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# SMAD

AN ORGAN OF STUDENT OPINION  
AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE,  
Wellington, N.Z.

Vol. No. 4. No. 1

MARCH 21st, 1933.

(Price 3d.)

## HAERE MAI!

Again we start a new scholastic year, and again we extend a welcome to fresh faces at Victoria College, and to remembered friends of last and other years. At the moment times do not seem at all encouraging to the student, and there appears but little incentive to take the long and arduous path to a degree. Still, there is much to be gained and little to be lost by attending a University. The College does not end with the lecture room alone, and although this statement is hackneyed and so oft repeated that it has lost almost all its force, it is nevertheless still true. To attend the College and to take no interest in anything save the passing of examinations is to miss much.

We therefore ask "freshers" to avail themselves of all that Victoria University College offers, and to join in with its social life. You are starting your University life here in an important year—for this year, 1933, marks the opening of Weir House, the new residential hostel for men at Victoria College, and we sincerely hope that all students in residence there will endeavour to make Weir House a decided asset to V.U.C. It should make a great difference to life here, and on the first students to take residence there much depends.

We hope, therefore, that 1933, despite everything, will be a successful year here, and again extend to the staff and all students hearty greetings.

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## A SENSE OF PROPORTION.

Attacks by certain public bodies and private citizens on Victoria College students generally, accusing them of unpatriotism and other equally harsh charges, and of particular admiration for the Soviet State in all its workings, show how far some people lose their sense of proportion in matters.

There are now some six hundred odd students attending lectures at this College, and in past years there have been a few hundred more, and pictures painted of that six hundred students by some are very black.

A sense of proportion must be kept in judging any class, and it is only to be expected that of the hundreds of students taking lectures here, there will be some who are radical in their views. So that when one or two students give their opinions, and honest opinions at that, some outside body or citizen always seems to spring to the attack and decries the College students generally, instead of fighting it out with the particular individual concerned.

This College has always maintained the right of free speech of its members, and to date we do think it has very rarely been abused, and that the students have been able to keep their sense of the values of things, much more so than some others who credit six hundred with having the beliefs of six.

## Events for 1932.

WHAT WILL BE HAPPENING HERE THIS YEAR.

No doubt all new students will be interested in the annual fixtures in the social and sporting life of the College. We are therefore publishing this as a guide to "freshers" and a reminder to others. This year the Annual Tournament is scheduled to be held at Auckland at Easter. This Tournament, at which the four Colleges compete, includes contests in athletics, tennis, boxing, swimming, basketball, shooting, and rowing. There are individual trophies for each of these branches, the only ones held at present by V.U.C. being for tennis and shooting. As well as these individual trophies, there is also a Tournament Shield for the College doing best over the aggregate, and a wooden spoon, a masterpiece of craftsmanship, too, for the team doing worst. Neither of these trophies are held by Victoria.

At Easter also the Annual Speight Trophy Cricket Match against Auckland University College is to be played at Auckland. This game was won last Easter by Victoria, who will be defending the trophy again.

In May the Capping Celebrations will take place. Included in this one week of student revelry will be an Extravaganza, Capping Ceremony, Procession, and Capping Ball.

The Annual Hockey Tournament is this year scheduled to take place in Christchurch. Both men's and women's hockey teams compete in this tournament, the men's division being won last year by Victoria.

The annual Joynt Scroll Debating Contest, won last year by this College, is to take place probably in July. The four Colleges are represented in this contest.

Another annual debating contest is held at V.U.C. for the Plunket Medal, which is given for oratory. Last year the winner of this was Miss C. S. Forde.

As well as these meetings, there are the annual Rugby games against Te Aute College, Massey College, and Canterbury College. In the first game the College is usually represented by a team of selected promising young players, and in the second by the Junior Fifteen. The game against Canterbury College is for the First Fifteen. This year we are to have a visit from a team representing the Australian Universities. There will be two games played by this side in Wellington, one against Victoria College and the second a test match against the New Zealand University.

In addition to the important Capping Ball, there are numerous other dances held by the various clubs, usually in the Gym., and similarly there are regular debates held also in the same building.



- J. A. R. Blandford**, for gaining a place in the Wellington Plunket Shield team. Well done, Gin!!
- J. J. McCarthy**, for winning the Hawera Tournament Championship Tennis Singles at Christmas.
- R. McL. Ferkins**, for gaining a place in the Wellington Wilding Shield tennis team.
- C. Palmer**, for gaining first-class honours in his M.Sc. this year. Great work!
- Women's Second Division Tennis Team**, for winning the grade championship.
- Miss Peggy Price**, for gaining second place in the women's dive in the New Zealand championships.

## A Tour of the College.

for Freshers and Fresherettes.

"Smad Special Service.

And this, ladies and gentlemen, is Victoria University College. No laughter, please! This is an object of much reverence and no little respect. It has been described by one eminent amongst us as "the building with the Queen Anne front and the Mary Ann back," however that may be.

Those harrowed people entering the building, ladies and gentlemen, are students. You will be students from now on, ladies and gentlemen, so note the look. They have just been interviewing the professors, one of whom you now see ascending the stairs. Hats off, please, gentlemen! Thank you. Put them on again now; no one will throw pennies into them here. The idea of interviewing a professor is that he may be able to mislead you as to your course.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, this is the College Entrance Hall. You will not be allowed to linger here. On my right you see Mr. Brooks. How are you, Mr. Brooks? These, Mr. Brooks, are freshers and fresherettes. Now, ladies and gentlemen, listen while Mr. Brooks clicks his fingers. Ha! Note that it is an old University custom, and as such must be observed. Follow me. This is the Common Common Room, only to be used by men and women together. What, for necking? Well—yes, and again no. This, gentlemen, is the Men's Common Room. A Common Room Committee will prevent you swearing, smoking, spitting, standing, sitting, sleeping, lying, eating, breathing, thinking, or living here. Come

away from the place. And now, ladies, we have here the Women's Common Room. Yes, smoking is permitted here.

And now we show you the Library, complete with librarian. No—no flirting is allowed here, although it is done—especially in the Law Section.

## NOTES and JOTTINGS.

Captain of the eleven during the 1931-32 season, and a member of the College Senior team for many seasons now, H. C. Bailey has left behind him many good friends in the Cricket Club. His interest has not been confined to that Club only, for as a coach and player Harry has done much good work for football in this College. He is now practising his profession in the province, and we wish him all the best luck. The eleven has lost a true fighting batsman, as the other clubs will relievedly realise.

We learn with regret of the death of the wife of Mr. G. G. Aitken, Victoria College's noted Rhodes Scholar. Mr. Aitken, whilst at Victoria College, gained many distinctions, scholastic and otherwise, and was captain of the 1921 All Black team against South Africa in two of the tests. On going to England as a Rhodes Scholar, Mr. Aitken gained a place in the Scottish international fifteen, being a member of the famous international three-quarter line, Smith, Macpherson, Aitken, and Wallace. We extend to Mr. Aitken our deepest sympathy.

### THIS MONTH'S FAIRY TALE.

There was once a House the pride of a University and the show-place of a City, at which visitors were wont to gaze with unfeigned admiration. ...

"What," they would say, "Was this magnificent edifice built for?"

And the guide would state sadly "For University Students to dwell in."

"But it is weed-grown and deserted," the visitors would add aghast.

"It had a set of regulations," the guide would reply.

### Casualty: Cooley-Mackenzie.

During the summer vacation Miss Mary Cooley and Mr. B. H. C. ("Crow") Mackenzie (both too well known to need any introduction) took the plunge. We wish them all the very best.

We wish to congratulate K. C. James on gaining once again a place in the New Zealand cricket team to meet England this month. Whilst at Victoria College Ken represented V.U.C. at both hockey and Rugby, though he has never played with the University cricket team. Good luck, Ken!

## Weir Wail.

### First Shots from the Weir Front.

(By One of Them.)

At last the hour is arrived—the gong is struck and the door has been opened. Those of us who were privileged to see His Excellency march courageously up to the front steps twirling a gold key round his little finger, and then with a wild whoop of joy spring at the front portals and burst them open midst the frenzied applause of a gigantic multitude there assembled, no doubt sighed with rapture at the magnitude of the undertaking. We can confidently assert that the opening of Weir House marks the beginning of a new and enlightened era in the history of the whole world. As one looks round the grave faces assembled in the dining-room, one cannot but marvel at the galaxy of virtue, high character, genius, and moral courage. Never before, we venture to say, has such a company been met together. Not even in the councils of Cesare Borgia was such wisdom.

We have but one complaint. At present the air of "sapientia magis" seems rather lacking. As, however, the corridors at night hum with student brains seeking a new motto, this will no doubt soon be rectified. "Domus a domo" was of course suggested and rejected as dog-Latin. At present "Vivimus, edimus, bibimus," or "Vitality edible and bibulous," holds the field.

Let me introduce you to the green-linoleumed, brown-walled, and yellow-curtained Common Room. Here is a room to defy the Women's Common Room. With its "Modern Renaissance" architecture (note that the Women's Common Room has no architecture at all), its futuristically designed rugs, and its fine oak table, it breathes an atmosphere of refined repose. Here one may retire from the forays, the dirt and bad company of the Men's Common Room to quiet and scholarly conversation. Here is no sign of that "lack of polite phraseology" which an authority deems to mar many New Zealand students.

The bedrooms and studies are furnished with equal splendour. If man can be influenced by his surroundings, surely we will be intellectual giants. But, alas! even we have a black sheep in our midst. Not twenty minutes ago one was heard to remark that the long corridors reminded him of prison. Spare us, dear Sir; we assure that we are taking immediate steps to purify ourselves and to throw out the guilty one. But come, now; sit in this easy chair. It provides excellent exercise for the development of a large paunch. The chair can be made convex or concave! How will you have it?

At present we are excellent friends with the cook, though the maids may spoil her effects by serving us with sweets first. We are free-thinking, and mind not how our food comes—as long as it is food.

# ARGONAUTS OF TO-DAY

## The Heartease Adventure.

To journey three thousand miles in a 50-foot yacht requires more than average pluck, and yet that is what the crew of the Heartease, the Auckland cutter, have done.

From Auckland to Tonga, to Suva, round the Fijian Islands, thence from Suva to Noumea, and on to Brisbane—that has been their itinerary.

In all those hundreds of miles down the Pacific seaways adventure must have crossed their path, and these extracts from a letter of one of the crew, Mr. H. C. Dixon, of Wellington, reproduced with his permission, make most interesting reading.

Here is his description of the journey from Suva to Noumea:—

### Good-bye, Suva!

"Leaving Suva, we had a journey of some seven hundred and fifty miles ahead of us, Noumea being the next port of call. Our time of departure was about 10 a.m., and by daybreak the following day we dropped the last little knob of the Fiji Highland over the horizon.

"Moderate following winds and seas were the gift of the gods, and so we were in luck. This favourable weather was experienced throughout the journey, it being nothing more than a pleasant yachting cruise. On the morning of the fifth day we sighted Pine Island, the south-western reach of New Caledonia.

"By nightfall we had run past 'the island' and were lying outside the reef with all canvas furled, waiting for daylight to see us through the passage and on to Noumea, a distance of some 60 odd miles. With no pressure on 'top-side' of ship, we rolled all night and were very pleased when daybreak came and we were able to proceed. Our way lay through the reef, then on along the coast and through a long channel between When Island and the mainland.

"A terrific current was running through the reef passage, and we only just managed to make it, with engine running and all sails set. We gained about one knot in about seven, and to make matters worse, the outgoing tide meeting the incoming breakers made a choppy, overfalling sea. However, we soon worked our way out of that, and on we went, the tide changing later and pushing the ship along at a great pace.

"Running along the coast and up the channel, one could not help but think what a bleak and barren place, patches of red clay and barren hill forming the entire surface of the land. No green grass or waving tropical foliage here; just bleak bareness, with a few stunted coconut trees near the water's edge."

Then, again, this is a description of the run from Noumea to Brisbane:—

"Leaving Noumea at 10 a.m. on the Thursday, we were out of land sight by sundown of that day, well on our way to Brisbane, some eight hundred miles away. We were all in good spirits, for not only had the people of Noumea given us a rousing send-off, but we had Australia for a destination, which, I think, to a New Zealander sounds the next best thing to Home.

### A Shark Is Sighted.

"The weather was favourable, following wind and sea moderate, which continued till the fifth day out, when we ran into a dead calm. That day we spent in reading, playing chess and draughts, till sundown, when the monotony was relieved by the appearance of a ten-foot shark.

"We always have a way of dealing with these 'blighters,' but we like to get a little fun out of them first, if possible. This fellow, in the way apparently quite common to all of his class, swam around the ship, rubbing his sides and back against the bottom of the ship right up on the waterline. We, like a pack of school kids, ran around the deck following his progress, shouting and yelling the while, and nearly pushing one another over in the excitement. You get that way when cruising as we do; you see nothing new day after day, just the monotony of yourselves, the ship, the sea, and a few birds; so naturally a shark is worth watching.

"Trev, long since had gone below to get his .303, and was also running around; so we tossed the 'brute' a few odds and ends, which for the most part he ignored, and then the death sentence was passed.

"He was nearly more out of the water than in it; you could have leant over the side and stroked his back **had you cared**, so he presented no difficult target. One shot just above the breathers did the trick, his every movement stopped, just became paralysed, sank like a stone going down, down, down the clear blue water, till he looked like a small white star finally fading out of sight altogether. We had a tune on the old guitar and a song or two, then at darkness went to bed, but not for long. At 9 p.m. a breeze sprang up, so we clapped the canvas on her, and started on our way again. The wind freshened and kept on doing so, till by morning it was blowing a gale and the sea was running mast-head high—some forty feet or so. Fortunately the weather was still following, and so drove us on at increased speed rather than delayed us. This continued till we finally ran into sheltered water after rounding Cape Morton, when we took on a pilot and went on to

# 3000 MILES JOURNEY...



the mouth of the Brisbane River.

"That gale gave us a bad time; there was water everywhere. Our bunks were wet and our clothes were wet. We couldn't cook food, and we couldn't have anything hot to drink, and if you wanted to lie down you had to hold on with both hands or be thrown all over the cabin. On Wednesday the first we had to put another tuck in the mainsail, and that's no joke. To go up on deck stripped to the waist, with water flying in all directions till you gasp for breath, to slacken away 'peak' and 'throat,' and then to haul on the reefing points and canvas, it's all really hard. The sail tosses you around as if you were a straw, not to mention the inconvenience of the ship's motion, and the canvas tears the skin off your knuckles. Try it; it's good exercise.

"We had that gale for company two days and nights, a period of discomfort for all. No decent food; only salmon eaten out of the tin with a spoon, and water; no sleep, and plenty of hard work to keep things going, even if it was only holding the tiller during your watch, for that took a bit of holding, too."

These few extracts show the magnitude of the adventure these six New Zealanders took, and make one realise that the seafaring adventurer still lives to-day.

## Weir House.

### UNOFFICIAL RULES.

1. No student or part of a student shall be permitted to extinguish the lights at 11.15 p.m., with the exception of cases coming within Rule 3.

2. Applications for late leave shall be issued by the Warder on production of a certificate of good character, and shall be available up to 4 a.m. on the following day.

3. All guests shall be put out with the corridor lights.

4. No cricket shall be played in corridors nor swimming tournaments be held in the bathrooms after 6 p.m. on sundown, whichever be the earlier.

#### CONDUCT.

5. Relays of residents shall be arranged so that the Warder and Matron may be supported for as long as possible

6. No spiritual liquors may be consumed, in public.

7. No gambolling shall be permitted upon the premises.

(N.B.—Contravention of Rules 6 or 7 entails forfeit of unpaid fees.)

8. Dining is not allowed in the smoking-room.

9. Shouting, whistling, and other unseemly noises are permitted in rooms, common rooms, etc., in fact anywhere except on staircases and in corridors.

10. Residents are expected to take action against any but adjoining proprietors (now "landed"), and are to leave the fence intact.

#### DAMAGE TO PROPERTY (or Trespass).

11. Each resident shall sign a receipt for his room, stating its condition at date of possession—classification to be on the basis of the standard effect of a Beaufort scale passed through the contents.

12. Damage to a room shall be charged for when the scale reading has been ascertained, and shall be at a rate of quid pro quo ad eundem.

13. Damage sustained by the occupants of a room shall not be charged upon the House. (This Rule in Vice-versa shall not be deemed to apply.)

14. Public breakages shall be charged for, subject to the provisions of the National Expenditure Adjustment Act 1932, pro rata according to the distance of each person from the damage, each to each. (Fractions of an inch disregarded; judge's decision as to remoteness of damage final.)

15. Works of "art" (sic) shall be hanged from the picture rails.

#### FEES.

16. The Boarding Fee shall be inclusive of everything except the students' personal comfort, for which they shall have to make their own arrangements. Payment shall be so arranged that all cases shall be special hard cases paying by instalments.

17. Students desirous of keeping to their rooms during absence on vacation shall be charged 5 reis per week, or not.

#### GENERAL.

18. Domestic are expected to keep clear of the students' quarters.

19. Studies and bedrooms shall be unoccupied during cleaning operations, as robots have been installed.

20. The procedure for obtaining permission to entertain visitors shall be as under Rule 2. N.B.—Female guests not specifically excluded.

21. Valuables stored with the Warder shall be restored on demand.

22. All communications, etc., are to be made to the Warder, not to "SMAD."

23. Although absolutely no provision is made for the invitation of female guests to meals, by order, in the absence of any prohibition they may be admitted under Rule 20 free up to the number of 4 per resident. Male guests shall be mulcted to the extent of 1s 6d per prand.

On reversion of the lease, front rooms shall become back rooms, and shall face Salamanca Road.

M. B.

## Profs. and Other Innuendoes.

### FILLETED FRIPPERIES FOR FRESHERS.

With the beginning of a new Varsity year many of you in our midst are freshmen, unaware of the traps and pitfalls set by such institutions as the S.C.M., the Hui Marae Club, and the Chess Club. With this object in view, we will lay bare the inmost secrets of Professors and other public dangers, so that you may keep strictly to the straight and narrow way.

Most of what Professors publish is intended to trick you, and such catch phrases as *sapientia magis auro desideranda*, which is clearly an unmitigated contrivance of veracity, and of the present Government and its policy, are nefariously circulated to damn democracy, crucify corruption, and blast the bleary; but be of strong heart, heed not their words, and pour all your coppers into riotous revelry pro bono publican (verb sap.).

Bu, whose statue figure marches with majestic grace, midst clicking fingers? That, O unknowing one, is Brookie, scourge of the pitch-and-toss school, lord of the corridors, and ruiner of man's reputation. Beware of Brookie! His bark is worse than his bite!

You freshers are under the tyranny of a despotic, democratic plutocracy, though, alas! a Plank of the platform has gone and constitutions are no more. The stud ass known to the proletariat as the Exec. is ruled with a fist of steel by the President—a diabolical democrat, ever seeking larger largesse for the Football Club. Take no notice of their canons—they are overloaded with talk.

Now you are forewarned of the dangers, we can introduce you to the buildings, founded on frivolous fantasies. Weir House provides the frivolities and the gym. provides the fantasies (O! rapture divine!). And what is that stately brick pile? Hush! That is the College itself—it provides nothing at all. And now, dear fresher, we will leave you.

Ever remaining,

Your guiding spirit,

SMAD.

### CUTTING.

"OLD BOY" gives a good hint to all new Students when he says that the trouble with most freshers is that they get "fresher and fresher and fresher."

"PERPLEXED" asks us "Why is a University Student like a good ale?" We should say because both of them have very little in the head.

### THOSE RULES.

First Student: Bill is a changed man. Never see him about now. What's wrong? Is he in love?

Second ditto: No, in residence.

At St. James Theatre 31st. March.  
Students' Theatre Evening 31st. March.

### DEBATERS PROMISED GOOD YEAR. PROGRAMME FOR 1933.

As in past years, the Debating Society will again offer an attractive and varied programme in 1933. As many as possible of the numerous controversial subjects which are now offering will be included in the syllabus, and placed before the students for discussion. If you have a grouch, a pet theory, or a knotty problem, write and let the Secretary know, and perhaps it will be debated.

The Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers will be held on Friday, 17th March, at 8 p.m., in the barn which is traditionally referred to as the Gymnasium. That this is not by any means a dull business meeting is proved by the fact that it is not

#### STUDENTS OLD AND NEW.

We want contributions for the next issue. As was expected, the work of publishing the first issue was left to an industrious few. All ideas welcome. Send them all along.

at all unusual to have more than 200 people present. In addition to ordinary business there will be a short and possibly humorous debate on the subject, "That Ignorance Is Bliss."

The Debates are generally amusing as well as interesting and instructive, and all freshers are urged to take part at least in the New Speakers' Debates which are a feature of the club's activities. If you are nervous or a bit raw, this is the place for you. As an additional incentive, a prize for the most-improved New Speaker is awarded at the end of the year.

Read some opinions:—

**B. Mussolini, Rome, Italy.**—"The experience I gained at your New Speakers' Debates, and later on at your Ordinary Debates, has done me the world of good. All my old shyness and diffidence before an audience has now gone, and last week I won the Facist Grand Prix for Oratory. I spoke on my boyhood hero—Max Riske."

**M. Ghandi, Delhi Gaol, Pudka.**—"I feel I owe your Society more than I can ever repay. During my recent fasts I had by me accounts of your Debates, and by reading them both time and hunger passed unnoticed. May Allah guide and protect your deliberations."

**Rev. R. J. Howie, The Terrace, Wellington.**—"Recently I was privileged to attend one of your Societies' (?) Debates, the subject being 'Companionate Marriage.' I am glad to be able to say that my previous bad opinion of University life is now completely discarded."

**G. W. Forbes and J. G. Coates, Politicians, New Zealand.**—"The V.U.C. Debating Society? Bah!"

"If I Had A Million"—St. James.





### THE COMMON ROOM COMMITTEE.

Dear "Smad,"—

I am disgusted, overwhelmed, and otherwise duped, doped, and fooled. The Men's Common Room Committee still exists! Not only does it still exist, but it has taken unto itself disciplinary powers! Does this Committee intend to assume an absolute and despotic power over the whole student body by ruthlessly exterminating all competitors? It seems as though our long-loved Common Room is become the trap in which these octopodes will lure their victims. Once we are in the Common Room they will torture us with all forms of "disciplinary punishments" to satiate their lusts, while they gloat at all the misery they cause. No doubt they have spy-holes in each nook and cranny to watch our every movement.

I suggest that they would do much better to spy into the Common Common Room (if last year's happenings are to be repeated), and thus to learn the manner of sundry billings and cooings, or to calculate the S.C.M.'s extortionate profits.

If, however, this committee realises that it is considered as a joke by the student body and assumed disciplinary powers, merely as a playful insult, let me warn it that I for one am not inclined to take the insult playfully. I would suggest a meeting between the insulting and insulted, and let that meeting be pugilistic and sanguinary.

I am, etc.,

IRATE.

### AGAIN THE COMMON ROOM COMMITTEE.

Dear "Smad,"—

A look of surprise dawns over every student's face as he enters the Men's Common Room for the first time this term. To most the array of new furniture which greets their eyes is as "a gift from the gods," but to the cognoscenti the matter assumes a different aspect. After much enquiring and questioning it has been ascertained that there is at 'Varsity a body that is operating without the knowledge of a lot of students, and several are hinting that the Exec. should take immediate steps to put a stop to the body and seek some explanation from them justifying their existence in the College.

**You may not have a million, but come to St. James 31st. March.**

One of the persons who is under the notice of the writer may be seen wandering around the College with a file under his arm and a frown large enough for a Cabinet Minister. It has been gleaned from a reliable source of information that several students have been approached by certain of these mysterious people and, above all, asked for a donation. It was just a stroke of luck that, as I entered the College one evening, that I should see a student accosted by one of these mystery men. I waited, and then came my chance. A paper was produced; the usual signing on the dotted line; and then a cheery farewell. I immediately approached the victim and politely enquired what the business of the trouble-worn canvasser might be. I was then informed that he was a member of the Men's Common Room Committee.

Now, Sir, what exactly is this body and their aims in the College? When were they elected? By whom were they elected? For what reason were they elected, and what means were used to select this so-called committee?

To my mind they are nothing but a lot of students trying to create an impression and force themselves into the realm of the worried business man of our city. I approached the Secretary, as he terms himself, and in the course of a conversation I managed to secure a few facts about this body in question. It appears that they were self-appointed, and that they have taken it upon themselves to olve the question of comfort for the male students. They have even gone so far as to approach the Students' Association for a grant to furnish the room. They hold meetings practically every night at various hours to deal, presumably, with problems far too weighty to be passed over in the short space of an evening. Now, Sir, you will agree with me that this is just a lot of "bunk," pure formalism, and utter rot.

Could not the Students' Association have dealt with this matter quite well by approaching the College authorities? Instead of that there is the body, with a Secretary (and I hope a Treasurer), holding meetings, and spending money. When it is all taken into consideration it all boils down to the fact that the Secretary is carried away with his position and just holds the meetings, writes up the minutes, and puffs

**Students' Theatre Evening—"If I Had A Million."**



himself up and says to his friends that it is impossible for one to realise the amount of work in the College administration until one has held some position of that kind.

I do not in any way wish to derogate from the ultimate value of their work, but I do think that the Secretary should, per medium of your columns, give some explanation as to the constitution and the personnel of this body.

I am, etc.,

THE CRITIC.

(This letter has been shown to members of the Men's Common Room Committee, who state that on account of its "glaring inaccuracies" it has not been deemed worthy of a reply.—Ed.)

#### THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

Dear "Smad,"—

One longs for an organisation within our walls to combat the propaganda spread by the Student Christian Movement, but it seems that we are not to have any body of men and women, apart from a moribund Free Discussions Club, sufficiently interested to guide younger students from the maudlin state of metaphysical sentimentalism which is fostered by the Movement.

Why, of all places, should the Movement have such a strong hold in an university? We belong to an institution that exists for the breaking down of age-old and ignorant dogmas; for the inculcation of the logical mentality; in short, for the enlightenment in some part of the abysmal ignorance of our nation.

Instead of such obtaining, few—too few—are concerned with any intellectual broadening at all, and this happy few is subject to a mass attack by forces organised to push a metaphysical set of beliefs and morals so deeply engrained that no appeal to any true mental faculty can remove the hotch-potch of vague sentimental mysticism that envelops its adherents.

What do these cherished members of our flock have to say for the endeavours of past and present philosophers towards human enlightenment in the war against the Divine dogma? They dub them "atheists" and spit the word with the venom with which old hags spat "aristo" at the foot of the French guillotine. They lop off and subvert the teachings of centuries of truth seeking effort. For the years of intellectual groping that culminated in Kant's complete and logical annihilation of all metaphysics, they care nothing. Or is it ignorance that will not permit them to grasp the logic implied?

As did their mediæval counterpart, Luther, they refuse the prodigy of a new Renaissance, and seek only to confound the student minds that could accept the offering. The miserable half measures of learning plus mysticism that are produced in abundance at this time are on the shoulders of them and their

kindred metaphysicians that would seek the intellectual guidance of our people.

This College should be the home of Reason, wherein metaphysical dogma is a subject merely of historical interest, not the resuscitated suicide of two centuries past.

I am, etc.,

ZARATHRUSTRA.

Dear "Smad,"—

Zarathustra's apprehensions about the spread of Christianity in the College is, we hope, prophetic. He gives the student Christian Movement credit for a less direct method of self-advancement than it actually adopts. Propagation rather than propaganda is its mode of survival.

The Free Discussions Club is not, apparently, in its own esteem, moribund; nor could the College afford to have it so. It is lifeless only in so far as it is insincere and concentrated on debating points rather than on understanding.

Your correspondent rightly deploras lack of interest in the younger student, but it is quality rather than in quantity that the lack appears in existing societies. Interest may be in what a man can do, in what he can be made to accept intellectually or in him himself. Whichever society is most genuine in this last form of interest will have the most far-reaching effect on student thought.

Zarathustra's interest is rather of the second type, and he exaggerates its importance in the Christian Church, where dogma and dogmatism have a poor record. Doctrine is rather another thing, and comprises the Christian philosophy. The Student Christian Movement would be superficial indeed if it shirked the intellectual problems of the Christian. A great part of the circle discussion is devoted to an honest investigation of the doctrines which have emerged from man's consideration of Jesus Christ. But the mind, in common with other parts of a man's physical self, does not serve him best when developed in isolation. Jesus constantly insisted that only in conjunction with practice could truth be grasped by the human mind and puzzlement banished. "My doctrine is not mine, but His that sent Me. If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God or whether I speak of myself."

One attitude implied by your correspondent I must flatly deny. The Student Christian Movement does not regard the "atheist" with contempt or animosity. For the rest, what he rather loosely calls "Divine dogma" thrives in war.

I am, etc.,

J. C. SEWELL.

The closing down of the Wellington Training College has lost Victoria College many students. To all these old friends we extend our best wishes, and hope to see them at the Easter Tournament at Auckland.

At St. James Theatre 31st March.

## Adventures on the Cricket Tour

NO GAMES LOST.

TINDILL'S GREAT PERFORMANCE.

During Christmas and New Year the annual country tour was made, five matches being played. As far as results are concerned the tour was not quite as successful, as in the previous year, but no matches were lost. The first game resulted in a win over a weak Wanganui eleven by an innings and 232 runs. H. W. Osborn and E. Tindill made a century each, and B. A. Paetz collected 76.

The Hawera and New Plymouth games were both drawn, the latter match rousing the ire of the local Press owing to our slow scoring in the second innings, when "Stonewall" Bailey batted for an hour and a half for 7 runs. He forced the pace in the first half hour, in which he amassed 5 runs, but during the remainder of his innings he was somewhat restrained.

In the next game at Marton the team achieved its main object of the tour by defeating Rangitikei by the large margin of nine wickets. The game against Manawatu was also drawn, but was notable for an extremely fine performance on the part of P. Wilson and E. Tindill in our second innings. This pair put on 307 runs, taking our score from two wickets for 6 runs to three wickets for 313 runs. Wilson made 196, and Tindill was unbeaten with 144.

Tindill, who was invited to join the team on account of no Varsity wicket-keeper being available, was easily the best batsman, scoring 511 runs in all at an average of 85.16. Bailey also was very consistent. J. White, after a good start in Wanganui, was unfortunate in being the repeated victim of some incredible decisions. The bowling was entrusted mainly to H. Osborn and W. Dormer, supported by K. Struthers and P. Wilson. Bailey also bowled on occasions, but desisted after repeatedly injuring his toe with his stock ball.

Social activities were not neglected, and some of the team proved more conspicuous in these than on the cricket field. Our manager (R. Osborn) made a gallant but futile effort to restrain the said activities in New Plymouth. His action was not popular, but doubtless he was endeavouring to reinstate himself in the eyes of the Wellington Cricket Association.

From the start it was obvious that Bailey's mentality was not all it might be, and this was fully borne out in Wanganui by his vain efforts to use a telephone in an intelligent manner.

The party which travelled in the Essex were frequently a source of irritation to others, owing to their habit of arriving at a destination in an extremely flushed and loud-voiced manner, obviously due to the internal application of Highland dew.

In Hawera there was a sick bank manager stay-

ing at the same hotel as the team, and it is gratifying to know that he survived the experience. Once again B. A. Paetz seemed to consider the tour at an end on reaching Hawera, and he bolted back there on the first opportunity.

At the conclusion of the game at New Plymouth a boat race was held on the lake at Pukekura Park, which resulted in an easy win for the crew of Maud. This crew was also successful in winning by a large margin the subsequent splashing competition.

In Marton, while some of the teams were constructing a minute examination of the hotel piano's interior, an apoplectic proprietor appeared on the scene without knocking, but fortunately no deaths resulted. Another regrettable feature of the tour was the lack of restraint of a certain player when visiting a brewer friend in Palmerston North. Those interested in the possibilities of these tours are invited to read the log compiled by J. C. White, in which all events of note are recorded. An expurgated edition is now available.

We have to again thank Mr. S. Harcourt for kindly lending Maud to us. She gave her crew many a thrill, but under Kirk's careful handling no serious mishaps occurred, though she was once mistaken for a hearse on the Wangaehu Hill. Her unladylike habit of spitting oil is, however, to be deprecated.

In conclusion, the committee would like to see more interest taken in these tours by club members, particularly young players. In a club as large as ours there should be no need to invite outside players to accompany the team.

## Tennis Doings.

### 'Varsity Women Win.

SECOND DIVISION CHAMPS.

A great deal has happened in the tennis sphere since the last issue of "Smad." The season was then just beginning. As usual, Varsity players, harried by morbid fears of the miseries associated with the Winter Show Building, were slow in getting into their stride. Moreover, the presence of debris from a large slip which fell on Court No. 1, and the noise accompanying its removal, both tended to make conditions unpleasant. Nevertheless this season may well be regarded as being a most successful one.

It was decided this year to enter a larger number of teams in the inter-club competitions than was usual, with the double purpose of relieving the congestion of the Club courts and of improving the standard of play by giving all those who desired it the opportunity of improving their game with match play. Varsity is represented in the first and second division men, second division women, and fourth and sixth divisions, the latter two being mixed teams. The women's team has succeeded in winning the second division competition without suffering a de-

feat. Hearty congratulations to its members—Misses M. Line (Captain), C. Longmore, T. Gill, and M. Briggs. While the other teams cannot expect to do so well, they have not disgraced themselves.

The Club Championships are well advanced, and many interesting matches have taken place. Recently, however, few matches have been played. Those concerned are asked to play-off their matches as soon as possible.

At the last general meeting of the Club the constitution was amended to provide for the inclusion of Vice-Presidents as officers of the Club. Various gentlemen who have taken an interest in the College were accordingly approached. The following consented to accept office:—Colonel R. St. J. Beere; Mr. A. E. Campbell, M.A.; Mr. A. B. Cochran, M.A.; Mr. G. F. Dixon; Mr. S. Eichelbaum, M.A. LL.B.; Mr. J. R. Elliott, B.A.; Mr. C. Evans-Scott, LL.M.; Mr. A. Fair, LL.B., K.C.; Mr. Malcolm Fraser; Mr. F. F. Miles, M.A.; Mr. A. D. Monro, M.Sc.; Mr. G. Simpson, M.A.; Mr. R. A. Wright, M.P.

The Club extends a hearty welcome to all freshers. They are advised to make themselves well acquainted with the rules in general and in particular with those relating to correct tennis attire and the bringing of visitors, respectively.

G. Wh-te-b-, interviewed by our reporter, stated that his game has improved considerably since he adopted the practice of using three balls for serving. He, however, does not consider that it would be any help to cultivate kicking a ball into the gallery on playing a bad shot.

J. B. Bl-k says that he has no intention of attempting to challenge Mr. C. D. B-k's record for tall scoring.

A. G. Cl-k denies that he is inventing a wind screen for use at Miramar. He is not without hope that after a few more windy Saturdays Nature will provide something suitable for the environment there.

## New Members Wanted.

### BASKETBALL CLUB'S APPEAL.

The Basketball Club is open to all women students who would like to have a good game. Experience is not necessary, and practice soon improves play. Practices will be held weekly during the season, and trials will be taking place before Easter, as the Association matches will probably commence on the 22nd April. Notices will be put up giving dates, etc. There will be as many teams as are wanted, and everyone can get a game. It should be remembered, however, that regular attendance at practices is only fair to the team, and if good practices are not possible owing to poor attendance, no high places can be gained by our teams.

## Harriers Anticipate Big Year.

### ATTRACTIVE FIXTURES.

With the success of last year, the prospects for the coming season are brighter than ever. Our performances in the Provincial Championships and Craig Cup crowned by the winning of the B grade of the Shaw Baton, have given an additional impetus to tackle the A grade with enthusiasm and grit. The prospective increase in membership, with the esprit de corps of the club, is going to give the V.U.C. a front rank in the harrier world.

Through the running of fast, medium, and slow packs all comers are catered for, allowing the slower to get the requisite amount of action without undue effort, at the same time permitting those more able to utilise their energy to the best advantage. For the early part of the season activities are confined to the weekly runs. Later club events, as the Novice and Club Championship races in the individual section, together with the proposed Weir House v. Rest and Inter-faculty races in the teams' section, prepare for inter-club competition more towards the end of the season. In Wellington this opens with the Dorne Cup, followed by the Provincial Championships; then in turn comes the Shaw Baton relay and the famous Vosseler Shield, while last of all is the Bennett Memorial, with the Craig Cup for the B grade and the 20-mile for the Olympic Gold Cup at Trentham. Further afield there is the race at Christchurch on the King's Birthday, and Marton-Wanganui race on Labour Day. There are also hopes of inter-varsity competition. The scope for expression of harrier ability need not be hindered, for in most events there is a B grade, for which any number of teams may be entered.

Just as players in other branches of sport pride themselves on their strong points, so too does the harrier. You need never be on the "bank," for no pack can be too large; you are always sure of a place. Further you can please yourself whether it be for physical recreation or athletic success, since if you do not aspire to the latter you are never deprived of a place in the pack. Tenacity of purpose, along with other moral qualities, gets an impetus in development that few other sports could give. Again, the scene is always changing; new country every five minutes induces a fresh feeling that needs to be experienced to be appreciated. Then again, the honour attached to being awarded a Blue or representing the V.U.C. is always at hand—an excellent inducement. If racing has its appeal, and you need not be a front-ranker to enjoy this, you can learn to appreciate the art of harrier racing.

The strategy that can be developed in a cross-country race is more subtle than many would give credit

Students' Theatre Evening 31st. March.

for. Watching for an opportunity to steal a march on competitors behind, when coming over a brow or changing direction with the wind and seeking the advantage, requires just as much skill and practice as it does to conserve energy and use one's judgment in pitting one's reserve against another. Team work finds more than this necessary; it is a co-operative effort, and demands the close attention of each member. Individualism is discarded and all effort directed towards obtaining the lowest aggregate of points. The camaraderie is all-important, as it is on the effectiveness of this whether or not a team may win.

The economy with which one may indulge in this sport is worthy of consideration—about 5s will cover any outlay, a singlet and shorts. The running of slow packs will enable you to get into form and graduate through to the faster. If you have any queries, leave a note in the rack for the Secretary or Club Captain, or come to the Annual Meeting, Friday, March 17th

## Swimmers Meet.

### WINNERS OF THIS SEASON'S RACES.

The last few months have been very active for this Club, and, although our membership is still small, we feel that we can at last claim a real Swimming Club for Victoria College.

Commencing on the last day of November, the Club has conducted weekly handicap races, points being awarded for first, second, and third places and for starting.

Starting with small fields each week has seen a progressive increase in the number of starters until, latterly, good fields have started in each race.

A start has also been made on Water Polo, and a team entered in the local competitions with encouraging results.

With the interest that is being taken in this phase of the sport it is apparent that next season we will be in a position to field two or more teams.

On the evening of December 15th, 1932, the Club conducted its first Inter-Club Carnival at Thorndon Baths, good entries being received from the local clubs. For a first attempt, we feel that the function was a distinct success from all but the financial point of view.

The Club has been represented at every Inter-Club Carnival, members thereby gaining valuable experience by competing against members of other clubs. In Centre Championship events we have been represented in the Women's Dive by Miss Peggy Price, who annexed the title, and in the 220 yards Breaststroke by I. Archibald, who gained fourth place. Miss Peggy Price was also chosen to represent the Centre at the New Zealand Championships, and gained second place in the Women's Dive.

One of the most enjoyable outings was a visit to the Riddiford Baths as the guests of the Hutt Valley Swimming Club, where we participated in free-style, breaststroke and relay races, diving and a game of water polo, to say nothing of a very good supper provided by the female supporters of that Club.

Tournament trials are being held in the immediate future, and indications point to a much stronger team than has been sent from this College in the past, although we are not yet up to the standard of the other Colleges in the men's free-style events.

Owing to the lamentable absence of Tepid Baths in this city, some difficulty is being experienced in conducting College Championships this year, but the Club intends to hold these events, and supporters and members are urged to watch the notice-board for particulars.

### RESULTS OF WEEKLY HANDICAP RACES.

(Points:—1st., 7; 2nd., 5; 3rd., 3; start, 1).

1932.—November 30th.

50yds FREESTYLE SCRATCH RACE.—1 Oliver, O. S.; 2 Scotney, A. H.; 3 Bradshaw, R. C.  
December 7th.—

50yds FREESTYLE HANDICAP.

1 Oliver, O. S.; 2 Oliver, J. G.; 3 Deck, J. C.  
December 21st.—

50yds BREASTSTROKE HANDICAP.

1 Archibald, I.; 2 Deck, J. C.; 3 Oliver, O. S.  
1933.—January 25th.—

1 Longworth, H.; 2 Deck, J. C.; 3 Oliver, O. S.  
February 2nd.—

50yds BREASTSTROKE SCRATCH RACE.

1 Oliver, O.; 2 Archibald, I.; 3 Deck, J. C.  
February 9th.—

100yds FREESTYLE HANDICAP.

1 Coyle, J.; 2 Bradshaw, R. C.; 3 Oliver, O. S.  
February 16th.—

50yds BACKSTROKE HANDICAP.

1 Bright, W. J.; 2 Oliver, O.; 3 Archibald, I.  
February 24th.—

220yds FREESTYLE HANDICAP.

1 Desborough, L.; 2 Archibald, I.; 3 Oliver, O. S.  
March 2nd.—

100yds BREASTSTROKE HANDICAP.

1 Deck, J. C.; 2 Oliver, O.; 3 Archibald, I.

LEADERS IN POINTS COMPETITION.

Oliver, O. S., 29; Deck, J. C., 22; Archibald, I., 20.

### RESULTS OF WATER POLO.

Jan. 28th v. Hutt Valley—Lost 3—1 (Scorer O. S. Oliver).

Jan. 31st v. Worsler Bay.—Won 2—1. (Scorers Coyle and O. Oliver).

Feb. 13th v. Maranui.—Lost 6—0.

Feb. 14th v. Lyall Bay.—Lost 4—2. (Scorer, Coyle).

Feb. 21st v. Hutt Valley.—Won, 2—1. (Scorers, Coyle and Bradshaw).

March 9th v. Worsler Bay.—Won, 3—1. (Scorers, Deck (2) and O. Oliver).

"If I Had a Million," St. James.

## OBITUARY.

### MRS. MACKENZIE.

Another whose memory will linger with those who knew her was Mrs Mackenzie, the wife of Professor Mackenzie. This gentle lady, who for so many years devoted time and untiring energy among so many other duties to fostering the communion and comradeship among students, which always mark university life, passed away last month. She was one of a small band of devoted women who in the early years of this College welcomed the fellowship of the students and built up those ties of friendship which are to-day remembered by them with gratitude. During all her life the late Mrs. Mackenzie was keenly interested in College affairs, and how much her interest and thought aided those who knew her only they can tell; but to them she will be present still, for such kindly memory is a fragrant thing. We express to Professor Mackenzie and his family our sorrow and sympathy in his loss.

### MRS. LINA EICHELBAUM.

By the death of Mrs. Lina Eichelbaum, on 29th December, 1932, V.U.C. lost one of its best friends. The deceased lady and her late husband, Mr. Max Eichelbaum, for many years from 1904 onwards regularly entertained in their home two or three times each year the graduates of the year and the principal office-holders in the various College organisations. Outstanding functions of this nature were "farewells" to V.U.C.'s first Rhodes Scholar, P. W. (now Professor) Robertson; and to the late Allan Macdougall, who was our second Rhodes Scholar. Another was given in honour of the late Dr. G. V. Bogle on his departure for Edinburgh University to study medicine. These and many similar functions given by these most hospitable patrons of V.U.C. student life played no inconsiderable part in fostering and cementing College friendships which have lasted through the years. Their home may almost be said to have been in some measure an unofficial University Clubhouse, at which there foregathered from time to time under the happiest auspices students who subsequently became Professors at their Alma Mater; Judges of the Supreme Court; members of the N.Z. University Senate and of the College Council; and men and women of real eminence in the legal, the teaching, and the medical professions, as well as in the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A.

Victoria University College owes a debt of gratitude to this devoted patroness, and mourns her loss accordingly.

### STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

The Student Christian Movement is a fellowship of students who regard the Christian faith as challenging them to devote the whole of life to furtherance of the Kingdom of God. The Movement will arrange circles in the College and Hostels for study

of the life and character of Christ, seeking to catch the implications of His teaching in social, national, and racial affairs. Also periodical forum discussions will be held on to-day's problems. As Christians we have the onus on us of finding how the individual can beat the present situation. On individual solution depends ultimate solution, for social progress is made by cell growth. Bourgeois individualism must give place to contributive living. We find Jesus Christ the best guide to this transformation of outlook, and seek to learn from Him the way to live, and, solving man's most pressing problem, to live together.

So far as books can supplement experience the Movement is served by the stock at the Bookroom at New Zealand Headquarters, Woodward Street; by the V.U.C. Branch Library, whose books are free to all and include the periodicals of the British Student Christian Movement; and by the New Zealand magazine, "Open Windows."

Lastly, public attention is drawn to the fortunes of the three families to whom our rather ill-feathered wing offers some shelter. There is a box on the end of the letter rack in which to post any superabundance of cash; also men's old clothes would be most acceptable.

### BUSINESS NOTICES.

Patronise the firms who advertise in your magazine, and don't forget to mention "Smad."

Contributors are requested to sign all contributions and indicate if a nom-de-plume is to be used.

Editor: J. A. Carrad. 'Phone 43-000.

Sub-Editors: D. M. Pilcher. 'Phone 44-022.

A. Wansbrough. 'Phone 40-227.

Business: R. J. Nankervis and R. Bradshaw.

### COMING EVENTS.

March 22nd.—Boxing Club Night.

March 30th.—Social Service Club.—Annual General Meeting.

April 1st.—Debating Society.

April 7th.—Dramatic Club.—Annual General Meeting.

April 8th.—Science Society (Is. Dance).

April 22nd.—Debating Society.

May 12th.—Dramatic Club.

May 13th.—Debating Society.

On the 31st. March there will be a Students' Theatre Evening at the St. James Theatre, in order to defray the Tournament expenses. A good programme is showing that week at the St. James, the star picture being "If I had a Million." A big muster of Students is required in order to make the evening a success, so freshers and old students alike are requested to purchase their tickets at College and come along.

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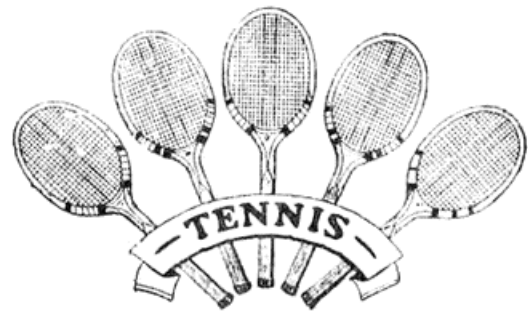
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