

# The Magnet

For Men's Wear  
144 Featherston St.  
Wellington

# Salient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington N.Z.

VOL. 12, No. 3 WELLINGTON, APRIL 6th 1949 BY SUBSCRIPTION

Leaders in the Field  
of Athletic and Sports  
Equipment

Briscoe Mills

Cnr. Victoria and  
Hunter Streets

## EVERY MAN EXPECTS THAT VICTORIA WILL DO HER DUTY

Who'll do it this time, is again the question. Athletes are running round in circles (training of course); Tennis players are up to their usual stunts; Rowers scud across the harbour, cricketers chirp gaily, swimmers splash, riflemen shoot the line, basketballers watch the basket; boxers sweat (that excess avoirdupois is so upsetting isn't it?) and why? do I hear some ingenue ask naively? This super-colossal activity to enable Victoria to put on the show of shows, the most magnificent spectacle of all times (and we don't mean the rendezvous) is all directed towards an attempt to gain that priceless and coveted trophy the Tournament Shield—all hail! Other trophies we hope to pick up along the way are the Swimming Shield, Tennis Shield, Haslam Shield and many others but God forbid that we should find ourselves again with that sad, sad object the Wooden Spoon on which our name has appeared all too often.

Apart from the sporting contests there will be an official welcome up here on the Friday, a rendezvous on Saturday, another on Monday and a Ball on Tuesday. Any information required may be obtained from the Information Bureau (in the Exec. Room); the Senior Tournament Delegate is Vance Henderson and (if you have an urge to be really helpful e.g. pouring out tea (contact the Entertainment Controller, Jean Melling.

### ATHLETICS

Although Dave Batten is now at Victoria College we, unfortunately, only have second claim to his representation for Easter Tournament. His inclusion would have added greatly to a more promising Victoria team than we have had for some years. However, CUC, with their prior claim are not likely to relinquish such a fine athlete.

The inter-faculty sports were rather marred by the inclement weather, but in spite of this, several athletes showed promise of greater things at Tournament. In the women's events, Helen Burr, who lost the national high jump title on the count-back in spite of her excellent 4ft. 11in. jump, should have little difficulty in winning this event at Tournament. The sprints see Barbara Hill and Julie Hunt among the leading contenders for NZU titles at the Basin Reserve over Easter.

This year the men's team is much stronger than that of several years past, a factor which may lead to the Wooden Spoon leaving its familiar place in the VUC trophy case. Names such as Gerry Barnard, Alan Catt, Bernie Clapcott, Fred Duckworth, Clem Hawke, Des Kelly, I. Lissienko, Brian Pohlen, Dick Trevethick need no introduction, and these athletes, in their various events, should bring green and gold into the limelight at Tournament.

Among those not so well known, probably the most promising is Ewen Hislop, a junior who shows great potentialities in a number of events, high jump, hop-step and jump, shot and cross-country, and these with his stature would suggest the Decathlon as his final aim.

The following is the VUC athletic team for the 1949 Tournament:—

#### Men:

- 100 Yards.—B. H. Clapworth, A. J. Catt.
- 220 Yards.—B. H. Clapworth, A. J. Catt.
- 440 Yards.—G. J. Barnard, B. H. Clapworth.
- 880 Yards.—J. C. Hawke, G. J. Barnard.
- 1 Mile.—J. C. Hawke, D. Turnbull (Mas.).
- 3 Miles.—D. Turnbull, R. Ingram (Mas.).

120 Yards Hurdles.—F. W. Duckworth, H. Edgoose (Mas.).

220 Yards Hurdles.—R. Trevethick, H. Edgoose (Mas.).

440 Yards Hurdles.—J. McLevie, F. W. Duckworth.

1 Mile Walk.—B. J. Pohlen, D. Z. Kelly.

Discus.—I. Lissienko, R. Jermyn.

Shot.—I. Hislop, I. Lissienko

Hammer.—I. Lissienko.

Javelin.—B. Cameron (Mas.), E. Apperly.

Pole Vault.—R. Trevethick, G. J. Barnard.

Broad Jump.—J. Connell, G. Drummond.

High Jump.—I. Hislop.

Hop-step and Jump.—I. Hislop, G. Drummond.

4 x 110 Relay.—B. Clapcott, R. Trevethick, A. Catt, H. Edgoose (Mas.).

4 x 440 Relay.—D. J. Mitchell, G. I. Fox, J. S. Goldfinch, R. Vaughn.

#### Women:

75 Yards.—B. Hill, J. E. Hunt.  
100 Yards.—B. Hill, J. E. Hunt.  
80 Metre Hurdles.—A. Anderson (Mas.), H. Spencer.

Javelin.—D. Wood, S. Geraghty.  
High Jump.—H. Burr, P. Sleeman.  
4 x 110 Relay.—J. Hunt, B. Hunt, D. Wood, A. Anderson.

### TENNIS

From the Tennis Club we have these odd notes for Tournament. When these notes came in the team was not definitely selected but the following were likely possibilities.

B. O'Connor, winner of NZU singles in 1938 and 1947; NZU Blue, highly ranks in Wgtn. LTA ladder.

R. Fukins, winner of NZU singles in 1938 and has performed well in NZLTA Tournaments for many years.  
H. Davidson and J. Walls, winners of Wgtn. Doubles Champs. in 1947, and NZU winners in 1948.

R. Arbuckle, well-performed ex-junior champion, and W. Pritchard, are amongst other possibilities.

Amongst the women, several members of last year's team are possi-

bilities, including J. Foden and J. Robbins. Avis Reid, who played for VUC in 1946-47, and represented OU in 1948, is playing for VUC again this year. Newcomers are Val Turner, one of the singles reps., and R. Mazengarb, B. Young and June Scott.

The men's team is very strong and chances of success in these events are very hopeful. On the women's side, while our representatives are not as strong as the men, we are hopeful of some success and know that our players will all do their best.

### SHOOTING

At the time of Salient's going to press the shooting team had not been finalised, but the following have a chance of making the grade. Tom Howarth, together with a rifle which "must be easily the best in NZ" is the only certainty. An NZU Blue and top-scorer in last year's match at Dunedin, Ian Henderson has been shooting consistently (at a target as well as a line) as also has Vic McKenzie, both representatives of previous years. R. H. Johnson and R. Shepherd (ex C.U.C.) and Catley, of Massey, all very old hands at this horizontal sport, are again back on the scene. Kjestrup and Treadwell have also substantial claims for inclusion. Massey College can also supply several reputable contenders, Vance Henderson is already polishing up his shooting glasses—he hopes later to be "up to his neck in empties" (cartridges of course).

Under the able guidance of their coach, Reginald Careneathaw, who will be putting up the Crook's Ansata this year, the team should at least get half shot.

### BASKETBALL

For Tournament, the Basketball team is as follows:—

Forwards: Mary Cook, Susan Ferguson, Lance Colquohan, Margaret Loftus.

Centres: Audrey Cook, Kath Martin, Shirlet Hicks, Rosemary Callandar, Pam Hildreth.

Defence: Alison Richardson, June Scott, Julie Hunt.

Mary Cook, the Club Captain, is a very reliable forward and plays well with Susan, who is an excellent fielder, even if her shooting does go from one extreme to the other. Lance will have a job to make her presence necessary to the other two who have played together so long. However, she has a lot to offer, and gained much experience from her rep. games last year.

The centre will be strong, Audrey ought to play well there this year. In the defence has given her a lot of speed. She has always been one of our strongest players. Shirley Hicks and Kath Martin play well together and we hope Kath will get a Blue this year—last year she played for NZU.

The defence will be sturdy, if not brilliant. It will be Julie's first tournament, but this should not set her back at all. She is a natural athlete. Alison is a very experienced player. She received a College Blue last year and certainly deserved it. June is off her game this year—playing lousy basketball, but we hope she will settle down soon.

### CRICKET

The VUC team will be playing AUC at Auckland on the 9th and 11th April. Our team for this game is: J. H. Murray (capt.), O. J. Creed, J. M. Dobson, K. C. Gajadhar, D. Jamieson, H. M. Lewis, M. McCaw, R. G. O'Connor, B. P. Phillips, S. Spiers, and W. R. Willis. The principal batting strength here lies upon McCaw, Lewis, O'Connor, Spiers and Willis, while the bowling specialists are Murray, Jamieson, Dobson, Phillips, McCaw and Willis.

The Easter final game against the winners(?) of the South Island preliminary game will be played on the Saturday and the Monday of Easter on Kelburn Park. Our team will then be strengthened with the inclusion of L. H. Cornish (he scored 167 and 100 not out in Dunedin the other day), P. G. Mullins, our speed merchant and C. A. MacLeod.

The opposition teams may include Hollywood (Auck. Plunket Shield fast bowler), Leggatt (Cant. Plunket Shield batsman), and Otago's principal performer may well be Cameron, who scored 105 against VUC in Dunedin last year.

Following the Tournament games there will be a representative game on Kelburn Park between a NZU XI and Wellington. The NZU team will include R. A. Vance and R. G. Wilde (Wellington), T. F. Geary and Doug Morrison (Otago), the remainder to be selected from the Tournament teams.

### ROWING

A fine spell of good weather at the end of a good season has given the rowing bods a new impetus for the preparation of tournament crews to get well under way. This year there will be a good programme of events as the Tournament Regatta is to be held in conjunction with the inter-provincial regatta on Easter Saturday morning, the following races to be held:

10 a.m.: Inter-Prov. Eights, 23 m.  
10.30 a.m.: Inter-Varsity Fours, 1 m.

11 a.m.: Inter-Varsity Eights, 2 m.  
11.30 a.m.: Inter-Varsity Double Sculls, 1 m.

12 noon: Veterans' Eight Race, 1 m.

Our Eights crew will include two or three new members who should (contd. page 2.)



Who will reach this dizzy height this year?

# Salient

The Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington N.Z.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 1949

## H A I L !

We extend a welcome to all students who will be our guests during Easter. You can be assured that Victoria has done, and will do, her utmost to maintain and better the type of Tournament hospitality she has always enjoyed, when visiting other host Colleges.

When you inspect the meagre student facilities available at Victoria, moderate your criticism; for at last the Student Union Building Fund Appeal is really under way. The Building Fund, which stands at £14,000, represents almost entirely the contributions in work and cash of recent students.

The community, which in each of the fifty years of Victoria's existence, has derived the invaluable contribution of leadership and technical skill from this College, is now being asked to contribute a share towards improving the facilities which will aid in the development of the keen minds and the organising experience so vital to its progress.

## Our Attitude to International Organisations

On Thursday a Special General Meeting will discuss our affiliation to the World Federation of Democratic Youth.

Formed after the war, W.F.D.Y. took peace as its main plank. Aiming at, but not achieving as yet, complete representation of youth opinion the world over, W.F.D.Y. stands in a position of jeopardy comparable to that of United Nations. Each year advice of withdrawals are received by W.F.D.Y. headquarters in Paris. Each withdrawal brings the complaint of Communist domination one step nearer realisation.

When world organisations are crumbling all around, UNO, W.F.T.U., we should stay in W.F.D.Y., change its policy to one that suits us, and use its organisation for the aims of peace and human betterment.

P.F.J.

(Continued from page 2.)

bring success to themselves and to the College, particularly Jack McLaurin, who won a Blue rowing for Otago last year, and Dave Horsley, who has recently been rowing for Union, Wanganui.

At the Christchurch Regatta recently, Jack Smith and Brian Hansen were successful rowing in fours, and Don McLeod, sculling with W. Hillock, of the Star Club, narrowly missed a win the Double Sculls.

## SWIMMING

Latest information about VUC's aquatic team is hopeful. As VUC has come last over the previous 10 years we can expect anything.

The polo team has played consistent A grade polo in Wellington this season, even though some of the men have been ordered out of the water on numerous occasions.

Bernie Knowles, star goal-keeper, supported by Ray Shannon, Pat Anderson and Pip Piper in the back-line. Forwards will be picked from Peter Fleischel, Des Dickson, Des Dowse and Johnny Watt.

On paper this is the best team ever produced by Victoria (a remarkable conception), we think. (We will tell you when they have played Otago.)

Otherwise in the competitive line they really haven't been "hotting up" the water. Of course, Des Dowse with his latest Wellington record of 73 seconds for 100 yards breaststroke and 3min. 6sec. for 220 yard butterfly will be a hard nut to crack. (He

is at present NZ 440 yard breaststroke record-holder and present NZ 220 butterfly champ.)

Peter Fleischel (ex-NZU 100 yard breaststroke champ. and OU) and Des Dickson (former OU and Wellington breaststroke champ.) should be an asset.

Pip Piper (Wellington diving champ. and second in 220 NZU breaststroke for the past two years) is swimming strongly (against the tide). Johnny Watt and Ken Staples should do well in freestyle sprints with Pat Anderson doing well in long distances.

The fair sex is in a great minority (probably due to the temperature—what say, Kinsey?).

Jeanette Murray, breaststroke runner-up last NZU champs. Juliette Burrell diving, again—and finally high hopes for Wendy Graham in 50 and 100 yard freestyle.

You'll need water wings, Victoria! Play us a tune, piper.

## OU ROWING

Bow: P. Molloy, rowed bow 1948 Tournament—rowed for Auckland in heavy maiden eights and fours (some oars!) at Karapiro Regatta (damn it) in Feb. 1949.

2: H. Boswell, stroke 1948 OU Tournament four. He also strokes (puss, puss).

3: J. Read, has rowed for Christ's College(?) and Canterbury Rowing Clubs.

4: P. Nelson, rowed for Auckland in heavy maiden eights and fours (another!!) at Karapiro Regatta.

## SALIENT STAFF

Editor: Pete Jenkins.  
Desk Editor: Denny Garret.  
Sub-Editors: Conrad Bollinger, Frank Gawn, Jeanette Murray, Ephra Garrett.  
Literary Editor: Cliff Strathern.  
Sports Editor: Tui Keiha.  
Assistant Sports Editor: Daphne Davey.  
Reporters: Oscar Melling, Nick Jennings, Jean Melling, Gwenda Martin.  
Distribution: Pip Piper.  
Correspondence: Jack Gibson, Jeanette Murray.

## TUATARA

Bill Dawbin edits and the Biology Society publishes three times each year a remarkable little Journal—Tuatara. Tuatara aims in the field of natural science at filling the gap between text book and scientific journal.

To date the Tuatara has been an undoubted success. Articles included have all been written by recognised specialists in various fields and have been welcomed by serious students of botany and zoology in all four colleges. Circulation of Tuatara amongst sixth form biology students is increasing and filling a long felt need.

A major point of policy contributing to the journal's success has been the regular publication of keys for the identification of families, genera and species of N.Z. plants and animals. These keys constructed by specialists, painstakingly accurate, and right up to date are invaluable to students embarking on research and fill a gaping hole in N.Z. biology.

The latest issue of Tuatara (Vol. 2—No. 1) has appeared. Articles include a survey of the Cawthron Institute by the Director, Sir Theodore Rigg, an article explaining the application of statistical method to biology by Dr. J. T. Campbell, Director of Grasslands Division. Bruce Levy writes on Conversion of Rain Forest to Grassland in New Zealand. The Keys in this issue are a continuation of Dr. K. R. Allen's Keys to New Zealand Lichens published in Tuatara Vol. 1 No. 3 and a key to the Brachyrhynchus Crabs of New Zealand by Prof. Richardson.

## I. S. S.

The VUC branch of the International Students' Service is again organising work days so that students may do something towards helping fellow-students in China and Europe. ISS does not have to tell you that war is still waging in China and that many students there are without books, clothing, food and shelter. ISS does not have to say that help is needed—and needed urgently—if study and learning are to continue under these conditions. But so that students may go on learning in face of all these troubles ISS will tell you how you can help.

You can help by sparing a Saturday or a Sunday and cutting someone's hedge or minding someone's babies. By doing this you will earn 25/- for ISS and you will have made your contribution to World Student Relief. ISS can find you the job you want, where and when you want, and for as long as you want. All you have to do is fill in the forms which will be on the main notice boards and which will be circulating round club meetings. ISS will get in touch with you when it has a job for you.

Do this as soon as possible and do not be bashful about it. Last year there were far more jobs than students, so ISS can easily find one to suit you.

If you have any questions to ask leave a note in the rack for Alison Pearce or Chris Pottinger.

## S P I K E

This year's Spike will be published during the Golden Jubilee celebrations in May and will cost 2/6. A limited number of specially bound copies will be available at about 7/6. If you wish to obtain one of these commemorative copies apply in writing to the Business Manager, Spike, Exec. Room.

## Blazers

Do you want a College blazer? There is a list up in the Executive room, and if you want one now, or are likely to want one in the course of the year, you should get there and put your name down.

5: M. Churtón has rowed for Sacred Heart College, Auckland.

6: H. McCrostie rowed 4 in 1948 OU eight (quite a feat).

7: N. Wimsett rowed in OU eight 1945, 6, 7. NZU Blue '46, 47.

Stroke: M. Walters stroked OU eight (a masseur we presume), 45, 46, 47 and 48. NZU Blues each year. OU Blues the same.

Coxswain: M. Skerman; Cox OU eight 47, 48. NZU blue 48.

## OU TENNIS

J. E. Robson, won the N.I. single champs. for second successful year. Winner of New Zealand title; was also a finalist in the men's doubles and combined doubles.

D. Green is the present NZU Champ. Played an exhibition match against visiting Australians with Robson.

Women:

Cecily Leave: Top woman-member of team which won Dunedin LTA champs.; semi-finalist in women's doubles, NI and NZ champs. Present NZU Blue for doubles.

Shona McLeod, also member of team which won Dunedin LTA champs.

B. Sparrow, another member of team. NZU Blue, women's doubles.

## ATHELTICS

Keith Plunkett: Sprints. As a junior defeated Batten. First season back to sprints this year.

H. B. Rainey: Second to Batten at NZU last year.

J. D. Sinclair: 880 and mile. NZU holder of these two titles. NZ Champ. mile 1948 and 3rd 1949. Ran in NZ team versus Australia. W. J. Muirhead: Otago provincial champ. 120, 220 hurdles. NZU holder of these two events.

F. R. Gordon: 3rd NZ 440 hurdles. 1948, 1949. Otago provincial champ. and holder of NZU title.

R. McKenzie: First NZ high jump, 1948 and 49. NZU holder and won high jump in test versus Australia. J. Borland: NZ high jump 2nd 1948, 3rd 49. Holder of best performance by a New Zealander. Represented NZ in test against Australia.

G. H. Jeffries: NZ junior record holder. Jumped 6ft. 1in. at Auckland this season. 4th in NZ champs.

Miss J. Shackleton: Holder of 80 metre hurdles and second in 75 and 100. Competed with distinction against Shirley Strickland at NZ women's champs. this year.

## CANTERBURY

Mr. G. McLean has been appointed Publicity Controller and to date this is all the information that Canterbury will divulge.

## AUCKLAND ? ? ? ? ?

### PART-TIME WORK.

If any Student desires Clean Part-time Work in a Well-paid City Warehouse, Ring  
**THE MANAGER,**  
50-184.



## Ideas Unlimited

Sir,

As the Secretary of the "Society for the Promotion of Bright and Brilliant Ideas," may I suggest the following?

That the Victoria University College Students' Association purchase an omnibus for the convenience of students.

The bus could be manned by full-time students who are capable of handling such a vehicle. It could leave from a station in town about every 20 minutes, departing in time to arrive for each lecture-hour and leaving University immediately after it, as well as two other round trips each hour. Fares charged would depend on the cost of running, depreciation and manning, but even then they could compare favourably (from the point of view of the student) with fares on the Kelburne Cable Car and City Corporation buses.

The initial cost of the bus could be slowly recovered in fares and advertising space. The unconventional step of renting advertising space on the outside of the bus is I think justified.

With so many full-time rehab. men who drove trucks for the Army at the College, the problem of labour is only one of roping the right people in. Who knows? The Stud. Ass. might even make a profit!

I remain, etc.,

LITTLE SEBASTIAN,

President, Secretary,  
SPBBI (Society for the  
Promotion of Bright and  
Brilliant Ideas).

## Thanks—Hopes

Sir,

I would like to express my personal appreciation to all who assisted with the Building Appeal Luncheon today. Of course, the Appeal Committee headed by Mr. Wild did valuable organising, but in addition I would like to thank the Registrar, the Care-taking and Cleaning Staff. Furthermore, I am very grateful to all those students who readily assisted this morning when asked to cart chairs, tidy up the gym, fold brochures, or to guide visitors round the buildings afterwards when members of the lecturing staff also assisted. There were also those who did odd jobs as they saw they needed doing.

I can only hope the result will fully justify the efforts made.

K. B. O'BRIEN,  
President.

## Any Answers?

Horst Rohloff,  
24b Neumunster in Holstein,  
Steinmetzstrasse 12,  
British Zone, Germany.

Sir,

I must apologise for this letter, but I hope that you will understand me. In vain I've tried to correspond with a young student from overseas (girl or boy). Perhaps can you help me and mediate an address of a student (girl or boy)? Please—indeed my English language is not very good, but in doubt it suffices in order to make oneself understood. I'm 18 years of age (I know too old, but the war?) and protestant religion and student of the Christian-Albrechts University in Kiel. I'm studying jurisprudence and two months ago I've begun my great university examination. I'm six feet tall and blond.

I beg your pardon and am obliged to you and hope that you . . .

Yours sincerely,

HORST ROHLOFF.

SPARE A DAY FOR ISS  
YOU can help rehabilitate  
Students in war-stricken  
countries by giving a day's  
work for ISS.

FILL IN THE FORM ON THE  
NOTICE BOARD AND WE  
WILL FIND YOU A JOB.  
VUC STUDENTS'  
ASSOCIATION.

## NO MAN'S LAND

### Where Ignorance . . .

Sir,

The front page of your last issue was marred by a large three-column banner accusing my Executive of "Masterly Inactivity" in the matter of this year's Extravaganza. Apart from the mortification this has caused my Executive, it ought to come as a shock to you to know that in making this imputation you have been guilty of an even worse crime, namely, "Masterly Inaccuracy." I have been instructed, to enlighten you on this subject. Extravaganza 1949 from the time it was first discussed by the Executive early in the second term of last year presented something of a problem. Since 1949 is Jubilee Year, the obvious thing to do was to have a Jubilee Extrav.

The matter was therefore handed over to the group of ex-students who constituted the Jubilee Celebrations Committee, and who expressed some considerable interest in the idea. Meanwhile much interesting speculation was carried on into the promising possibility of having a college Council Chorus, a Professorial Ballet and so on. At a meeting held on the 5th. July 1948 the Executive received a petition from a group of present students, complaining that because of the Extrav. being prepared by ex-students, "those students who have commenced writing scripts will lose the experience they otherwise might have gained." The petition asked that in order to "maintain a continuity of experience amongst students writers," a number of present students be included in the Jubilee-Extrav. Committees. In its usual democratic manner my Executive then appointed seven well-known students to sit with the ex-students on the committee. On 12th. August 1948 the chairman reported to the Executive "that a sub-committee were working out a scheme for Extravaganza 1949, and were to report back to the combined Committee."

### About September

By February of this year, since nothing further had been heard of this sub-committee it became clear that either the sub-committee had placed too wide an interpretation on the words, "about September" or else had gone the way of all good sub-committees. Therefore, the Exec. decided to take things into its own hands. It was agreed that owing to the default of the Jubilee committee the Extrav. would have to be written by present students as in the past. Therefore a notice was posted calling for scripts, setting a dead-line at March 3rd later extended to March 29th. The position at the moment is that there are two scripts in the hands of the selectors, and by the time that your issue appears, the casting meeting will be imminent.

The lash of your front-page streamer has provoked the Executive into committing itself to print and perhaps you feel that this in itself is an achievement worthy of satisfaction (We had previously held the opinion that nothing short of tidal wave or famine could stir the Exec. to action of any sort.—Ed.) However I would recommend that the next time you feel you "would like very much to know when the Exec. will actually do something" you refer yourself in the obvious manner, to the minutes of the Executive which are recorded in Scientific prose for the purpose of dispelling such ignorance as that of which you have been the unwitting victims.

H. C. EVISON,  
Hon. Secretary,  
VUCSA.

## Salient Critic

Dear Sir,

(1) I did not say student apathy is NOT a factor. I did say, "Any attempt to plead apathy generally I cannot allow." A different thing.

(2) I did not label any specific articles bad journalism. I did say that "Cries of Red . . . may be justified by bad journalism." Also a different thing. That is to say that bad journalism gives a wrong impression and causes cries of Red.

(3) I did not say that you should cater for the woolly-minded. I suggested you make some allowances for them.

(4) I did not criticise articles on their own ground because my point is that "the over-all impression is important." My criticisms were of Salient content, not article content. This also is an obvious distinction.

(5) I did not say that the "last issue" ran fillers. My criticism was of the chosen viewpoint of fillers when they are used in any issue.

(6) My criticism was not founded on an appeal to a "fundamental political or religious bias" but on an appeal to Salient to realise that too much evidence of that very bias in any direction in Salient itself takes away from Salient's effectiveness.

I want Salient read by as many people as possible without surrendering a fundamental viewpoint. Wise journalism, I contended, could achieve this without alienating as many potential readers as at present—a contention your wildly inaccurate editorial ignores.

VERITAS.

## . . . Criticised

Dear Sir,

It is useful, in these red-baiting days, to ask ourselves what constitutes a Red?

On looking over the organisations in our community that are called "Red" and such like terms of affection, we can see numbered amongst them the World Federation of Democratic Youth, Socialist Club and "Salient," that are organizations which are rightly for the needs of the people. W.F.D.Y. discovers and publicises the facts that land owners in Algeria employ peasant youth for 14 hours per day; that in Chile apprentices have no paid holidays; that in Mexico women have no vote; that striking seamen in Canada are persuaded by steam hosing to resume labour.

Is it not rational that the land-owners in Algeria and the shipowners in Canada should find the activities of W.F.D.Y. undesirable, and brand it with the most vicious stamp that is available—that of "Red." And when "Salient" publicises these facts and shows that the conditions of young people everywhere are affected by them, it too is called "Red" by the friends and relations of these shipowners and landowners right here in N.Z. This is only natural, but it is not a good enough reason to stop defending the conditions of students and young workers.

And if it is "Red" to fight for a better life for young people, then to be called Red is an honour second to none in our present set-up.

A.D.

BE IN . . .  
JUBILEE PROCESSION  
THIS YEAR

Hand in your name to the Exec  
Room, or to Chris Pottinger, c/o  
Letter Rack.

WE NEED . . .  
BODS — FLOATS — IDEAS  
EVERYTHING

## Rejection

Sir,

In your issue of February 23, 1949, there is a lengthy article over the name of P.J.A. called "Lysenko v. the World" in which appear a considerable number of statements reflecting on the integrity of distinguished geneticists and by implication, upon persons who teach the science of Genetics along the lines established by Mendel, Morgan and their successors.

We do not propose to enter upon an argument as to the relative merits of Michurin Genetics as opposed to Genetic Theory as understood in Western countries since the lectures normally given at this College offer ample opportunity for such discussion if it is required.

We wish, however, to record emphatically that we reject the article in question as offensive to sincere students of genetics and also discordant with scientific method in that the experimental methods of Lysenko and his school do not conform with those generally accepted as likely to give a reliable result.

We feel that Vavilov's reported death in gaol in 1943, followed by the decree of August 23, 1948 (which has been translated in full by the Commonwealth Bureau of Plant Breeding and Genetics) are adequate evidence of the kind of fate that awaits opponents of Michurin Genetics, and, as such, arouse only disgust in the minds of fair-thinking persons.

H. B. FELL,  
L. R. RICHARDSON,  
H. D. GORDON,  
J. C. GIBBS,  
PATRICIA M. RALPH,  
W. H. DAWBIN,  
B. M. BARY,  
D. A. CRAWFORD.

Zoology and Botany Departments,  
Victoria University College.

## Starvation!

Sir,

So the Exec. has raised the price of the evening meal again to 2/- this time. Perhaps they will now rally round and let us know as soon as possible when they are going to raise the evening meal.

This is being written at a table in the Caf. at 6 o'clock, and I am surrounded by mournful and very hungry students who are trying to imagine that eight biscuits and a cup of tea are an evening meal.

These are students who have to eat in the Caf. as they have lectures from 5 to 6 and from 6 to 7. Empty bellies, Sir, make the most noise.

EIGHT FAMISHED  
BISCUIT-EATERS.

Dear Sir,

The situation of the students in this college who have to eat in the Cafeteria and who cannot do so, because of lectures, until six o'clock is no longer a subject for light chatter and jokes.

It is time that the Executive realised that students who have been working and studying until six o'clock and who have more lectures at seven o'clock should be expected to exist on dry biscuits, apples and tea. On many occasions this year the only "dinner" offering for these poor wights has been just that.

"If it must be 2/- then let there be a meal."

## Refutation

Dear Sir,

It has come to my notice that certain persons in this College have recently been defacing posters, particularly "red" ones, and as a result some people have seen fit to accuse club members of this outrage. I would like to say on behalf of this club that, to my mind, this form of "escapism" represents the depths of puerility and that such conduct is deplorable. In future, therefore, it would be appreciated if such careless statements were not made without substantial proof.

President of the Charter Society,  
J. HOGG,

### Atlantic Pact Overboard

The Debating Society opened its 1949 session with the record number of 23 speakers debating the question that "The Atlantic Union Pact is a step towards World Peace." Eleven speakers led by Messrs. M. O'Brien and B. Talboys supported the motion, and twelve led by Messrs. C. Bollinger and J. Milburn opposed the motion. It was encouraging to see the large numbers—almost half—of new speakers on the V.U.C. platform. The speakers were judged by the Rev. Martin Sullivan, who in his concluding remarks stressed the need for conviction—real or faked—in order to get one's ideas across to the audience. He placed the first five speakers as Messrs. Talboys, Gunn, K. O'Brien, M. O'Brien and Milburn in that order.

The Meeting defeated the motion by 34 votes to 27.

Mr. M. O'Brien, opening the debate for the affirmative, defined the subject, told us that as we did not know the precise terms of the Pact, his arguments would necessarily have to be based on surmise, and then spoke of the grave necessity for continuance of world peace. He told us that UNO had failed, that direct negotiations had failed. It seemed to him that the answer to the question of peace lay in a system of regional organisation which could be joined into one united world.

#### Oranges

Mr. Bollinger, replying for the negative said that not only was he prepared to oppose the motion as it stood, but he was quite willing to support a motion that the Atlantic Pact is a step towards World War. He analysed Mr. O'Brien's analysis of the situation and tried to explode the logic of his argument. The affirmative were looking at the world as an orange, and in order to put it together they wanted to cut it into pieces and perhaps at a later date put it together. The Atlantic Pact was a direct split of the United Nations and as such was a step towards destroying the Peace UNO had been set up to preserve.

#### Santa Claus

Mr. Talboys, looking like the disciple of the U.S.A. he confesses himself to be, stated that the United Nations is no more capable of dealing with aggression than was the League of Nations. He quoted article 51 of the U.N. Charter which, he said, made allowance for regional military alliances such as the Atlantic Pact. The U.S. was like Santa Claus, assisted by a few G.I.'s whose main interest was a few young women with no principles, trying to help her poor friends in Europe and and thus help peace throughout the world. The audience was amused.

Mr. Milburn, with sesquipedalian polysyllables, then proceeded to oppose the motion. The Atlantic Pact, as the affirmative had said, was aimed at the U.S.S.R., which, as one of the countries most devastated by

the war, and as one which has not the monopoly of atomic power, is not likely to want to start a war. "The U.S.A.'s aim is peace," said a later speaker; and "The largest piece possible," retorted Milburn.

Of the speakers from the floor, those who supported the motion seemed mainly concerned with the supposed Communist plan to dominate world from Moscow. They all made the same points in a repetitive manner. Among them, Mr. Curtin created a diversion by mounting the steps to address the meeting and Mr. Cook carried Mr. Bollinger's vegetable illusion further by suggesting that the Western Powers "knew their onions" in joining forces to oppose the march of the Eastern barbarians on Western civilisation.

New arguments were introduced by some of the speakers for the negative. Mr. Gunn, "the gentleman with the politically significant hair" (Jermyn) deprecated this idea of all the world being for or against the Soviet Union. Alliances such as the Atlantic Pact are based on the false premise that if you want peace you prepare for war, and it is the job of the military leaders to postulate the enemy, in this case the U.S.S.R., in order to create the alliance. The sooner we realise that we will not prevent war by preparing for it, the sooner peace will be a possibility.

Mr. K. O'Brien claimed that the Atlantic Pact was a pact for mutual assistance against Eastern Europe. As the issues dividing the world are fundamental, the pact is a step towards neither peace nor war. Mr. Evison pointed out that the only countries carrying out aggressive campaigns since the end of the war were all signatories to the pact—U.S.A. in Greece and China, France in Indo-China, the Netherlands in Indonesia and Great Britain in Malaya.

The affirmative took it for granted that the United Nations was already a defunct body, and working from that idea, put their faith in the brain-child of the U.S.A. The negative, supported by the meeting, re-affirmed the conviction that the only hope for peace—a lasting peace—lies in a full support for the United Nations.

### CHURCH OR COMMUNISM

It is hard to be young—and it is harder if you're honest, because then you can't help seeing the other side of every question. Communism is claiming your allegiance at University. It is founded on a white-hot desire for economic justice, has made the Russian masses intellectually free, calls forth noble actions from its followers,—but its followers are in blinkers, they must accept the ancient lie that the end justifies the means. The result is treachery, cruelty, hatred, fear. The chief alternative to Communism is the Christian Church. The Church has produced tremendous things—the world's greatest art and music, its most searching literature. From the Church sprang the Abolition of Slavery, Trade Unions, Western Civilization itself. The Church preaches the Love of God shown in the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. But then the Church is divided and rather dull, it tends to resist reforms, and in moments of

stress it forgets its own gospel of love. The Church is muddled, impotent, ridiculous.

So neither Communism nor the Church will do. It is necessary to go beyond man's place in society to his place in the universe. At that level we can make contact with the Personality who made the universe a cosmos instead of a chaos. We can find ourselves in a purposive creation, part of a gigantic Intention. That Intention goes forward by love expressed in service and suffering—the life and death of Jesus made that clear. This love is our highest good. It is not passive. It leads to total participation in the Purpose which is the Redemption of man, the reconciliation of the world to God.

This was the theme of Howard Wadman's address at the University Service at St. Andrew's Church on 6th March. The service was conducted by Rev. J. Somerville. It was preceded by a tea arranged by the S.C.M.

### WELLINGTON YOUTH CONFER

On Friday, 26th March, a group of sixty to seventy young people met to celebrate World Youth Week. The walls of the Blue Triangle Hall carried the challenge, "Be a Peacemonger" and "Youth, Unite for Better Conditions," and Apprentice Commissioner McQueen came along to hear the voice of Youth.

The chairman, Mr. Ron Smith, welcomed those present and mentioned that at the meeting VUCSA the Student Labour Federation, the Woburn Apprentices' Club, the Young Peoples' Club, and the Eureka Youth League were represented. He then read greetings and good wishes from a number of supporters, including Mr. F. L. Combs, Mr. J. Bertram, the Auckland Labour Club, the Eureka Youth League and several trade unions.

#### Students

Mr. Harry Evison, the secretary of the Students' Association, spoke of the need for bigger and better bursaries. He outlined the cost of an Arts or Science degree and showed that only those with some private means could carry out the course in a satisfactory manner. He stressed that fees should be abolished and that adequate financial assistance must be available to all those intellectually able to profit from a Varsity education. The students, in pressing for these immediate aims, said Mr. Evison, realised that their struggle was only a part of the struggle of all young people for better conditions.

#### Apprentices

The Woburn Apprentices then put on a short sketch showing in a clear, humorous manner the need for daylight training for apprentices. This was followed by Mr. Bob Fink, of the Apprentices' Club, who outlined the demands of the apprentices for daylight training. He quoted Mr. Ridling, the Director of the Wellington Technical College, as saying that the night technical classes could not adequately train apprentices. The present system of night classes for the apprentices' theoretical training was producing tradesmen under-exposed, under-developed and with training insufficiently fixed.

#### And Peace

Best wishes for the meeting were expressed by Mr. Mitchell, of the Waterside Workers' Union, who reminded us that though our efforts to improve the working conditions of students and young workers were worthwhile, they would be negated by another war. Our efforts must therefore be linked with a drive towards a lasting peace.

Mr. Jim Milburn, of VUCSA, emphasised the above points in his remarks on conscription. He told us that the drive for peace-time conscription, led by the action committee of the RSA, was based on the false premise that if you wanted peace you prepared for war—if you want lilies you plant pansy seeds.

Miss Betty Arya then said a few words on the World Federation of Democratic Youth, under whose auspices this meeting, in conjunction with hundreds of other meetings throughout the world, was being held. Youth must get together and press for a new deal, and WFDY does just this.

The meeting then discussed and passed the following resolution:—

#### Manifesto of Youth

Youth has the right to a decent life, culture, education and peace. We therefore demand:

1. Adequate Government bursaries with living allowances to enable all higher education to be completed without economic hardship.
  2. Daylight technical training with full facilities for apprentices.
  3. For women and young workers equal pay for equal work produced.
- In fighting for these demands we recognise that they can only be fulfilled through a period of lasting peace. We therefore call upon you to unite against conscription and fight for such a peace.

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**OUR TOWN**

Here is something altogether astonishing—the actors of Unity Theatre have offered an exciting evening of real theatre, with a performance of "Our Town" which, although it had faults, was yet full of charm, sincerity and an ordinary freshness. The playwright, Thornton Wilder, on the other hand has written a play about Grover's Corner in a way which sometimes does its best to destroy the atmosphere the cast have built up. He has played on all our most easily aroused emotions: he has shown us children at school, their falling in love, their marriage and then the death in childbirth of the young girl we have watched growing up.

His final curtain comes down on a scene calculated to make the most hard boiled of us feel compassion and at least a temporary kindness. George Gibbs falls weeping to the ground on his wife's grave, while she watches him from among the "dead." This is as unrelieved as the Greek tragedies he draws from, but Wilder commits the unforgivable sin of arousing strong feelings and sentimentalizing on them. He treats memory in as artificial a way as the Victorians treated their souvenirs. Alas, those happy days; Alas the fragility of all earthly joys! For the living just 'don't understand,' 'does any human being ever realize life to the full while living?' pleads another. And the device of having a bevy of 'dead people' to comment on the living who are attending the funeral is easy but ineffective moralizing. For most of us know that it takes an extreme situation to allow any person (unless he is exceptional) to realize the possibilities of life—routing dulls us all and it is the place of many things (theatre included) to heighten our sense of reality and to help us to appreciate fully the possibilities of any situation. What Thornton Wilder has done, where he does not care to let events speak for themselves, is to achieve a somewhat similar banality and mediocrity to Sutton Vane's once famous play "Outward Bound." Here was a novel theme, but with not a thought in it.

**Everyman's Town**

"Our Town" as the programme says, may be interpreted as grandly or simply as we like. The city born youth is quite entitled to snort at Grover's Corner and flee to his fun parlour and pounding juke box. And equally entitled to snort is the man who has lived all his life in Master-ton or Nelson and had, for his lot, unimaginable pettiness and boredom. For Wilder's town is happier than most. Here we see the peculiar subtleties of such a life and its variations on the commonplace. Personal relations matter a great deal, and a difficult situation, such as the drinking of the Methodist organist, is got over by ignoring it. Most of

the people here accept the world surrounding them, so that Philosophy and Psychology would be no longer the handmaidens of God as they are with us. They are primarily doers and not thinkers. William Shakespeare is as remote a public charge as our statue of Queen Victoria. Although there was no scenery, Grover's Corner became as real as Willis Street, and it would have been an easy thing to have strolled on stage with the groups of townsfolk and lazily enjoyed the afternoon sun, when the day "was running down like a tired clock."

It is the third act which does the damage. The stagecraft may be very fine, but I had throughout an uncomfortable evangelical feeling as if I would find myself at any moment on a street corner beating a tambourine.

**Sound Production**

I hasten to add that the overall excellence of the acting, production and the satisfying nature of most of the play, are the more permanent impressions. The miming was occasionally scamped through, and from upstairs the stage looked definitely underlit. Wilder's technical innovations ranged from the supremely successful to the ordinary and ineffective. Nat Beatus, who played the Stage Manager, very soon had the audience with him, but this was endangered by the heckling of the Woman in the circle, the man in the stalls, and the lady of culture. The fault was not Unity's but Wilder's. Somehow, on Wednesday, the wedding scene was not as good as it could have been; partly because the players were feeling their way, but more because the soliloquies misfired. Wilder is a humanist, and though misty and sentimental, has his own values. I suppose he still means what he wrote at the end of "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" . . .

"there is a land of the living and of the dead and the bridge is love, the only survival, the only meaning."

The whole play (produced, by the way, by Nola Millar) is one of the finest things we have had these last few years.

J.M.T.

**Bilge**

Sir,

On the upper floor in the Gymnasium is a small lead-floored room known as the men's cloak room. Upon this leaden floor, at odd intervals, stand sweating bodies which, by the use of soap and toil, transfer the grime partly down the plughole. What will not go down said plughole congeals in a gelatinous slough on the aforementioned lead.

To enable those who have struggled daily to extract themselves from this quagmire to live a more normal existence I would suggest that the Executive arrange for the provision of an insulating airspace above the slugs in the form of duckboards. I am etc.

Dirty Feet.

**Literary Columns**

Now, look here. Can you sign your name? Can you rhyme a word with it? That's great, you've got possibilities as a poet. If you now punctuate, you will be writing prose. Next step is to send it in and let us see it.

To make it legible, please type double space, one side of paper. Sign the whole, although you can withhold it for publication. Everything is judged on its merits by a competent committee of three. The Editor's decision is final—but don't be discouraged, he's kind-hearted.

Address contributions to Literary Editor, Salient, and leave in the letter-rack in Men's Common Room, or in Salient Room. Let's hear from you wise silent types.

**Eulogy**

**LES ENFANTS**

To write at all about "Les Enfants du Paradis" is difficult: to sum it up adequately is impossible, at any rate for this pen. Any attempt to do justice in words to such a film makes the brightest achievements of the English cinema pale, can only be like the bobby-soxers attempt to describe Frank Sinatra's singing. The film has a sweep and scope and an epic momentum astonishing to those who regard French films as chamber music rather than as symphony. And as in the great symphonies, the details are as perfect as the main outlines of the form.

Not that it's an arty film—anything but. No one is going to rave about the music or photography or or sets peruse—there are none of the extraordinary camera angles or patches of carefully contrived dramatic silence so beloved of writers on Film with a capital "F." No, it isn't like that at all. Music, photography and settings are superb, it is true, but in a lean, workmanlike way. This reviewer indeed, only began to notice them for themselves the third time he saw the film.

love her and whose lives she transforms.

**Bravo Baptiste**

Jean-Louis Barrault, who plays Baptiste, the mime, must surely be considered one of the great actors of our own time. His miming is almost ballet, yet surpassing anything in the ballet in its depth and direct human appeal. Baptiste moves the audience at the Funambules to laugh and cry and very nearly moved some members of more sophisticated Wellington audiences in the same way. Luce, the frustrated writer turned criminal who contrives the final disastrous situation and his own death purely for dramatic effect; the actor Frederic Lemaitre, whose Othello was perfected by his love for Garance and his somewhat theatrical jealousy of Baptiste—these and a dozen others are played by a cast of the utmost brilliance. To the director, Marcel Carne, must go the final credit of welding all these fine performances and the whole heroic situation into a great film.

**Made of Gold . . .**

The true greatness of "Les Enfants" lies firstly in its convincing reconstruction of a fascinating place and time—Paris in the 1840's. The Parisian mob of the time is given a personality, naive, lovable, excitable, fickle. "They are poor but they are made of gold" says the manager of the Funambules. They crowd the boulevards, dance halls and theatres: they are real, not as individuals but collectively, and they not only form a background but they are also important actors in the drama. They are the children of the Gods after whom the film is named.

The main actors move among the crowd—Garance, a woman of most fascinating Florentine beauty, French cousin of Carmen without the Spanish woman's passionate gypsy nature, and the four men who

And if all this reads like a publicity puff your reviewer is very sorry. As was said at the beginning, any review of this film is in danger of becoming that way. All the reviewer can do is to hope that the reader will take it literally, though not uncritically, and in any case will go and see the film for himself.

K.I.P.

**OUR CAFE**

Sir,

This evening as I sat in the 'varsity cafeteria satisfying my gastric desires, exercising my newly reinforced molars, I felt for the poor six o'clock students dipping dry biscuits in their miserable tea.

Do you think, Sir, that I might make a plea? Could we please have more meals longer?

Empty tummies make the most sound.

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## BUILDING APPEAL LUNCHESES WHO'S WHO IN GYM.

The Building Fund appeal committee hopes to raise more money in the next few months, than has been raised so far in the twenty year career of the Appeal.

The big Appeal to end all Appeals kicked off at 12.30 lunch time—last Wednesday March 30th, with an official luncheon for the local 'who's who' . . . in the Gym.

This is the answer to what every one has been wanting to know—what the B.F.A. committee has been doing since the failure of the £5 appeal at the end of last year. The frousy old Gym as the diners saw it, is not what it was forty years ago when a mere two hundred students managed to rake up enough money themselves to build it. As long as 20 years ago it was realised that the Gym as it was could not possibly cope with the demands and numbers of the Stud. Ass., and in 1929, the Gym maintenance fund was made into a Building Fund for a new Gym. The committee which was then set up comprised present and past students, and members of the V.U.C. council and staff. This committee had been a going concern for 10 years when the war suspended operations. In that time a great deal had been done to prepare plans for the new Building—obviously these were obsolete for the post war numbers and since the war, this problem has been tackled afresh. (See last issue of Salient and the article on Plishke. We are assured by a member of the committee that we weren't just in saying that little thought had gone into this.)

### Past . . .

Over the last ten years, a total of £15,000 has been raised; the main sources have been the levy on Stud. Ass. fees and the proceeds from Extrav. and Cappicades. The money is invested in Govt. stocks and the interest increases the amount raised by £300 or £400 every year. The Govt. had undertaken to subsidise the Fund (when it reached £20,000) to the tune of 2:1 with a limit of £40,000. And during that time the city of Wellington must have benefited by some hundreds of thousands of pounds from the University.

### . . . present

That £15,000 raised, even with the 2:1 subsidy, still left a sizeable gap to the £100,000 odd needed to build the new block. And so the B.F.A. committee organized the luncheon. The idea of having it in the Gym can only be said to have been inspired. Pretty nearly everyone who should have come did so: we failed to draw the Prime Minister or Hon. Minister of Finance, but there were Sir Humphrey O'Leary, Mr. McCombs, Minister of Education, Sir David Smith, Mr. Appleton, and 130 other prominent citizens. This was an encouraging response, as the committee hadn't dared to hope that nearly that number would turn up. The

Gym looked just as you would have liked it to look—a monument.

When the College was built, said Mr. H. R. C. Wild, the Chairman of the committee in his speech, "no provision was made for a building giving the facilities the students would need for their social recreational and intellectual pursuits outside formal lectures." He commented on the fact that many of the men who had tramped the streets to raise the money for the original building were present. When they were at Victoria, he said, the roll was 300 or 400. "To day the roll stands at 2,400. The classrooms and laboratories are themselves sadly inadequate for that number of students . . . All the facilities now available for student meetings, for dramatic performances, for debating, for sports, for student activities of every kind, are those afforded by this building."

### Money Given

He went on "without a sufficient Student Association building our students cannot enjoy the interplay of minds and discussions that bring the tolerance and understanding that is the real value of University training . . . such a building is not to be regarded as merely a convenience, but as an end in itself."

Mr. Wild then broke the news to the diners that "we have just received the inspiring news that the Govt. has agreed to enlarge that limit (on the subsidy) up to £70,000. That means that, if we can bring that £15,000 which we have in hand up to £35,000—if we can now collect another £20,000—we shall receive £70,000 from the Govt., and we shall have a total of £105,000."

"Already" he said "we have a promise of £1,000 from one donor, two amounts of £250 each on condition that another eight similar sums are received, two more of £100 each, and one from a recent graduate, an ex-prisoner of war with his own way to make in life, of £25."

Also, he said, the college staff have generously offered to make voluntary contributions from their salaries which will bring in another £700 or £800. He pointed out that "this is the first time that V.U.C. has ever made a general appeal to the Public for financial assistance."

Mr. T. D. M. Stout outlined the facilities which were offered at Victoria for different faculties. "In other cities" he commented, "the university has had valuable and sus-

tained assistance from the citizens . . . We feel that Victoria has only to make itself and its wants known to our leading citizens and our local to get all the support we need."

### For this

The President of the Students' Association, Mr. K. B. O'Brien, gave a fair idea of the problems which faced Victoria at the moment. There is no Gym space for any of the facilities which the Stud. Ass. would like to offer: there is no playing field at all and there are between eight and ten clubs competing for the four nights per week that the Gym is available. The Cafeteria facilities are inadequate (to say the least of it. Ed.) The common rooms are hopelessly small for the numbers and their comforts are non-existent. So the Appeal is asking for either plans to help raise the money, or cash. If any of those present thought they knew how bad things are, Mr. O'Brien's speech (well up to Plunket Medal standard) would have disillusioned them at once.

To rub the point home, the visitors were then taken on a tour of the college. We feel that it is rather a shame that they couldn't have, say, stood in the Caf. queue at 6 o'clock, or tried to make their way through the evening crush at the bottom of the main stairs. But no doubt the general idea got through. The Building Fund Committee is to be congratulated on this excellent move: we can help ourselves to get the £20,000 which is all that we now need, by getting into extrav. this year. We should not leave it all to the Committee to raise; last year Extrav. raked in about £750—we can do a lot this year to supplement the results of that luncheon.

## Tournament Delegate's Note

This year we are glad to welcome visiting students to Easter Tournament at Wellington because this is the Jubilee year of Victoria College and we hope that the Tournament will take a fitting place among other Jubilee functions. There is no reason why this Tournament should not be the most successful on record and no endeavour has been spared to ensure that the hospitality in store for our visitors will equal the bounteous hospitality we have received in the past years from our sister Colleges.

The Victoria teams have been finalised and we now rely on them to pin their ears back and do their very best. We also rely on them to see that the spirit of good sportsmanship and friendly competition displayed in past Tournaments will be more than ever to the fore.

It is our task to see that Tournament 1949 is a credit to our nation, our city, our College, and ourselves.

VANCE HENDERSON,

Chairman,

Victoria College Tournament  
Committee.

## "BRIGHTON ROCK" OUT

It is indeed nice to know that we in NZ are protected from the evil and corrupting influences which are allowed free play in other countries: that while no-one thought of looking after the welfare of the unfortunate English people, we here were guarded from that frightful film, that morbid movie, that painful picture "Brighton Rock." Just think that thousands of people over there had no kind censor to make up their minds for them!

When the film was originally banned—or rather, when the news of its banning leaked out—there was a protest, of course, but that was by irresponsibles like Film Societies and MPs and it was soon pointed out that there wasn't any real right of appeal from this decision, anyway.

Now when the Tournament Organizers wanted a film to show at a private screening during Tournament, they thought of this. They knew that a private screening had been arranged for "Indonesia Calling" after its ban; therefore there could be no law against showing such a film. But when they went to the company in charge, they were told that "It is not our policy to show banned films."

### Are We Too Pure?

This seems a pretty strange sort of heavy-handed censorship to us. We hear that a group of MPs who wanted to make up their own minds about the thing, were similarly turned down—apparently, though "Brighton Rock" is good enough for the general population of England, even our MPs aren't adult enough to see it! What's wrong with the thing? Is it so bad as all that? The Catholic film weekly "Focus" (January, 1948) had no comments to make on its morals: it was "not milk for babes," but it was certainly "well made." On the whole, the author seemed to think that it was a closer approach to what he was trying to say than any film so far made of his books. And Greene is admittedly one of the best of our novelists. The Boulting brothers, who made the film, were responsible for "Thunder Rock" and a number of other fine films; they too are among the top flight in their profession. Yet the result isn't even fit for the pure minds of NZ audiences. Strange, isn't it?

Lord knows where the morals of this country would be if we didn't have such a nice kind censorship to look after them.

### SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING In Gymnasium,

8 P.M., THURSDAY, APRIL 7  
To Discuss the Association's  
Affiliation with the World Federation of Democratic Youth.

All students are urged to attend.

H. C. EVISON,  
Hon. Sec.

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### CAF. FACTS

Have you ever waited in the queue to get a meal in the Caf. at night? Have you cursed because it took you as long to wait as it did to eat? And have you been wondering why the price of the evening meal has risen from 1/9 to 2/-? So have we. Probably more solid grousing has gone into the Caf. situation than anything else around V.U.C. except exams. But while there is a fair amount of grousing, there hasn't been much constructive comment from anyone. Kath Langford, Stud. Ass. Caf. Controller, is pretty convinced that there isn't much that can be done about either the queues or the prices. The problem, she thinks is not quite the ordinary one: few ordinary restaurants have such a concentrated rush as our rush around six o'clock—only that in the "Duke" could equal it.

#### Costs

The price of the evening meal has just risen. Last year's figures for the operation of the Caf. shows a rather sizeable loss—about £170, in fact. The main reasons given for this are first, the changes in staff over the last year which have meant that efficiency dropped, and second, the terrific rise in the cost of wages over the last few years. Though the other costs—with the exception of the prices of meat, haven't gone up much, the wage rates have. If we are to run it at all, we must expect to pay a fair salary for a competent manageress; the job isn't exactly a bed of roses. Moreover, the Caf. is closed for almost four months of the year, which means that, unless we get a new manageress every year, the salary must continue through that break. And of course there is a cook to be paid. Overheads are far greater in proportion on this 8 months period than they would be if they were spread over the whole year. However, the Controller is sure that the loss can be made up in the next year's operating.

#### Queues

Is there anything possible to shorten those queues? Kath Langford thinks not. The present lay-out means that there are no facilities for having plates already dished up and keeping them hot: so everyone has to wait while they are dished up separately. On this view, the queues will continue until that new building is up. The Caf. has grown no bigger to keep pace with the size of the roll. And about 200 meals are served there every night, the greatest proportion being in that 6 o'clock rush.

#### Ideas

1. We show here a ticket which was used until about 7 or 8 years ago in the Caf. If such a ticket were used again, say two different tickets of 5/- and 10/- (and this one had advertising on the back which would just about cover the cost of printing them) the result would be, first an assured turnover—and if there were some slight concession on these

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

cards, maybe even an increase in turnover: second, that the time taken at present to give change would be cut. It might not be much, since the longest job is dishing out, but it should speed the queue along a little. It would be worth trying.

2. It should be possible for people who have only 10 minutes between lectures at four and five to by-pass the queue: they haven't a show of getting their meal as things are unless they don't have to stand in the line. We talked this one over with the Controller, and there is a distinct hope that this can be done.

3. Lists have been up around the college asking for support for an appeal for morning tea service. This is a worthy cause, but there won't be

enough staff to do it unless some of the people who put their names down will give a hand with the washing up and so on. Otherwise there isn't any reason why it shouldn't work—it used to.

4. The staff problem might be helped if students who could put in an hour or so a day were paid for their time. We understand that this is to be discussed at an Exec. meeting. There must be a few types around who would like to supplement their income by working even for a short time every day.

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

"It has been noted that other colleges serve Morning as well as Afternoon Tea in their respective Cafe-

terias. The question is raised whether Victoria students would have any interest in a similar scheme here.

The only way to find out is to ask each one of you. Therefore to save a lot of trouble asking you personally, would you please sign this sheet with your initials so that, if enough students are interested, something can be done about it."

**NO BOUT ABOUT IT**

The foregoing inconspicuous notice, hung in the college for only two days, was signed by over 60 students. No doubt the Exec. will sooner or later do something about this, no doubt, no doubt, but a little prompting from students will make it less later and more sooner, no doubt!!!!!!

### From "The City has a Current"

*In a dream  
I saw an organ system form  
in my city  
whipped along  
by its own clashing stream.  
It had a lung  
filled with stale office air  
into which the person melts,  
and pulsing arteries  
as rattling conveyor belts—  
with their escaped corpuscles  
clanging down the street as trams  
in senseless mechanical bustle—  
and a brain to see  
in the sullen sterile stillness  
of a slowly ticking library . . .  
instead of a heart  
chronicles of crumbling stone—  
built once by seeing hands—  
with their milled blindness  
as a blundered epitome.*

—H. Ralph Unger.

### Pamela

*The long cold waves of the ocean beat  
forever in the sand,  
Swaying the salt-laden acrid air with  
their falling sound,  
Tracing fine foam-path patterns on the  
yielding ground,  
Then sliding soft down the sloping shore  
of the land  
Lying impassive, unmoved, while the  
boneless hand  
Of the waters writes eternal repetition  
on the groined  
Coasts; ceaselessly striving to impress its  
form where fluid joined  
Solid; cease futile struggle, success  
banned  
By the nature of the task. So the  
sterile thought-waves of my mind  
Beat on the edge of consciousness, end-  
lessly recalling  
Your tawny-shaded hair and heart-  
shaped serene face,  
These and a thousand other flimsy  
aching pictures bind  
In vain my being to you; the constant  
series galling  
My brain, and I wake frightened and  
alone in some crowded place.*

—Alec Bryan.

### SONNET

*Now night drinks down the golden days  
of day  
And violet veils fall on the waiting  
hills;  
The homing merchant fresh from law-  
ful kills,  
His twin horns blaring, scurries on his  
way.  
Upon the lucy margin of the bay  
The ocean's moon-crustured treasure  
spills;  
Consumer man his destiny fulfils  
In cabbage-haunted cooms with moaning  
tray.  
The moons' glitter dims the ancient  
lights;  
The subtle symphony of earth and  
weather  
Is unperceived by cars tou-dubbed by  
metal;  
And he who sports a sword to guard  
his rights  
Shall miss the quick refulgence of a  
feather,  
Not see his essence in a falling petal.*

—Bruce McLeod.

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## Sports Panel Reports CHANGE NZU BLUES

One of the main reasons for setting up the Panel, was that in the past, there has been considerable discrepancies in the standard of the NZ Blue awarded in different sports, and even in the same sport in different years, so a more permanent body, each member of which supervises the award of NZ Blues for several years in succession would be the biggest factor in maintaining an even standard of Blues in all sports from year to year.

Subcommittee composed of A. D. MacKenzie (ex-CUC), D. Symon (CUC), J. Burton (CAC), J. Beard (ex-AUC), L. B. Piper (VUC), K. Gatfield (AUC), and R. Hunt (OU, convener). This committee met for two days during Winter Tournament, 1948, and has carried on by correspondence since.

### 1. Birth of Panel

There shall be a standing committee of the NZUSA to consider all nominations for NZU blues forwarded by recognised NZU Sports Councils and any other claims for the awards, and to make the final recommendation to NZUSA as to who is worthy to receive the award of an NZU Blue. This standing committee or NZU Blues Panel shall consist of five members, each well conversant with the wide range of sports played by the University, this Panel having functions similar to that of a College Blues Committee.

### 2. Standard of NZU Blue

NZU Blues be awarded only to persons considered by the panel up to the standard required of a good NZU team, this standard being described as equal to that of a good provincial team.

### 3. Period of Performance

The merit of any person for the award shall be judged primarily on his performance in the main Inter-Varsity contests of the season for the particular sport, except that when a person has been prevented from achieving his best standard during the above contests, or when it is impossible to judge fairly the merit of the person solely by his performance in the above contests, then the merit of the person shall be judged on his performance during the rest of the season.

### 4. Athletics, Swimming, and Shooting

A guiding standard shall be defined in co-operation with the appropriate Sports Councils; if conditions are ideal, this should be attained by competitors before they are recommended for a Blue, but in no case shall the award be automatic when this standard is obtained.

### 5. Maximum Number of Blues

Full number of Blues which may be awarded in each sport are:—

Athletic .....	20
Boxing .....	7
Association Football .....	11
Harriers .....	6
Defence Rifles .....	6
Ski-ing .....	8
Women's Basketball .....	9
Cricket .....	11
Rugby Football .....	15
Women's Hockey .....	11
Miniature Rifles .....	4
Swimming .....	15
Men's Basketball .....	7
Fencing .....	6
Men's Hockey .....	11
Rowing .....	8
Tennis .....	8
Table Tennis .....	4

It being maintained by Committee that unless the standard is high the full number shall not be awarded. However, it is possible for non-winners as well as winners in non-team sports, and more than one player from the same position in team sports to be recommended.

### How it will work

Panel would need to control the general standard set up by the Selection Committees of all sports, largely by inspiring the Selection Committees with the panel's own outlook, by comparing performances of teams and individuals with those of outside groups and other sports.

and by sifting accordingly the nominations received by each Selection Committee. The panel would not be responsible for making its own judgment in the relative merits of individuals in each sport, and would not lightly substitute its own judgment on the relative merits of individuals within any sport, for that of a more specialised selection committee.

### Membership

Hence it is not necessary for each sport to be represented on the panel by someone having expert knowledge of it. More important qualities for membership are:—

1. General familiarity with sport.
2. A knowledge and sense of standards in some sports, and the capacity to develop a good appreciation of them in all University sports.
3. A keen sense of discrimination and proportion for judging relative merits in different sports on the evidence and reports presented.

### Standardisation

In some sports the "good provincial standard" would almost be impossible to obtain, although it is certain they have measured up to the standard in Rugby, Cricket, Athletics and Swimming. However, a comparison could still be made with the best players in the various provinces. The definition of the NZU Blue standard happens to be a very controversial subject among students, at the present time.

University Sports Councils were circularised on the sub-committee's finding and unfortunately little attention was paid to them.

An unfavourable reply was received from the Rugby Council which desired no change and was not prepared to co-operate with the proposed panel.

### Personal

By postal ballot of sub-committee the following were recommended for membership to panel.

A. D. MacKenzie, (Christchurch), R. M. Daniell, (Masterton), R. G. Pilling, (Dunedin), C. Walters, (Christchurch), D. K. Neal, (Auckland).

### Final Criticism

To help the success of the whole scheme it is essential that all University Sports Clubs consider the points raised here, and forward any suggestions or objections to the Chairman of the NZU Blues Panel, C/o NZUSA, BOX 3023, Wellington before Easter Tournament.

The Panel would then be able to carefully consider them, so the final definition of the nature of NZU Blues and the procedure for their award shall incorporate all valuable ideas on the subject and be as widely acceptable as possible.

The newly constructed Varsity Tramping Club hut situated in the Tawharenikau Valley will be opened with great celebrations on Saturday, April 30. Come all!

The screening of "The Search" immediately following "Les Enfants du Paradis" gave Wellington its second notable film in as many weeks.

"The Search" was directed by Fred Zinneman, and produced by Lazar Wechsler (well-known as producer of "The Last Chance") and Praes-Film, Zurich, for Metro-Goldwyn Mayer.

It tells simply and sensitively something of the story of the thousands of orphaned and displaced children in Europe at the end of World War II. The camera follows them as, without talk or laughter, and with the slow painful walk of the utterly weary, they enter an Unrra children's camp in a ruined town in Western Germany.

### "The Search"

Then the film takes up the story of a nine-year-old Czech boy, Karel Malik. Karel's father and sister died in a concentration camp. His mother is alive and has crossed every zone in Germany searching for him.

### Ich weis nicht

But the boy knows nothing of this. A time in Auschwitz concentration camp and forced journeys through many countries has blotted out all memory. He does not remember his family, his nationality, or even his name. "Ich weis nicht" is the only reply he can give to Unrra officials' question.

On his way with a group of children to a special camp he escapes, fearing that he is still in the hands of the "conquerors" who tattooed an identification number on his arm. He lives in the rubble of the city until one day, lice-ridden and starving, he comes out to take food offered by a young American AMG officer.

Much as one would pick up a stray puppy, the American, Steve, takes him home, feeds and clothes him, and begins to teach him English while trying to trace his parents. He learns that they are almost certainly dead and plans to take Karel back to America.

### Conflicts

At first Karel is quite happy in this new life because at last he has found kindness. But he begins to notice that the life of the people around is really different from his. He begins to question his position in the house. He is unhappy and envious when he sees a mother (American) comforting her son, who has burnt himself. Odd memories begin to return and Karel, dimly remembering his mother, runs away to look for her. His mother, believing him to have been drowned after running away, stays on to tend a group of Jewish children, preparing to leave for Palestine, at the children's camp not far away. Karel does not find her where he expected to find her and is finally told she is dead.

Steve is returning to America and arranges for the boy to go back to the camp to await permission to

leave Europe, just as the boy's mother, steadfastly clinging to the hope that he may be alive, leaves.

But finally they are reunited, and it is the completely unexpected sound of his mother's voice calling his name that bridges the years of terror in a few moments, and makes his life whole again. The search is over.

### Something New

"The Search" is an emotional film. Dealing with a major modern tragedy it cannot help but be emotional. And it is in only one scene the emotion is not completely convincing and deeply moving. That is a remarkable record.

The acting of the principals is uniformly fine: Montgomery Clift as Steve, Aline McMahon as an Unrra official, and the Czech actress Jar-mila Novotna as Karel's mother.

Ivan Jandl, also a Czech, plays the part of Karel with a naturalness that makes one believe that he is acting out his own life, which is, of course, as it should be. He appears as the central character in more than half of the film and gives a thoroughly sustained and intelligent performance. This is about the best job of acting I have seen by a child, Anthony Wager and John Howard Davies notwithstanding.

The unnamed city has also a large part in the film. The great piles of rubble and shattered buildings, so frighteningly real to the boy, are unreal viewed from our suburban 'out post'. Here and there people live in cellars or in huts built from bricks recovered from the wreckage. The streets are stark, grey, and about the only people in them are housewives, or ex-Wehrmacht men trudging wearily nowhere.

### Reality

Hollywood has touched the fringes of this problem before. Inevitably the characters set out into a sunset for the "New World." Karel and his mother don't want that. Europe is their home and they don't seek to escape from it.

Through Karel the film speaks against nationalism. It advocates pacifism as the only answer to another war.

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