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Vol. VI—No. 18.

Wednesday, 25th September, 1935

Price Twopence.

Should Britain Leave League? Otago Wins Joynt Scroll for Third Time.

"We do not think the debate reached as high a standard as on past occasions, and we think the speakers failed in many cases to appreciate the point they had to debate. This was not a debate on the merits and demerits of the League. Too much time was devoted to fulsome praise or rank condemnation, and competitors failed to grasp the necessity for a logical argument."

These remarks of the chief judge, Mr. G. G. G. Watson, tempered by praise for a high standard of pronunciation and diction, were received with applause. The debate was by no means dull, however, and without exception speakers showed a knowledge of the subject which surprised International Law Students. The confident oratory of Mr. Meade and careful phrases of Mr. Stewart won Otago a well deserved success, while everyone agreed with the judges that Miss Johnson's speech "was the outstanding performance of the evening."

V.U.C. v. O.U.

A perfectly groomed Miss Shortall arose to tell us that the League has failed to foster internationalism. It has no bond of unity, its underlying principle is imperialism, Europe against the world. Miss Shortall was clearly nervous, but in her reply, especially, she brought home some telling thrusts.

Mr. Meade was confident, chatty, shook his hand at us too much and used his strong voice to advantage. He scorned the words of the bard, "O weak man that words of woman can sway," and defended the principle of the League. Its value is in what it offers; security and protection. It only remains for the nations to take advantage of their opportunity.

Mr. Brown also told some stories and must have nearly spoken himself into a place. He contended that the affirmative only thought of the "possibilities of the League," instead of what is actually done. It has been estimated that a mosquito can fly for fourteen days without stopping but, says Punch, "the trouble is they don't." The League is a European clique—an unsuccessful attempt to foist a constitution on the nations to maintain the Versailles status quo.

Mr. Stewart has a splendid speaking voice and, like his team mate, pushed his points home with the right hand. He claimed that the League did foster internationalism both in its peace endeavours and in its campaign against social evils. Its work in the latter field alone justified its existence. Our withdrawal would mean the death of the League and a return to alliances and isolation. The first is odious to the Dominions, while the second is impossible to-day.

Both leading speakers made effective replies after which the curtain was drawn on the first act, while the A.U.C. and C.U.C. teams were being

collected. The earlier debate, was, strange to relate, almost free from interjection of any kind, but A.U.C. and C.U.C. aroused the audience from its lethargy.

A.U.C. v. C.U.C.

Miss Johnson wasted no time in placing a clear case before us. Unlike Victoria she did not attack the League as failing in attaining internationalism but argued that membership jeopardises the safety and integrity of the Empire. The Empire co-operated loyally but national hatred and distrust still remains. Peace, like charity, should begin at home. We do not want a pax Britannica under the orders of Geneva.

Mr. Wah has a fine command of English. He recognised the impatience of the affirmative for a better world, but challenged them to show that leaving the League would do it. The interests of the Empire are mixed up with the League. In these days of air attacks Britain would not hold a position of pre-eminence if she pursued a policy of isolation while alliances will, as in the past, lead to war.

Mr. Braybrooke smiled serenely through all of many interruptions and he spoke on without acceding to the many requests to speak up. His attitude of "odi profanum vulgus et arceo" did not appeal to the audience but his speech bore the hall-mark of full preparation. The main point of his argument was that Britain, by continuing to support the League, was risking the disintegration of her Empire. The League is merely a "futile attempt" at peace, best described as "international discord and collective insecurity."

Miss Hunter was nervous, but her speech was a meritorious performance, especially when it is remembered that she only started debating this year. A League which had settled numerous dangerous disputes, and had done so much to control slavery and the opium trade and other social evils was not "futile." "Peace is indivisible," without the League we must revert to a system of alliances, more arms, more allies, and so till it breaks.

Mr. Wah and Miss Johnson summed up, the latter being particularly effective. We then sat back and awaited the verdict, while Mr. John Carrad entertained us in the one and only Carrad way.

After a long retirement the judges placed the teams in the following order: O.U., A.U.C., V.U.C.

Defence Rifle Club.

DEFENCE RIFLE CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Rifle Club was held on Tuesday last. It was not a night on which it was necessary to open the proceedings with a prayer for rain, and the attendance of thirteen was therefore regarded as doubly auspicious. The president, Mr. S. H. Perry, was in the chair. The meeting hall (Room A2) was panelled in white and tastefully furnished in mahogany. The annual report, when presented, proved to be unexampled in length, strength and thickness, and the decision to take it as read saved a lot of time.

Selwyn Perry, who was retiring from active participation in rifle shooting, had his misdeeds enumerated, and the meeting made an example of him by declaring him a Vice-patron. Executive officers to the usual number were elected. President, D. H. K. Ross; Deputy President, F. J. McWhinnie; Hon. Secretary, H. M. Sansum; Hon. Treasurer, B. D. A. Greig. Committee (after a slight tussle): H. J. Abraham and A. O. Gidall.

It was moved that the holder of the secretarial sinecure have his emolument increased by 20 per cent., but the proposal was dropped when the chairman pointed out that the emolument consisted wholly in kicks and halfpence (without the halfpence), and then the secretary announced that on this basis he considered himself already overpaid.

The club's constitution was amended in several respects. There was no opposition to the amendments once it had been made clear that they were "merely machinery clauses." Then somebody, evidently a peculiar person who contemplated sitting an examination, suggested opening the season on November 20, but the matter was left in the hands of the new committee after it had been gently pointed out that the day suggested was a Wednesday.

Finally, the chairman remembered that one of the club's trophies, the Mills vase—sorry, the Mills Vase—was marked: "1935—J. H. Croxton." He seemed to think that Crox should be allowed to look after this pot for a while, and, since nobody objected, the trophy was handed over.

and C.U.C., while the three best speakers were Miss Johnson, A.U.C., Mr. Stewart and Mr. Meade, O.U. Supper was then served and the party continued upstairs into the early hours to the tunes of the piano accordion.

That Weir House should break out occasionally and wake the neighbourhood is excusable, but what excuse can we offer for the party of Victoria House girls who were parading Manners Street at 11.45 one Saturday night, singing in lusty voices, "all sorts of things," according to our informant, who paused to listen and sadly passed on?

"You Will Be Shot First!"

Dr. Beeby on the Peace Ballot.

Dr. Beeby made a vigorous and entertaining speech on Friday, 13th. He clarified the purposes of the Peace Ballot and emphasised their importance. He showed that students had every right to express their opinions. He deplored diffidence and urged them to face courageously the difficult task of coming to a decision.

The Government, said Dr. Beeby, had not got its finger on the public pulse. Unlike the citizens of Athens it is not easy for us to make our voices heard. M.P.s are elected for their views on mortgages and wool, etc., and do not necessarily know our opinions on peace or war.

Wisdom?

Students need not be diffident about expressing their views. They are the people immediately concerned and will be shot before the M.P.s. Dr. Beeby said he was far from being one of those who hold that wisdom is not wisdom till it has been filtered through false teeth and a crop of white whiskers. Students are at least as likely to make wise decisions on peace or war as more mature and prudent persons who own armament shares.

Student opinion would not be representative of the country as a whole. If it were many expensive educations would have been wasted. We are all fed on slogans and emotional sop. A rational attitude is the contribution of the student type to the world's welfare. The ballot all the same could not be answered in cold logic. If it did no more than force us to make absolutist statements it would be good. If a thing has once been thought out clearly there is more chance for reason to prevail in a crisis.

The Scientific View.

Dr. Beeby was specially interested in the ballot from the scientific point of view. It would throw some light upon the workings of the group and show the effects of education upon attitudes. It would be interesting, too, to note the relation between the answers given and the faculty to which the voter belonged.

Filling in the peace ballot must be an occasion for great sincerity. "You must put one hand on your head and the other on your heart and sign it, I suppose, with your teeth."

Finally, Dr. Beeby showed that upon the way in which the ballot was collected depended its usefulness. If the administration were at all slipshod the results would be vitiated as answers would be obtained from selected groups—militarists or pacifists. Trouble must be taken to see that all students answered the ballot.

Miss Hurst, who pointed out how much the N.Z.U.S.A. owed to Dr. Beeby's help. As he had also promised to help in dealing statistically with the results they were assured of sound scientific treatment.

The meeting decided upon 30th September as closing day for the return of ballot papers and elected Miss Hursthouse and Mr. Scotney to form a peace ballot committee, for V.U.C. Mr. Birks was later co-opted.

A Dictator Desirable.

If Thursday's meeting of the Exec. was a typical one, it must be a soul-destroying business going to more than one. Someone must do the routine work in connection with the Students' Association, but this meeting was a very potent argument in favour of a dictatorship.

In Camera.

Most of the business was in committee, but some of it was judged suitable for general consumption. In future, clubs desiring to use the gym, kitchen will have to obtain the key from the secretary. This is in order to keep a better check on the crockery, which seems to disappear so rapidly.

A vote of thanks was passed to the organisers and performers in "Cocktail Party" for their work, which resulted in quite a large sum being passed over to the building fund.

The report of the cafeteria enquiry committee was received, but ensuing discussion was in committee. How-

ever, Mr. C. S. Plank has been appointed cafeteria controller, with Miss Janet Grainger and Mr. L. Desborough as assistant controllers. The present enquiry committee is to remain in existence.

Reduction of Fees.

The N.Z.U.S.A. is to be supported in its efforts to secure a reduction of University fees. The support of the College is also to be accorded to the projected tennis tour of this country by an Australian Universities team.

Mr. Perry, M.L.C., speaking of the peace ballot said, "I should like them to remember that if Germany had won the last war most of those participating in the ballot would not have been born." Morally, economically and egotistically speaking it would have been better so, if we have to get killed now.

STOP PRESS!

Peace Ballot progress report—126 votes cast. Where are the remain- in 600?

THE STAFF:

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GET TOURNAMENT MINDED.

On the morning of April 10 next year about 180 students from the other Colleges in New Zealand will arrive in Wellington to stay for six days for the Easter Tournament. Those who read "Smad" are the people who are going to welcome them and entertain them.

Those who have been to Tournament have some idea of the work that will be necessary to arrange the details of the events, and to square up our indebtedness on the score of hospitality to Dunedin, Christchurch and Auckland. The V.U.C. Tournament Committee has already been set up. It will get down to work as soon as the exams. are over.

This is to warn all students that their help will be required. So get "tournament minded"—what's more, get your parent or guardian, friends and relations "tournament minded."

The first six weeks of next session will be hectic. People will be bad tempered and yet cheerfully expectant. No swot will be done in Weir House because Mason will be training his haka squads. The air round the Exec. room will become blue. You will probably be asked to sell programmes on the streets or to share your bed with someone from Dunedin, Christchurch or Auckland. Get used to the idea, and come back "tournament minded"!

AN APPRECIATION.

We take this opportunity in our final issue of thanks to all those who have assisted in the production of eighteen issues of "Smad". Contributors, reporters, and the distribution staff have all done yeoman service; we have never been short of material and have all along received splendid support from the students, outside assistance, especially from the illustration branches of the "Tou-munion," "Evening Post," and "Free Lance" has been much appreciated, while we do not forget those most essential people—our advertisers.

We feel that some measure of success has been achieved in the new form of "Smad," and we think that, profiting by the mistakes of this year, it can increase in usefulness in 1936 as an outlet of student opinion and a record of University activities.

MUSIC.

Along I wandered in the starless night,
A silken silence did I feel,
I did not know the winged flight
Of Time. It seemed an opiate seal
Was set upon my senses then
To keep me from the world of men
And make me infinitely blind—
A silent music filled my mind
And in that dark tranquility
I stood like some still cypress tree.
The whispering pines their incense shed
In vain—in vain the moon her silver spilled.
I saw it not, nor heard the swinging tide
My mind with silent music filled,
For unseen pipers played to me
The music of eternity.

—P.P.P.

"Smad" Looks Back.

Looking back from the pinnacle of another year-ending, on Brookie and the other ideas that make up University life, one wonders how this year will appear in the "good old days" dreams of ages to come. Will we have a guilty feeling that it was really not so grand, or will memory move us to vie with the grandfathers of to-day in gilding the glories of our past?

The year has been quietly eventful. Capping stands out as the best for years. Renewed interest in the Building Fund has brought this dream nearer reality. Social functions have been few but of a high quality and well organised. They promise well for the success of next year, with the strain and greater opportunities of Tournament and Capping in quick succession. Time is still the great enemy. The work of organising concentrates in a few hands, and these few—however willing—are unable to devote the extra time and attention necessary to secure any great improvement. A greater participation of full time students would help to solve this difficulty, and we hope that they will play a more dominant role in the future.

Perhaps our greatest lack is that of the vociferous and unyielding Common Room extremists of some years ago. Communists we still have, but they are not enough or not vocal enough to wage the violent controversies that used to empty the library at 8 p.m.

One of the most promising signs for next year is that nearly all those prominent in organising will be back again. Provided our militarists are not disporting themselves on the Abyssinian battle-field and "Smad" is not filled with special news from the front, next year should see the realisation of much progressive work that has been done this year.

Black(er) Mail

AN EDWARDIAN FAIRY STORY

Once upon a time there lived a prominent (very) figure of a certain football club who cast his eyes in the direction of a certain maiden. Not being a very good "forward" fellow in these matters he devised a scheme by which he could "selt the dummy" to this maiden, and decoy her into his power. For the bait he was going to use was an unsuspecting fellow member, who seemed to be an old hand at this type of play.

The plan was this. The U.F.M. (unsuspecting fellow member) was to stand at the bottom of the stairs at eight pip-emma and engage the aforesaid maiden in conversation. In a little while the P.F. (prominent figure) was to stroll up, he introduced to the damsel, after which the U.F.M. was to remove himself from the "field of play." After this had been explained to him the U.F.M. "hooked" away home to sleep and pray over his foul deed. After a terrible night the U.F.M. wished to have nothing to do with it and so keep his soul pure, but, on the other hand, he realised noble fellow that he was, that sacrifices must be made in this life.

"For," he said, "good Christian manual work I have done for many a friend, but never before have I acted as a decoy for such a fellow as this whose soul is blacker than the shades of night itself!"

So as planned the noble-hearted U.F.M. "hooked" the maiden in the approved style and kept her enthralled with reminiscences of his life as a torador, all the time vainly searching for the P.F., but no P.F. came—he had actually left his friend in the lurch and gone to some place of amusement in town. Finally this gallant U.F.M. had to make some lame excuse and leave her for he had other appointments to keep. So this fair maiden stood, dear reader, forsaken and alone, like—

".....Ruth, when sick for home,
She stood in tears among the alien corn."

The cricket club has commenced practices. Last Saturday, there was a good attendance at St Patrick's College, and a successful season should follow if the present keenness is maintained.

Anthropoid.

Midnight in the jungle—and a gathering of the monkeys at a pool beneath the trees.

Chatter! chatter! chatter!—crackle of the branch and rustle of the leaves as monk upon monk comes swinging from the forest heights to join the simian throng.

To-night the talk is of the strange new beast that has appeared from over the mountains—that looks at you with a great voice and at whose roar the apes fall bleeding. What is he? Where does he come from, and why?

An ancient ape stood up. He was of an age far beyond that of any of the other monkeys present, and his hair was thin and pale, while scars of many a battle could be seen upon his body.

Quickly the chattering ceased, and the ancient one began to speak—not in words that men would understand, but in the weird jungle language that the horde of monkeys knew so well.

And these were his words:—
"Fellow monkeys, I must speak to you of the stranger in the forest—for it is meet that you should understand. He is an evil one, and his name is man.

"There was a time, long ages ago, so it is said, that he lived among the trees, even as we do—but slowly he went away, and now he builds huge nests out in the open and lives with the dread god 'Fire!'"

"With the passing of time, his hair fell off, and he dresses himself with the hair he plucks from the small trees, and that which he cuts from the backs of sheep and goats.

"He has grown very wise, and cruel, too; for the fire god has given him a stick that kills from afar, and the teeth of man are hungry for the flesh of the beast he slays."

Suddenly from out of the darkness there came a strange sound—the music of man. It throbbed through the gloom, and its swaying melody made new echoes in the trees.

The monkeys fled into the night—except one. He was young, and somehow rather different from the rest. Timidly he turned his footsteps towards the sound—through the trees until he saw a party of the man-animals squatting round a fire, listening to the fascinating, beating sound that came out of the wooden box.

Fishbones.

By Prof. Hound.

At the Ille. football dinner, the footballers, disappointed at not receiving the usual grant for winning their grade, yet rose manfully with empty glasses to toast the Exec. for the generosity it "nearly displayed" with the beer it "nearly provided."

A speaker at the anti-war ballot meeting spoke about about wisdom not being strained through false teeth and long white whiskers. Here's the man to write our next Extrav.

The Leg of Nations and the Italian Jackboot.

A smoke concert will be held at the Kelburn Kiosh says last "Smad"—or "has been held?"

Must Mussolini?

I love my dear Professor,
But I think that he's annoyed
To find I'm no transgressor
Of the rules of Mr. Freud.

Someone asked the other day whether the author of Fishbones, Prof. Hound, was the English Professor at V.U.C. We replied, of course, that none of our professors answered to the description.

The Historical Society is impressed by the statement of "Pepys" that a historian is one who collects photographs and press cuttings and keeps a record of current events. The Secretary, Mr. Odell, doubts, however, whether a collection of cigarette cards, some clippings from the Wit and Humour section of the "Evening Post," and an All Blacks chart constitute a sufficient qualification for a Fellowship of the Society.

"I had my leg broken in two places."
"Well, stay out of those places."

BRAINS AND MEANS.

Woman loves the man with brains,
Woman loves the man of means,
And Professors love the man
With the means to use his brains.
I have neither brains nor means,
I'm Professor of my soul:
I profess to have no brains,
I am Woman.....What that means!

M.L.

"SPIKE."

At last we have before us the results of the sustained poster campaign and weekly pars in "Smad"—"Spike" 1935 model. New cover, photos and a new format are the first impressions. Further impressions are that it is well up to the standard but breaks little new ground. There is the usual felicitous indispersion of prose and verse and also photos. The prose runs the gamut of burlesque, reminiscences, travelogue, write-ups, reviews, short stories and interesting articles. The verse is a true refection of Varsity life, touching as it does on love, nature, and swot—though none of it can be said to reach epic heights, it is distinctly good. Looking the mag. over we can find nothing a censor could ban, but do not hesitate to spend your 2/6—in fact we encourage you to do so.

Midnight in the jungle—and a gathering of humans round a fire beneath the trees. Music from the west, and a hairy face peering through the leaves—and a simian heart somehow rather different from the rest.

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DAY OR NIGHT

THE COCKPIT.

QUESTIONNAIRE QUESTIONED.

Dear "Smad"—
The editorial in your last issue states that the Peace questionnaire "avoids the danger of vagueness" but, to me, it appears that the answers depend too much on supposition, and I contend that it is ill-framed and badly constructed.

I have no doubt as to my answer to question A1, but A2 contains a rather misleading phrase, viz., "no matter what the cause or occasion." After due thought I have come to the conclusion that I should be insane to support Great Britain blindly. For instance, I can conceive the possibility of a radical British Government to whose policy I did not conform, assisting in an attempt to establish Communism in Germany. In these circumstances I would most certainly not enter such a war.

Questions A3 and A4 depend entirely on the interpretation of the phrase "League of Nations." Does it mean a truly representative League or the present group of nations from which three of the most powerful are absent. I decline to commit myself to answering this question until such a serious doubt is removed.

Admittedly questions B1 and B2 are straightforward, yet in B3 we are again faced by a most important alternative which revolves round the meaning of "peace time." Does it mean a world in which every nation is living in amity with its neighbours or does it mean to-day's troublous peace time with its threat of imminent war?

To my mind question B4 immediately gives rise to the question "what sort of war?" Until this is definitely answered I cannot express an opinion.

While admitting that the third part of the questionnaire is the least vague I still criticise. Before answering C1, I must know what substitute is offered for capitalism. It is conceivable that with the overthrow of Capitalism with no practical or definite substitute in view we may be involved in chaos.

To any intelligent person the evils of fanaticism are obvious, yet we are asked to give "yes" or "no" answers to questions, the majority of which, only a fanatical pacifist could answer one way and a fanatical jingoist the other. I am like most people a pacifist, but take the liberty of considering myself between the extremes and consequently capable of expressing the opinion of the general student. As such I fully appreciate the importance of obtaining such a consensus but I demand that there should not be the slightest doubt that it is the opinion of the collective whole. As the questions are now framed the student will query the majority, and we shall obtain a consensus of a few extremists either one way or the other. That will defeat the objects of the ballot, and I cannot see how this is to be avoided unless the Committee responsible for drafting the questionnaire will elucidate the debatable issues I have indicated. Within two months of the exams, the students' difficulties are great enough without needlessly increasing them.

—C. R. HUTTON.

LAMENTATION.

Professor! Your droning verbosity is a ponderous, palling atrocity. Your circumlocution is slow execution. —Why man! You're a verbal monstrosity.

—KAIRE.

BALLOT EXPLAINED.

Dear "Smad"—
As the committee responsible for finalising the questionnaire in draft form we thank you for giving us an opportunity of replying to the above letter.

We shall try to answer Mr. Hutton's points one by one. He has, after due thought come to the conclusion that he would be insane to support Great Britain blindly. He should therefore answer the question in the negative. There is then no criticism here.

Your correspondent next attacks Questions A3 and 4. It is surely obvious that the League of Nations referred to is the one at present located at Geneva, and not some future perfected League. Had the indefinite article been used there would we agree have been a doubt, but in the circumstances there seemed to us to be no room for doubt. If Mr. Hutton bases his hopes on some future league of nations he should answer C2 in the affirmative.

Mr. Hutton is again in a quandary when he sees the phrase "peace time." This must be construed as meaning a time when New Zealand is not at war with another state.

We think Mr. Hutton has stronger grounds when he wishes to know to what sort of war we refer in B4. Yet he should realise that in a questionnaire of this sort it is not possible to provide an elaborate classification to cover all kinds of war. If any student feels that the question is too broad he may clarify his position by comments on the back of the paper, and indicate his difficulty by a cross in the query column.

The issue in C1 is whether or not capitalism in itself is a serious provocation to war, and the question of alternatives to capitalism does not really arise.

Finally, Mr. Hutton thinks that most students will query the questionnaire and that only the fanatics will express their opinions. We have more confidence in the average student. We are convinced that the average student will not shrink from these issues. If we are wrong the questionnaire must fail in its effect, as any questionnaire would, for it is, of course, not possible to ask students to write a book on the subject; as Mr. Hutton says, the exams are very close now and we realise with him that "the students' difficulties are great enough without needlessly increasing them."

—The Drafting Committee, N.Z.U.S.A.

PEACE BALLOT NOTICE.

The first issue of the Peace Ballot papers was made on Wednesday last. After the issue had commenced it was discovered that one of the questions of the ballot had been omitted due to confusion and doubt on the part of the sub-committee as to the intentions of the N.Z.U.S.A. This omission is deeply regretted and the issue was at once stopped.

At a subsequent meeting of the N.Z.U.S.A. executive, the secretary's action in having the ballot papers printed in Wellington, in view of the fact that the Auckland printer had failed to complete the printing in accordance with his contract, was confirmed and approved, and the ballot papers have been reprinted on red paper, the previous omission being rectified.

All students, therefore, who have recorded their votes on white ballot papers are asked to vote again on the red papers.

ESPRIT DE CORPS.

Dear "Smad"—
On Saturday, 14th September, Weir House played the rest of the Varsity for the Jack Ruru Memorial Shield. It so happened that the opening of the tennis season took place on the same day, and the regrettable thing was that so many of the present residents of Weir House found it more important to be present at the tennis opening than to attend at Kelburn Park and encourage the House team.

While loyalty to any club is a thing to be admired in any student, there are numerous Saturdays to follow on which they could play tennis, and it was the least that any of the residents could have done to deprive themselves of one Saturday afternoon, Opening Day included, from the tennis court and attend this football match and do their part in assisting in some form of organised barracking.

The organised barracking was conspicuous by its absence and it is hoped that in other years these thoughtless residents will realise the position and help the House team to gain a victory in a match for which such an excellent trophy has been acquired.

—"2 COUNTRY COUSINS."

CHRISTMAS TRIP.

The Tramping Club will spend Christmas at the Kaimanawas. A base camp will be set by the clear waters of the Tongariro, a feeder to Lake Taupo. Numberless day trips, easy and strenuous are available. To the west, Waiohenu Hut and National Park peaks are near at hand, while to the east, the Kaimanawas rise to 5000 feet; the source of the Rangitiki, Maowhango and Mangaraire. Members intending to go on this trip are expected to go out on at least two of the tramps between the exams and Christmas. The leader will be A. R. Perry.

HAVE YOU VOTED?

Students Please Note!

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The Victoria University College and also
Weir House.

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FOR LAW STUDENTS.

Dear "Smad"—

A bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Law Practitioners' Act 1931," is to be presented this session, by the Attorney-General, which will, if passed, detrimentally effect a great proportion of the Law Faculty at V.U.C.

The Bill provides that after its enactment "no person shall commence practice as a solicitor on his own account, whether in partnership or otherwise, unless he has had at least three years' experience in the office of a solicitor or firm of solicitors in active legal practice," and that no person shall be admitted as a barrister unless he has been a solicitor for not less than five years.

This Bill may have the laudable aim of preventing undesirables from handling trust moneys, but it will also prejudice all present students taking law, who are not at the same time in law offices.

Surely a student, who begins a

is led to expect that on completion he will enjoy certain privileges, can reasonably assume that those privileges will remain open to him, and not be placed beyond his reach, after he has begun his course. Moreover, the Bill does not apply to those who are at present qualified for admission, and of those whom it does not affect, there are many who have not had experience in a legal office. If the Bill exempts those from its provisions it should also, to be consistently fair, exempt present law students.

Apparently, however, the Law Society has other views and the hardship caused to present law students, is a matter of indifference to it. Something must be done by the students affected to forward a protest to the proper quarter. It is up to the various law students societies to take a stand in the matter.

—K. A. GOUGH.

—:o:—

Peace Ballot closes on September 30th.

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Criticism of Tennis Players Rugby Finale.

"Smad" has covered Victoria over a year of sport. The records present a kaleidoscopic future—a portrayal of varying successes. One feature is prominent, Victoria has entered the field in practically every line of sport and can claim a truly representative record. Enthusiasm has not always reigned at the necessary high pitch and it is high time that individual clubs tightened their organisation. There is a lamentable lack in sporting clubs of old and wise heads. Each and every club should seek to capture the interests and services of experienced past members, whose days of active participation are over. The year in review provides few high lights, it provides a record of honest sportsmanship and it seems to prove that the ability is there but the stimulus lacking.

RURU MEMORIAL SHIELD.

On Saturday, 14th September, the game for the Ruru Memorial Shield was played between Weir House and The Rest. The final score 13-6 gave the Shield for the first time to The Rest. Play throughout was fast and in the second spell was enterprising. However, the open play usually associated with games of this nature was to a great extent lacking, the inside backs, especially Weir House, being inclined to hold on too long. Consequently, the wings saw very little of the ball, and, on the few occasions when they did, they had no room to work in. The forwards played well and it is not unfair to say that Weir House were slightly the superior. Despite Mr Howard Marshall both sides packed a 3-4 serum.

After the game the Shield was presented to The Rest captain, by Mr King. In a short speech in which he expressed his pleasure at being present and that his son had been held in such high regard among the players. He also presented a Muffin as a cloak for the Shield.

"Smad" congratulates the Football Club on the method of finalising the football season. It provides a last game for all those desiring a final round for those who have become side-line critics some more material.

SMOKE CONCERT.

The footballers of the College finished off the season in appropriate manner on Saturday, the 14th September at the Kelburn Kiwi.

Prof Boyd-Wilson was in the chair and with quiet efficiency seized on each bit of exuberant disharmony to present the next toast to a partially interested audience. Unfortunately Frank Donovan lost interest in the proceedings when he heard that there was no fruit salad.

Mr F N Millard, representing the Rugby Union and in reply to that toast said he was sorry to see that Varsity was playing in second division football. He said that it would give the Union the greatest pleasure to see Varsity occupying the place they did a few seasons ago—particularly because of the bright open football they played.

ATHLETIC CLUB.

The Athletic Club held its annual meeting on the 16th September. Those present seemed placid and seemed satisfied with the organisation and management of club affairs but a resolution to encourage freshers does not seem to have been carried out as well as it might have been. The election of officers resulted as follows—Club captain, S. G. Eade; Deputy Club Captain W. R. Birks; Coach C. B. Allan; Sec-Treas. P. T. Bowie; Delegate to the Wn. Centre W. R. Birks; Committee: P. M. McIntosh, R. Morpeth, E. R. Chesterman, L. S. Black and F. H. Stephenson.

The following cups were presented by the chairman, Professor T. Hunt-

er: Dunbar Cup—S. G. Eade, Heinecup—H. J. Abraham, Ladies Cup—B. M. McIntosh, Oram Cup—P. T. Bowie, Old Members Cup—W. R. Birks.

Prof. Hunter enjoined the club to lose the "wooden spoon" this year. Preparations are already afoot and the mistake of starting too late in outside competition will not be repeated. The club captain is available every Saturday afternoon for coaching; a permanent jumping pit will possibly be provided at Kelburn Park, and films of leading athletes in action are to be shown.

TENNIS HOPES.

(By "Forehand.")

It is with great pleasure that I accept the invitation of the editor to say something about the personnel of the University tennis team which won the Wellington Senior Inter-Club Competition last season, and, no doubt, will be right out to retain the honour this season. The University team has no brilliant tennis players. None of its members has brilliant strokes, but it has, what in tennis' play is invaluable, a fairly even balance of players of good senior standard, with one man (Perkins) of good provincial standard.

K. Mel. Perkins is one of the finest sportsmen playing in tennis in New Zealand to-day. In his younger days he gave promise of being a brilliant player, but he was wise enough to put his profession before mere sport, and while study has been to his advantage in the career he has mapped out for himself, it has been to his disadvantage as a tennis player. But his choice was a wise one; it is unfortunate that many others do not show the same wisdom.

Perkins plays a straightforward game with determination, and a refusal to admit defeat until the last point has been played. His game lacks the frills. To maintain length, to hit hard, to go to the net and volley whenever possible, are things he strives to do. There is no ball so difficult that he will not make an honest effort to get to, and return it. It is, indeed, this last virtue that makes him such a difficult man to beat. An opponent can never be certain that Perkins will not return his best shots from almost impossible positions.

Apart from his smashing, Perkins' weakest point is his service. It is more reliable now than it used to be, but it does not assist him in his net attack. He is compelled to play too many volleys from too far back from the net. The volleyer should be right on the net, so that he can punch his volleys down. Further away than six to eight feet means that the volleyer must play the ball from below the level of the top of the net, upward—a distinct weakness.

J. J. McCarthy is a disappointing player. At one point last season his game showed a decided improvement, and then he slumped. His game is of the heavy type—that is to say, he plays too flat-footed and appears to be always having to urge himself after the ball. Because he is so often just that fraction of a second late his accuracy suffers both off the ground and in the air. He has, however, played many games that have shown him to be a dogged fighter, but his game generally lacks consistency.

W. Gosnell has probably the most limited stroke equipment of any player in the team. His strokes are confined almost to a forehand and backhand drive, and an accurately placed service. But he does better than many players with far more

strokes, because he knows how to use what he has got. He is essentially a baseline player, who drives accurately down the side lines or cross court at will. He is also a very determined player, while he never rises to the heights of brilliance, he never falls to a level of dull mediocrity. His knowledge of tactics is confined to putting the ball as far away from the opponent as possible to keep him running. Who is to say that is not good tactics? He is not a good volleyer, and his smash is indifferently fair. But in his back-court game he maintains a sound court position, and he anticipates well.

B. J. McCarthy is another determined fighter, but unlike Gosnell, he aims to get to the net as soon as possible. He believes in pursuing hustling tactics. This causes him to fall into frequent error, but also, as compensation, causes many opponents to get rattled. McCarthy has no outstanding strokes, but his game last season showed considerable improvement—the result of keenness and concentration. His game has an almost complete lack of defence; he feels he must be always attacking. The exercise of a little patience to wait for the ball he can attack on would effect an even further improvement in his game.

N. A. Morrison is seen at his best in doubles. That is because he volleys and smashes well. His ground strokes are weaker in comparison. Until he strengthens them he will not become the player that his fore-court game gives promise. His chief fault is that he hurries these strokes in his desire to reach the net. He is inclined to play the ball for his forehand drive too early, instead of waiting for it to reach the top of its

PEACE OR WAR BALLOT.

Closing date 30th September.

bound. The fetish of the rising ball has been the grave of reputations of many promising and better young players. In his desire also to reach the net, Morrison does not always take care with his service. Thus he serves double faults too often. He must learn to possess his soul in patience.

L. H. Marchant is a steady, reliable player who goes about his work on the court without any frills, but with a stolid solidness that disconcerts many opponents. He is purely a baseline player with good control over his shots and an eye for the weakness of an opponent. He is apt to be slow, however, against a fast-hitting opponent. His service is reliable but not outstanding.

E. Page is another disappointing player. He has fine strokes but does not know how to use them properly. He often gives the appearance of carelessness. Nearly all his errors are in the net—a bad fault. He might easily become a better player than he is, for he has strokes. Like Morrison and B. J. McCarthy he wants to win the point too quickly. He lacks patience; he, too, could, with advantage, hit the ball at the top of its bound. His overhead suffers from the same complaint as his service—unreliability. He shows he can volley, but because of the inconsistency of his ground strokes he does not always get the chance to reach the net.

P. E. Webb is another steady player who has performed well for his team. There is nothing spectacular in his game, but one can always be sure that he will do his best, and that his game will not slump much, even if the general standard is not very high. His present standard is the result of courage and determination to improve a somewhat limited assortment of strokes. By preference a baseline player he has made himself a fairly good volleyer. He is able to take the net because his ground strokes are reliable and well controlled. He is a hard fighter who will beat mere flashy brilliance.

COMING EVENTS.

To-night—"Spike" out
Thursday—Swimming Club Annual Meeting.
Saturday—Cricket Club practice at St. Patrick's College.

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