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AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

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Vol. VIII., No. 11.

WELLINGTON, JULY 1, 1937.

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## RULE BRITANNIA?

### Debate on British Freedom

An enjoyable feature of the debate last Friday on "That Freedom in the British Empire is a Hollow Pretense" was the versatility of the arguments brought to bear on the subject. Messrs. Scotney and Freeman supported the affirmative, while Miss Stock and Mr. Andrews were for the negative.

A point that caused much dispute between the two parties was the question of a basis of discussion. Britain has more freedom than Germany, Russia, or Italy, therefore freedom is to be found in Britain. Mr. Freeman would not admit of such an argument. The standard by which the amount of freedom was to be judged should be absolute. The relative freedom of other countries does not make a country free. Two wrongs do not make a right.

The old question of arguing from isolated instances was again brought up. The movers quoted frequently to show that there was little or no freedom of speech in Britain, and in reply to their opponents' charges of taking an unscientific approach, retorted that to come to a reasonable decision on any matter, one must of necessity, select the relevant evidence from the confusion of irrelevant evidence.

An important aspect these days is the economic aspect. People have the right of access to the means of production and also the means of participating in the cultural life of the community, which would include, of course, means of self-expression and the opportunities for the development of personality. Does this state of affairs obtain in the British Empire. Mr. Scotney very convincingly showed that it did not, while the negative were unable to refute his arguments on that point. In England, the owners, comprising 11.5 per cent. of the population, had a monopoly of the means of production and are thus able to dictate to the majority how they are to live. The majority, having to make a living, have to order their lives at the commands of the few, while a large percentage in extreme poverty die yearly from malnutrition.

One speaker for the negative admitted all this, but still maintained that freedom was not dead in the British Empire. Bad as things are, the people still have the power to choose a government who will rectify the situation. New Zealand's Labour Government was instanced and its redress of social injustices stressed.

However, there are still other aspects of the British Empire worth serious enquiry. The negative scored strongly in pointing out that in the British Empire, there

was intellectual freedom. A man can think what he likes, say what he likes, believe what he likes, or form societies to put his ideals into effect. Considering a man as a bundle of complexes which must be sublimated somehow or other, individuality is of prime importance in one's psychological life. And by its very nature, individuality demands that to a certain degree a man should have to form his own ideals and control his own actions, without dictation as to those ideals or actions. This is precisely what the British Empire does. There is complete religious, intellectual and civil freedom in the British Empire.

But does this apply to all the British Empire? Mr. Scotney says No. He harked back to the ancient Greek State, where the slaves comprised the majority of the population, ruled over by a few citizens who among themselves formed a democracy. A dictatorship and democracy co-existed. He maintained that the British Empire is not ruled for the benefit of the majority. On the contrary, it is ruled in the interests of the white minority. Whatever freedom the whites may have, the vast coloured majority have none at all.

This led to India. Are the Indians suffering an injustice, or do they merely resent the presence of an alien? Are they being exploited by European capitalists who fear to grant them self government from fear of losing trade, or are the British the benefactors of India, the strong hand that keeps all the warring elements from mutual destruction? Honours were even on this point, good arguments being advanced from both sides. Is the Indian nationalist movement the product of a few agitators, or are the people behind it?

On one hand we have the usual atrocity stories of imprisonments without trial, firing on crowds, etc.; while on the other hand, we are told that the average Indian desires nothing more than a peaceful life, which he knows he won't get if the British abandon India to her own devices.

The most ingenious argument of the evening came from Mr. Holmes, who said that the revolts against British authority throughout the Empire, proved the existence of freedom, because if there was no freedom they would not be allowed to revolt.

The audience by a small majority decided in favour of the motion.

The judge, Professor Gordon, placed the speakers as follows:—Messrs. Andrews, Scotney, Aimers, Freeman and Miss Stock.

## V.U.C. STUD. ASS.

### Annual General Meeting

The Thirty-ninth Annual General Meeting of the V.U.C. Stud. Ass. Inc. was held in the Gymnasium on Thursday, 24th June, the President, Mr. H. R. C. Wild, being in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last annual general meeting were read and confirmed. A motion that the annual report be taken as read was passed under strong protest. Flashes of wit were shown by Miss McLaren and Mr. Scotney, the latter objecting to such a sticky thing as a "Gymnasium" being part of the Stud. Ass.

When the question of holding the Procession next year was raised, the chairman stressed the need of combining with it, a collection for charity. Mr. White moved that "This meeting recommend that the Procession be held next year assuming that the ban is for one year only." Various speakers spoke against the motion, suggesting that owing to the difficulties encountered on previous occasions, it would be better to hold an hour's function in Post Office Square. The motion was lost.

The chairman then read the report of the Records Officer, which was couched in Mr. Sansum's usual inimitable style.

The annual report was then adopted.

The presentation of the balance-sheet provoked the assurance from Mr. Macaskill that if the Women's Gym. Club had got the voluntary wind (rhymes with Scinde) up, the Dramatic Club had never intended it any harm.

Mr. Scotney then suggested that the sum £88/8/8 debited to general expenses was a suspiciously convenient amount.

Mr. B. A. MacLaughlin moved that the money in the Social Service Trust be appropriated by the Executive to meet demands for donations to charitable organisations. This motion was carried, Mr. Currie's amendment, that the money be donated to the Crippled Children Society, being lost.

A motion by Mr. Aimers that the meeting place on record its appreciation of Mr. Budge's services as Treasurer was carried by acclamation. The balance-sheet was then adopted.

Various amendments to the Constitution were then introduced.

One of considerable importance was that introduced by Mr. R. W. Edgley, and designed to exclude non-student members from Varsity Clubs. Mr. R. S. V. Simpson moved that the number of issues of "Smad" be in future decided by the Exec. Various speakers voiced strong disapproval of this year's methods of distribution, and Mr. Wild, in his big-hearted way, said

the fault lay with the Executive, which had not appointed a new distribution manager when the previous one had resigned. An amendment that a minimum of 15 be fixed was carried with the original motion.

The meeting then carried an amendment by Mr. Aimers "that the chairman of the Building Committee may be such a person as the Exec. appoints in the stead of the President."

At this stage in the proceedings, Mr. Currie moved, obviously under extreme pain, that the V.U.C. Stud. Ass. Inc. place on record its strong disapproval of chemical warfare. The charge was nailed on Mr. Currie himself, who protested: "I wish to make a strong . . ." (Laughter). The motion was carried. (The eyes had it all right!)

Some pointed criticism of the operations of the Blues Committee was made by Miss N. M. McLaren, but the discussion, although heated, closed without a motion.

Mr. J. Hott then moved that a spring door be placed on the men's dressing room. Questioned as to which room he meant, he said the robing and disrobing room.

There followed some discussion of the recent decision of the Debating Society that it was impracticable to give representation to Massey at the Joynt Scroll Contest. Suggestions were made and countered that the V.U.C. Debating Society had acted selfishly in the matter.

A recommendation moved by Mr. Jack that the incoming executive make a canvass to collect the extra four shillings on Stud. Ass. fees was carried unanimously.

Mr. A. H. Scotney then rose to move a motion which he said he introduced with great diffidence. It was that smoking in the Women's Common Room be prohibited. Mr. Aimers moved an amendment that pipes be excluded from the prohibition, as our future housewives would not develop ashdropping habits if they smoked pipes instead of cigarettes. A further amendment that the Executive instal six clay pipes in the Women's Common Room was incorporated in the original motion, which was carried. Mr. Macaskill's motion that one pipe-smoking blue for women be instituted was ruled as unconstitutional. Mr. Hott then moved that the Women's Vice (with stress on the word "vice") be appointed pipe cleaner. This motion together with Mr. K. R. Hutcheson's, that a cuspidor be fitted, was carried unanimously. Mr. Hott's celebrated hat (?) was taken round among the men and a collection of 2/2 was raised as a contribution to the women's pipe-smoking fund.

Mr. Scotney then moved that the Glee Club be suppressed, countering Mr. Sandford's suggestion that he become a non-singing member by the assertion that there already too many non-singing members. The motion was lost.

The election results, published elsewhere, were then announced.

## V.U.C. PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

### Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Photo. Club was held in room A2 on Monday, June 21st. The minutes of the last Annual Meeting were adopted, together with the balance-sheet. The committee was elected as follows:—Chairman, Mr. O. A. E. Huggan; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. A. Elby; Committee, Miss M. Palmer Brown, Miss R. Mee, and Mr. E. C. Cardale.

It was decided that in future fortnightly meetings would be held, mostly taking the form of talks for beginners, but also including addresses by prominent photographers in Wellington. It is hoped that such talks and demonstrations will prove of greater interest to the average photographer in the University. It was also decided to start a portfolio of prints, in order to give an opportunity for mutual criticism. It was also decided to arrange to hold an exhibition of the work of the club later in the year. In addition to the above, it is decided to hold a "Mystery Hike" in the near future, the trip to be to some locality where interesting photographs are available. Any suggestions as to subjects for talks and demonstrations will be thankfully accepted by the Secretary.

### ELECTION RESULTS.

Out of a total of 763 members entitled to vote, only 296 exercised their privilege. This year's president is an undergraduate, the first for many years to hold this office.

President: Mr. R. W. Edgley.  
Men's Vice-President: Mr. R. S. V. Simpson.

Women's Vice-President: Miss S. M. Sanders, B.A.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. W. Heine.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. B. A. MacLaughlin.

Committee, Men: Messrs. J. B. Aimers and M. J. Mason, B.A.

Committee, Women: Misses J. Joan Bacon, Geraldine M. Keat, B.A., and Helen Maysmor.

In his concluding remarks, the chairman mentioned that the new Exec. would have to seriously consider employing a permanent paid secretary.

Mr. J. C. White then moved a vote of thanks to Mr. H. R. C. Wild for his able conduct of the evening's meeting, and for his distinguished service to the Stud. Ass. during his four years on the Exec. and in other club offices. The motion was carried with hearty acclamation, and three cheers were given for Mr. Wild.



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## Smad

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News Editor: T. McGLYNN.  
Sports Editor: M. BOYD. Business Manager: E. G. BUDGE.

WELLINGTON, JULY 1, 1937.

## The Elections . . .

### "THE VERDICT"

Before the elections it was our policy to place the issue impartially before voters and to confine ourselves chiefly to ensuring that a large proportion of students recorded their votes. At the same time, we drew attention, in a sufficiently indirect manner, to the qualities which we considered desirable in an Exec. member, hoping that electors would use intelligent discretion to select candidates on the basis of efficiency rather than on mere personal popularity.

Now we claim the right to speak plainly. The verdict is irrevocable so anything in the nature of comment cannot now be considered prejudicial, but it will at least give Smad the satisfaction of expressing an opinion on the judgment of the "ruling" majority at Victoria.

It must have been clear to anyone who gave the matter a moment's thought that at best the new Executive was going to lack the experience, the seniority and the stability of its predecessor. The retirement of Wild, Blacker and White, all of whom had wide experience on the Exec., or in one or other of the major activities of the College, and all of whom were graduates untrammelled by exam fetters, was serious enough. The retirement during the year of Nora McLaren after several years of yeoman service, and that of Joy Stock, meant that on the women's side also, inexperience was to be unavoidable.

Well, as it has turned out, we find that the President's chair is occupied by an Exec. member with one year's service as a Committeeman, the Men's Vice-President has about three months as Secretary to his credit, the Women's Vice-President, a year as Committee-woman. The two Committee-men and two of the Committee-woman are new—the third Committee-woman has been on the Exec. for about three months. Only one of the six men on the Exec. is a graduate—the rest, presumably, are studying to complete this year.

Only three of those elected at last year's annual meeting offered themselves for re-election. One has become President, a second the Women's Vice-President, but the third after a singularly successful year as Hon. Treasurer, is unaccountably given his congé by the electors. Quite candidly, we are disappointed, not only for his sake, but for the sake of the Association which has deprived itself of his valuable services. Last year showed what could be done by an Exec. willing to work and to support a Treasurer able and keen to find money for the Building Fund, with little sacrifice to club activities. It is a great advertisement for our appeal to past students and the public. The experience gained at considerable personal sacrifice was available to the Association, about to enter upon the biggest project it has ever undertaken. The offer has been rejected. We feel compelled to say that the decision not only reflects little credit on the electors, but also gives the motion of thanks passed by the General Meeting all the appearances of an empty gesture.

It will be realised that the above comments are directed exclusively at the voting community as a whole and are not intended as a reflection of any sort on the members of the new Executive. The representatives of a democracy which apparently offers no reward for services rendered, deserve our sympathy. Their task is going to be a difficult one, but we feel sure that they are all prepared to give of their best and it is Smad's earnest desire to give them full support and encouragement in their work. We believe that once they find their feet they will make a good job of things, and we wish them every success!

### YOU ARE PALE AND WEARY-WORN, THEY TOLD ME.

The biologist said, "Gland and tissue culture is the modern marvel. Transplanted ovaries transform . . . But I thought of human guinea-pigs and hastily slipped down the dog-fish lift. The chemist caught me, "Now hormones, or perhaps a vitamin E, the reproductive . . . Ah, but shades of the many Dionnes and Mr. Johnson rose, and terror winged my feet. On my way to the Library the skinny

clutch of the psychologist fell upon me, but I wrested my subconscious from his analysis, and leapt over the bannisters. A Spike Poster caught my eye. "WRITE . . ." So I wrote. They wept to see Tore it up, and wrote again. Inspiration gripped my pen. Inhibitions fell from me. Thought a thousand things to say—  
And now, and now I feel elated  
All my passion antedated;  
While Spike required no gentle hint  
That I'd like to see myself in print.

### THE DEAD IN SPRING.

Long have I lain  
Stiff stretched, bones cramped;  
Staring unseeing from shrivelled  
sockets.  
I have felt the dreary winter ooze  
down through the roots,  
And the earth press upon me with  
tenfold weight.  
While hard rains beat the ground  
above my head  
Spattering clay, and drowning  
things.  
Washing out bared roots, moving  
pebbles in small runnels.  
The dark pines I heard swishing in  
agony  
Till I settled deeper into the dark  
solid womb of earth that  
held me.

O you alive have never known the  
joyousness of quickening  
birth!  
But lying here I have felt a quiver-  
ing call creep through every  
root,  
And each root's answering leap  
sending up bud or leaf.  
And with this pulsing I essayed to  
rise but could not.  
And there was a numbing pain in  
that I could not rise again  
Because I was of Man.

The smallest soul stirs in the  
Spring.  
All lifeless things recharge with  
life.  
Yet I can cease, nor live, nor creep,  
Nor break my rigid sleepless sleep,  
I, the forgotten Dead of Man.  
—Vesta Emanuel.



## EVENING IN PARIS

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**NATURE NOTES**

Rare specimens to be seen in our Ornithological Cabinet, Molesworth Street.

**The Savage Premier**—a bird inaptly named, as it is of a mild and retiring disposition. The head is marked with heavy black rings around the eyes—not unlike the common owl. This bird on being approached utters a rather plaintive cry resembling the sound "Ooo-av-nothing-tu-fear," which is repeated with a monotonous frequency. Contrary to the conclusions of earlier investigations, it has turned out to be of definite migratory habits.

**The Lyre Bird** (*Sempra vulgaris Australis*)—Habitat: main roads and highways. It derives its Latin name from the curious fact that its plumage, although in youth is a bright scarlet, fades in later life to a delicate pink and subsequently is transformed, when it passes its prime, to an ever-deepening blue—hence the name "Blue Tit" which it is frequently called. When angered, this wily bird rotates its whiskers fiercely. Feeds chiefly on warthogs, hoadhogs, suckers, saps, bankers, and communists.

**The Mason Bird** (or common Bushlaver)—Unlike its colleagues, this bird feathers its nest with stones, and has often been known to drop a brick when carrying heavy loads of building material to its nest. The first known of the species roosted at Victoria for a number of years.

**The Webbed Crow** (*consciencis objectoris*)—Lives mostly in dark holes such as mines, shafts, and coal cellars. Thrives well in captivity.

**The Luere Bird** (*Gnashus finicus* or *incometaxiel* as it is sometimes called). Habitat New Zealand, but also of a migratory disposition especially at the "Crown" of the year; is carnivorous by nature—appetite quite insatiable, particularly round about the end of March—once it secures its victim it does not cease its terrible repast until the bones are picked quite clean—will eat anything but lives principally on Tacks.

**Parry's Parrot**—This bird shows a great affection for its afflicted fellows, but is seldom found outside a Museum.

**Davy Jones Penguin** (*Fides Defensor et Radio*)—chiefly notable for its inadequate means of defence, as its Latin name signifies. Despite its sombre plumage and dejected appearance, this bird is a singer of merit, although so far all efforts to broadcast from the Parliamentary grounds where it was heard singing recently, have been unavailing. Will eat anything but radio jam.

**The Studens Frasa Bird**—Habitat: Scotland, but will make its home anywhere. This bird feeds on paper, parchment, etc., and some ornithologists believe that it is closely related to the cuckoo family as of late it has been frequently observed doing a job for itself in its neighbours' nests during their temporary absence in the migratory season.

**Armstrong Warbler**—or Bald-Pated Finch—also known as the Broody Wanderer. This bird is a strenuous worker and has the amusing habit of scolding any of its own kind which it regards as loafers: it has even been known to eat its young. When irritated, flaps its wings violently and indulges in discordant screeching.

**SCIENCE SOCIETIES**

This year the Science Societies are very vigorous, all the meetings so far being very well attended.

The Maths and Physics Society had two successful meetings lately, the lecturers being Mr. Carey on "Hydro Electricity in New Zealand" and Mr. G. B. C. Taylor, who spoke on "The Cathode Ray Tube."

As usual, the Maths and Physics Society turned on an excellent supper.

The Chemical Society provided plenty of fun at its presentation of "Liquefaction of Gases" when seemingly inexhaustible supplies of liquid air were produced to bring various substances to very low temperatures. A sausage cooled to the temperature of liquid air, was found to be as hard as a brick and was splintered into pieces by blows from a hammer.

The Natural History Society in its first meeting of the year, drew a record crowd for the discussion on Evolution, which was well dealt with by the many speakers.

The committee was elected as follows:—President, Mr. D. Cairns; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. D. Spiller; Committee, Miss H. Maysmor, Mr. Fell and Mr. Hefford.

**Poor Professors!**

Dear "Smad,"—  
In speeches and in general conversation we, as students, are always accusing the professors and members of the staff of a lack of interest in all University affairs which are not academic. This is in many cases true enough, but does it ever occur to the student that we take very little interest in what the staff does? Surely it is up to "Smad" to keep us advised of the deliberations of the Prof. Board, not to mention the private lives of the University's professors and lecturers.

Yours etc.,  
MAE WEST.

**Sullivan's Curlious**—The Railway Bird or Common Land Rail. Noted chiefly for the soft, billowing plumage on its head. Habitat: "Mayor's Nests" but can roost almost anywhere and does not object when confined in a cabinet. From recent observations it has been noted that this curious and rather ornamental bird, has contracted the habit of building its portable nests without a due observance of the Laws of Gravity.

The Lee Martin (not to be confused with the Song Martin or Stone Ginger)—variously known as the "Farmers' Friend" or the "Horticulturists' Horror," and not averse to doing a little spade work on its own account.

The Langstone Linnet—Feathers its nest on the Land. Habitat New Zealand State Forests. This bird is regarded with mixed feelings by agriculturists, but it is doubtful whether it is really as mischievous as it is made out to be. It is believed that this bird is the originator of the "Back to the Land" policy, and the various jokes connected therewith.

The Fagan Pelican—In captivity invariably takes to the Upper perch: a real high flyer—in fact, it may be said to move only in the higher circles, and if attacked, flies to the topmost bough of the tallest tree and gazes scornfully on its baffled pursuers. Strangely enough, this bird lacks the "pouch" usually associated with its kind.

**Men's Hockey**

**Losing Club Captain**

The Club has been unfortunate in losing one of its keenest playing members, Henry Abraham, who left last Saturday to take up a position on the staff at Melbourne University. Playing at full-back, Harry was one of the most valuable defensive players in the team, and his loss will disorganise the senior team quite considerably. Thoroughly conscientious, he devoted a great deal of time to the Club, and particularly to the coaching of young players, and his quiet, reserved personality gained for him many friends, both on and off the field. A small band gathered at the wharf bid him farewell, and bon voyage, to bid him farewell and bon voyage, and now through these columns we again wish him success and happiness in his new sphere.

On Saturday, 19th June, the senior XI played Wesley at Karori Park in the final match of the first round, the result being a loss, one goal to nil. Individually, the play at times was quite good, but tactically and as a combination we were not so sound as we should have been. We had just as much of the attack as our opponents, but time after time movements broke down, partly because of the roughness of the grounds, but partly, too, because of lack of co-ordination between halves and forwards, and among the forwards themselves. Too much crowding, and lack of positional play was the main source of trouble.

Shaw and Cole go fairly well together, but they must remember that if they do not feed the wings, the defence will be concentrated in the centre, and when they reach the circle, accurate shooting becomes impossible. On a number of occasions they were each in scoring positions near the circle, but found their movements cramped by several defenders, who should earlier have been drawn out of activities by well-judged passes to the wings. Eggleton suffers from a very pronounced inclination to wander, and much good work was spoilt through his crowding the centre. Stafford should hit the ball a great deal harder, especially on heavy grounds, for too many of his passes were intercepted. Newcombe put in a great deal of effort, but was not connecting so well as usual. Too much individualism marred Johnston's display. Banks and Abraham were very sound and broke up many forward movements. Abraham's interceptions at times were brilliant, and it usually took a combination to pass Banks. Excellent kicking, which often turned defence into attack, was the feature of Benjamin's display in goal.

There was no game last Saturday, all Hockey having been postponed in honour of the Soccer visitors, and so after the spell it is to be hoped that the team will enter into the games with greater enthusiasm, and thus find a higher level in the competition.

**... MIXED GRILL ...**

**Ain't Love Grand?**  
She: "What's the matter, don't you love me any more?"  
He: "Of course I do, dear, I'm only resting."

**Hic!**  
Where there's a swill there's a sway.—(Shake-us-a-beer.)

**Hoc!**  
Eat, drink, and make merry— and to-morrow you'll wish you were dead.

**The Go-By.**  
He: "I've got a wonderful family tree."  
She: "You're the sap, I suppose."

**Raw Romance!**  
His lips said "Darling"—but his breath said "Onions!"

**Torture.**  
News flash from Chicago . . . Mrs. Catherine March told a Chicago divorce court judge that her husband neglected her dog, killed two pet canaries, and tortured her by caressing a plump woman in a taxicab beneath her window.

**Sex!**  
"Would you believe that the Prof. is a sexagenarian?"  
"What—the old fool, at his age too!"

**Supply and Demand?**  
Cow cockies in Taranaki regulate the size of their families by the number in the herd they milk.—(A Murphyism.)

**THE VICTORIA COLLEGE DEBATING SOCIETY**

**The Thirty-First ANNUAL PLUNKET MEDAL ORATORY CONTEST**

in The College Gymnasium

Sat. 3rd. July, 1937

8 p.m.

*Programme*

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Miss D. Tossman  | Vincent Van Gogh       |
| 2. Miss M. J. Stock | Masaryk                |
| 3. A. R. Perry      | Jawaharlal Nehru       |
| 4. A. L. McCulloch  | Napoleon               |
| 5. J. C. White      | William the Silent     |
| 6. Miss M. Shortall | Madame Curie           |
| 7. A. H. Soutney    | Adolph Hitler          |
| 8. S. G. Andrews    | Maximilien Robespierre |

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## A Poor Week-end's Sport

### Basketball only Bright Spot

Atrocious weather conditions marred sporting activities last Saturday, and all games were postponed except Senior A Rugby. Hockey matches had been cancelled as a courtesy gesture on account of the Soccer Test Match.

On Saturday, the 19th, the two Basketball teams had a particularly strenuous day, but were successful in registering three wins out of four games played. Good work!

The Seniors gave Wellington College Old Boys a hard tussle, and kept the latter team on their mettle all the time. The adjustment of a few weaknesses and a little more polish will make them permanent "Top Divisioners."

The selection of various teams in Basketball, Hockey, and Rugby is under way at present, and it is to be hoped that some Varsity players will be included, as such a choice would undoubtedly give College sport a fillip which it badly needs.

#### RUGBY.

Seniors v. Wellington College Old Boys.

From the kick-off, Old Boys started a bright passing movement which took them well down the field, and kept hammering away until a passing rush took Burns over for a try which was converted.

The Varsity forwards then took charge, and packing tightly had the opposition on the defence for some minutes. However, Sadler was getting the ball away snappily and the Old Boys backs, mainly through weak tackling, advanced to Varsity territory and Burns again went over for a try in the corner. Baldwin missed the kick.

The Varsity forwards were going great guns at this stage. Their screwing and breaking from the set scrums, coupled with their fast follow-up and compact dribbling rushes had Old Boys beaten, and Burke scored a good try. Larkin's kick hit the cross-bar.

Again the Varsity pack went to the attack. The side-row men kept a good watch on Sadler, and the Old Boys five-eighths, and when Reynolds dropped a pass they were through and away in a dribbling rush. Meads raced ahead and scored an excellent try which Larkin converted with a good kick.

Old Boys 8, Varsity 8.

The score remained unchanged till half-time was called. In the second half the Varsity pack seemed tired and did not have the fire and dash of the first half. With the wind behind them, Varsity should have piled up the points, but the ball was hooked by the Old Boys' forwards almost every time the scrum went down.

Most of the play was in the Varsity half, although the Varsity backs did use the wind in kicking when possible. Bydder scored from a scrum, making Old Boys 14, Varsity 8.

From the kick-off, Varsity produced their usual last-minute effort and when the final whistle blew, they were right on the Old Boys line.

#### Criticism—Petone Game.

Several times during the match Varsity turned on really good football, but poor tackling and backing up, always let Petone through when a Varsity movement broke down. Time and again Varsity had Petone well penned in, but when Petone broke through, they always took the ball the length of the field before being halted. The tackling on the whole was improved, but until the opposing five-eighths are bottled up, Varsity will not be able to keep the opposition's score down,

and until the backs do some backing-up they will not be able to notch many points themselves.

#### Criticism—W.C.O.B. Game.

The forwards played very well in the first half, and kept going, though not so hard in the second half. With forwards as fast as Burke and Parker, many points should be scored from the loose rucks. Blacker and Meads held the scrum together very ably, and Meads's try was a well-deserved reward for keeping right on the ball. The backs did not have much opportunity owing to the weather conditions, but the tackling was better than it has been. Wild sets a good example in tackling, but should have a few more openings made for him by the inside men as he knows an opening when he sees one and can use it. Larkin again tried for a pot and missed.

If a man takes a drop-kick when he is well supported and his supports have a clear field, he should be absolutely sure of putting the ball over. If he is not sure he must pass the ball on and give the supports a chance to score a try. Larkin has missed three pots in succession from easy positions when well supported and is spoiling his otherwise good play by doing so.

#### Limelight.

R. Hermans, of the Junior B. Social team is a very promising full-back. He is too young to play big football this year, but his kicking and handling are superior to that of any other full-back in the Varsity Club and should bring him honours next year.

#### HEAVY DAY'S WORK FOR BASKETBALL.

On Saturday, the 19th, both Varsity Basketball teams were called upon to play both morning and afternoon, making up matches missed during vacation.

#### Results—

Senior A 17, Dental Clinic 20.  
Senior A 13, Technical 9.  
Senior B 19, Training Coll. 16.  
Senior B 17, Woolworths 12.  
Senior B's Improved Form.

After a long period of indifferent success, the Senior B team by its two victories gave promise of a much more successful second half to the season. Their improved combination in the goal third, where more accurate shooting topped off some bright movements, together with much brisker passing between the thirds have given this fillip to the team. With the continuation of this improvement the team can be expected to make the leaders in its section work very much harder than was the case a month ago.

#### Snappy Senior A Game.

The Senior A game with Dental Clinic revealed University's weakness in the goal third, where accurate shooting was ruined by slow passing and lack of planned combined efforts, which allowed the opponents to head the score in the last stages of the game. Our goal throwers could well learn a lesson from them in passing and moving away from their defence. The outstanding feature of this game was the splendid combination between the defence and centre thirds, whose improved passing should give the goalies a feast of the ball in future.

#### Afternoon Win.

In spite of the near-Rugby tactics of the Technical Old Girls' team whose persistent over defence marred what might have been a very bright game, Varsity's persistence in clean, open play carried the day. A re-arrangement of the forwards and testing out of some new "plays" showed that there is a distinct possibility that the high standard of the rest of the team may soon be achieved in goal. Some of the players showed the effect of two games in one day towards the latter part of the game, but the half-time lead of 3 goals was maintained to the end.

The keenness of the team, the excellence of the defence and opportunity of continuous games and practice this term will make Senior A team worthy opponents of their old rivals, East Old Girls.

#### DORNE CUP RACE.

Victoria entered thirteen runners in the teams' race for the Dorne Cup on Saturday. The course is twice round a two and a half mile lap at Lower Hutt, and its flat, though boggy, nature, makes for fast times. Running an exceptionally fine race, D. R. Scrymgeour was first man home for the College, finishing sixth in a very large field. He was followed by D. Cairns, seventeenth, and A. G. Horsley, twenty-sixth. The remainder of the team were Bagnall, Burr, O'Flynn, Price, Newall, Gretton, and Farquhar in that order. The cup went to Scottish Club with 101½ points against them. Brooklyn were second with 377½, Hutt Valley third with 466, and Victoria fourth with 482 points.

#### GREAT EXCITEMENT AT WEIR HOUSE!

On Sunday night the boys crowded into the Billiard Room to witness the final of the Billiards and Snooker championships. In the darkness of the room, illuminated only by the lamps over the table and the cheery glow of a blazing fire, the residents, contrary to their usual custom, watched in silence. Bob Anderson, trained to play under a barrage of broad comment and backchat, seemed slightly ill at ease with his role of respectability assumed for the august occasion of a championship under the eyes of all Weir House and Professor Hunter.

Henry Ngata also suffered from a severe disadvantage in having to express his disgust sotto voce. John Love took things as they came with the coolness of an old campaigner.

Henry Ngata and John Love were finalists for the Snooker championship, while Henry Ngata again and Bob Anderson contested the Billiards final. After some very fine play, Henry won the two championships.

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