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SMAD

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

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Vol. VI—No. 17

Wednesday, 11th September, 1935.

Price Twopence.

What of the Next Extrav! Does "Cocktail Party" Give a Lead?

Congratulations Dramatic Club! You gave us good entertainment, and plenty of it, in exchange for our shillings towards the Building Fund. We're willing to strike the bargain any time you choose. We liked the singing, the dancing of the "vivacious virgins," the magic, the banter, the dryness of "Sackcloth" at a "wet" show, everything—we gulped it down without one wry face.

It should be obvious to the most unmathematical and unimaginative that a few lines comment on each 'stunt' would soon outrun the front page of a "Smad" or even the ingenuity of a Sackcloth—so it can't be done. And after all, what is more ephemeral than a "Smad" reporter's wisecrack. Its death-knell is sounded with the first common room chuckle. So let us discuss something a little more permanent.

The most interesting thing arising from "Cocktail Party" is 'Does it give a line on future Extrav.' Many people who should know consider that it does. Next year an Extrav. has to be produced, but from where and how? Here is a problem we must face, and overcome. The success of "Cocktail Party" has suggested that perhaps it would be better if future Extrav. conformed somewhat to its pattern. To aid in the solution of this problem "Smad" has interviewed eight people whose opinions are of value in view of their experience. Each of them offers his opinion on the question, and it seems from the replies that the opinion of people who matter is that we should move towards the ideal indicated by "Cocktail Party."

JACK AIMERS.

"We should seek a compromise between one long show and a revue," said Jack Aimers. He maintained that future Extrav. should be of the following form: three shows, each of 25 minutes duration (independently produced), interspersed with short skits, ballets, etc., which would last for just a few minutes.

JACK CARRAD.

"An Extravaganza, comprising a series of lightning sketches, the longest lasting at the outside 25 minutes, with items interspersed, should be a definite improvement on one long show. It is too much to expect one student to write a full length show, and it is equally difficult to produce."

MR. & MRS. PRIESTLEY.

"One of the best shows of its type I have seen up here," was Don Priestley's opinion of "Cocktail Party," "and a splendid way to find Extrav. talent." "What do you consider is the ideal form for Extrav.," "Smad" asked?"

"Three short revues with two interludes or sketches," was the considered Priestley opinion. "When there are a number of capable authors, it is a pity to waste some of the talent by leaving the job to only one."

"Do you favour women in Extrav.," we asked? This was per-

haps an unfair question to the husband of an actress and after a glance in the direction of his better half, he answered unhesitatingly, "Yes."

P. J. G. SMITH.

"I do not think the Extrav. should be tied down to any particular form, but it should be one which permits all interested to co-operate. Whether it be three, four, five, or six one-act plays or along the lines of a variety show should be a matter for arrangement among those willing to take a hand. Individual authorship places too much upon the individual and, incidentally, leaves the College too much at the mercy of the individual."

DOROTHEA TOSSMAN.

"I am not in favour of abandoning the idea of one long Extrav. altogether, but necessity may drive us to do so at least temporarily. And perhaps it is desirable that we should do so. Considered from the viewpoint of production, interest, and revenue, the idea of having a number of short items is, I think, preferable to that of having one long show."

CARL WATSON.

"Sackcloth" pondered a moment and then began: "Shows consisting of short items after the style of 'Cocktail Party' seem to me to be the right idea for future Extrav. Shows on this line make for better direction and have a greater appeal to the public, which means more bricks."

CEDRIC WRIGHT.

"The essence of a University Extrav. is plenty of movement and colour, both in wardrobe and lighting. I think the show should be divided into two parts. The first should have two half-hour revues, separated possibly by an interlude and after the interval should be the piece de resistance; something like 'Medea and Soda.' I am quite convinced also that we can't do a vaudeville show properly except in the Opera House."

THE LAW BALL.

The Law Ball was the most successful for years and as a result the Building Fund will benefit from the "fees, emoluments and profits" to the extent of approximately £20. Although Baron Jackson and committee were seen looking distraught at times the four hundred people who attended the "Supreme Court of Revelry" seemed to enjoy themselves to the full. The Law Students' Society and Law Faculty Club are to be congratulated on their efforts which have resulted in such a splendorous donation to the Building Fund.

The World Whirlpool.

"You are of the legion of the damned," said Captain H. M. Rushworth, M.P., speaking last Thursday at a Free Discussions Club meeting. He said that he had been born at a time when there was some measure of stability and future hope and outlook for the young, but now nothing was certain but uncertainty.

Economic Situation.

The economic position was well summarised by the statement that population was increasing as the square, production as the cube, and debt as the fourth power of the increment of time. Despite the manifest success of the modern productive system, the distributive—money—system was failing to enable nations to purchase the whole of their output. From this resulted the absurd, though universal, struggle to export and to resist imports, which was the basic cause of international friction. For the causes of war, formerly dynastic, were now essentially economic.

The European Position

Even if the League of Nations had not been proved ineffective by its unsuccessful attempt to stem Japan's not unreasonable action in China in 1932-3, it would certainly perish if it failed in the Abyssinian dispute. Should this happen the only present hope of peace was the balance of power in Europe. Hence the extremely delicate position of France, who relies on Italy to prevent the fusion of Germany and Austria, but dared not support Italy on pain of becoming an outcast.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that certain monies are held by the Victoria College branch of the Student Christian Movement, in respect of sales of books on behalf of students, made during the period in which the Book-stall was open in 1933 and 1934.

As every effort has been made to trace the persons to whom the monies are due, without result, if no claims are received up to 8 p.m. on the 11th September, 1935, supported by sufficient evidence of the liability of the branch in respect of the debts, the monies will be paid to the funds of the New Zealand Student Christian Movement.

Victoria's list of 1935 successes ascends from the Tournament Drinking Trophy and Wooden Spoons to the dizzy heights of the Boxing Shield and the Bledisloe Medal. Can we maintain this dizzy progress? One shilling to-morrow night (Thursday) at the Gym. will give you the answer and the oil on Abyssinia and elsewhere, which is more than Mr. Ricketts seems likely to get for a much larger sum.

Would You Fight?

The following questionnaire has been prepared for submission to the students of all University Colleges in New Zealand at the end of September.

- A. 1. Would you resist without question, a threatened invasion of New Zealand.
- 2. Would you take part in a war to assist Great Britain, no matter what the cause or occasion, to which Great Britain had committed herself?
- 3. If a state is declared an aggressor by the League of Nations
 - (a) Would you be in sympathy with economic and non-military measures against it?
 - (b) If these failed would you participate in a war against it?
- 4. Are you in favour of an international police force controlled by the League of Nations, in place of National armies?
- B. 1. Are you in favour of an all-round reduction of armaments by international agreement?
- 2. Are you in favour of the reduction of armaments by the British Empire, irrespective of the action of other countries?
- 3. Would you oppose the revival of compulsory military training in peace time in New Zealand?
- 4. In the event of war to-morrow would you
 - (a) Voluntarily enlist (or urge your friends to do so)?
 - (b) Oppose the introduction of conscription?
 - (c) Undertake war work?
 - (d) Oppose war?
- C. Do you think—
 - 1. That the overthrow of capitalism offers hope of permanent peace?
 - 2. That the development of the League of Nations offers hope of permanent peace?
 - 3. That the general acceptance of Christianity as exemplified, e.g., in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew V.) offers hope of permanent peace?
 - 4. In what order of importance would you place your answers to C.1, 2, and 3?

Questions are to be answered "Yes" or "No" or if doubtful by a query. Provision is also made for making comments on the back of the ballot paper.

THE USE OF THE BALLOT.

There is no question on which thought is more confused or doubt more rife than on that of peace and war. In an attempt to clarify the situation as far as the N.Z.U. student is concerned, the New Zealand University Students' Association has drawn up a questionnaire. Considerable thought has been expended on the preparation of this and it follows the lines of those of other countries, especially Australia and Canada. It actually includes two of the questions contained in the League of Nations Union Ballot, which was so strikingly successful in England.

The N.Z.U. student is now to be asked his opinion and it is hoped that he will not lightly regard this opportunity of influencing his country's attitude towards these fateful problems.

The Prime Minister has said that if Great Britain became involved in war, New Zealand would also be involved "because the sentiment of this country would inevitably insist on New Zealand standing shoulder to shoulder with Great Britain in such circumstances." If the New Zealand student agrees the knowledge of this will be of value to the Prime Minister in such an eventuality. If he does not agree it is his duty to hasten to correct a wrong impression which bristles with dangerous implications.

Again the statement has been made that 20 per cent. of the students of the Otago University subscribe to the pacifist viewpoint, but the president of the Otago University Students' Association has questioned this and thinks that the student body as a whole would fall into line with the people of the Dominion if called up to fight. Is Dr. Hawkesworth right or is he wrong, and if he is right, is his statement true of all N.Z.U. students, or only of those of Otago?

These are only some of the issues involved in this questionnaire, only some of the questions we shall be able to answer when the results of the ballot are known.

The results can be of importance but will be so only if the response is a truly representative one. Hence the need for every student to voice his opinion.

A. T. S. MCGHIE,
Hon. Secretary, N.Z.U.S.A.

Riding the Rails with the Hobos.

A NEW GAME FOR TRAIN TRAVEL.
(Specially contributed).

The undergraduate from overseas at either Oxford or Cambridge enjoys many opportunities which do not exist for the English student. In the long vacation in 1933, three of us left England for a tour of America. There should have been more, but the rest unfortunately missed the ship at Southampton, owing to excessive revelry the night before.

After a fortnight in Toronto, we set off along the Canadian National route, branching off to visit Banff and Lake Louise. From Saskatoon we travelled in the world's slowest train, the Calgary "express." It took 24 hours, and we were hard put to amuse ourselves. The trains are very slow to gain speed, and in view of this we devised a game of skill or chance, which not only amused us but provided possibilities of enlarging our fortunes. At each of the many stations the three of us and any other enthusiasts piled out, sat on the track behind the last carriage, each placed a coin on the line, and awaited the train's departure. The man who remained longest took the cash. Personally I showed natural ability and was having exceptional success, until I agreed to stake all with a fellow who was getting off at the station anyway. It was a nasty conspiracy, and it was with feelings of mixed humiliation and fury that I made the train after a few show of speed.

From Banff and Lake Louise we went to Jasper Park Lodge. The hobo and all hobo-like of the Canadian National Railways are staffed with hobo-graduates and clerks. The staff, hobo, waitresses and clerks all work in the vacation in order to be able to pay their university expenses. Naturally there is a lot of fun and, with good organisation, the staff has as enjoyable a time as the visitors.

We called on the manager and handed in our credentials, but without success. He promised, however, that in the next long vacation he would be very pleased to accept our applications and the Canadian National would pay our expenses to and from the National Park.

It was in the heat of the summer when we reached San Francisco and Los Angeles, Hollywood was there-

fore rather quiet, most of the celebrities being on holiday at Santa Monica, Long Beach, Santa Barbara or elsewhere. We tried Santa Monica, but that lost its charm when the fleet came in, as we knew what sailors are.

After a week in the Californian sunshine we bought a cheap ticket on the Southern Pacific Line to Salt Lake City. On the way we visited Arizona's famous Grand Canyon, aptly described as "mountains upside down." The others, Bryce and Zion, and Cedar Breaks, were equally magnificent. The painted desert impressed me most. Incredibly wide, it stretches into the distance, unbroken except for a hideous black crack, where, hundreds of feet below, the Colorado River thrashes towards Grand Canyon.

Money was short, so from Salt Lake City we economised by simply riding the rails with the hobos. We got filthy, as we spent most of the time on the coal-tender just behind the engines and on the roofs of the carriages. It was all right most of the way, but it was tough in tunnels, each one nearly asphyxiating us. In all we spent four consecutive nights either amongst the hobos on the top of trains or sitting up in carriage seats, and to pass the time our main recreation was contract bridge. All the hobos were exponents of Culbertson's theory, and each possessed a pack of cards.

We had three days at the Chicago Fair, and arrived in New York when the N.R.A.'s festivities were being celebrated. In order to enjoy them to the full, we repaired to Coney Island. Any kind of gala day in New York is quite incredible. It is a good excuse for the offices to empty their waste-paper baskets, and from every window baskets and baskets of torn-up paper are thrown. Most of the populace are quite dispassionate about it, but they seem to treat it as an essential duty of good citizenship. Three months had passed too quickly, and we very reluctantly embarked on the Berengaria for England. Our total expenses approximated only £100 each, but we saw more interesting things and enjoyed ourselves more than if we had gone with a larger supply of money.

The Old Order Changeth.

Friend described the League of Nations as an "instrument of brigandage" and now M. Litvinoff is President of the Council. (Dr. Butchers at W.C.A. lecture).

Try It On.

"At Harvard the students heckle the professors instead of the professors heckling the students." (Mr. von Haast addressing the Law Students Society).

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DAY OR NIGHT

This Peace Ballot.

After careful consideration the New Zealand University Students' Association is launching a peace ballot throughout the University Colleges of New Zealand. We welcome the ballot wholeheartedly. Never before has the N.Z.U.S.A. sponsored national student activity, on matters of such vital interest, and we applaud its debut from a seemingly total absorption in sports tours, important and pleasant though they may be. With the thunder of approaching war in Europe, and rumours of the re-introduction of compulsory military training in New Zealand, no more opportune moment could have been chosen for an expression of our opinion on this question. Public opinion is a material force in controlling the policies of governments, and through the ballot we have an opportunity to show those in authority whether we agree with their avowed right to declare New Zealand to be at war whatever the reason, or whether we feel that they cannot use the flimsy pretexts of the past to hurl us into another Armageddon.

Questionnaires are difficult to frame. This one avoids the danger of vagueness and the incorporation of two questions from the League of Nations Union ballot will enable an international comparison to be made. But there is one serious omission. The report of the meeting of the N.Z.U.S.A. reads: "There was considerable discussion as to whether questions on conscription and opposing war by means of strikes should be excluded on the grounds of public policy. We wonder what perverted idea of "public policy" can have swayed the minds of those who sanctioned this omission. An obvious inference is that the intention behind the ballot is to commend rather than change public policy. This ballot is in no way propaganda; it is merely a concrete expression of student opinion. By the omission of these subjects an important section of opinion is gagged and the completeness of the ballot impaired. Students fight hard against College Councils and other authorities to preserve freedom of expression, only to find their own representatives applying the muzzle. If the man in the street is able to express his opinion on conscription and strikes to prevent war, why not the student?"

Despite this defect the ballot will still show the drive of modern thought at our Universities. It is our responsibility to mould the opinion of our time. This responsibility we must assume by answering the questions with sincerity and care.

N.Z.U.S.A. Meets.

The headquarters of the New Zealand University Students' Association, the organisation recognised by the Senate as the body controlling New Zealand student affairs, is now situated at Victoria.

The representatives present at the last meeting were: Mr. Larkin (in the chair), having recently been appointed president in the place of Mr. Burns who had to retire when he was transferred to Christchurch, Miss Hursthouse, representing Canterbury, Mr. Birks (Auckland), Mr. Wild (Massey), Miss McLaren (Victoria), and Mr. McGhie, the secretary.

The Peace Ballot.

A sub-committee submitted a draft questionnaire on the Peace or War Ballot to be held throughout the Colleges. There was considerable discussion on whether questions on conscription and opposing war by means of strikes should be excluded on the ground of public policy. It was decided that the former should be included in a modified form while the secretary undertook to obtain legal opinion on the latter, and it was left to him to decide whether that question should be included in the ballot.

Australian Tennis Team.

The Executive next considered a proposal from Canterbury for a tennis tour of New Zealand by an Australian University team. The secretary reported that the N.Z. Lawn Tennis Association would most probably assist with finance and he was instructed to communicate with the Australian authorities to ascertain whether they would consider making such a tour.

There has been considerable dissatisfaction with the form of the N.Z.U. blues certificate and much quibbling over the exact wording to be used. It was decided to write to all affiliated Councils and Associations with a view to standardising a satisfactory form.

Honours Board.

"Smad" congratulates—

Abraham and Brown—Rhodes Scholar nominees for 1935.

R. J. Larkin—Elected president of the N.Z.U.S.A.

A. G. Bagnall—Winner of Vossler Shield and Inter-Varsity Harrier Championship, at Christchurch.

Miss J. Grainger—Represented Wellington and the North Island at Basketball and played a fine game throughout the tournament.

Messrs. Eade, Rae, Tricklebank and Wild—Selected for the N.Z.U. Rugby team to tour Japan.

G. F. DIXON TROPHY.

N.Z.U. Cross Country Championship.

Originality and good taste are expressed in the trophy presented by Mr. G. F. Dixon, president of the V.U.C. Harrier Club, for annual competition between teams in the N.Z.U. Cross Country Race. A solid kauri plinth is surmounted by a silver top on which stands a silver five-barred gate (symbol of harriers universal), bearing the seal of the University. On the sloping front of the plinth a silver oval is engraved with a scene from the inaugural event last year—five runners in the storm at Moa Point with hills and sea for a background. The engraving is taken from an actual photograph of the race, and inscribed "Lyall Bay 1934." Above is a shield with "N.Z.U. Cross Country Championship," while a silver strip on the turned base allows for annual inscription.

This fine trophy was handed over by Mr. Dixon at morning tea given by him to the Auckland and Victoria teams before leaving for Christchurch. It has now, however, journeyed south with the victorious Otago team.

Fishbones.

By Prof. Hound.

August-October: The Term of Unnatural Life.

The Minor Prophet: Italy will attack Abyssinia, Abyssinia will give it a bad time, Japan will intervene, Germany will seize its opportunity to annex Austria, France will attack Germany, England will go to the assistance of Germany, Russia will march upon Europe generally, European civilisation will be destroyed, and in ten years time Communism will be established throughout the whole of Eurasia. Where the blades is that V.U.C. Anti-War Movement?

"New Zealand, if she wished to obtain an individuality and notoriety the whole world over, would have to be more like the Maoris as they were before European influence retarded their natural ability and deterred their individuality."—Prof. Clarke. That's all very very well, but one cannot discard trousers in weather like this.

A one-hour strike against war will take place on Sunday next between midnight and 1 a.m. It is anticipated that every student of Victoria College will participate by abstaining from all intellectual activities during that hour.

Cocktail Party: Anti-War Movement.

Weir House Piece Ballot: Result: H. K. Ngata, one piece toast; others, two.

Dear Sardine Sammy—

Your suggestion that the College building be made the Gym, and vice-versa has been referred to the Building Committee, who have undertaken to consider it at their first meeting to be held on 29th February, 1937.—Yrs. ffy.,
—(Prof.) Tripe Hound.

Brookie. "It's easy to see that that fellow Plank is about again with all the letters in the rack."

"There is a good deal of cricket played incidentally on the Christmas tour" (Mr. Wild at Cricket Club meeting).

"Smad" died of malnutrition," says a little poem in our last issue. Staffed to death, more likely.

I love the politician,
And hope that I can say
When he's safely in Perdition
That I helped him on the way.

Did you hear about the goof who thought he was an elephant and threw his trunk out of the hotel bedroom window?

THE STAFF, 1936.

At the end of this year a number of those whose names at present grace the imposing staff block will be forsaking their journalistic careers for less noble spheres. We are mentioning this approaching calamity now, to bring to the notice of those interested an opportunity of offering their services on next year's staff. This year it was extremely difficult to select people, and no doubt we passed over many potential editors, sub-editors, business associates, and reporters who would have made a better 1935 "Smad" than the present staff. "Smad" must go forward, and we hope, therefore, that the latent talent in the University will reveal itself so that our paper will be a success in 1936.

Christianity and War.

Dear "Smad"—

The issue of participation or non-participation in war is no longer an academic question. The nations are progressively ranged in fighting lines, and the question is whether we range ourselves in the fighting line with the nation to which we belong.

Now, for the purpose of the immediate decision which we have in fact to make, the question can be narrowed from a general discussion of the Christian attitude to force and coercion. "Christian pacifism" is a wider term than "anti-war," and complete pacifism has wide implications for the whole range of individual and social life. For example, it would affect our attitude to punishment, to prohibition of the liquor traffic, and to a score of other issues of conduct. But war is to some degree at least a separate problem.

To indicate then, the lines which such a consideration would necessarily follow:—

First: the nature of the Christian Church has to be remembered. It is a group holding itself as in bondage only to Christ to whom the Church owes all things and to whom loyalty and obedience are supremely due.

Thus loyalty is absolutely unconditional.

The State is an organisation. But there is no absoluteness about any one state organisation. The Christian man lives in the state as a citizen, and his business is to play his full part in co-operation with his brethren in ministering to the best common life, but his version of the "best common life" is derived from the revelation in Christ to which he has given his assent. This may very readily set him at variance with the views of his fellow-citizens, and the official embodiment of that viewpoint—the State. Thus, the "social contact" into which the Christian man, as a citizen, enters has always in it a limiting proviso—that when the State required of him disobedience to the truth of the Gospel and conduct inconsistent with it, he will disobey.

In the case of modern war, we have a special phenomenon. Modern war involves the mobilisation of an entire nation for purposes of destruction. For the duration and the purposes of war the state of its own alleged necessity requires of its citizens the turning of their energies to that end which for the time being is the end of the state. This has certain very definite implications, thus to join automatically in the fighting forces it is necessary to take an oath of allegiance which in the nature of the case must be unconditional. I do not know that the matter has been tested—but I am fairly certain of the reaction of military authority to a recruit's insistence that his pledge must contain a proviso that he will obey no orders which require of him conduct inconsistent with Christian principles, or attitudes less than that of perfect love, unselfishness, and unwillingness to suffer rather than to inflict suffering.

It is along such lines as these, to my mind, that a decision must be reached. True also it is, that war under modern conditions cannot be effective defence. For a nation to go to war is practically equivalent to committing hari-kari. But these considerations are less important than the fact that to engage in war is to deny the nature of the Church and its task in the world—to abandon the Christian redemptive aim to range oneself with the nation for a purpose which is less than Christian.

—LEX MILLER.

Joynt Scroll.

CAN OTAGO DO THE HAT TRICK?

The Inter-University contest for the Joynt Scroll, to-morrow night, will undoubtedly provide the best debating we've had in the Gym for years. The motion selected by the judges, G. G. Watson, Esq., the Hon. W. Perry, M.L.C. and the Rev. H. W. Newell is "That the British Commonwealth of Nations should withdraw from the League of Nations." An uncomfortably topical subject since Mussolini ousted Hitler from the headlines.

V.U.C. represented by Miss Shortall and Max Brown, will affirm. They will meet formidable opposition in W. J. Meade and J. S. D. Moore, of O.U., who have a great record, including a win in the 1934 contest at Dunedin. A.U.C. represented by Miss E. M. Johnston and E. K. Braybrooke, will affirm against C.U.C. Miss Johnston is a team in herself; member of A.U.C.'s Joynt Scroll team 1933-4, leader of A.U.C.'s team against Robt. K. Burns, etc., etc. With Mr. Braybrooke she led A.U.C. to victory, in the contest for the Athenian Cup, and Braybrooke also represented A.U.C. in the Bledisloe Medal contest.

C.U.C. is represented by Willie Wah and Miss C. Hunter. Willie Wah is an exceptionally cultured and charming speaker who spoke impressively in last year's Joynt Scroll contest. He won C.U.C.'s Debating Scroll in 1934, and Miss Hunter is leading in this year's contest.

The first Joynt Scroll debate to be held in Wellington since 1930 must therefore result in even competition of a high order, as all the speakers have notable records, and the subject itself should evoke controversy aplenty. Competitors and audience alike will fraternise in supper and dancing afterwards, and all for the cost of one shilling.

COLLECT YOUR COPPERS.

Dear "Smad"—

It is to be hoped that the Students' Union Building Fund will be substantially augmented by the receipts from such functions as the Law Ball and the Dramatic Club's revue. Any effort such as those mentioned should be enthusiastically supported by V.U.C., not only for the excellence of the functions, but also because of their laudable object. But there has, as yet, been no evidence of any direct donations to the fund by the students as individuals. The present students are the people who should be the most enthusiastic supporters of the fund, and some contribution, however small, should be made by them.

If they can show practical enthusiasm for the project, assistance from past students, etc., can be hoped for with greater confidence. I therefore suggest that "Smad" opens a list for contributions, and I forward herewith a donation to commence it. I am no longer a student, but this donation is a small token of appreciation of what V.U.C. has meant and still means to me.

In this connection many students within the next few months, will have completed their exams. (God and the examiners willing) and will pass from the student stage. To these it is suggested that a small thank offering would be fitting.

In conclusion, it is suggested that "Smad" should publish in each issue a statement of the amount then at credit of the Building Fund, in order that students may see what progress is being made.

—SENEX.

BUILDING FUND.
"Smad" Subscription List.

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BERHAMPORE AGAIN.

Dear "Smad"—

"Berhampore as seen by a Wikitorian" is by far the most amusing piece of burlesque that has appeared in "Smad" for some time. I cannot help feeling, however, that it implies a reproach to the Wikitorian who, at my request, sent me news of his progress at an overseas University and, in doing so, could not have anticipated that I would yield to the request of one of your staff to be allowed to publish, as of College interest, some extracts from his letter. Those who knew George Joseph will remember him as an unassuming fellow of some distinction who was not at all given to affectation or self-advertisement. His successes at Oxford are instructive as showing the opportunities that await a Wikitorian fortunate enough to be able to venture abroad; and the statement of his impressions parallels those of other New Zealanders who escape for a time from their Antipodean rockpile. The plight of this little country is aptly indicated in the remark by Morrell, in a recent book that "London is the intellectual capital of New Zealand."

I daresay your contributor had a purely burlesque intent; and the choice of the pseudonym "Cato" appears to confirm this view. His prototype is undoubtedly Marcus Porcius Cato, the Censor, who, according to information to hand, was notorious for his dislike of overseas culture (in those days, Greek). This narrow-minded old parochialist so disliked another overseas place (Carthage) that he continually demanded its destruction. Curiously (or appropriately) enough, in his old age he wrote a book for farmers. His grandson of the same name appears to have been a more likeable person and, in justice to the latter, I would suggest to your contributor that his strictures as to the re-actions of a good Wikitorian to overseas influences might have been more truly Berhamporeanistically subscribed with the nom-de-plume "Little Eric."

—P.J.S.

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**"LATIN LITERATURE—AND A
LAW STUDENT."**

"Smad" was recently informed by that tall and affable member of the Law Faculty, Mr. Sivyver, that he intends shortly to burst upon the realms of the classics with a new and compendious treatise on Latin Literature. Having embarked on Stage I Latin years ago, Mr. Sivyver informs us that he met with such unprecedented success in those realms and became so steeped in admiration for the ancient language, that he has since been unable to tear himself from the study of the said subject at the said stage. "Curiously enough," adds Mr. Sivyver, "the set books I am studying for Stage I this year are the only classical works I have not touched on in the course of my very extensive reading in Latin literature since entering the College. My literary venture," he goes on, "is nearing completion, but I propose to postpone its publication till I have dipped deeply into

the said books, with a view to avoiding any possible omissions." Mr. Sivyver informs me that the study of Latin literature is a somewhat unusual and novel idea for a Law student, but nevertheless he is fully confident of setting an unparalleled precedent by soaring beyond the law realms into the sphere of pure academics, and producing a work that will outshine such shorter productions as "Mackail's" and "Wight-Duff's" Latin literatures. Mr. Sivyver adds as a parting reminder, however, that he considers such a course of reading in Latin literature is just a little too extreme, perhaps, for students of lesser ability also endeavouring to pass Stage I Well done, Harold!

MAGNA CUM SPE EXPECTA-MUS.

Director: "Have you ever had any stage experience?"
She: "Well, I had a leg in a cast once."

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BACON BROUGHT BACK BY BAGNALL.

CRICKET AND TENNIS MEETINGS.

BAGNALL TRIUMPHS AGAIN.

Competing in the second annual contest for the N.Z.U. Cross Country Championship, held this year at Christchurch, Victoria was, like last year, placed second to Otago, and by the same margin of 3 points. On this occasion, however, A. G. Bagnall, who finished a close second to W. A. Stewart, in 1934, defeated the Otago man by 300 yards. Battling against conditions—rain, hail, snow and mud underfoot—which rivalled the Lyall Bay southerly of last year, Bagnall led almost all the way, with Stewart in second position. The heavy going and particularly the 30 fences of the Cashmere course, handicapped Stewart, who lost more grounds on the hills near the finish, but Bagnall ran stubbornly and made a good time—39m. 27s.—in face of such conditions. Meanwhile, the team men were fighting for position. Robinson, of Otago, ran third, Francis (A.U.C.) fourth, and O'Connor (V.U.C.) fifth. The next V.U.C. men were Laing (seventh),—a good performance—and Cairns, eleventh. D. A. Viggers (V.U.C.), who finished sixteenth, was the first individualist home. With Smith in sixth place and Borrie, tenth, the Otago team emerged victors with 21 points to Victoria's 24. Canterbury (47 points) were third; Auckland (56) fourth. The winners were undoubtedly the superior team, their greater age and experience favouring them in a contest of sheer endurance.

The lighter younger men in the tail of the V.U.C. team encountered unaccustomed conditions in the five miles of flat with many fences, the "unjumpable water jump," and severe weather. They struggled through as only fit men could. The lesson for Victoria is to concentrate now on building up team work; the material is there, and with a trainer as keen as G. C. Sherwood there is no reason why a strong combination should not be built up.

After the race Canterbury provided afternoon tea, and in the evening runners thawed out at dinner at the "Melody Lane," when the G. F. Dixon trophy was presented to Otago, together with the Carmalt-Jones Cup (for competition between Canterbury and Otago), and A. G. Bagnall received the medal for the individual championship. Dinner and the toasts over, A.U.C. were farewelled at the station, and the rest turned to the pictures, followed by the Rowing Club ball. Canterbury were liberal in their hospitality throughout. On Sunday the teams were taken for a motor drive over the hills to Lyttelton and afternoon tea at Sumner. More tea was provided by the trainer, Mr. G. C. Sherwood, at Ballantyne's, on Monday, the team returning to Wellington that night. The team consisted of A. G. Bagnall, M. O'Connor, W. B. Laing, D. Cairns, P. Porter, A. Horsley; emergencies, D. Viggers, R. Cooper, Mr. G. C. Sherwood, club trainer, and N. T. Clare, accompanied them.

Club Championship

Early in the vacation the Harrier Club held the 10,000 metre championship, at Lyall Bay, the winner being A. G. Bagnall (37m. 2secs.) with M. O'Connor (39m. 13secs.) second. A. Horsley (39m. 15secs.) third. The sealed handicap was won by Horsley. The first place in this race, with his supremacy in most of the other events of the season assured Bagnall the title of club champion.

Vosseler Shield.

Bagnall scored a still greater triumph by his win in the Vosseler 10-

mile inter-club race, and gave V.U.C. its first individual win in a major event. Running easily throughout, Bagnall held second place for most of the first five miles, then on the beach early in the second lap passed V. Tunbridge, of Scottish Club, and maintained the lead until the end. His time was 65min. 32secs. O'Connor ran one of his best races to date, finishing sixth. Unfortunately, one of the ten men withdrew owing to an injury, so that the team was not placed.

WEIR HOUSE ON FOOTBALL FIELD.

Two games were played on Kelburn Park, on Saturday—Weir House v. Old Boys and Lima v. Bradshaw. The former was played with a ball and the latter was not. The score 11-9 in favour of Weir flattered the old men, who staggered woefully about far behind the play for much of the game. Scotney had his kicking boots on for the veterans, for whom Curtis and Keating showed patches of brilliance. Bradshaw might have played a good game, but found Lima a tough nut. Scorers for Weir were Griffiths, Simpson and Overton (tries) and Harpur (conversion). For Old Boys, Fitzgerald (try) and Scotney (two penalties).

CRICKET CLUB.

Last year's senior cricket eleven did much to establish the Varsity Cricket Club. This year the seniors have a position to maintain, and it is to be hoped that the junior grades make a better showing than they did last year. Those present at the annual general meeting, last Thursday, were in a genial and acquiescent mood. The election of officers resulted; Club captain, J. R. Stevens; honorary secretary, A. G. Wicks; honorary treasurer, J. P. Mules; committee, Blacker, Blandford, Edgley and Simpson.

The only two incidents of note were the trouble caused by the scrutineers and the manner in which Henry Moore harangued the meeting. The latter's address developed into a debate between Moore and Blandford, which would have still been going had not the chairman intervened. It was said that there was much room for improvement in the administration of Wellington cricket and the meeting instructed its delegate to support proposals enabling the election of a more representative management committee.

The N.Z. University Cricket Council, which has been sponsored by Victoria, appears at last to be more than a dream and next season should see its formation. Each College will appoint a representative and the function of the Council will be to control University cricket. Every year, whether they play or not, a N.Z.U. team will be selected and when possible tours and matches will be arranged.

Two points deserve special attention by Victoria's incoming cricket committee. Firstly, there has been much bad management in the past with the selection of junior teams. Very often the re-shuffling of promising players has been done too late in the season. The second matter deserving of attention is the better regulation of bowling at practice.

Another move towards the New Building

Nancy: "Just a little more sin-

I.I.C. FOOTBALL.

In the final match of the season, the varsity I.I.C. football team maintained their good form to defeat Petone 21 to 8, and win the championship for the second year in succession. Most of the tries scored were the reward of smart following up. Te Punga and Freeman were excellent on attack. Hall at second five-eighths was very sound on defence. Mason was a tower of strength to the forwards in the second half. The success of the I.I.Cs. is well deserved. They have consistently played bright and open football—a thing that is more often expected than realised with Varsity teams. Congratulations, I.I.Cs. and, incidentally, Weir House.

TENNIS CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Tennis Club was held last Wednesday evening, and was noticeable as being the quietest club meeting ever to have been held in the College building. Before a subdued assembly of some twenty members of the club, Mr. Nankervis was elected to the chair. The only persons to take any interest in the proceedings from then on were last year's committee, the rest of the meeting appearing to fall asleep.

The minutes were taken as read in spite of the inspired eloquence of C. S. Plank. A section of the ladies present had to attend a revue practice later in the evening and the flapper vote prevailed. In the calm that followed the annual report and balance sheet were adopted without discussion.

Reference was made in the report to the loss suffered by the club through the transfer to Christchurch of Mr. D. M. Burns, who for some years had taken a prominent part in the club's affairs.

Election of officers resulted as follows; Chairman, C. S. Plank; treasurer, E. Budge; secretary, H. Siver; committee, Misses M. Bell, D. Briggs, P. Edwards, and J. Grainger. Messrs. J. Withers, T. Ennis, K. J. McNaught and W. Thodey.

At this stage the meeting was so apathetic that it was necessary for C. S. Plank to visit the library to find a man willing to stand for the fourth place on the committee.

The question of moving the Gym steps from the present position was raised by Mr. Plank. It was decided to approach the Registrar with a view to having the steps constructed near the end of the Science Wing. If this is given effect to, there will be considerably less inconvenience caused to players by persons crossing the courts to get to the steps on their way to the Gym. It was reported that the club had nearly raised sufficient funds to extend the area behind the courts to include the existing path at the northern end of the courts. Someone quietly passed a vote of thanks to the chair and the new committee spent a few moments rousing the sleeping members before the meeting dispersed at 9.0 p.m.

NEXT SATURDAY.

Weir House v. The Rest for the Ruru Memorial Shield and in the evening a Smoke Concert at the Kelburn Kiosk, as a grand finale to the season.

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