction that is rising from all parts of the globe probably the loudest and most insistent cry is: "More Education and Better Education!" Innumerable proposals are brought forward for our consideration; behind them all, however, there seems to be one main object—the arranging for a systematic training of every physical, mental, and moral quality that may be used to equip the perfect citizen. The child is to proceed through the successive stages of kindergarten, primary, secondary, and university education, and gradually to rise to the level of perfect citizenship.

Our universities then should be composed of men and women inspired to help their fellow men? Taking an active interest in all the ethical, social, and religious problems of the day?

A student of our college was heard to say of a motion recently put before the Students' Association: "That's nothing to do with the students; that's a political question."

Could anything be more naively illuminating? Yes! The meeting of the students to discuss the motion was even more illuminating.

We gathered to discuss a question of serious import—one which in the issue may effect not only our own generation but generations still unborn; yet, amid an uproar that would have been a disgrace to a meeting of schoolboys, we discussed it a while, jocularly, and then flippantly tossed it aside to treat of the more important questions of blazers for basket-ball players, and a general subscription for all student clubs.

By all means "More Education and Better Education"!

When we have come to this, it is the duty of every student to ask himself, "What am I doing here? What is a Student?"

Is he one who seeks honour, social esteem, selfish study, or merely money? If he have no higher aims than these, then rest assured he is doing justice neither to himself nor to his college. He is no student in the fuller sense.

Then, "What is a Student?" . . . Guess again!

QUO.

## THEY SHALL NOT MAKE HASTE

The man who cuts across street corners and spoils the grassy side-walk, in his stupid haste to "get there," what will he do when the inevitable day arrives and he is stranded in an infinity where no amount of cutting corners will serve to bring him nearer the end of the road? The jerry-builder rushing up his pretty villas, with what a fever of energy will he slave in that eternity where the lifetime of his works will be as the twinkling of an eye. The chronic saver of time, how will he spend eternity? For the free and noble spending of time is the gift of the few, by the rest it must be acquired by long practice. And remembering this, bear patiently the seeming needless slowness of the Senate. It was only in 1910 that University Reform became matter for serious discussion—too short a time ago to count in the long ages that have been and may be. And what can be more unlovely than the breathless haste of the outside world of to-day?



## Sincerity

*"Look at all the really great and good men. Why do we call them good and great? Because they dare to be true to themselves, they dare to be what they are."*—Max Müller.

To-day, as all through history, men and women are looking back on the past with a sigh of regret that men of genius and outstanding ability are no longer appearing amongst us. We seem to imagine that in such men as Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, and Milton the race has exhausted itself and can offer nothing but mediocrity to men of the future. Johnson, speaking of an author who declared that "he had been able to learn nothing from the writings of his predecessors," breaks out "With what hopes of success can he attempt that in which greater abilities have hitherto miscarried? Or with what peculiar force does he suppose himself invigorated, that difficulties hitherto invincible should give way before him?" It is hardly charitable to suppose that Johnson really believed that what had proved "invincible" in the past would prove invincible in the future. Nevertheless his words reveal something of the same spirit which moved Burke to lament that the age of chivalry had gone. That spirit is not dead yet, and I for one firmly believe that its existence is an obstacle to progress. It is not my purpose, however, to write a thesis on this topic. Instead of lamenting the past and bewailing the lack of power and originality in the men of our generation, let us rather ask ourselves how we can contribute to the intellectual and moral progress of the race.

Though it is now almost a platitude to say that at no time in the world's history have depth of thought and originality of ideas been more necessary than now, it is still a fact, and we need to remind ourselves of it. During the last five years the world has realised, as never before, that man's chief aim is perfection. Every human being has some influence, good or bad, on the progress of the race. Just as the dead "have forged our chains of being for good or ill," so we are forging the chains of being for future generations. For good or ill? That is what we have to ask ourselves. This is a time when the world wants abundance of light on every problem which is engaging its attention, and surely, if university education is of any benefit at all, it should equip us to make some contribution towards solving these problems. Just as men and women differ in personal appearance, so they differ in mind and ability, and for each of us there is some work in the world which we can do better than anybody else—some place which only we can fill. It should then be our aim to qualify ourselves for this work and to develop our powers that those who come after us

"Shall not drag us to their judgment-bar,  
And curse the heritage which we bequeath."

One of the greatest hindrances to progress to-day is the spirit of insincerity which pervades society, and is all too prevalent in the University. Selfish ambition and a desire to appear better than we are, are ruining our opportunities of ever filling our proper sphere. Insincerity is destroying our originality and dwarfing our powers. We strive for originality, we strive to excel, in that very striving we frustrate our own ends. "That virtue of originality which men so strive after," says Ruskin,

"is not newness . . . it is only genuineness." "The merit of originality," says Carlyle, "is not novelty; it is sincerity." The only way to be original is to be true to one's self; and this principle applies to all branches of human effort. How many men who have sought distinction in literature have failed because they have disregarded this precept? In their effort to cultivate style, they have sacrificed sincerity and truth. Even the great Dr Johnson in his early days was not free from this form of insincerity, and Macaulay's delinquencies are well known. Yet Ruskin tells us that "no noble nor right style was ever yet founded but out of a sincere heart." "The value of the tidings brought by literature," says George Henry Lewes, "is determined by their authenticity. We cannot demand from every man that he have unusual depth of insight or exceptional experience, but we demand of him that he gives us of his best, and his best cannot be another's." Again and again Ruskin and Carlyle insist on this principle of sincerity in literature, art, architecture, and morals. "Of great a man I will venture to assert that it is incredible he should have been other than true. It seems to me the primary foundation of him, and of all that can be in him. . . . I should say 'sincerity,' a deep, great, genuine sincerity, is the first characteristic of all men in any way heroic." (Carlyle). "In all great schools of art . . . an artist is praised . . . for contributing, in the measure of his strength, to some great achievement, to be completed by the unity of multitudes and the sequence of ages." (Ruskin). Again Carlyle says, "If hero mean 'sincere man,' why not every one of us be a hero?"

And why not? Let us be sincere. Let us not try to appear better than we are. It is right and necessary that we have ideals, but it is wrong that we should seem to have attained to them, when we know in our own hearts that we fall far below them.

Sincerity, again I say, sincerity! The old maxim, "Know thyself," is indispensable to our full development; let us take it to our hearts; but let us not forget that only second in importance to it is that other maxim "Be thyself." S.

---

## Sonnet

The soft vermilion of the eastern skies,  
 Where cloudlets gather 'yond the sleeping hills  
 To watch the daily task the dawn fulfils,  
 Doth turn to gold. The gates of Paradise  
 Burst open, and I see the Sun-god rise.  
 Victorious he floods the earth, and thrills  
 All living things; the ocean's frills  
 He tips with gold; before him darkness flies.  
 Thus comes the day; but soon its course is run,  
 And once again with gloomy shroud chill night  
 O'ershadows mountain, meadow, stream, and wood.  
 'Tis well; for else, how could earth's work be done?  
 Were't not for darkness, there could be no light;  
 And, but for evil, there could be no good.

S.

## The Social Significance of the 'Buster Brown'

With our latter-day contempt for everything save some platitudinous proverbs which have grown hoary in wrong-doing we are ever prone to ignore externals. We have heard so much of the fallacy of judging by appearances that we are content to appear mediocre. We are so certain that our characters are deep that we have swung our sounding-line inboard. Consequently we are totally unable to appreciate the certitude with which great men have recognised their enemies and opponents.

"At least," said Gladstone, watching Citizen Chamberlain advancing to the Commons to take the oath, "at least he wears his eyeglass like a gentleman," and in so saying declared war upon him irrevocably. This spirit is a thing we can little understand, but the well known fact is that none but shallow people do not judge by appearances, for the appearance often is the man.

The "Buster Brown" is in direct line of descent from Dionysius, the Maenads, St. Augustine, and the Salvation Army. In it we detect that spirit which Barry placed in Peter Pan, that Lewis Carroll wrought into the Book of Wonder, the spirit that all of us would seek if we were constituted sufficiently like Mr. Chesterton to appreciate the wonder of things and spent an hour occasionally in admiration of our feet. For, by a natural paradox, that very thing which hastens men's age and brings a thrice accursed sense of responsibility flitting from the unimaginable void to rest upon their narrow shoulders, that very visit to the hairdresser's which tells us in the sharp iteration of a pair of scissors that we ARE men is the self-same fact which will keep a woman young. Men were more youthful in the days of perfumed curls and lace frills than they may ever hope to be again. The last of the schoolboys rode with Wogan from Dover to the north and died upon the sunlit hills. With the cropped pates and severe broadcloth of the Puritans the prospects of the Millennium vanished in mist. Who could imagine a Christian that visited a barber's? Who could picture St. Paul undergoing a that we may read his riddle. Every hair upon his head is a shampoo? It is in the hirsute adornments of the average man tongue to prate his infirmities to the winds, and possibly this is why many of our eminent statesmen hasten to grow bald. Next to his choice in umbrellas or vegetables there is nothing that reveals a man's character so much as his hairdresser. That the legal fraternity have recognised this is shown by the fact that they cloak their shortcomings under heavy wigs in court. And was not the age of affectation also the age of powdered perukes? Of what use would be Beau Brummell without his curled locks; of what use would be the Clinaman without his pig-tail? I am not the first to recognise the significance of the hair-cropping habit. Three hundred years ago a young English provincial gentleman named William Shakespeare also saw its possibilities. He realised the value of a golden head and gave it to Portia accordingly, Phoebe he made black-haired, Orlando has chestnut curls that cluster round his forehead, and Sir Andrew Aguecheek's hair hangs like flax on a distaff. Lear has a white beard, the King of Denmark a grizzled one, and Benedick is to shave his in the course of the play. Nor could we imagine them otherwise. Upon the subject of stage beards, indeed, Shakespeare is most elaborate, tells of the many different

colours in use, and gives a hint to the actors always to see that their own are properly tied on. Bernard Shaw, also, has shown his appreciation of the romantic element in hairdressing, and one half of the criticisms which were hurled at his "JULIUS CAESAR" emanated from irritated students who did not like the notion of the consuls being bald.

Everybody, after a little thought, will see that certain forms of hairdressing are inseparably connected with a certain type, that there are differentiations betwixt the statesmen, the prize-fighter, and the pantaloon. And with what should we connect the "Buster Brown" but with that elfishness and propensity for the mischievous which we find in young maidens and in young kittens. It is a deliberate defiance of the encroaching years. It is a perpetual evidence of irresponsibility. And, as men are continually reminded by their visit to the hairdresser of the fact that they are men and therefore have obligations, so women are continually reminded by the same process that they are women, but may be tomboys. And this is the social significance of the "Buster Brown." C.P.

---

## The Father

### A Pastel in Prose

He sits alone, gazing into the heart of the red-hot coals which cast their secrets in a flickering glow across the opposite wall, now nestling in the corner of some grey study of Whistler's, now in the fringe of a piece of tapestry, made weirder than the original design of Raffaele. Over the arm of his chair lies his party coat, a black hermit thing which has enjoyed the obscurity of many years, but which he has worn in the earlier part of the evening at the special request of his daughter who wishes her guests to know him in some capacity other than "The Broker of Souls," his name along the street where the vestal virgins of Success tend the eternal flame in the Temple of Mammon. Indeed, he has an infinite preference for this blue velvet smoker's jacket of his, although it accentuates the haggardness of his features, and he clings fondly to his meerschaum with its strangely-carved bowl—how rank it is, the one thing he cannot afford to lose; how mellowed with memories! A stray thought flashes through his mind, but he cannot grasp it and it seems to mock him as would a faun of the forest her pursuing satyr a-sprawl over a clump of pinewood.

He sits alone, thinking, thinking—of nothing, of everything, of his dead wife, with her mass of golden hair—he had called it, grimly enough, the locks of hope—whom a tongue of flame lighting up the mirror had shown him in the living image of his daughter, radiantly twenty-one. Surrounded as she is by harlequin, pierrot and courtier in their brave array, she seems like a red sun which supports itself on the colours of the west. An Indian potentate, waltzing slowly, drifts past in the subdued glare of the lanterns and she catches mischievously at the ruby that clasps his yellowed turban, whilst his partner, a severe duchess who looks as if she might have strayed into the ball-room from the pages of "The School for Scandal" removes the cigarette from her rouged lips and scrutinises the hostess through lorgnettes of turquoise and mother-of-pearl. A watteau-like figure, flirting a peacock fan, whispers congratula-

tions and is swept away by a muscular Toreador; she, herself, had thought of playing an Arcadian role, but had decided finally on a design of Léon Banst—the "Costume de Narcisse," which suited her sinuous limbs and her eccentric temperament.

He sits alone; the music ceases, and he shivers at his solitary thoughts. Why, he wonders, should the one noble influence of his life should have passed from him at that hour when the bitterness of expectancy was turning to the sweet of victory. Nothing had ever filled the void, nothing ever could; now that his ambition had made him by its realisation the most wretched of men. Willingly he would sacrifice of dreams for one syllable from her precious voice, but well he knows that the gifts are many when the gifts are late. His daughter had made no attempt to understand him, nor had he endeavoured to probe into the witcheries of her moods; she was too clever for him; she was of a different world, it would seem; in secret, he was afraid of her. Toward his son, he adopted a different attitude; he was simply a wealthy and indulgent parent, a fund which automatically refilled, an object as much inanimate as otherwise; he did not look for filial affection for he could see that nothing was more foreign.

He sits alone, watching the fire lose its former energy. The orchestra strikes up a new tune; his daughter comes through the room, leaning coquettishly on the arm of a huntsman, he splendid in green and brown, and the father exhales the warm perfume of her breast as she goes by. A sudden blaze mirrors his son, wine-glass in hand—an attitude that is rarely changed. Yet, never has the wine appeared so red—it appears almost inmixed with blood.

The moments tread on the heels of the hours. The study of Whistler's is greyer still and the tapestry is only darkness. Long since the embers have smouldered out, imparting to the room an Arctic chill.

At last he has company, but the company is death.

Admired great amusement, his son, ten yards away, wildly embraces the Statue of Learning, whilst she of the narcissus robe comes into the room, leaning on the arm of an awe-inspiring executioner, lightly talking of love.

—W.E.L.

## Victoria

(To F.A.M.)

How many generations now have seen,  
Dimly, the moon o'er top that distant line  
Of hills that girts the harbour, then forth shine  
Unclouded? To those of the gold and green,  
A beacon as they climbed, thy windows' sheen.  
Within thy portals 'neath thy pow'r benign,  
They there have gained a sturdier discipline  
Vouchsafed to all who haply come to glean.

Fanned by the need, a fire has glowed and burned  
From year to year—tended from near and far.

By toil (oft error) yet from you they learned  
To set their courses by that further star

That shines so clear in Wisdom's open sky,

And Truth, when challenged, ever finds them nigh.

—M.C.

## Ave!

You have come from west of the sunset in the silent ships at eve,  
 From the seas beyond our sorrow, through the breakers'  
 change and chime,  
 Over the surge and the silence, their hiss and heave,  
 And have fluttered on the borders of the barren lands of time.

We were weary with night-long watching for the banners of the  
 day,  
 We were faint with the venom of hating and flagellant of fear,  
 We were strange to the joy of hoping as we clung to our god of  
 clay  
 And we shuddered for the summer when we saw the leaves  
 grow sere.

We have seen you march in the noon-glare and have watched  
 you tramp in the mire,  
 In a rolling river of rifles you passed down the silent street.  
 We have seen the steel of your bayonets drip forth fierce silver  
 fire,  
 And the tremulous dew of the grasses make rain to the swing  
 of your feet.

There are some have fought in the sea-mists and some on the  
 dripping plain,  
 And some by the sullen breaches where slow waves curve  
 fretted foam,  
 And though they be from the desert or damp with the northern  
 rain,  
 Now under the shivering dawn-star gleams the white wake to  
 home.

There are strange new voices stirring in the portals of the east,  
 And the waves of blue Aegean sing a new song to the sun,  
 Where the home-turned prows of troopships churn their surface  
 to a yeast  
 After weary years of warring, with their meed of fighting done.

You have come to us with the dawn-wind and have gone in the  
 sunset glow,  
 And the sound of your feet was as silence and your voice was  
 the sob of the breeze,  
 Or the murmur of many waters and was lost in their rippling  
 bow,  
 And you went to the thrilling of trumpets through the shim-  
 mering western seas.

You went with a clatter of hoof-beats; you come with a halting  
 tread.  
 You sailed to a blaze of glory; you come to a sky grown cold,  
 You tossed a fair flower of manhood to a world war-worn and  
 old,  
 And the steel-hard set of your eyelids speaks soft of the silent  
 dead.



*There were some who died in the sea-mists and some on the dripping plain,*

*Some who sleep by the sullen beaches where slow waves curve tender foam;*

*But though they lie in the desert or under the northern rain*

*They sighed for the shimmering dawn-star and the whispering winds of home.*

August, 1919.

C. P.

## The Soldier's Grave

### I.

For thee are sanctuaries dreamed  
 No loving hand shall ever shape;  
 Thy spirit when love's light is streamed  
 Shall haunt them, never to escape.

And thou within thy living fane  
 Shalt lie, untrammelled by the mould  
 With corn rejoicing to the rain;  
 And where thou art shall be untold.

### II.

What fountain hath the murmur in my heart?  
 Not any river from the hills of pain,  
 Nor mournful lake of Sorrow; but a part  
 Of Love's fulfilment, shedding a soft rain.

Thou bird the eve adorning when all light  
 Hath left the furrow, is thy song a prayer  
 Too thankful for the day? Be thou the rite  
 Love cannot speak to courage sleeping there.

What hath the morning in her mystic robe?  
 I will not kneel for pity; I will pray  
 My heart shall be uplifted like the globe  
 Nightly deserting darkness for the day.

Oh, sunbeam from the cloud beleaguering heaven  
 Shall not my heart like thee escape the shade?  
 How small the cleft of cloud; yet thou hast given  
 One leap to earth—oh, heart be not afraid!

—Hubert Church.

## The Late Lieut. Athol Hudson

It will be remembered by many students that the end of the late Lieut. Athol Hudson, reported killed in action in France in 1916, was never certainly known, nor could his last resting-place be discovered. For all old and present students who knew him, the following information will dispel the uncertainty that has always shrouded the events of that day: "The grave of Lieut. Athol Hudson has been found in a German cemetery at La Vallée, 3¼ miles S.W. from Armentières. It will be remembered that he was shot close against the German lines and though his comrades made heroic efforts to rescue him they were unable to do so." It is good that we may know, even though it be but little, of the circumstances of the death of Athol Hudson, and we are grateful to those who have shared their knowledge with us.

## Easter Tournament.

### OFFICIAL RESULTS.

Below are the official results of the Inter-University Tournament held last Easter at Dunedin. This record was unfortunately omitted from last issue of the "Spike," and is inserted at this late date with fullest apologies to all concerned.

EVENT.	FIRST.	SECOND.	TIME OR DISTANCE
Shot ...	F. R. Combs, C.U.C.	G. R. Kingston, O.U.	32ft.
Mile ...	S. A. Wiren, V.U.C.	H. Williams, V.U.C.	5min. 20sec.
220 Yards ...	H. K. Sumpter, O.U.	N. J. Barker, V.U.C.	25sec.
Long Jump	P. K. Bryan, V.U.C.	J. P. McQuilken, O.U.	18ft. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins.
880 Yards ...	G. H. Lusk, V.U.C.	J. W. Olphert, A.U.C.	2min. 17 2-5sec
Hammer ...	C. J. Campbell, O.U.	F. R. Combs, C.U.C.	
100 Yards ...	N. J. Barker, V.U.C.	L. A. Tracy, V.U.C.	10 1-5sec.
Mile Walk...	A. R. McKegg, O.U.	P. C. Martin, V.U.C.	8min. 6sec.
High Jump	J. N. Waddell, O.U.	R. F. Allen, O.U.	5ft.
440 Yards ...	H. K. Sumpter, O.U.	N. J. Barker, V.U.C.	59 4-5sec.
120 Hurdles	P. A. Treahy, O.U.	J. N. Waddell, O.U.	17 4-5sec.
Three-mile	H. Williams, V.U.C.	J. P. Forbes, O.U.	17min. 27sec.
440 Hurdles	G. G. Aitken, V.U.C.	A. Jackson, V.U.C.	68 1-5sec.

#### Points for Athletic Challenge Shield.

Victoria College ...	18	Canterbury College ...	3
Otago University ...	17	Auckland University College	1

#### Tennis Championships.

MEN'S SINGLES ...	P. E. Allison, O.U.
MEN'S DOUBLES ...	P. E. Allison and A. S. Gray, O.U.
COMBINED DOUBLES...	Miss E. G. Waldie and C. F. Atmore, V.U.C.
LADIES' SINGLES ...	Miss B. Knight, A.U.C.
LADIES' DOUBLES ...	Misses B. Knight and E. M. Egerton, A.U.C.

Athol Hudson Cup ...	H. Williams
Trevor Hall Memorial Shield ...	J. N. Waddell
de la Mare Challenge Cup ...	S. A. Wiren

#### Debating Contest.

E. Evans and W. E. Leicester, V.U.C.



## Club Reports

### Free Discussions Club

The meetings of this Club have been very satisfactory from the point of view of attendance, but still there are a great many who have not even the courage of the opinions of others. Anyone at a discussion is entitled to air his or her views after the subject is introduced, and it seems a great pity that this opportunity is not made more use of than it is. After all, silence is not always a symbol of profound thought.

The subject of the discussion, "Militarism and Citizenship," dealing with the proposed new military regulations, was introduced by Professor Hunter on July 18th.

In opening, the Professor said that the point of view was mainly one of citizenship and education. Education is the great vital point in society, and history shows how various factions have striven to gain control of the educational system. The Church was the great dominant factor in the past, exercising great influence in the schools. The influence of the school on the child practically determines that child's citizenship in future years. In Prussia the schools have been under the influence of the military party, and our own danger in this direction at the present time is great. The function of the school is to train children to think for themselves on all great questions, not to give them set views on these questions. Each faction is sure it has the Gospel. The idea of education ought to be to free the mind from all factions and to give the individual the character to decide matters for himself, and to follow out the decisions he comes to. The speaker pointed out he was not a pacifist; he believed every nation has the right to defend itself. What he found fault with was the methods employed and proposed to be employed.

The type of training for one was certainly not always suitable to another. Let each keep to his own business. Let the educational section stick to education; the military section to defence.

The claim of the Defence Department was that its training was for citizenship first. No organisation yet had been ostensibly formed for attack, remarked the speaker. They have all been avowedly for defence.

The speaker then examined the new Syllabus in detail, and brought out many grave defects in it. He questioned the competence and fitness of persons who would be giving the instruction. In fact, it would be impossible for anyone to take such a wide range of subjects as were laid down for instructors to deal with. The trouble seemed to be that the Defence Department had wholly misjudged the psychology of youth. As far as the tests of physical fitness, etc., went, the money could be far better spent through educational channels, the results would be far more satisfactory, and the cost very considerably less. The speaker concluded by referring to the four months' training in camp, and the whole moral tone of militarism.

An interesting discussion followed, mainly hinging upon patriotism and citizenship and social distinctions in the Army and civil life.

A goodly assemblage went its way to the Gymnasium on August 1st to hear Messrs. Leicester and Pope discourse upon the subject of "Morality in Life and Art." Doubtless Mr. Low's design in the hall had something to do with it. The discussion was opened by Mr. W. E. Leicester in his usual fluent and epigrammatic style. He traced the relationship of a national art and a national morality, and showed how the greatest geniuses had always been secure in their own judgment, and refused to conform to the opinions of the masses. The artist was individual and unique, and we could not expect him to bow to our edicts. Constituted as he was, gifted with the power of creation, our mere receptive intelligences had no right to lay down laws for his guidance. The highest art was always above morality. Morality was but a passing phase; art was eternal.

Mr. C. Quentin Pope, who followed, restricted his remarks to the general philosophical outlook, and the duties of the ethical philosopher. From Plato we had witnessed an ancient quarrel between Philosophy and Poetry, but it was questionable whether when philosophers opposed art they were on the right road. We had heard much of the "artistic temperament," which is a pleasant myth. Men of genius were not radically different from other men. There was little empirical evidence for this

assumption. The duty of the moralist was a scientific one. He must no more desire to amend popular morals than a metaphysician to reform reality. General maxims and abstract principles must be distrusted. We should not seek a series of precepts but a ruling spirit.

The discussion which followed centred mainly round the art of different periods in relation to the morality of the period and our own. The various merits and claims of different arts were also discussed.

A small but select gathering assembled at the Gymnasium to hear Miss Iris Woodhouse, M.A., speak upon the subject, "Does the University Produce Citizens." Miss Woodhouse stressed the danger of the mob element in society, and showed the increasing tendency to mob rule. The herd element was never stronger than to-day, said Miss Woodhouse, and she gave many examples of the disasters which had attended it in the past. What was wanted was an increasing number of trained minds to stand out against the decision of the majority. Only by this being done, and done quickly, could we hope for a satisfactory solution of the present crises. These men must be looked for from the Universities where breadth of view and aspirations after truth were fostered. But unfortunately the laissez-faire attitude of many of these men was very marked. They were often uncertain regarding the truth or too much occupied in pursuit of a profession. The discussion did not appear to reveal the position as a hopeful one. Lack of time was a serious handicap. University men should be encouraged to enter public life; but were the people ready to follow men whose reasoning they did not appreciate? Generally the matter was on the knees of the gods.

The Club is indebted to Mr. McEldowney for giving a paper on "The Inter-relation of the Anglo-Saxon Peoples," and appreciates the time given by a graduate to one of the institutions of his College. Mr. McEldowney said that the multiplication of Anglo-Saxon communities might be described as an enlargement of the home of the Anglo-Saxon race. In the evolution of these communities we could see first of all a tendency to disperse. This was discussed particularly with reference to the United States. The next feature was a tendency to separate, seen clearly in the attempt to dismember the United States, and in the attitude of British radicals towards the colonies, as well as in inter-colonial frictions. But fortunately, under pressure of common interests, there was apparent the triumph of Federation in the United States, Canada, Australia, and South Africa; and the growth of Imperial Conferences, and the increasing friendship between Great Britain and the United States. The danger of considering a mere permissive union based on good feeling as sufficient was shown; true union must be constitutional and on a federal plan. A system of federation which could include Canada, South Africa, Australasia, and the United Kingdom must be assimilable to the constitution of the United States. Cecil Rhodes held that the sacrifice of the monarchy would be a small price to pay for the re-union of our race, and to those who urged that such a union was undesirable owing to the foreign element in the United States, it was shown that such an argument would still more effectively preclude the inclusion of Canada and South Africa in an organised British Empire.

---

## Christian Union

### Syllabus: 2nd Term, 1919.

- July 25—Mr. C. H. Taylor, M.A., LL.B.: "The Service of the Community."
- August 8—Rev. Reed-Glasson: "The Jesus of History and the Christ of Faith."
- August 29—Rev. R. H. Hobday, M.A.: "Some Notes on the Second Coming of Christ."
- September 2—Rev. A. E. Hunt: "The Missionary Situation."
- September 19—Rev. B. H. Ward, B.A.: "To Whom Does the Future Belong?"
- October 3—The Bishop of Wellington: Address.
- October 17—Dr. Gibb: "The Religion of Christ and the Social Question."

The first general meeting in the Second Term was addressed by an old student, Mr. C. H. Taylor. The great need of the time was a disinterested loyalty to the welfare of the community. In New Zealand we

were moving towards a thorough-going Socialistic order—and such an order made very great demands on the morality of the people. Along with the political change there must be a corresponding ethical movement. What was needed was changed individuals in a new state.

Rev. Reed-Glasson undertook what he confessed was a very difficult subject. He traced the development of modern criticism of the historicity of Jesus, and indicated a general tendency to recognise Jesus as a Person who actually lived at the traditional place and time. A discussion followed.

The third address was that of Rev. R. H. Hobday. Those students who remembered previous addresses by Mr. Hobday, both at College and at Conference, looked forward to a stimulating discussion. The speaker took in hand the "Second Coming of Christ." He pointed out the definite manner in which Christ had stated that He would come again, and the belief of all the New Testament writers that His Kingdom was at hand. It was clear that the New Testament teaching on the subject does not relate to the advent of Christ at some date in the dim distant future, but to the present, that the second coming was a spiritual experience in the heart of the individual.

Miss England's Circle for the Study of Old Testament Literature continues to meet each Sunday morning in St. Andrew's Schoolroom.

A Circle under the leadership of Mr. E. J. Hercus, M.A., has been meeting weekly for the study of Professor A. G. Hogg's "Christ's Message of the Kingdom."

#### Annual Conference in Otago.

Arrangements are proceeding for the Annual Conference of the New Zealand Student Movement. Last Christmas, owing to the Epidemic, it was not possible to hold a Conference. The site for this year is not definitely settled. However, Otago is very keen, and students may be sure of a good time. This annual gathering of undergraduates, graduates, lecturers, professors, and past students is one of the happiest events of our New Zealand University life—a meeting of old friends and the making of new, discussion of the pressing problems, political, industrial, religious—ten days of the happiest company. No student should miss the chance of going.

#### Military Training.

A special General Meeting was held to consider the proposals of the Minister of Defence for military training. With one dissentient a resolution was passed condemning any attempt to extend our military institutions in New Zealand.

---

## Students' Association

Since last issue of "The Spike," Students' Association activities have proceeded much as usual.

During the term several social teas have been held, including two in the short vacation. All have proved a success and have played their part in the social side of College life.

On the Monday of the Peace Celebrations a Peace Dance was held in the College Gymnasium, and proved a great success. Now that the Association has decorative material of its own, something really artistic in the way of decorations can be undertaken. It is to be hoped the dingy flags that once made an apology for decorations are now a thing of the past. An innovation has been introduced, in that a resumé of the business of each Executive Meeting is posted up in the College Hall after the meeting. This ensures every student knowing exactly what activities are going on, and gives students an opportunity to air their views to members of the Executive. Thus it is hoped greater co-operation and closer contact will be brought about between the Executive and the students.

The Council has been approached on the matter of allowing the Association to hold working bees for planting ivy, or some other suitable creeper, for the purpose of beautifying the College building. It is probable that a start will soon be made in this direction.

A definite step has been taken with regard to a Residential College. The Association approached the Council, Professorial Board, and Graduates' Association, with the result that two representatives were appointed from each of these bodies. The idea is to have the land to the south of the College, and at present unused, levelled and laid out in playing fields,

in addition to the building of residential quarters. We now await the report of an architect and a civil engineer on the possibility of the scheme.

The ways and means of obtaining a new piano have occupied the attention of the Executive for some time past, and arrangements have now been made for the production of three plays after the degree examinations. The producing is in the hands of Mr. Broad. Arrangements have also been made for holding a Flower Sale on September 3 for the same purpose. Also, the Students' Association is combining with the Glee Club in turning on a concert on the last night of the degree examinations.

A College Company has now been formed, which means that all students who are in the Territorials parade at the College. The advantages of this arrangement are many, and the company is now in good working order and promises to be a success in every way.

As no nominations were forthcoming to the Professorial Board's request for applications for the Rhodes Scholarship, the Executive felt that it could not allow the College to be unrepresented. Thinking Mr. Wiren most eminently suitable in every way, it approached him and obtained his consent to allow himself to be nominated. All will wish Mr. Wiren success.

Up to date, one Special General Meeting of the Association has been held, viz., on 20th August. There were three motions dealt with:—

1. Mr. Morice moved and Mr. Miller seconded: "That in view of the consummation of peace and the formation of a League of Nations, this meeting believes that the time has come for the diminution of international armaments, and the reduction of military training in all lands. We consider that the proposed extension of military training in New Zealand, involving a period of four months in a military training camp, will prove detrimental to the highest interests of the community. We consider that as far as possible the physical and military training of the youth of the country should be carried on under conditions which will make as little break as possible in home life. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister."

After several amendments the motion was finally lost.

2. Mr. Wiren moved, Mr. Mansfield seconded, a motion for the centralising of all the College Clubs.

It was resolved to refer the scheme to a committee consisting of one representative from each College Club, together with the mover and seconder, the scheme thus discussed and approved of to be submitted to a further General Meeting.

The Committee met and the scheme is now ready for presentation to the General Meeting. It is as follows:—

- (1). That the Professorial Board, in pursuance of its powers under Section 32 of the Victoria College Act, 1905, be requested to forward, with its own entire approval, the following recommendation to the College Council: "That there be established at Victoria University College a Consolidated Club Fund in lieu of the present system of club subscriptions."

And in the event of the above being carried, to move:

- (2). That this meeting recommends that the following be incorporated in the rules relating to any fund so established:

Subscription—

- (a) Subscription to be the sum of 10s. 6d.
- (b) Such sum to be payable by all students attending lectures, and to be governed by the regulations affecting the payment of the College fees.
- (c) The Registrar shall transmit such subscriptions to the Treasurer of the V.U.C.S.A.

Effect of subscription.—

- (a) Upon such payment students may on application and without payment of further subscription become members of each of the following clubs (hereinafter referred to as "Constituent Clubs"), provided they abide by the constitutions of such clubs:
  - Students' Association.
  - Athletic Club.
  - Basketball Club.
  - Boxing Club.
  - Cricket Club.
  - Football Club.

Hockey Club (Men's or Women's).  
 Tennis Club.  
 Chess and Draughts Club.  
 Christian Union.  
 Debating Society.  
 Free Discussions Club.  
 Glee Club.  
 Haeremai Club (or Women's Club).

(b) No club shall levy any additional subscription, charge, or payment upon any student without the consent of the Executive.  
 Management of Fund.—

- (a) A Finance Committee shall be set up consisting of the President, Vice-President, and two Treasurers of the V.U.C.S.A. in each year.  
 (b) The financial year shall correspond with the financial year of the Students' Association.  
 (c) i. Applications from constituent clubs shall be in the hands of the Treasurer not later than Easter Saturday in each year, and shall contain an estimate of the expenditure of the particular club for the ensuing financial year. ii. Applications shall be accompanied by a duly audited balance-sheet of the club's last financial year, and by a statement, signed by the club's Treasurer, of the expenditure of the current financial year.  
 (d) The Finance Committee shall meet on the first Wednesday after the annual meeting of the V.U.C.S.A. in each year to consider such applications.

A delegate may be present in support of a club's application.

Any sum authorised by the Finance Committee to be expended shall be paid by the Treasurer of the V.U.C.S.A. to the Treasurer of such club upon application.

From the decision of the Finance Committee every club shall have the right of appeal to the Executive of the V.U.C.S.A., and of final appeal to the Professorial Board.

- (e) Any expenditure not included in such application may be considered by the Finance Committee as above, and the Finance Committee shall meet at such times as may be necessary for that purpose.  
 (f) Any Club Committee which expends money without a grant from the Financial Committee or in excess of such grant shall be personally responsible for the payment thereof.

#### General—

- (a) Any person not attending lectures in any year may pay the above subscription and become a member of the constituent clubs provided that such person has either:  
 (i) graduated in the University of New Zealand.  
 (ii) attended 60 per cent. of the lectures in one or more subjects at V.U.C. in any of the preceding three years.  
 (iii) obtained the permission of the Executive.  
 (b) All entrance fees, ground fees, and other revenue derived by a club from any source shall be paid by the treasurer of such Club to the Treasurer of the V.U.C.S.A. Provided that this shall not apply to subscriptions levied under Clause (b) of the Section relating to the Effect of Subscription.  
 (c) Any dispute between any constituent club and the Executive or  
 (d) Upon the formation of any new College Club, application by such between the Finance Committee and the Executive shall be referred to the Professorial Board for decision.  
 club shall be made to the Executive for recognition as a constituent club.  
 (e) Any matter not hereinbefore provided for shall be submitted to the Executive, whose decision (subject to Clause (c) of this Section) shall be final.

Miss Trolove, seconded by Miss M'Lean, moved:

- (i) "That the Basket Ball Club be included in The Blazer Scheme."  
 (ii) "That, if possible, arrangements be made for matches between the various University Colleges to take place at future tournaments."

It was finally resolved to drop the matter until matches had been played with other University Colleges.

During the term a Smoke Concert was tendered to Mr. Meldrum, last years' Rhodes Scholar, by members of the Association. Although the



number present was not great, the proceedings were marked by much enthusiasm, and formed a fitting farewell to Mr. Meldrum, on his departure from amongst us to take up the Scholarship. Mr. Wiren presided, and spoke very highly of Mr. Meldrum's relations with the College. Mr. Meldrum was now about to leave our small College for one of the oldest and most famous Universities of the world, but he felt sure, whatever he might take up, or wherever he might be, Mr. Meldrum would always be a credit to Victoria.

Mr. Meldrum, in reply, thanked members for entertaining him, and asked us not to think little of Victoria because although we were only in a small way. It was the spirit of the students that made a University great, and that spirit Victoria undoubtedly possessed.

The concert terminated, after several toasts and musical items, with the repeated singing of "He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and much cheering.

---

## Athletic Club

The 1918-19 season was by far the most successful that this club has experienced since the commencement of hostilities in August of 1914.

In the early part of the year the Wellington Amateur Athletic Club were communicated with for the purpose of endeavouring to revive amateur athletics in Wellington, and the result of the united efforts of the two clubs in this direction has indeed been very gratifying.

The season was opened on Wednesday, the 5th February, when an evening meeting was held, under the auspices of the Wellington Club. At this gathering a number of college runners participated, and it was clearly shown by the enthusiasm of the competitors and the large attendance of the public that the reappearance of the sport, which was one that had been dormant in this city for some three years, was welcomed in all quarters.

During the next week a meeting was conducted under the control of the College Club, and this also proved very successful.

The events were varied considerably, and like gatherings were conducted by the two Clubs alternately until near the middle of the following month.

The Wellington Club Officials invited the College Club to join with them in holding a big sports carnival on the Basin, consisting of nineteen events in all, six of which were to be Wellington Provincial Championships. The offer was gladly accepted, and March 15th was chosen as the day of the venture. Owing to unavoidable circumstances, the meeting had to be postponed for a week, but the following Saturday, the 22nd March, provided a most successful afternoon's sport. The attendance of the public was large, the fields exceptionally big, and all events were well contested.

At the evening meetings College men more than held their own with other competitors, and at the Carnival of the 22nd March were successful in annexing three of the six Championship events.

We are indeed indebted to the officers of the Wellington Club, who, besides assisting us in the conduct of our evening meetings, bore the heat and burden of the day when the Championships were decided. The promptness with which everything was carried out went a long way towards the success of the afternoon.

In conclusion, there is no doubt that the opportunities for track experience which were presented to and taken advantage of by the athletes of the college during the season accounted in no small measure for the noteworthy success achieved by the team at the Inter-University Easter Tournament.

---

## Basket Ball Club

Much interest has been shown by the members of the Basket Ball Club during the term. The practices have been well attended and the teams have been extremely fortunate in having Miss Heath as coach. Three outside matches have been played, the one against Thorndon ended in a draw; the one against Girls' College, the Girls' College won, and Miss Baber's girls also won their match.

We hope to arrange to play basket ball matches against the other University Colleges at the time of the Easter Tournament.



In our last report we made a plea for better attendances at debates. Whether as a result of this or not, considerably more interest has since been shown in the affairs of the Society, especially by a number of the women students. Unfortunately this enthusiasm has not yet driven them to mount the platform, but it cannot be doubted that their presence in the audience has largely accounted for the increased rhetorical ardour among the male contestants. Incidentally it has been whispered that the improvement in attendance—notably of the section already mentioned—has been in some part due to the Students' Association social teas. We repudiate such a suggestion.

Why do the women students not take more part in the debates themselves? The Society invitingly trailed its coat-tails early in the session, but with little effect. One of them has boldly asserted that they hold back to give the men a chance, and there may be more in this suggestion than meets the eye, especially when the positions they have at times gained on the judge's lists are noted. It might have the desired effect if the Society were able to offer a separate prize for the most successful woman debater. Here is a chance for some old friend of the Society.

At the first debate of his term Mr. J. Davidson moved, and Mr. W. A. Sheat seconded: "That the Russian Revolution being the opportunity for the free development of the true genius of Russia, intervention in Russian affairs is unjustifiable." Mr. Wiren and Mr. R. V. Kay opposed. The debate was remarkable for the ignorance—or shall we say uncertainty—concerning Russian affairs displayed by both sides, but that was not allowed to interfere with the argument. Numerous speakers followed, but neither side seemed able to convince the audience, which charitably allotted an equal number of votes to each side. The chairman was, by that time, too confused to give a casting vote. The judge, Mr. G. G. G. Watson, M.A., LL.B., placed the five best speakers as follows: Messrs. Martin-Smith, Sheat, Pope, Wiren, Davidson.

At the next meeting of the Society, the President, Mr. B. E. Murphy, M.A., LL.B., B.Com., gave an address on the subject of "The University and Contemporary Problems." The lecturer gave his audience a remarkably lucid exposition of the industrial and the international problems as they exist to-day. He deplored the fact that so large a proportion of mankind, on account of environment and heredity, accept their opinions ready-made, and tend to perpetuate the present evil state of affairs. The University should help to mould public opinion, and to amend it in the light of knowledge gained, otherwise it would not be fulfilling its functions in the State.

Mr. Murphy was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his lecture, which was generally considered one of the most interesting and practical ever delivered to the Society.

The next debate was held on August 9th, when Mr. Miller, supported by Mr. Martin-Smith, moved: "That a lawyer is not justified in concealing the truth in the interests of a client." This was vigorously and effectively opposed by Messrs. Leicester and Ross. A record number of speakers took part; the budding lawyers being keen to defend their most sacred right. The motion was lost by 20 votes to 6. The Rev. S. Robertson-Orr, who judged the debate, gave the following award: Messrs. Leicester, Ross, Martin-Smith, McPhee, Pope.

The members of the Social Democratic Party invaded the College in considerable strength on August 16th to defend the motion: "That it is the people's duty to uphold the cause of the conscientious objector." This was proposed by Mr. T. Brindle and very ably seconded by Mrs. Beck. A good fight was put up by our representatives, Messrs. Evans and Leicester, and a splendid debate followed, in the course of which



Mr. S. Mansfield made an exceptionally forcible speech. On being put to a vote the motion was lost by 38 votes to 30.

At the next debate Mr. Pope moved: "That the experience of four years of political truce demonstrates the advisability of an early return to party politics." He was supported by Mr. Davidson and opposed by Messrs. Sheat and Martin-Smith. The lack of interest evinced in this subject was, perhaps, due of the fact that Sir Joseph Ward had thoughtlessly forestalled our decision upon the subject by two days. A fair number of speakers, however, thought it their duty to air their views, and the judge, Mr. J. Caughley, M.A., considered that the following had shown least lack of merit:—Messrs. Pope, McPhee, Martin-Smith, Wren, and Davidson. On a vote the motion was lost.

The final debate centred round the much vexed Liquor Question. The motion was: "That State Control offers no satisfactory solution of the Liquor Question." This was upheld by Messrs. Sheat and Miller, and opposed by Messrs. McPhee and Haigh. The same old arguments were trotted out on both sides, nothing very original resulting from the introduction of a new issue. Several speakers followed the openers, but probably did little to affect the opinion of the audience, which went by a substantial margin in favour of the motion. Mr. W. J. McEldowney, I.L.B., who was the judge, placed Messrs. Wren, Sheat, Davidson, Miller and Martin-Smith in the above order.

The winner of the Union Prize for the most successful debater of the year is Mr. C. Q. Pope, and we congratulate him on his uniform good debating. He is not exactly a fighting debater, preferring to present his own side of the case rather than to attack that of his opponent. He is always well supplied with matter—often too well supplied—and expresses himself in lucid and appropriate language. He rarely, however, gives his audience time to appreciate one point before he is on to the next.

The runner-up, Mr. P. Martin-Smith, was only one point behind the winner. He is a debater of a very different stamp. Possessed of a voice more suited to the open air than to a drawing-room, he sometimes forgets that he is speaking to a small audience in a small room. When well prepared, he makes a really good speech, and occasionally one is almost convinced that he believes what he is saying. When not well prepared, his frequent use of the "oratorical pause" gives undue scope to the rude interjector; as witness the scene at the last debate:

P.M.-S. (ff): "The great thing is to eliminate waste." (Pause.)

R.I. (p): "YOU'VE got a pretty fair one, Bobby."

Mr. J. A. Ross had the highest average number of points, but did not speak in sufficient debates to qualify for the Union Prize. He is a convincing speaker, ready in repartee, and able to attack his opponent's case as well as to present his own. With an improvement in platform style and the infusion of a little more vigour into his speech he should make a very able debater.

Mr. S. A. Wren, as might be expected of a President of the Students' Association, takes too judicial a view of most subjects to be a very effective advocate of either side. Having a pleasing voice and a good platform style, he should with more decisiveness, make a good speaker.

Mr. McPhee is a humorist, and it is at times doubtful whether one is expected to believe him or not. His speech is generally a bright spot in a debate, and, like others, he has shown considerable improvement during the year.

Mr. J. Davidson is one of the most promising of the younger speakers. He takes debating very seriously, and speaks with conviction, but would hold his audience better if he were to introduce some lighter touches to his speeches.

\* \* \* \*

Dear "Spike,"—If you are a philosopher, you are puzzled at the existence of such things as Debating Societies. If you are a psychologist you realise that "they may have their uses in teaching people to 'spout.'" Yet, if you are a member of one, you endeavour to account neither for one nor the other—you are far too much occupied in accounting for yourself. Until a man has taken his stand upon a Debating Club platform, he has not realised how few opinions he may possess on any subject. More, he has not realised how few of the opinions he does possess really count. And it is here that he encounters a real danger. If he be an orator like Burke, or a fine dramatic actor like Mr. Chamberlain; if he can "feel" himself into an argument with a fervour not to be surpassed by Parnell, there is a very grave danger that he may hold that opinion for the rest of his life. Of course, if the subject be an unim-

portant one (and fortunately very few of the bones of contention of the "talking clubs" ever are important) he is in no danger; for whatever his opinion on Conscription, Free Trade, or Bible in State Schools may be, they are not likely to matter. These issues were decided long ago. It is only when such important things as free drinks and Sunday tennis arise, that he is likely to be influenced in the wrong way. For if a man commences life by opposing Beer or the Bible (two very noble things) he is highly likely to be found in the ranks of the Prohibitionists or those of the repentants. And when a man repents it only means that he is sorry he has been caught.

Yet, all things considered, the Debating Society is a flourishing one. One does not always find the young Demosthenes chewing the pebble beside one at lectures, nor if he did, would it be altogether conducive to the comfort of his comrades. The main trouble the budding Burkes must contend with is a lack of audiences. It gives one almost a Parliamentary sense to continually address empty benches. Of course, this the Students' Association tries to remedy by giving social teas before debates; but as most of the people who attend restrict their sociability to the tea itself, and determinedly disappear before the first plaintive "Mr. Speaker" shivers through the empty gymnasium, one can hardly call the well-intentioned effort of the Students' Association a success.

It almost makes one inclined to agree with the cynic who said that the chief characteristic of University people was their determination not to be educated. Beyond the merrymaking of some young men from Masterton, only too few of the serious spirits attend.

The second bad influence on the debates is indubitably the Union Prize. However much this prize may ensure the attendance of leading speakers, it has not led to the creation of an altogether good spirit. The Society needs members who love debating for its own sake, and not those who are eternally thinking of their average in the secretary's notebook, and that is to what the establishment of the Union Prize has tended. Again, the prize itself robs the Society of presumably its best speaker each year, as though the regulations permit the grant to be won twice, nobody ever attempts it. Consequently it is dubious whether the cohesion, which is presumably the object of the prize, has been secured. A third factor we would like to mention is that something should be done to secure equal distribution of seconding amongst all the members of the Society. It is really time the present haphazard methods were abandoned, and we are sure all members of the Society will agree with us when we say an amendment of the rules to deal with this factor will not come any too soon.—I am, etc.,

TONGUE-TIED.

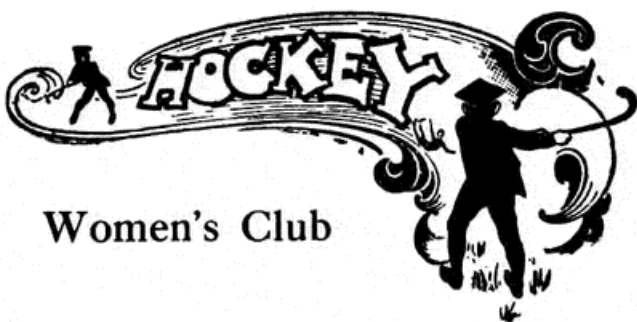
---

## Women's Club

That the V.U.C. Women's Club, though young, is exceedingly popular, was fully demonstrated by the enthusiastic spirit evinced by the members who attended the Annual General Meeting held on August 5th. Its numbers are steadily increasing, but the Club would like to see a larger number yet of the former students among its members, it being one of the club's chief aims to strengthen the tie between old and present students.

A competition was held early in the term in which a prize was offered for the best suggestion as to the form of entertainment for our next evening. The prize-winners were Miss E. Wilson (spook's evening) and Mrs. Taylor (camouflage evening), while many of the other suggestions were decidedly interesting and original. The spooks' evening, on September 5th, was pronounced by all who attended an eminent success. Most of the students wore sheets, but a touch of variety was given by the presence of a well-bearded Charon and a glittering Mephistopheles. Tombstones were ranged round the walls, and at times the only light was that given by a candle in a skull, or by the electric torches of some of the "spooks." (Spookdom, evidently, has all up-to-date conveniences.)

Dancing was the main form of amusement, a competition, ghost-story, and songs being interspersed between dances. It speaks well for the nerves of the present generation of women that no one fainted, and that no one seems to be suffering from after-effects.



## Women's Club

Every Saturday throughout the season matches have been played at Karori Park. As might have been expected from lack of practice, though the combination was fairly satisfactory, the shooting was decidedly weak, and many opportunities for scoring were lost. The teams played and the results were as follow:—

### "A" Team—

Versus Y.W.C.A. "B's" won 12—0.  
 Versus Y.W.C.A. "A's" draw 3—3.  
 Versus Ramblers "A," lost 3—4.  
 Versus College "A," draw 2—2.  
 Versus Audit, won 6—0.  
 College "B," won 17—0.  
 Base Records, won 3—2.

### "B" Team—

Versus Y.W.C.A. "A's," draw 1—1.  
 Versus Y.W.C.A. "B," won 7—0.  
 Versus Ramblers "A," lost 2—15.  
 Versus College "A," lost 1—2.  
 Versus Audit, won 4—0.  
 Versus Base Records, won 5—1.  
 Versus Ramblers "B," won 4—0.

As will be seen, the only match lost by the "A" team was to Ramblers "A," the winners of the tournament. The match was a very close one, but the difference between the shooting of the two teams was most noticeable. Ramblers "A" scored through well-placed shooting, while University showed a tendency to muddling in the circle. The game against College "A" was fairly fast, and, as results show, ended in a draw.

Judging from results, there appears to be little difference between the "A" and "B" teams, but probably the enthusiasm and keenness of the "B" team had much to do with this. The only losses of the "B" team were to the winners of the championship and the runners-up, and we feel this is a good record.

Near the end of the season a representative team is chosen to play in the Inter-Island matches; for this two members of the "A" team, Miss McMurray and Miss Shaw, were asked if they would travel, but, we regret, were unable to accept.

Although the membership has increased, and the play showed a marked improvement, on last year's, we do not feel the hockey season has been entirely a success—perhaps the distance to Karori, and the fact of having to play every Saturday, had something to do with this, so we must hand on to next year's players the work of bringing back the Cup to the University.

We have to thank Mr. Morice for his help as coach, and the Club extends its thanks to the generous donators toward the funds of the Club.

## Men's Club

Since last issue the above Club has made very considerable progress. Towards the close of the first term the number of players desirous of gaining places in the team had so far increased as to demonstrate the possibility of entering a second team. After full discussion the Committee decided that circumstances were sufficiently favourable to warrant an application to the W.H.A. for permission to enter a second junior team in the competition. The Association decided to allow this team to enter at the opening of the second round.

Although the second team has not had a very victorious career, it has

improved to such a degree as to dispel any doubts as to the advisability of its formation. The two teams are now in fairly good condition, notwithstanding the fact that a break of nearly eight weeks was caused by Vacation, Peace Celebrations, Weather Inclemencies, Rep. Matches, etc. The two teams contain material for the foundation of a really strong Club next season.

The following are the results of matches played since last issue:—

"A" Team, Captain, B. W. B. Hunt.—May 31st v. Wesley A. Won, 5—1. The scorers for 'Varsity were: Devonport, M'Eldowney, Miles, Sheat, and Cousins—one each.

June 7th v. Wesley B. Lost, 3—0.

June 14th v. Huia. Lost, 3—2. Stephenson and Miles scored for Green.

July 12th v. Karori. Won, 3—1. M'Eldowney (2) and Osmers (1) scored for 'Varsity.

August 9th v. 'Varsity B. Won, 5—2. Scorers—For A's: Miles (3), M'Eldowney (2). For B's: Kirk (2).

August 16th v. Wesley B. Lost, 5—1. M'Eldowney scored.

August 2nd v. Wesley A. Won, 5—1. Scorers for 'Varsity: M'Eldowney (2), Miles (1), Sheat (1), Cousins (1).

"B" Team; Captain, C. G. Kirk.—August 9th v. 'Varsity A—See above.

August 16th v. Huia. Lost, 5—1. Stephenson scored for 'Varsity.

August 23rd v. Wellington. Drawn, 1—1. Loveridge notched 'Varsity's goal.

Each team has still two matches to play. On the whole the results of the year's play have been very satisfactory. When it is remembered that a large proportion of the members of both teams had played little or no hockey previous to this season, the results are even more hopeful than they might at first seem to be.



Since last issue of "The Spike" the Club has been practically inactive. Owing to extravaganza practices being held on our night we were unable to carry on, and the club has been more or less disorganised ever since. As a result of this long break there has been a decided lack of interest, especially on the part of male members.

In spite of these adverse circumstances our conductor, Mr. F. P. Wilson, has been exceptionally patient, and it is due to him that we have managed to continue. We have been encouraged by the appearance of a few more men at the last few practices, and feel that we shall be able to work up some successful glees.

This year we shall not hold our usual annual concert, but intend co-operating with the Students' Association in giving a concert in aid of the Piano Fund. So far, no other entertainments have been definitely decided upon.



The season 1919 has proved most successful for College football, for although we cannot point to any championships won by our teams, this is not due to inferiority of individual players, but to the absence of adequate training facilities, which always has retarded College football, and always will until we can have the same conditions as those enjoyed by other clubs. Great keenness has been shown this year, as evidenced by the fact that we have been able to place four teams in the field, and it is hoped that we will be able to increase this number. On the season's play, the First Fifteen has won 6 matches, drawn 2, and lost 5. One of the matches was lost during the vacation, when there were only 5 of the real team playing. The First Fifteen also travelled to Christchurch, and secured a victory by 13-3. On this occasion our forwards did great work against a heavier pack, and it was largely to their efforts that we owe our success on that occasion. The backs did not do what was expected of them; evidently they were affected by the prolonged sea voyage. We owe much of the enjoyment of the tour to the splendid hospitality of the Canterbury College Football Club, whose members were always on hand to do all they could for us. At the dinner subsequent to the game the question of an annual Inter-Varsity Football Tournament was discussed, for competition in which the club captain of Canterbury College has generously donated a shield. Arrangements are now in hand to hold the first tournament for the four Colleges, next year.

Efforts were made to renew the annual fixtures between Sydney University and New Zealand University Colleges, but owing to difficulties of travelling the tour had to be abandoned. Next year, however, we hope to see the Australians in New Zealand.

We have to congratulate Barker, Beard, Chrisp, and Jackson on their inclusion in the Wellington A representative team, and Aitken, Brosnahan, and Martin-Smith on their gaining representative honours in the B team.

Owing to the failure of Christ's College to participate in the Secondary Schools' Tournament, we were asked to play Wanganui College, and proved the better team on the day's play. Low and Randell (the little fellow amongst them) were specially agile on this occasion. Espiner also seemed to be enjoying the game immensely.

We have had our usual bad luck as regards accidents, losing Beard, our feather-weight lock, at a vital point in our career. Jackson also has been in the wars again—it is his shoulders this time.

A brief criticism of the team is as follows:—

Chrisp.—The man with the head for getting out of hot places. Has an effective left boot, but his right needs mending.

Tracy.—Has the pace and weight of a good wing three-quarter. His handling is weak, but will improve.

Lusk.—Quick off the mark, and is dangerous when he gets the ball.

Gillespie.—If this player had improved this year as he improved last, he would be playing representative football.

Barker.—The fastest back in Wellington, and is coming into his own in Rugby circles. For further reading vide Free Lance, Referee, and Evening Post.

- Aitken.—Not playing up to previous form. Usually runs straight.  
 Jackson (Captain).—Perhaps the best defensive back in Wellington.  
 Does not allow his pack to loaf. (Go for it!!!)  
 Scott.—A rapidly improving half-back, and an accurate kick.  
 Low.—A terrier among the opposing backs. Always up with the game, and dangerous near the line.  
 Randell.—The other terrier; a capable hooker and the eighth back.  
 Espiner.—He is no slug, and is always in the thick of it.  
 Beard.—Back to his old form. A pre-war and present Wellington representative. 'Nuff said.  
 Brosnahan.—The wise head who has proved that he is not a back number.  
 Churchill.—A pre-war O.U.C. player, who possesses his characteristic dash, as of old.  
 Hutchison.—He is no baby, but he can dribble.  
 Martin-Smith.—The "bouncing boy" of Free Lance fame, plays best after a Capping Dance, and uses his weight in the thick.  
 Smith.—Strong in the line-out and dangerous in the open.  
 Dighton.—He's a "rattler," and will play great football before he is pensioned off.
- Junior Grade—  
 Versus Petone, lost 6—0.  
 Versus Marist Bros., lost 12—0.  
 Versus Wellington College, lost 26—0.  
 Versus Marist Bros., lost 16—3.  
 Versus War Expenses, won 20—0.
- Third Grade—  
 A Team v. Porirua, lost 6—5.  
 A Team v. Petone, lost 12—6.  
 A Team v. Hutt, lost 10—9.  
 A Team v. Johnsonville, lost 8—3.  
 A Team v. Railway, draw 3—3.  
 A Team v. Petone, lost 10—8.  
 A Team v. 'Varsity, won 11—6.  
 B Team v. Selwyn, lost 22—0.  
 B Team v. Johnsonville, draw 3—3.  
 B Team v. Porirua, won 5—3.  
 B Team v. Railway, lost 17—3.  
 B Team v. Porirua, lost 19—0.  
 B Team v. Johnsonville, lost 13—8.  
 B Team v. 'Varsity, lost 11—6.

## The Editor's Chair

The Editor wishes to thank all who have responded to the appeal for contributions to this issue of the "Spike." Doubtless the response will be greater when more students realise that the "Spike" is their own production. As far as the contributions sent in are concerned, most show signs of inexperience. But this need cause no discouragement. There is plenty of time for practice before the next number is ready, and nothing gives, so well as practice, the power to discriminate among a host of ideas and details all clamouring for insertion, but not all worthy.

Lack of practice is shown also in the tendency to polysyllables. There is, of course, no need to shun them like a plague. They are good enough vehicles of thought, but the smaller vessel well handled will out-manoeuvre them many times. It is strange that, while Latin itself is falling out of favour, the ponderous Latin-derived word so often ousts the simple Anglo-Saxon.

The criticism most often directed against the "Spike" of late is that it is not witty enough, the demand is ever for more sparkle and humour. Now this craving for wit reveals the true reason for its non-appearance. What we have in ourselves we do not need to have supplied from outside. And the absence of sparkle is due to the present sober tone of students, which cannot supply the lightness that it craves. When students are witty, there will be no more complaints of the dulness of the "Spike."

Unfortunately, the anonymous contributor is still extant. The Editor cannot publish anonymous contributions, and unless the practice stops a list of the names of all such offenders will have to be published!



## Correspondence

Dear "Spike,"—In your June number I saw a description of the College Re-union, that has been definitely set down for next year. The report stated that the Re-union would, it was hoped, include "an extravaganza reminiscent of olden times at Salamanca." If no definite decision as to the form the carnival is to take has yet been made, may I suggest that "an extravaganza reminiscent of olden times" be not attempted, but that the Executive go to the olden tragic times for a play which shall be suitable and appropriate upon an occasion, whose tragic pathos will be brought home to many students when they see how large a number of the "old familiar faces" have vanished for ever? In July, 1914, the question of staging a translation by Professor Gilbert Murray of one of Euripides' plays was considered at a meeting, at which Professor Brown and Dr. W. Kington Fyfe were present. Both these gentlemen thought the idea feasible, but the outbreak of war prevented its being realised. I do not suggest that it would be desirable always to substitute for an extravaganza a Greek play, but next year the occasion seems both happy and appropriate for such a play.—I am, etc.,

PYLADES.

\* \* \* \*

Dear Spike,—I was once interested (in the abstract) in a study of "Mob Rule" and "Psychology of Crowds," but to-night I am deeply concerned with psychology of general meetings at V.U.C. For I have just returned from one of them. Would you like to know about it? Well, it was this way. There was a motion brought forward concerning, in broad outlines, peace or war in the future. It was supported by people for whom we have the greatest respect. It was the outcome of their sane judgment and sympathy, I am certain, that, before going to the meeting, the majority of students were in favour of it—especially the women, who, whether they realise it or not, are governed by instincts of home and children, not of bayonets and bullets. And yet, when a gentleman got up, and subtly pruned away an essential part of the motion, with such an air of assurance as to make it seem for our benefit; and was supported by gentlemen who have no other interest in college life than to come and be facetious at general meetings, when the red herring had been thus drawn across the path the amendment was quickly put, and carried, by people whom, I am fairly convinced, had no clear idea as to what they were voting for. They had been properly gulled, for you cannot tell me that women would deliberately say they desired more and yet more war in the future, following the lead, moreover, of a gentleman who expressed joy at the idea of Berlin devastated by a bomb. Are those University ideals? God pity us if they are. Now, I have no illusions about my sex when I see them vote: Some wait and see how many hands are already up; some wait and see how the men are voting (one might be unpopular otherwise, you understand); some do not bother to vote at all. So I would implore them (if you will be so kind as to print this, dear Spike) that if they cannot vote according to their own judgment (if they have any), rather than according to their programme at the next dance, please to stay away altogether. Don't go and spoil good voting when you don't know what you are voting for. And, please, would the clever gentleman have a little consideration for our youth and ignorance, and give us a chance to develop our own little ideas, along our own little lines, in our own little way (a process which is called evolution, I believe)?—Yours in sorrow,

ANABELLA.

\* \* \* \*

Dear Spike,—I was pleased to see at the beginning of the year that the Council had started a second-hand book department—an enterprise which should have been taken up by the Students' Association long ago. But I do not think it has had the patronage it deserves. Such an arrangement is an immense benefit to students both for selling and buying, and if the College authorities are good enough to undertake it, then we ought to patronise them.

In a few weeks we will be packing up books—perhaps for ever. Then is the time to think of other poverty-stricken students who will follow after. "Economic waste (not Bobby's) is a social evil."—(Murphy).—Yours,

TEDDY.



## To B.A.—or not to B.A.—

To keep a hold on education  
 And otherwise assist the nation  
 By duly weighing pros and cons,  
 Thus sifting duds and simpletons  
 From those who rightly gain degrees,  
 Are th' Senate's duties—an it please.

One day a letter came to state  
 That an unlucky candidafe  
 (A country teacher, too, what's more)  
 Had failed in English th' year before.  
 The calendar she then had read,  
 And gradually the thought gained head  
 That unto those who once had failed,  
 Another chance ere they had staled,  
 Was 'llowed them—they could then "repeat"  
 The subject lost and sit again  
 With syllabus unaltered. Fain  
 Would she attempt a second time  
 To soar, ere she had passed her prime.  
 Straightway she entered for "Repeat,"  
 Revised, re-read, and was replete  
 With information for the fray,  
 And then arrived the dreaded day.  
 The papers, said to be "Repeat,"  
 They wellnigh swept her off her feet.  
 She felt there must be something wrong,  
 And finally, to end my song,  
 She put in straight an application  
 Asking for due consideration.

This letter raised a how-de-do  
 And put the Senate in a stew.  
 At length the int'rest goes aflagging  
 By much emphatic bald chin-wagging.  
 The office boy is then attested  
 To see if aught can be suggested.  
 He wisely goes off and consults  
 The sheets that bear this year's results.  
 The rev'rent Senate sits aghast  
 For this same candidate has "passed"! !

---



---

## Exchanges

The Editor wishes to acknowledge receipt of the following exchanges:  
 —Southlandian, Taranakian, N.G.C., Kiwi, Adastrian, Reporter, Wanganui  
 Collegian, Hermes.

## Last But Not Least

Having finished reading the doughty deeds of the year, "Spike" subscribers might be glad to learn of 1920, and to find something which will keep them cheerful in the meantime. There is plenty of food for their vacation musings—and the success of 1920 depends on their digestion thereof.

So far as the College is concerned the first great event of the year will be the Easter Tournament. The programme of official functions is somewhat as follows:—

SATURDAY—	Civic Reception Tennis Championship Debating Contest
MONDAY—	Athletic Championships Moonlight Picnic
TUESDAY—	Tennis Finals The Ball

There will also be boxing and basket-ball tournaments, the shooting competition for the Haslam Shield, and an inter-island cricket match.

Victoria will be represented in all athletic contests, and will require the support of every student, if she is to carry off the honours. The teams will be chosen at the beginning of the new term, and the only way of doing justice to your College and yourself is to come back at the top of your form. Duty one. Each club is arranging trials and training facilities for those of its members who spend their vacation here.

As the tournament will be held at Wellington we are the hosts of the visiting representatives. Every knight (and lady, too) of Salamanca is on his mettle to give them a right royal time. Duty two.

The other great event of the year—the College Reunion—will be held in conjunction with the Capping Celebrations. The tentative programme includes:

WEDNESDAY—	Extravaganza.
THURSDAY—	Civic Reception. Procession. Capping Ceremony. Extravaganza.
FRIDAY—	Unveiling of Roll of Honour. Athletic events of all kind. Ball.
SATURDAY—	Picnic. Dinner.

Again we want all hands on deck. The chief items to be attended to during the vacation, are advertising the Reunion amongst past students and writing capping songs and an extravaganza. Duties three and four. If you read the volume of "Capping Songs" in the library, you will find that former generations were much cleverer with their pens than the present one seems to be—but they mustn't be left to think so when they revisit us next June. In the matter of songs the response this year was very mediocre, 6 students out of 600 being keen enough to write, and most of these wrote hurriedly. However, with all the vacation to draw on, everyone can produce a song with something of the old-time snap about it. Rehearsals and choir practices will commence the first week after Easter.

"A Merry New Year, and many of them, to you all, my masters."  
S.A.W.



- "P-of. G-r-o-w."—Afraid we cannot help you if you are still uncertain after perusing sixty-two volumes, whether a man of straw is a more weighty consideration in the scales of justice than a man of powder and shot.
- "B-y M-y."—We know of no work on "Economics of the Scriptures." Shakespeare may help you with pertinent tags for economics, as "This sudden making of Christians will raise the price of pork."
- "J. R. B—n."—We believe the world is now ripe for your publication, "Charles Chaplin and His Relation to Classical Comedy."
- "P. M—n S—it—"—Have no quotations for skull caps, but will undertake to install a double chair behind the rostrum at a reasonable rate.
- "T—y H—nt—r."—We are disappointed in your candidature. We hoped your platform would include a new wing before 1925. Let's have a revolution!
- "J. S. Ten—t."—You are right. It ought to be stopped. The present fashion in skirts makes climbing of fire-escapes far too easy.
- "D. R. Woo—."—We have watched your recent movements with grave alarm. See K. C. Braddock, "The Physical Concomitants of Falling in Love," Library Extension.

---

## Olla Podrida

"Wanted, a plain cook." (Evening Post.)  
*Since father——!*

"NOT PREPARED."  
 Von Tirpitz and the last war."  
*History repeats itself nightly in room VII.*

"Lost, a set of teeth; left in Kilbirnie Recreation Grounds."  
*Some people take a big slice of land when they chews.*

"All Scots' Church.  
 Preacher: Rev. F. McTavish. 'Is there a Hell?'  
 Soloist: J. F. Eagle, Esq., 'Tell Mother I'll be there.'  
 No collection. All seats free."

"Mr. T. A. Hunter, Professor of Economics at Victoria College, is to contest the Napier seat at the next election in the interests of the Social Democratic Party." (Wellington daily paper.)

*For purely economic reasons the Professor desires it to be known that he would like to receive a shipment of nitro-glycerine from the same source as the above information, and equally reliable in quality. Students desiring to assist in the campaign should hand in their names early.*