

Price 6d.

TO CHINA DESPITE THREATS

(Moscow—by Airmail)

I am writing today (August 14) because of what happened here last night. By the time this reaches you it will probably be splashed all over the world.

I refer to the decision of 48 of the American kids here (there are 200 Americans altogether) to press on with their proposed trip to China in spite of a threatening letter from Mr. Dulles' deputy at the State Department.

These Americans are living in the same hotel as we are, and we have seen quite a lot of them. The hotel was invaded by Yank pressmen last night. They sat in a separate room in the hotel while the 48 youngsters conferred. Several New Zealanders sat up to hear results, and I innocently went to iron a frock and found I could hear everything that was going on.

I got hold of a copy of the letter from the State Department—dated today's date you will note. Here it is:

"The Department of State has been informed that a number of United States citizens presently in Moscow have been invited to visit Communist China, and that some of them have indicated an intention to accept."

"It is not consistent with policy of the United States as approved by the President that citizens of the United States travel to the areas of China under Communist control."

"There are many reasons for this, and they are cumulative. They include non-recognition of the regime, the existence of a quasi-state of war and the continued application of the Trading with the Enemy Act, the refusal of Communist China to renounce the use of force, and the illegal jailing of Americans in China despite promises to let them out."

"Suffice it to say that those officials of your Government who are charged with responsibility in this matter have soberly and definitely come to the conclusion here expressed. Most of your fellow citizens, even those who may desire a change in some aspects of this policy, have accepted it."

"For you to determine to travel to Communist China in violation of the declared policy of your Government is a serious matter not to be undertaken lightly. By so doing you will be violating this restriction. At the first possible opportunity your passport will be marked valid only for travel only for direct return to the United States, and your passport will be taken up when you do so return. In the event that you make application for a passport at a later date, your wilful violation of passport restrictions will be duly considered in connection with such application."

"Your attention is further called to the fact that travel to and in Communist China at this time may well involve violation of the Regulations under the Trading with the Enemy Act, which constitutes a criminal offence under our law."

"There may be some of you who feel that by going to Communist China at this time and debating the position of Democracy as against Communism, you may be doing a service in offsetting the propaganda efforts of others less well intentioned. If you believe this you are in error. By travelling to Communist China at this time you will, in the considered view of your Government, be acting as a willing tool of Communist propaganda, intended where possible to subvert the foreign policy and the best interests of the United States, of which you are a citizen."

Sincerely yours,
CHRISTIAN A. HERTER,
Acting Secretary of State."

At the close of a three-hour meeting which went on into the night hours and has just concluded, the American group going to China (or some of them) issued the following statement:

"We the undersigned Americans travelling to China at the invitation of the All China Youth Federation, having received a statement signed by the Acting Secretary of State, wish at this time to reaffirm our belief in the right of United States citizens to travel, and once again state that our exercise of this right is consistent with loyalty to our country. We hold widely divergent political views. We reject the notion that we are a tool of Communist propaganda. We, too, look forward, with Mr. Dulles, to the day when the people of China and the people of America can resume their long history of co-operative friendship. We believe that we are acting consistently with this expression of hope."

More about the festival later.
—GWENDA MARTIN.

Salient

The Official Student Magazine of Victoria College Wellington

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WHAT GOES ON IN THE MYSTERIOUS ROOM?

In the student union building there is a room enigmatically marked "Warden". We understand that such an officer is strongly urged by the Principal, but little enthusiasm is registered by our student representatives. The fate of this officer may be decided in the near future.

Student objection is largely on the basis that a warden would be something similar to, e.g., the Warden of Weir House, a combination of ruler and policeman. But this need not be. Recently a "Salient" reporter was able to interview the Warden of Adelaide and his equivalent at Sydney.

The task of these men is to help students in every way possible—but only as advisers, and only dealing with individual students who seek their aid.

It is our opinion that such an officer could perform a valuable function at V.U.C., and that it is up to us to see that we get one.

"Everything that affects students' welfare is my business," is how Mr. Scarlett, adviser to men students at Sydney University sums up his job. Attempts to provide some kind of help and guidance for students at Sydney goes back a long way. When women were first admitted to the university it was felt they should have a "chaperone," so in 1891 a "tutor to women students" was appointed. Gradually the tutor became involved in all sorts of personal problems. It was only in 1921 that a male counterpart was appointed. His task was primarily to interpret university regulations to the students. This job, however, fell through during the depression, and was only revived after the war when an "adviser to men students" was appointed. The then officer, Mr. Bateman, expanded his new job beyond his strictly interpreted duties: doing all in his power to help students with all types of difficulties.

Upon Mr. Bateman's death in 1955, Mr. Scarlett succeeded him. Mr. Scarlett had long been interested in the problems of human relations, and had formerly been Guidance and Appointments Officer at the University of West Australia.

University Geared to Past

He finds enormous scope in his present position. It is his opinion that as a corporate body the university is not aware of social changes. Many students now look on the university merely as a vocational centre and seekers of knowledge for its own sake are becoming fewer and farer between. Yet it is for these that the university is geared.

Two people are quite inadequate to handle all the problems connected with adjusting young men and women to the modern university life. While wanting to do everything possible, he and his women's counterpart dare not advertise their services: they are working full pressure as it is. (During his interview with our reporter, Mr. Scarlett was continually interrupted by telephone calls and within a short time several students had lined up to see him.)

Hampering Conditions

The advisers at Sydney are hampered by great if surmountable difficulties. A most unsatisfactory staff-student ratio (Stage 1 English at V.U.C. multiplied), and intense overcrowding, the Vice-Chancellor recently gave the figure of 10,000 students, mean extra tasks in helping to bridge the enormous gap between teaching in schools and the university atmosphere. There is quite insufficient psychiatric treatment available for all the students who come to the advisers with their mental problems.

They also help students interpret regulations, show them what courses they can or cannot take, try to assist those who fail exams to find out why, what can be done about it.

There can be no doubt that the advisers find plenty of most valuable work to do—work is at present hardly touched at Victoria: work which Mr. Scarlett found necessary at West Australia with a population of 1800, whereas V.U.C. has over 2000 this year, and is expected to rise to by 1960.

They are not out to direct, but are "purveyors of information" who insist on letting a student run his own life, though are ever on hand to offer expert guidance.

Adelaide Liason

Another man whose full time occupation is looking after students needs and welfare is the Rev. Frank Borland, warden at the University of Adelaide.

For several hours he kindly explained a host of details about his university and conducted our reporter around the student buildings.

His general position is that of a liason officer between the university and the student body. He is a friend and adviser to all. As well, various extra tasks otherwise not coped with fall on his shoulders. Thus he handles accommodation, visits schools, corresponding with other universities, and organised the big W.U.S. appeal last year.

As an elder statesman and counsellor he plays a large part in student organisation.



Frank Borland

He has done much to foster the happy staff-student relations at Adelaide: although he does somewhat lament the lack of kick in student life. In his home university of Melbourne there is a proud tradition of strife with the administration. There is, however, one lively club, not so well known at New Zealand universities, the Immaterialist Society. It promotes the "cause of liberal humanism and agnosticism," and a major function is holding counter missions after a religious mission.

Staff and Students

At V.U.C. there tends to be a wide gulf in activities and social life between staff and students. At many Australian universities they actually co-operate in the one comprehensive union. Thus at Adelaide there is "The Union," which is in effect a university club, and holds regular meetings. On its council are representatives of the Staff Association, the (students) Sports Association, the S.R.C. (equivalent of V.U.C.S.A. Exec., except it is not concerned with sport), and the Graduates' Union. This latter body (Vic's has apparently died) is playing an increasingly active part at Adelaide. Various leading citizens, especially educationalists, take part in series of discussions which they run, and the Graduates' Union has managed to have some effect in its resolutions, e.g., pressing for certain social rights.

Active Part

It is of "The Union" that Mr. Borland is Warden. He sits on all its sub-committees and plays an active part.

For instance he was largely instrumental in the establishing of Freshers Camps before each academic year. The main intention is to give new students a feeling for college life. There are two

LAST CHANCE

The last issue of Salient with a special literary section, will appear on Thursday, 26th Sept. COPY CLOSES TUESDAY 17th

"The placing of graduates in permanent employment, the arranging of part-time and vacation employment, the approving of lodgings and the maintaining of a register of available board, as well as the giving of advice on courses, careers, health and personal problems are things the college should be concerned with. These services should not be allowed to grow piecemeal, but should fit into a scheme of planned development."
MR. R. HOGG, V.U.C. liason officer, reporting to the college council.
—"The Dominion," 26/6/56.

camp, each of about sixty, forty freshers and twenty staff and senior students.

The Warden also had a hand in the setting up of a Decorations Committee which has given an attractive face lift to their various students rooms, and does much the same work as our own newly established House Committee does for the Common Room. Except that they have about £100 to spend on pictures alone each year. (At the last V.U.C. Exec. meeting the City Library was paid four shillings for the hire of pictures.)

Cinderella's Impressions

Coming from the Cinderella of universities our reporter was most impressed with Australian student facilities. At Adelaide there is a new Union Hall to accommodate five hundred, two separate blocks with lounges and reading rooms for both sexes, a common room in which coffee and sandwiches can be bought at night, an attractive square, "The Cloisters."

Club facilities are very noticeable. There are club rooms for a large number of clubs, two large rooms with supper facilities for evening meetings, and a basement for hobbies.

There is a students' loan fund for those temporarily in need, a W.E.A. bookroom in the university grounds, and since 1946, a Health Service has been available.

Degrees are conferred and notable functions held in the university's own impressive Bonython Hall.

Paper Prize

Finally, the editor of the college newspaper, "On Dit," is awarded a scholarship of £200 and offered a job for two years by the local newspaper. Naturally the newspaper is conservative, but at least up to now, our reporter was informed, the scholarship has not been used as a means of keeping "On Dit" on the straight and narrow. Whether "Salient" with its turbulent tradition could work such an arrangement with the "Evening Post" or "Dominion," may be another matter.

These facilities are for about five thousand students, not twice the number at V.U.C. If we could have half of them, and half a Borland, it would, in our reporter's opinion, merely be approaching our rights as students.

£10 PRIZE

Design a Tie for V.U.C.

All students will welcome the fact that at least we are to have an official tie. Everyone should be even more pleased that they themselves can have a hand in the design. Everyone is invited to design a tie, and if an acceptable one is designed it may well win the artist £10. This generous prize is being offered so that a good number of entries will be received.

If this tie is to be worn by Vic. students over the years it is essential that it be really presentable.

Here is your chance to do something for V.U.C. and at the same time gain a tidy sum.

Send designs to V.U.C.S.A. office (P.O. Box 196) before October 18.

DEAR SALIENT

T.C. and the Bomb Algeria and U.N.

The students of Victoria University College will be interested to know of the action taken by students of the Wellington Teachers' College on H-bomb tests. At a special general meeting of the Association the following motion was passed:

(1) That this Students' Association condemns all H-bomb tests.

(2) That the Executive (of the Association) take all steps to bring to the attention of the general public and the Prime Minister our opinions on this question.

Bound by our Constitution to act upon this motion, our Executive presented a petition, signed by some 300 students, to Mr. Holyoak. Reports of this presentation were sent to the Press.

Our motion may not have influenced the great power politicians in their decisions. However, we have registered our protest. We hope that your students' Association will do likewise in accordance with the motions passed at their special general meeting.

D. L. GLOVER,

Secretary.

Wellington Teachers' College Students' Association.

The story goes that a West German society lady had arranged a lavish party, but at the last minute found her arrangements upset when five of her guests were unable to turn up. She had a brainwave, and rang up the commander of the local American garrison. Putting on her sweetest voice, she asked, if she could borrow five smart young officers to make up the numbers. "Only," she said, "please, no Jews." The American, in his sweetest voice, agreed, and sure enough, five officers turned up at the party. Obviously, none of them were Jews, for all five were Negroes. The horrified hostess got them in private and asked, "Are you sure there's been no mistake?"

"Oh, no, there's no mistake," they said. "General Cohen never makes a mistake."

—From Democratic German Report.

The Algerian National Liberation Army has asked the French Government to allow a U.N. enquiry on the Melonza massacre. When 300 men of the village of Melonza were murdered, the French claimed this as the work of the Liberation Army, an attempt to terrorise other villages into joining the rebel line. The Liberation Army claims:

(1) The atrocity was committed by Algerians in French pay, to try and whip up hatred in France against the rebels;

(2) The victims were selected—all were adult men fit and able to carry arms. The women of the village were driven off by the French and held incommunicado;

(3) The Liberation Army would welcome a U.N. enquiry into the whole use of force in Algeria, and especially into the responsibility for the Melonza massacre.

—Communard.

Enough Said

He is at it again! ("Rightwing," I mean.)

—J. T. Devine.

The Editors accept no responsibility for opinions expressed in "Salient," especially the editorials.

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Dead

Last Saturday I sat from 7.30 p.m. to 11 p.m. in a crowded, hot, and fur-coated Concert Chamber. We saw the four recalled plays, which Mr. Thomson, the adjudicator, had selected as the four best over the whole week. I can only say that the rest must have been very poor indeed.

As far as I am concerned, the British Drama League's Festivals of Drama are not in danger; they are dead!

—L.D.A.



In the Swim?

Are you a swimmer? If so, why not join YOUR Club—the Vic. Club? We always have room for more members. We have two water polo teams. The experts in the first division and the more social easy-going types in the third division. You won't be in Wellington this summer? Join your local club at home and keep in trim—remember Easter Tournament. You can't swim? We will teach you or your local club will. Girls—Tournament gives you plenty of opportunity—not as much competition as the men. You aren't sure? Come along to our A.G.M. on Tuesday, 17th September—next Tuesday—and meet the rest of us, anyway. You can't get along that night? Then see a committee member or attend one of our weekly club evenings at Thorndon from 8-11 November. Why not be active this summer? Your turn to answer. Remember—Tuesday, 17th September.

—C.P.

A liaison officer at Otago University has just been appointed. The new officer is a former policeman.

"The University has no wish rigidly to police all its social functions," the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Soper, stated.

—from "Citic," 1/8/57.

E.U. Activities

"Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already unto harvest."

These words of Christ summarise a talk by Mr. Arthur Skeels, of the Oriental Missionary Society, to the E.U. recently. Having visited Hong Kong, Formosa, Japan, and Korea (South), he was able to speak challengingly on the great opportunity for Christianity in those lands today. In places where war has shattered old beliefs as well as buildings, there is a hunger for a faith to fill the gap. In these lands, where not only population but literacy rate are increasing so rapidly, there are great opportunities for spreading the Gospel.

Another recent talk to E.U. was given by an Indian student, John Subramani, on "The Failure of a Successful Man"—the rich and self-centred materialist who gave no thought to God or ultimate destination of his soul till it was too late. "There are two sorts of death," he said, "ordinary physical death and the death after physical death, the penalty of sin, the separation of the soul from God." As all have sinned, all would be doomed to this second death if the Son of God had not taken the sins of men on Himself when He died on the Cross. It is often said God must be cruel to punish us for our sins, but we must remember He has offered us all a way of escape. If a man drowns because he won't accept the life line thrown to him, the would-be rescuer can't be blamed for his death.

Two films, "The Facts of Faith" and "Time and Eternity," were shown to enthusiastic audiences at the subsequent E.U. meetings. A talk by Frank Stephens, M.Sc., a V.U.C. graduate, on "Are Science and Christianity Compatible?" provoked some interesting discussion.

"Salient" is no longer the "official organ" of the Students' Association, even in name, following a decision of the Exec. The vote was easily carried after it was pointed out that it might be considered that "Salient" stated the Exec. viewpoint.

SALIENT

THURSDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER, 1957

Dirty, or Just Dull?

Mr. F. A. de la Mare has written his annual letter to the daily Press (a little later than usual this year) complaining about the standard and smuttiness of our Capping procession and magazine.

We have the deepest respect for Mr. de la Mare. He is in many ways one of Victoria's finest sons. He was a foundation student of the College, and as scholar, sportsman, and devotee of many extra-curricular cultural activities, "Froggie" was well-known and liked in his student days. In the Graduates' Association he did much valuable work, and is especially to be esteemed for his stand on academic freedom in the early thirties when the principles mouthed by all academics were put to a real test and betrayed on all sides.

Mr. de la Mare's interest in the College is more than that of an old fogey with a sentimental regard for his Alma Mater. Victoria must mean to him as much as it owes to him, and that is a great deal.

Nevertheless, Mr. de la Mare's strictures upon the manner in which latter-day students celebrate Capping have tended to become tiresome by repetition. Many students are familiar with his name otherwise only in connection with the activities of the New Zealand Alliance, and write him off as an old wower. The general theme of his yearly lament certainly helps foster this attitude by concentrating on the grossness of public over-indulgence of alcohol by students on Capping Day, and of the proportion of their gags devoted to the more elemental human functions like excretion and copulation.

Dr. John Beaglehole once remarked that "the most damaging charge against University students is not the moral one that their wit is indecent, but the intellectual one that it is so very dull." If complaints about this year's Process and Cappicide were based on the more damaging charge, they would be closer to the truth, and more likely to help provoke an improvement next year.

—C.V.B.

Records Officer

Mr. Don Jamieson, a history honours student at V.U.C., and V.U.C.S.A. Records Officer, has been appointed N.Z.U.S.A. Records Officer. The post was created as a result of the growing need for an officer with a thorough knowledge of the history, origins and background of the association—a need emphasised by the number of inquiries from overseas concerning the association's history.

It has also been realised that unless N.Z.U.S.A. records are soon systematised and steps are taken for their preservation, the association's past will be forgotten through neglect.

The New Zealand delegates to the Seventh I.S.C. in Nigeria in September, Messrs. B. V. Galvin and P. W. Boag, were given a mandate by N.Z.U.S.A. to press for the holding of the seminar in New Zealand, and were authorised to suggest Auckland as the venue and the first quarter of 1958 as the time. They were also permitted to suggest or agree to other times or venues which the Supervision Committee might consider more favourably, provided that such alternatives would not be impracticable from N.Z.U.S.A.'s viewpoint.



Mr. F. A. De la MARE

Has written his annual letter to the daily press.

An excellent memorandum on all aspects of organisation at V.U.C. has been prepared and circulated to club secretaries by the V.U.C.S.A. Secretary, former "Salient" editor Brian Shaw. Club treasurers should particularly note the appendix on their duties. At last club "accounts" may remotely resemble accounts. Copies are available at the V.U.C.S.A. Office.

Mrs. Kelly, have presented the world and her husband with triplets, was resting comfortably at the hospital when her friend, Mrs. O'Rielly, came to call.

"Triplets!" exclaimed Mrs. O'Rielly. "Faith and it's a wonderful thing, havin' one's family all at once-like instead of one at a time like common folks."

"Aye, that it is, that it is, Mrs. O'Rielly," beamed the proud mother. "You know the doctor says it happens only once in two hundred thousand times."

Mrs. O'Rielly, visibly impressed, shook her head and said, "Saints above and is that a fact now? If I'm not bein' over-easying Mrs. Kelly, WHEN did you be after fudin' time to do the housework?"

God Defend New Zealand

"The mothers of this country would certainly not like their third form daughters to read the 'Sea Hunters,' by Frank Robb," said Mrs. McMillan in the House of Representatives.

"The tale is told in a racy sort of seafaring language, but here are innumerable books which children can enjoy without giving them ideas of words and phrases which they will pick up all too soon out of the byways and gutters."

Government voice: "What about the Bible?"

"We all know such words are in the Holy Writ," said Mrs. McMillan, "but we don't go taking them out and distributing them to Form III girls."
—"Dominion," 25/7/57.

NOW THE BIG END

"I've said to him many times: 'Look, Sid, you're burning the candle at both ends,' and now he's burned out his big end," Sir William Sullivan at the National Party conference.
—"Standard," 21/8/57.

Two motions opposing nuclear tests were rejected by an extraordinary meeting of the Canterbury University College Students' Association. That has more significance, perhaps, than if there had been resolutions passed by any other of the university colleges, because Canterbury College, as we know, is the school of engineering, and both on its professional staff and among its students there are men better qualified to speak on this subject than most of us, or perhaps any of us, in this House."
—Mr. C. G. E. Harker (Government) in the House of Representatives, 13th June, 1957.

"The Auckland batting was disappointing in spite of the pitch having some life in the morning session. Later the bitch became a lot easier and this was much appreciated by the Australian batsmen."
—"Bay of Plenty Times," 18/3/57.

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO FOR SALE BY TENDER

—Advert in "Evening Post," 20/7/57.

Thespians do "Time Remembered"

In Jean Anouilh's "pieces roses" the plots are all fairly similar. The nobility are enormously wealthy and all are eccentric; the lower classes are proud and are not blinded by either title or money. There is always a Cinderella, but she is sometimes fated not to be wed her prince. In "Time Remembered" she does catch her prince, a real one and very rich. Amanda, a milliner, is inveigled by the Duchess of Pont-au-Bronc to impersonate Leocadia, a dead singer, with whom the Prince Albert Troubiscol, her nephew, had fallen in love for three days before she so tragically died. All the places that they visited together have been rebuilt on the estate and the Prince broods in this make-believe world. Amanda impersonates Leocadia until she learns that the Prince was not really in love with her, and that she herself is. The play ends happily with the memory of Leocadia shattered, symbolised in the death of a rare bird shot by the Duchess.

"This play needs a lightness of touch, stylised acting and production which keeps the delicate balance between fairy story and farce. It is in fact a soufflé, which must be cooked very carefully. Unfortunately, these ingredients were not to be found. Noeline Armstrong, as the Duchess, spoke every line so slowly, paused so often, as if to say to the audience, "Go on, laugh. This is funny," that she destroyed the most amusing thing about the Duchess—her complete and utter eccentricity. The whole production itself was too slow and rather heavy-handed. Speed and gaiety are the two necessary ingredients for this play, and only in Amanda (played by Virginia Todd) and Prince Albert (John King) were these to be found. Both played with spirit and attack, though John King was, at times, a little too moody. As is usual with Thespians, the minor parts were uniformly bad, with the exception of Ronald Lynn as Lord Hector, who pattered around delightfully in his own little world.

IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

"I would lick to know how I got what I have got," said the Prime Minister (Mr. Holland) in his speech at the National Party conference today, referring to the back injury that has troubled him since the middle of May. "It happened in the middle of the night," he said.
—"Evening Post," 12/8/57.

THEY SLAVE FOR THE WORKERS

"The greatest wrong an employer can perpetuate on his employees is to fail to make a profit," said Samuel Gompertz, first President of the American Federation of Labour. He meant surely that the employer who fails to make a profit will go quickly out of business—and his employees will be out of work.

Inserted in the interests of all sections of the community by the Ass. Chambers of Commerce of New Zealand.

—Advert in the "Dominion," 19/8/57.

"LEBANON'S FOREIGN POLICY TO CONTINUE"

Evening Post headline. We thought they had finished with such stupidities.

New Site

"A small school building at Rōwallan, a sawmilling settlement in the Tuatapere district, Southland, is in danger of disappearing over a cliff, it was reported at a meeting of the Southland Education Board."

The board was told that arrangements had been made to have the school moved to a new site.
—"Standard," 7/8/57.

BAN ON IMMODEST TOURISTS

"Foreign tourists in immodest clothing will not be tolerated on Rome streets, police headquarters announced today. A circular has been sent to all police stations in and around Rome laying down that tourists seen in city streets in improper dress—such as brief shorts, flimsy, sleevesless blouses and, on the part of males, bare torsos . . . may be charged with indecent behaviour in a public place."
—"Evening Post," 22/8/57.

And women? and Romans?

What a Blazer

"V.U.C. Tailored Woman's Blazer, worn once only, for Cane Push Chair, or sell."

—Swap column, "Evening Post," 19th July, 1957.

Sins of Their Fathers

"As the ball season approaches many young asses from the Labour Party will wish to be presented at Labour Party Balls."

—"Standard" 25/6/57.

What a Job!

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SHORTHAND TYPIST APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POSITION OF SHORTHAND-TYPIST.

Duties: Secretarial and general nature. Salary up to £31 a week . . .
—Advt. in "Evening Post," 3/8/57.

"For the first time in its 800 years' existence, the Kremlin echoed the sound of a New Zealand haka."
—Report of Moscow Youth Festival in "People's Voice," 14th August, 1957.

Heavenly Aid

"COUNCIL YARD—J.C.'S VERSION"
—Caption in the "Evening Post," 2nd August, 1957.

As Bad as Hungary

While the Western world is rightly shocked at each revelation of Soviet oppression in Hungary, the nasty, silent tyranny in Portugal remains as it has been for the last quarter of a century. "Le Monde" apparently is the only paper to report that twenty of the fifty-two students who have been tried in Oporto have been condemned to various punishments ranging from fines to long prison sentences. This, of course, takes no notice of the many months that some of them have spent in gaol or of the ruin of all their careers, acquitted or convicted alike. Nor is there any mention of the two witnesses who are said to have committed suicide under questioning. The worst feature of the whole business is that honest Portuguese who have committed no crime except that of criticising Salazar's clerical tyranny, are being picked up and kept in prison for six months without trial or inquiry. The police need not even bother to mention their detention for that length of time. One trick is to arrest a student just before his exams, so that his professional career is blasted. Another trick is to punish people by deprivation of their civil rights; this means that in the case of law and medical students they are not allowed to practise their professions. An effective and silent form of tyranny. Professor Ruy Luis Gomez, a distinguished mathematician, and four other professors are now on trial. The professor was arrested in August, 1954, held until trial in April, 1955, and convicted. He successfully appealed, was rearrested, and is now being tried again for the offence of signing a manifesto in favour of a plebiscite in Goa.
—(From the "New Statesman," 19th June, 1957.)

When I was a boy I was told anyone could become Prime Minister—I'm beginning to believe it.—(From Otago Capping Book, 1957.)

ARTS FESTIVAL

At the recent N.Z.U.S.A. Winter Council meeting V.U.C. offered to be host to a university Arts Festival next year. Little enthusiasm was shown by the other colleges, however, especially Auckland, who are apparently in financial difficulties. Eventually the offer was accepted—but only on the basis that V.U.C. bear sole financial responsibility. V.U.C. generally is particularly canny about throwing money around—which is quite understandable—and a fair maxim for our delegates to conferences might be: endorse anything imaginative provided it does not cost much. Thus V.U.C. was at no time prepared to bear all the cost of the Festival and at the last meeting of the Excc. it was decided to withdraw the offer. It was pointed out that little forethought had gone into this scheme. Other colleges did not even know it was in the air, and no one had the slightest idea as to the expenses involved. Moreover, it would have been held during May when V.U.C. were in the throes of Capping ceremonies, and preparing for Winter Tournament for which we shall also be hosts.

The withdrawal was immediately passed on to the other colleges, although it was also stated that V.U.C. would still bear the scheme in mind, perhaps for May, 1959.

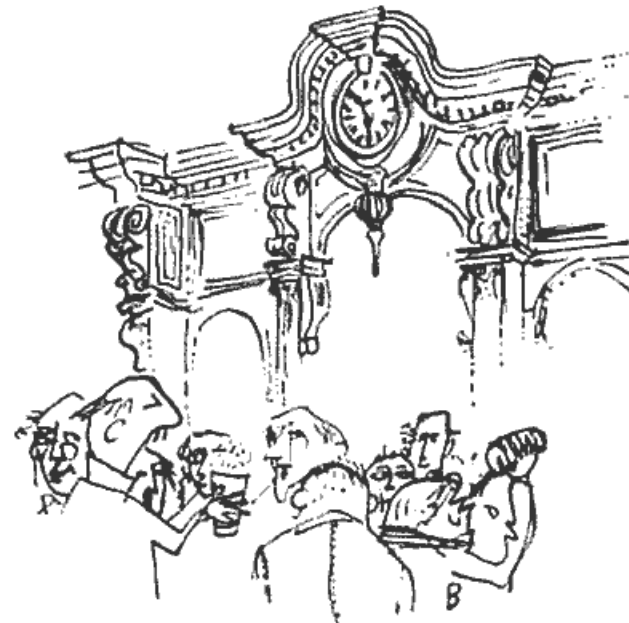
It might be well for the supporters of the Festival to consider co-operating with the Wellington City Festival, which, we understand, will be held in February or March of 1959.

"We killed an old man of seventy who had climbed a tree to pick figs. The report called him a sniper hidden in a tree."

But not all gave these "heroes" a cordial welcome. Some Algerians fired on the parade with revolvers, and shot two members of the so-called "Moslem Home Guard," a quisling force recruited by the French to crush their own countrymen. This incident and the mass arrests that followed must have rather spoiled the festive atmosphere.

"Contre nous de la tyrannie. . . ."
But it is France that has raised the blood-smeared banner, and to the horror of the world it is France that is denying her most glorious traditions in her brutal and bloody war against Algeria. Communist.

(Note—the quotations from French soldiers are taken from "Tribune," 26th April, 1957.)



New Zealand's Drinking Habits Conditions and Laws . . .

For a full survey see next

"SALIENT"

Thursday, 26th September

FRANCE'S GLORY

Allons enfants de la Patrie
Le jour de glorie est arrive!
Contre nous de la tyrannie
L'etendant sanglant est leve,
L'etendant sanglant est leve!

On the 14th July, 1789, the people of Paris captured the Bastille. That date has ever since been held to mark the fall of the Ancien Regime.

The French people have since then never ceased to struggle for their freedom. Often they have lost it, and ever they have risen against their oppressors.

1830—Overthrow of the Bourbon monarchy restored by the Allies.

1848—Overthrow of the Orleans monarchy and foundation of the short-lived Second Republic.

1871—The people of Paris rise against the Prussians and the forces of the established order. The revolt was put down, but the Third Republic established.

1944—Frenchmen of the Resistance, of all political colours, after four years of underground struggle, united in the F.F.I. and co-operate with the Allies to expel the Ger-

The memory of these revolutions is cherished by Frenchmen and by friends of France the world over. And the day chosen to celebrate them is the Fourteenth of July.

But times have changed! Although it is only 13 years since the French shook off the worst tyranny they have ever

known, July 14th, 1957, was turned into a festival in support of tyranny. "Support our soldiers in Algeria" was the tune called by President Coty, and chorused in a thousand ways. The main event in the celebrations in Paris was a military parade, in which marched paratroopers fresh from exploits in Algeria. According to the press, they were given a hero's welcome.

What were their exploits? Let some speak for themselves.

"It's terrible to undergo the experience of being hated. . . . I feel that I am reliving precisely the Resistance of 1943-44 but the other way round."

"On May 11th, 1956, a unit is passing through a village; two or three shots are fired on the soldiers. Orders given to destroy the whole place. At least 78 people—men, women and children—killed."

"When I meet a group of natives in the fields I open fire; but because I'm human I fire to one side. If they run away, they must be rebels, so I fire on them."

"For over an hour I watched the prisoners being brutally treated: kicks, blows with the butt in the stomach, ribs and neck. Three die on the spot. The others were shot in the evening, I learn." These prisoners, 40 of them, were only suspects.

Victoria Story (6)

Politics and War Overshadowed the '30's

Contemporary currents of political thought have always found vocal expression at V.U.C. And the noisiest impact of the slump on our ivied walls was its indirect impact through its influence on political thinking.

The rival solutions to the economic and social ills advanced by privilege and democracy led to clashes of varying intensity all over the globe. New Zealand Labour, in the wake of Roosevelt's Democrats, won a resounding victory on the slogan "Social Security." In Spain and the Far East the curtain-raisers of Fascism's bloody onslaught on enlightenment began.

The stream of cheaply-priced and often well-written political literature from the Left Book Club, Penguin Books, and the rest, stimulated a new interest in ideas.

A Labour Club was formed at V.U.C. in 1934 (not affiliated to the Labour Party, but owing a wider allegiance to "socialism and the working class movement"), and the Free Discussions Club enjoyed a new political heyday. An Anti-war Movement was formed as a joint offshoot of the Labour Club and the S.C.M., and ran a Peace Ballot, screened Bob Semple's famous anti-war lantern-slides, and organised a lending library of pacifist and Leftist books and pamphlets.

Subjects argued in the Debating Society that year included Japanese expansion, the desirability of dictatorship, and Imperial defence—the latter the visitors' debate, with Peter Fraser on the platform. The 1936 visitors' debate was the first occasion on which V.U.C. recorded a motion of confidence in a Government. With John A. Lee and J. G. Coates as guests of honour, the College affirmed its overwhelming support for Labour.

The S.C.M. reflected the general political upsurge and became dubbed the "Slightly Christian Movement." It was largely this infection which prompted the formation of the E.U. at that time. A programme including Walter Nash on "Problems of the Pacific," Lex Miller on "Dialectical Materialism," and a study circle led by Professor Wood on international relations, could not be expected to appeal to conservative fundamentalists.

The Literary Society took to discussing "social realism," and subscribed to the Moscow journal "International Literature."

The Drama Club produced "Journey's End" and "Till the Day I Die," and heard Max Riske on "Plays and Films I Saw in Russia."

The year 1937 saw the first of Ronald L. Meek's Extravaganzas—which continued with increasing success until "Peter in Blunderland" in 1945. These shows set the tone for all the best V.U.C. Extravaganzas—bitingly satirical political allegories with a left-wing perspective and scintillatingly witty lyrics.

By 1938 the Labour Club, Free Discussions Club, and Anti-war Movement all seem to have withered away. But that year saw the establishment of a more lasting mouthpiece for V.U.C.'s social and moral conscience—"Salient."

The history of student journalism at this college is a fairly faithful mirror of the history of significant trends in student thought.

"Smad" (named from the initial letters of V.U.C.'s motto), which first appeared monthly when "Spike" was changed from a half-yearly to an annual in 1930, chronicled the ebb and flow of political controversy. "Smad" saw it as no part of its duty to comment on student activities or the influence on students of the march of human affairs. When it became weekly in 1935 "to allow discussion of current topics," a more enlightened view momentarily prevailed. But by 1937 its vision had shortened and its outlook narrowed, its pages had become cluttered with dull narratives of club proceedings without comment, its tone was one of "Olympian isolation."

The editorial committee who took over in 1936 did so with a new policy and a new name. "Smad" and its policy died. "Salient" was born with (to quote its first editorial) "a policy which aims to link the University more closely with the realities of the world."

The policy of the first two editors (A. H. Scotney and Derek Freeman) was maintained for more than a decade—in fact, it has prevailed, with aberrant moments, up till the present. It was most characteristically expressed in Freeman's verse:

"Send out, 'Salient,' the swift satiric point
To smart the sluggish mind awake.
While freedom anywhere in bonds is pent
No compromise with falseness make.
Those freed today, tomorrow forth may leap
Some further outpost there to take and keep."

That may sound hopelessly starchy-eyed to a more cynical generation. But it epitomises the crusading spirit of the '30's which found a voice in the early "Salient."

The Spanish War, Munich, social security, Labour's education programme, the place of New Zealand in Hitler's world-strategy (as seen through the eyes of Count von Luckner), student confidence in the Government (as still reflected in the 1939 visitors' debate between Dr. McMillan and Mr. S. G. Holland) . . . these were the issues about which the Left got excited and which filled "Salient" in those days.

It did not fail to evoke a reaction from what "Spike" described as "the usual group of noisy students." Persistent objections to "Salient's" policy by this group, though rebuffed by a vote of confidence in the editors at the 1939 Stud. Ass. A.G.M., led to the editorship being voluntarily passed to the chief critic W. S. Mitchell for two issues. The tone and content of these is not recognisably different—evidently the majority of contributions tended in one direction, and a conservative editor found his job rather heavy going against the current.

War came—fulfilling repeated left-wing warnings of the inevitable fruits of appeasement. The early war period saw heated discussions on the extent of legitimate civil rights in wartime, and on conscription and pacifism. A "Society for the Discussion of Peace, War, and Civil Liberties" was formed, and the President of the Stud. Ass. had to resign his post when he was sent to a military defaulters' camp.

"Truth" kept up the attack with a blazing article headed: "Stop the Red Rot!"

But with the growth of the resistance movements in Europe and Hitler's attacks on Russia (bringing London and Moscow into a sudden and mutually unexpected alliance), the V.U.C. Left saw their whole policy of the '30's as vindicated.

The 1941 Stud. Ass. A.G.M. carried a "Manifesto" which summed up this attitude—and stands as a permanent expression of the faith of the 1930's looked back on from the shadows of the 1940's.

"A spectre is haunting New Zealand," it began;—"the spectre of the University Red. He is unpatriotic and addicted to foreign philosophies; his attitude to political and social problems is irresponsible and immature; he is defeatist and unwilling to defend his country against aggression."

Prague University, even under Czech democratic government, gained a certain notoriety for the 'subversive' left-wing views of its students. But when, after the outbreak of war, the students drove the Nazis out and built barricades in the grounds, the Gestapo could not force its way into the college and had to call on the Army. They shot about a hundred students, sent many more to concentration camps, and closed the University.

"Perhaps this all goes to confirm that students are apt to advocate action when more mature minds would rather wait, and that they are inclined to forget that these actions may have prejudicial effects on their future lives. All this was no doubt pointed out by the Czech Fascists who had advocated the disciplining of Prague University for many years and who were now sensibly collaborating with the Nazis."

Past copies of "Spike," "Cappicade," "Salient," and its predecessor "Smad," are to be bound, the V.U.C.S.A. Exec. decided at a recent meeting. At present, despite many efforts by the Records Officer, these papers repose in unhappy confusion in the V.U.C.S.A. attic—Records Room. It has not been announced where they shall be displayed. It is to be hoped it will be somewhere convenient, the Libr., or the Common Room.



"Similar things happened in Poland, Norway, Holland. . . . Everywhere the Nazis found students among their most irreconcilable enemies. Something of the same sort in China must have been responsible for the decision of the Japanese High Command to bomb universities as military objectives. . . ."

"It should not be difficult to understand the reason for this hostility. It is not the cringers and lick-spittles who fill the concentration camps of Dachau and Buchenwald, but people who think and say what they think. Both of these dangerous habits are acquired at Universities, not by all students, but by a sufficient number to give such places a bad name. Fascism, moreover, by the conditions of its existence, is driven to implacable hostility to all true culture and learning."

The Manifesto goes on to contrast the role of the University here and in Europe as a haven of free speech, with that of its right-wing critics. "In this connection," it says, "it is interesting to compare the cruel and futile campaign for the persecution of pacifists

that has been conducted by some organisations, with the free and open discussion of the subject that has continued at V.U.C. throughout the war. The result has been that pacifism at this college has declined in the face not of persecution but of arguments of a superior logical force."

There follows a list of things about which V.U.C. students protested during the '30's and early in the war—suppression of opposition by the Government which later sold France, support for the Finnish Mannerheim who later became Hitler's ally. . . . "For all these things we were attacked and for none of them we apologize. For on these matters the 'University Reds' were right and their enemies were wrong."

"Therefore we, the students of Victoria College, deplore the slanders which have from time to time been brought against us, and pledge ourselves to maintain those principles of freedom for which British, Soviet, and Allied youth are giving their lives."

—Victorian.

CHRIST IS NOT THE ONLY ONE

To date I have stood on the sideline of the Christian v. Rationalist controversy with increasing disquietude. I feel it is time that light was shed on this discussion from a new source of illumination.

A few of your mental grapplers grasp (I think), albeit dimly, that this is an argument not between Christianity and Rationalism, but between Religion and What-have-you. But even these, and all the remaining writers, draw their language and illustrations from Christianity. This narrow view is particularly to be deprecated in a University whose privileged inhabitants have the opportunity of taking a much wider view of any subject than the man in the street; even more to be deprecated in an institution making some belated steps to include the life and thought of Asia within its purview.

Christianity is not the only religion in the world. It is one of the younger, by no means the most strongly supported on a count of heads, and in the course of its historic development has shown a number of defects—notably a tendency towards aggressive tolerance.

Though I realise there are great individual examples—St. Francis, for instance—to stand against this point of view, it could be said to spring to some small extent from the life and work of its sublime founder. (I cannot imagine Buddha, for example, whipping the money-lenders out of the temple, much as he would have disapproved of them. On the other hand, Mahommed would probably have put them to the sword with the completely mistaken conviction that whipping off a man's head makes him change his mind.)

The advance of Christianity has lost it much of its bloodthirstiness, but it still shows regrettable leanings to violence. Billy Graham, for example, seems to imagine that thunder-and-machine-gun-like volleys bring the soul to God. God comes to the heart as warm sun on a

winter's morn, bringing day by day an ever-widening, deepening understanding. At its most violent, it is like the serrate unfolding of a flower, or the opening of one shutter upon another.

But as cogent a reason for turning to include Asia in our outlook is that the two greatest spiritually-based movements in modern times are Indian. They are the peaceful securing of India's independence by Ghandi, and the land-distribution campaign of Vinova Bhavi. The Western world has magnificent individual gestures such as Schweitzer's or even Huddleston's, but no sweeping movements such as these Indian ones, based on a recorded religious tradition three times as long as the Christian era.

Again, let us take this word "Belief." To listen to the Christian case, one would think the Resurrection was an isolated occurrence, unique in history. In fact, countless recorded instances of great souls rising from the dead (descending to the earthly might be more accurate) exist both before and since Christ. It is a simple fact that the great have the power to use subtle forces of nature beyond the crude sensibilities of our mechanical marvels and earthly bodies.

Neither I nor my schoolmaster were present at the defeat of the Armada, but he very rightly expects me to believe it and its importance in our history.

—B. C. Walsh.

It is six months since the first issue of "Salient" for 1957 was published as "Vol. 20, No. 1." Yet we still have heard no protest from the alert that Volume 20 appeared last year. The explanation is simple. At the risk of confusing future generations by repeating the same volume numbers for two years the editors have taken this measure for strict accuracy. The first volume of "Salient" appeared in 1938. But a few years ago an editor was somewhat confused, and after several false starts ended up with the wrong volume number. Only this year has the fault finally been rectified.

DRAMATICS

"I Am A Camera"

—by V.U.C. Drama Club

"I am a Camera" is adapted from Christopher Isherwood's vivid evocation of pre-war Germany, "Good-bye to Berlin." Scenario rather than dialogue is supplied by John van Druten, a playwright of limited talent who has in the past reached a considerable public through sheer ability as an entertainer. From the Berlin stories, van Druten has constructed a somewhat unwieldy play that does, however, provide a convenient framework for Isherwood's fresh and incisive prose. "The borzoi couldn't catch the roe, although it seemed to be going much the faster of the two, moving in long, graceful bounds, while the roe went bucketing over the earth with wild rigid jerks, like a grand piano bewitched." This perfect felicity clearly lies outside van Druten's normal range and he wisely incorporates as much of the original prose as possible.

Isherwood's "camera with its shutters open, quite passive, recording not thinking" takes its impressions sensitively and with great accuracy in the novel and one doubts whether van Druten's play is a suitable darkroom for developing and mounting them. As an "adaptation" the play starts at a disadvantage. It lacks the coherence and inevitability of drama that has been shaped organically. Characters and incidents do not develop through any inner necessity—they merely turn up, episodic and rather slavishly following the order of the original stories. To avoid this inherent shapelessness, it is vital for a production of this play to impose its own rhythm, to emphasise light and shade and signifi-

ficant situations. The Drama Club production unfortunately failed to achieve this kind of interpretation. All scenes were taken at the same speed and, allowing for a cast who were at times uncertain of their cues, one still longed for a more spirited interpretation of situations that were clearly good "theatre." To give an example, the scene in which the boisterous extrovert Clive insists that Sally and Christopher accompany him on a world tour is curiously underplayed and falls flat.

On the whole the cast were responsible for some agreeably lively acting. Mr. John Dawick was a gallant near-success in the difficult role of Christopher Isherwood, who both soliloquizes on the action and remains involved in it. His ambiguous relationship with Sally was suggested with subtlety and made entirely credible. Miss Elizabeth Gordon played Sally enceinte and crest-fallen with considerable charm and poise and seemed content to suggest that the demi-mondaine sophistication was little more than a pose. In the part of the wealthy Jewess Natalia, Miss Donella Palmer was forceful and at times quite moving; Mr. Graeme Eton as Fritz had considerable stage presence but was perhaps a little too semitic. The skilful permanent set with its incredibly depressing wallpaper evoked an appropriately blowy and decrepit atmosphere into which Miss Diana Spurdle fitted nicely as a buxom landlady.

Miss Ann Flannery, the producer, deserves credit for this pleasant and entertaining production. But one hopes that the Drama Club is not contemplating a regular diet of commercially successful playwrights of the calibre of Mr. van Druten.

—Ian Laurenson.

T.C. Avoided Pitfalls in

"Six Characters in Search of an Author"

Training College's "Six Characters in Search of an Author," by Luigi Pirandello, succeeded, as did V.U.C.'s "The Cherry Orchard," because of the company's youth, zest, talent and desire to put on interesting plays as well as they possibly can. I have always had the impression, particularly with Thespians and sometimes with Repertory, that they seem to think that their productions are quite good enough and there is no need to bother with any attempts to improve. There is a lack of vitality and imagination. I would suggest that the reason why the Concert Chamber was practically empty on Friday was not because H.P. gave the play a bad review, but because the standard of production has been declining badly. New blood will have to be injected soon or else they will die of no audience at all. All the Thespians productions I have seen have only been acceptable due to individual performances, such as Colleen Wailing as Miranda Frayle, John Jenkins as Tartuffe, Kevin Woodill as Banquo (in their all-time low—"Macbeth"), and Tim Elliot as Bolingbroke. Sometimes it is the fault of the back-stage crew and the set designer. On Friday a border went seven-eighths of the way across the stage, leaving a gap showing lights and scenery. Often the scenery is badly painted, it is hardly ever secure, and the lighting usually shows up these defects because it lights the scenery and not the actors. An attempt at professionalism is better than something that has to be excused by "We are only amateurs!"

Training College avoided these pitfalls. It was extremely well lit, at times dramatically so. The scenery, what there was of it, was adequate, and the costumes were faithful to the script and not to the latest fashion in the D.I.C. In this difficult and at times obscure play the cast conquered major difficulties with their intensity and enthusiasm for the play. Men, Pirandello says, cannot really understand one another or even be sure that they exist coherently for themselves—except through a work of art in which the artist, serving as God to his own material, fixes the truth and permits us to see men steadily and whole. Six characters interrupt a rehearsal of a play and persuade the producer to allow them to act out their drama. With continual interruptions and protests from the producer and the actors the six characters attempt to act out their lives as the author had seen them. It is a magnificent play and we owe a debt to Training College for letting us see it again.

The difficult and long role of the Father was excellently acted by Grant Tilly. Graced with a good voice and stage presence, he was always an impressive figure. I don't think I am

likely to forget his eyes—the eyes of the damned. Dinah Priestley, as the Step-daughter, had all the fire for the part, but the sneering and arrogant voice and the too-often repeated gestures became at times a little monotonous. At times, though, she was magnificent. Particularly when the Son is trying to leave the stage and finds that he cannot. All eyes are on him, then the silence is broken by her deep gurgling laugh, as she stood arrogantly in the centre of the stage. Her laugh at the very end of the play as she ran out of the theatre is still echoing in my ears. The rest of the cast were competent. Sunny Arney is to be congratulated on the smooth and polished production. A triumph for all concerned.

AUSTRALIAN'S REPORT ON N.Z.

Some parts of the N.Z.U.S.A. Council meeting in Dunedin last Easter were not a pleasant experience for James Thomas, President of N.U.A.U.S. (Australia), judging from comments in his report to the Australian National Student Union on his return from New Zealand.

Mr. Thomas flew to New Zealand and attended the meeting primarily so that a more efficient basis for conducting the Travel and Exchange Scheme between the two unions might be reached.

"Many sensibilities in New Zealand were severely bruised by the Australian breakdown last year," says Mr. Thomas. "From the nature of the comments made (during the meeting) it is quite apparent that the 1956 Travel Director would be well advised to go for his honeymoon to some place other than New Zealand."

Charging the Auckland delegate (Mr. P. W. Boag) with having "made a particularly bitter attack on more aspects of N.U.A.U.S. than its administration of the Travel Scheme," Mr. Thomas adds: "I felt the Council was engaging in some unnecessary unpleasantness at unnecessary length (but) this is not true of most Councillors, however, who were more embarrassed by the proceedings than I was."

Mr. Thomas also criticised "the demand for one-way assurances" by New Zealand delegates, and the "assumption of superiority in business dealings and the fact that it was, about time N.U.A.U.S. appointed Resident Executive or modelled itself along N.Z.U.S.A.'s sleek lines. (The similar failure of N.Z.U.S.A. in 1953-54 was absolutely forgotten and buried.)"

But Mr. Thomas expresses complete satisfaction with the joint agreement that was finally negotiated between the

A Brandy Dream?

"THE BESPOKE OVERCOAT"

"The Bespoke Overcoat" was written by Wolf Mankowitz and directed by Jack Clayton. It is a story that begins with a funeral and ends with a death.

An ancient clerk called Fender is in need of a new overcoat because in the clothing warehouse where he works there is no heating and it is cold. His employer won't give him a new coat from among the expensive ones in the warehouse and won't agree to deduct the price bit by bit from Fender's paycheck because, as he tells him, he probably won't live long enough to complete the payments. Fender goes to a friend of his who is a tailor, asking him to repair his old coat which is falling to pieces, but is told that this is impossible. However, the tailor has a soft heart and agrees to make him a new bespoke coat at cost—£10. The coat is begun, Fender pays £2 on account, loses his job, and dies from what seems to be tuberculosis.

All this is told to us in flashback. At the beginning of the film, Fender buried his new coat thrown on his coffin by the tailor, the tailor returns to his room and receives a visitation from the dead Fender, who has returned to this earth in order to get something from his old boss, in return for the 43 years spent in his employment. Together they visit the warehouse by night, Fender takes a heavy fleecy-lined overcoat from the rack, and departs to the hereafter for good.

This is a very simple story, told at a slow tempo—almost throughout, yet at the same time never approaching monotony. This is because it was well made in cinema terms. This expression in respect of a film does not consist, as in the theatre, in a comment on the construction, but rather in a broader sense upon every aspect of directing. The camera-work and lighting are superb. I shall never forget the low-level opening shots that accompanied the credits, nor the magnificent panning shot around Fender's deathbed, that white face, surrounded by darkness, seen through the black iron rings of the bed. Also unforgettable is Fender's first appearance after his death; you just see his hand and know it belongs to the man you have just seen buried.

two unions after a special sub-committee had held informal discussions with him.

"Thus a concrete basis has emerged for next year's scheme. It was quite necessary that grievances should have been aired, even at the cost of unpleasantness. The Travel and Exchange Scheme is, after all, the very nucleus of co-operation between N.Z.U.S.A. and N.U.A.U.S."

Referring to an afternoon meeting with members of the N.Z.U.S. Press Council, Mr. Thomas says: "The editors impressed me as a particularly virile, unified, and progressive group who will play no mean part in the formulation of the attitudes of New Zealand students to current affairs."

The two annual New Zealand University tournaments are "virtually an inter-Varsity everything," and are genuine student festivals with competitive spirit and carnival atmosphere," Mr. Thomas observes. Praising the organisation behind the staging of a tournament (there is no Australian counterpart), he concludes: "The tournament is highly successful socially as well as competitively."

Discussing the International Affairs deliberations of N.Z.U.S.A., Mr. Thomas says: "N.U.A.U.S. would welcome the holding of the forthcoming Asian Student Seminar in New Zealand, and should support N.Z.U.S.A.'s application." (N.U.A.U.S. has since written to C.O.S.E.C., backing the N.Z.U.S.A. application to stage the seminar here.)

Commenting in general on the N.Z.U.S.A. Council meeting, Mr. Thomas compares it with N.U.A.U.S. meetings, and his overall impression appears to be one of strict orderliness, limitation of discussion to strictly relevant matters and "a reserved and careful approach to all matters discussed."

He attributes "an apparent paucity of debate on some issues" to the remit system, whereby matters of which due notice has not been given may not be discussed. He does not mention that a motion designed to relieve this situation was tabled at Easter and will be voted on at August.

Listing points which struck him as being "quite different from those to which I am accustomed in N.U.A.U.S.," Mr. Thomas notes that "constituent satisfaction is a noticeable aspect of N.Z.U.S.A. Apparently disaffiliation movements are unheard of, and this must be attributed to the efficiency with which N.Z.U.S.A. arranges its tournaments and discharges its other tasks."

I have mentioned the slow tempo of the film. I feel that my interest was at no point sustained merely by clever cutting—and this is not to say that the cutting is not clever. But it was at all times deliberately unspectacular and never needed to be otherwise. One became involved by the drama, by directing which by a miracle managed never to be distracting—and by the acting.

David Kossoff and Alfie Bass played the tailor and Fender, and there were two other smaller parts. One of these was Fender's employer, whose name I can't remember, and the other appeared at the beginning wheeling a barrow bearing the coffin and again briefly at the end.

David Kossoff and Alfie Bass made the most of extremely well-drawn parts. They could so easily have become "characters," but gave instead restrained and beautiful performances. Another scene I'll remember is when the two go off to raid the warehouse, both drunk on brandy (and one of them, of course, dead); they arrive outside the warehouse and the tailor tries to persuade Fender to try to walk through the wall. Fender is about to try but says he "feels silly," so they go through the door in the normal way.

The scenes between Fender and his employer are good, too, and extremely moving. There are only two of these—when Fender asks for a new overcoat from the rack and is so sensitively refused, and later when he gets the sack. His boss is a wonderful swine.

I confess, I'm not entirely sure what the film is all about. What can the bespoke overcoat symbolise? What I do know is that there are some strange moments in this film; when Fender dies in his bed he has his arms stretched out upon the rungs of the bed above his head like a Christ. Yet this is a Mankowitz film and Fender is a Jew. Again, at the end the tailor at the warehouse watches Fender vanish forever into the darkness, with his new coat. Then he turns about and strangely is back in his own room, where he immediately begins to pray. Can it be that Fender's return was a brandy-dream?

—J.R.S.

While in New Zealand, Mr. Thomas visited all the colleges except A.U.C., and he comments briefly on each of those he saw. Some of his remarks were:

Otago . . . a very important part of the old Scottish city of Dunedin, played an outstandingly good part in being host to the Easter Tournament. . . .

Canterbury . . . gives the visitor the impression of an old English institution . . . college blazer is the normal dress style . . . definite protocol, and those who break the rules may find themselves in the Avon. . . .

Lincoln . . . a most impressive institution, works a highly profitable farm.

Victoria . . . most of all resembles an Australian university . . . student affairs quite active and general student meetings far from non-existent.

Massey . . . another progressive agricultural college, notable for the beauty of its surroundings.

And commenting on his New Zealand visit in general: ". . . 'pleasantly' unforgettable."

N.Z.U.S.A. Pro.

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TOURNAMENT

AUCKLAND WIN . . . VIC. SECOND

Auckland University College and the Asian 'flu were the principal winners at Winter Tournament in Auckland. The final tournament points were: Auckland 71, Victoria 40 1/2, Otago 30 1/2, and Canterbury 25.

Auckland did outstandingly well to win in six sports and were placed second or third in all the others. They also won the debating and drama, which do not count towards the Tournament Shield. Victoria teams competed with distinction in almost all sports. Our teams were first in fencing and shooting, second in cross-country, golf, men's hockey, women's basketball, men's basketball, and table tennis, third in Soccer, and were unplaced only in badminton and women's hockey.

Teams from all colleges were weakened by the flu which was at its peak in Auckland during Tournament. Even Auckland, the host college, whom one would have expected to have an almost inexhaustible amount of reserves, could only field four men's basketball players for one of their games. The Massey soccer team in its final game included a debater, a tournament delegate and some hockey players!

BADMINTON

V.U.C. were a poor fourth in the Tournament badminton, defeating only Massey. Possibly the main reason for Vic's lack of success was the short season this year at the Winter Show.

Victoria did better in the women's events than in the men's. Jenny Kent made the N.Z.U. team in which she played number three. Playing for Vic. against C.U.C. she actually beat the N.Z.U. number one player Glenys Hopkinson who was awarded a Blue. Janet Tomsett also played well, improving as the Tournament went on.

The standard of play this year was particularly high. The rise in standard is certainly partly due to the number of Colombo Plan students from Malaya who are playing the game here. Indeed the N.Z.U. men's team was comprised entirely of Colombo Plan students. Perhaps this will encourage some of these students at V.U.C. to join the badminton club.

BASKETBALL

As in the overall V.U.C. placing, the basketball team gained second place in the Tournament competition, but were second to Canterbury, not Auckland.

The team was unlucky in having to play its two hardest games on the first day. Our ball men defeated the ace Auckland team 44-38. The game against Canterbury proved to be the most thrilling of the Tournament. Throughout the first half the lead see-sawed, neither side gaining more than six points over the other. Early in the second half the greater experience of Canterbury helped them to quickly run up a lead of 13 points. In the last ten minutes the green ball men gradually reduced the lead until at one minute to go they were only three points behind, and at the score of 45-48 the Canterbury defence remained firm.

The other three games were comparatively easy: Otago was beaten by 11 points, Massey by 20, and Lincoln by 30.

The outstanding players for Victoria were R. Martyn, G. Aitken, and N. Dawkins, all of whom were chosen for the N.Z.U. team which beat Auckland.

MEN'S HOCKEY

The hockey tournament was played under good conditions, though the ground was a little too hard for some of the players' tender feet. Victoria finished second to Auckland.

v. Otago: The game was drawn, neither side scoring. Victoria had a territorial advantage for much of the game. Otago had a depleted team, many Otago players being in Australia.

v. Massey: This was a scrappy game in which Massey tried hit and run tactics. Victoria were not troubled to win 5-1.

v. Canterbury: This was a disappointing game. Victoria were clearly superior, running out winners 5-0.

v. Auckland: This was the best game of tournament. Auckland adopted through passing in contrast with Vic's flat passing game. Hambly scored for Vic. after a nice move to open the scoring. Auckland equalised half-way through the first spell with a goal by Colbham—an Auckland provincial representative for the last 18 years. He scored again during this spell, to make the half-time score Auckland 2, Victoria 1. In the second spell Jaine scored for

Victoria and Colbham scored again for Auckland, to make the final score: Auckland 3, Victoria 2. In goal Kirk Taylor played brilliantly, making numerous spectacular saves. Murray Lintis also played a sound game.

v. Lincoln: The flu hit Lincoln, and they had to default.

Ray Hambly, Kirk Taylor and Barry Cathro played in the N.Z.U. team which drew with Auckland, 3-all.

At the hockey dinner Mr. Sealy Wood, the N.Z.U. selector, complimented Victoria on having the best combination of any team at tournament.

GOLF

Conditions were on the whole good for the Tournament golf which was played at Titirangi, generally considered to be one of New Zealand's finest courses. On the opening day, the teams match resulted in a win for A.U.C. who scored 667. Victoria were 2nd with 672.

All four members of the Vic. team qualified for the individual championship. In the first round Victoria's T. Gault was defeated by Auckland's K. G. Smythe, the eventual winner of the championship. P. C. Armstrong of Victoria had a win and Victoria's F. J. Page defeated team mate J. Port, 2 up. Port went on to win the plate event. In the second round Armstrong was eliminated leaving Page as the sole Victoria semi-finalist. He disposed of Otago's McEwan 1 up in the semi-final and went on to narrowly lose an exceptional final to Smythe. In the final, the players were square at the 18th, play continuing to the 23rd green before the Auckland man triumphed.

Page and Gault played for N.Z.U. against Auckland. The match was won by Auckland 3 1/2-2 1/2, Page defeating a well known player in E. J. MacDougall.

TABLE TENNIS

This year's Victoria table tennis team did not have the success we have enjoyed for the last few years. However they succeeded in gaining second place in a fairly strong field. In the teams' tournament Victoria after a good win against Otago, took a beating from Auckland. Auckland were particularly strong, this year and they were represented in every final of the knockout tournament. Still Victoria managed to get to the finals of the men's singles with Bede Rundle, the women's singles with Nevenka Hegedus and the combined doubles with these two together.

The other members of the team were not quite so fortunate. Jeff Thomas, last year's runner-up in the men's singles, was eliminated in the early stages by Canterbury's veteran Doug Stewart. Don Kenderdine's 'flu prevented him from doing justice to himself and he did not survive the first round. Robin Court put up a good performance in taking a set off Terry Cockfield, a North Auckland representative who eventually won the title. Anne McIlraith had no outstanding victories but helped the team with a few valuable points.

Two V.U.C. players made the New Zealand Universities team—Nevenka Hegedus and Bede Rundle. The N.Z.U. team lost to Auckland after some hard fought matches.

MINIATURE RIFLE SHOOTING

A careful analysis of the scores reveals that the standard of shooting at Tournament this year reached a new all-time high. It is therefore very much more to the credit of the V.U.C. team that they returned home with so many scalps in their belts.

They scored a "possible" of 500 points in the first round of the competition—the first time that this has ever been done.

They won the I.C.I. Shield for the first time since 1953.

Their winning score of 2390.191 set a new record, three points better than

the previous record and only 10 points short of the ultimate "possible" of 2400.

Team members gained two of the three N.Z.U. blues awarded.

One team member gained the highest individual total for the I.C.I. Shield.

Another team member shared the aggregate total with John Burton from O.U.

In spite of their opening score Vic. were hard pressed all the way by a most determined Otago team, and the result was a very exciting and closely fought battle.

Victoria—2390.191, first.

Otago—2386.183, second.

Auckland—2371.171, third.

Following the cessation of hostilities North (1980) lost to South (1983), and N.Z.U. (1986) lost to Auckland (1994).

N.Z.U. Blues were awarded to John Burton, O.U., Ian Newton, V.U.C., and Brian Bradburn, V.U.C.

Congratulations to golfer P. J. Page, and crack shots I. V. Newton and B. J. Bradburn who were awarded N.Z.U. Blues for their performances at Winter Tournament.

SOCCER

Throughout the Tournament Victoria lacked an experienced goalkeeper and almost every goal scored against Vic. in the Tournament was the result of some misunderstanding between a back and a goalkeeper. However the unfortunates who volunteered (cough) for goalkeeper acquitted themselves well considering that they had never played there before.

v. Otago:

In light of the fact that Vic. saw most of the ball, they were unlucky to lose this game. Carefulness gave way to over eagerness, many chances being thrown away. Otago 4, Victoria 3.

v. Canterbury:

Victoria played more solidly after the morning's lesson, the forwards showing better control, Greenwood and Swarbrick playing magnificently. Victoria 4, Canterbury 1.

v. Massey:

Although there was no score in the first half, the team cut the opposing defence to ribbons in the second to score 8 goals. Eastgate who showed much promise in every game scored three of them. The high score has been attributed to the effect that Kerr's photo in the newspaper had on the opposing team.

v. Auckland:

Hard hit by Asian Flu, strained muscles and Dominion Bitter, the Vic. team led magnificently by Stan George, acquitted themselves well. Auckland's positional play and forward combination was the deciding factor though territorially they spent most of their time on defence. But for some magnificent saves by the A.U.C. goalie, Vic. could have won. Auckland 2, Victoria 1.

N.Z.U. v. Auckland Province:

The University team which included Vic. players Stan George, Perumal Naidu, Headley Eastgate, Nick Greenwood and Dick Holland, was not match for Auckland. Auckland won 8-0.

FENCING

For the fourth Winter Tournament in succession V.U.C. won the Fencing. The team was somewhat weakened by the loss of its captain Tony Ellis with 'flu. Nevertheless the Men's foil and sabre teams went through the tournament unbeaten, winning all events by wide margins. Outstanding were Bob Binning and Kent Beard who were both selected to represent New Zealand Universities against Auckland Province, Christopher Beby was reserve for the N.Z.U. team.

It is interesting to note that although V.U.C. teams have won their events for the past successive four years no New Zealand University Blues have been awarded to any of its members. This year Bob Binning who has twice won the National Sabre title was most unfortunate not to receive recognition.

The Women's foil team took third place but fought better than for some years. Dawn France lost only one bout and was selected for the New Zealand Universities team. Janet Scrivens was most unfortunate not to be selected after taking third place in the team

matches. Helen Maddison, a newcomer to Winter Tournament fought very well and her confidence and vigorous style should add considerable strength to the women's teams in years to come.

Detailed results were:

Men's Foil: V.U.C. beat A.U.C. 11-5, C.U.C. 13-3, and O.U. 11-5.

Sabre: V.U.C. beat A.U.C. 8-1, C.U.C. 7-2, and O.U. 6-3.

Women's Foil: V.U.C. beat C.U.C. 5-4, lost to A.U.C. 4-5, and to O.U. 4-5.

HARRIERS

On Tuesday, 20th, 32 "good men and true" travelled to Ellerslie Racecourse to do battle for the N.Z.U. cross-country title. By no stretch of the imagination could one call this "cross-country". The ground was dry, flat, fast and well grassed.

The first man out was Davies, of V.U.C., and he led the field as it moved off the racecourse. After the first half-mile Aimer, of A.U.C., moved into the lead and was never headed. He ran extremely well and increased his lead gradually throughout the whole race.

At the end of the first lap V.U.C. were in a handy position, with Creed 7th, Davies 9th, Gow 10th, and Gaudin 11th. Walkey was losing ground after a good start, and O'Brien was well back and in no position to offer a serious challenge. As the field came back to the racecourse Gaudin moved through to 5th, and the order remained the same until half-way in the third lap.

In the final lap, most of the V.U.C. men kept their positions, with Creed finding a little extra stamina to bring him through to 7th.

The other colleges were also changing their positions, and Auckland improved quite considerably. At the finish it was: Aimer (A.U.C.) 1, Beauchamp (C.U.C.) 2, Murray (O.U.) 3, Riddiford (A.U.C.) 4, Robertson (A.U.C.) 5, Gow (V.U.C.) 6. The rest of the Victoria team finished as follows: Creed 7, Gaudin 8, Davies 11, Walkey 24, O'Brien 26. Auckland took the teams race with 19 points, and Vic. were second with 32.

After the race, one and all adjourned to the Ellerslie beer garden for a drunken shambles that continued at the Harrier Dinner.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The women basketballers comfortably defeated Canterbury 27-13, had a close gain against Otago, winning 17-15, but had to concede a very close game to Auckland, losing 20-23.

The N.Z.U. team were outclassed by Auckland, going down 32-46.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

When one saw the performances and scores in the women's hockey this Tournament, one was tempted to believe in some freak form of team memory and habit inherited from previous Tournament teams.

The Vic. team, although greatly improved, lost by much the same margin as it did last year. After winning its last club game 10-3, with some brilliant goal-shooting, the team now lapsed to its old grannyism of playing croquet in the circle. This was particularly evident in the first match against Canterbury. Our consistent territorial advantage was in this game our downfall. For the defence were enticed so far upfield that when Canterbury broke out of its twenty-five, particularly with its swift attack from the right, the result was four run-away goals. Jill Arnold played a fast, neat game, and slammed home one goal. In the later games the team's new members lost their nervousness, Janice Gumbley, in particular, settling to a solid game. Teamwork was good throughout, but we lacked fire. Auckland beat us 2-0, Otago 5-1. Natalie Griffin scored a good runaway goal.

Beverly Major well deserved her selection as N.Z.U. vice-captain. Rae Goodwin was a reserve for the N.Z.U. side, and Mary Lyons a trialist. In its game against Auckland Province, this team played well till half-time, then tired badly to lose 8-2. One player only, A. McDonald, of Canterbury, showed the brilliance of the players at present representing N.Z.U. in Australia, although the Otago goalie made some spectacular saves.

BEHAVIOUR

Following Easter's shambles at Dunedin, behaviour at Auckland was exemplary.

DEBATING OUT OF JOYNT

The V.U.C. debating team at Tournament made a strong bid to win the Joynnt Scroll for the first time in 16 years, but were unsuccessful; the V.U.C. team of G. N. Cruden and E. W. Thomas were placed second to Auckland's R. M. S. Hamilton and P. Williams. In debating, as in other contests, a team goes best when its opponents are strong. The V.U.C. team were perhaps unfortunate in that their opponents, Lincoln, were not a strong debating team, whereas the Auckland team had a more testing debate against Otago.

Victoria took the affirmative on the subject, "That the Anglo-French Intervention in Suez Was Justified". Ted Thomas was particularly impressive and was placed third among the individual speakers.

The second debate on the motion, "that the modern state is assuming responsibilities that are properly due to the individual", was rather dull. There was more agreement than disagreement between the two teams. Massey (affirmative) and Canterbury. One of the two Canterbury speakers, both women, made a faux pas when she commenced by saying that she and her colleague took men as they found them!

The third debate was on the topic, "That Testing of Nuclear Weapons Should Be Abolished". Auckland affirmed the motion against Otago. This was the best debate of the evening, and the leading speakers of the two teams, Mac Hamilton (A.U.C.) and Miss P. O'Regan (O.U.) were placed first and second respectively.

The judges were Sir Vincent Meredith, Mr. Jenner Wily, S.M., and Mr. T. J. Tucker.



At the Tournament now in the news
Some students were going to win Blues.
But their teams did lose
So they went on the booze.
And then came back with the blues.

Stay till Saturday?

"Salient" questions the value of playing post tournament N.Z.U. v. the local provincial team matches in such terms as hockey (men's and women's) and soccer, the day after Tournament games end. After playing three, four or five games in three days, the N.Z.U. sides are selected and expected to play well against what is frequently one of the top sides in the country. Moreover, the N.Z.U. teams have no opportunity to practise as a team.

It would be far more fair to the N.Z.U. sides if these games could be postponed until the Saturday following Tournament. This would enable the N.Z.U. teams to have a day to rest followed by a day for training, and thus by the Saturday the N.Z.U. teams would be in a position to give a truer indication of the strength of the sports concerned in the universities.

AND SO TO BEDLAM

Heard in the Vic. carriage on the way up:
"I say, look at this. A bloke and two girls sleeping triangular."
"Who's the square on the hypotenuse?"

Earlier, from a girl playing cards: "I've got two jokers and four hearts."

On Tuesday a group of men were enlarging on Monday night's exploits. Says B.: "I was practically seduced last night."
Enter, a few minutes later, Miss S., to a barrage of, "And what time did you get in last night?"

"I was in bed by 10 p.m. You don't believe me? All right, ask B. He can vouch for it."



DRINKING HORN

This important part of Winter Tournament was held in the Globe Hotel. Victoria showed that though they could only come second in most other events, this was something they could excel in. Victoria won the horn, defeating Auckland, who had the advantage of being used to the local brew, in the final. Outstanding in the Vic. team was Kent Beard, who, drinking last, gave his opponent a third of a glass start and beat him. Beard was also the fastest individual drinker; he did 1.3, and thoroughly deserved his Blue. In a few years' time, if he continues to improve, he may well break the four-minute mile of drinking, the one second draught. (If you don't think 1.3 seconds is fast, try pouring a glass out at that speed.)

The victorious Victoria drinkers were Beard, J. Martin, R. Martyn, J. Fernyhough, G. Wiggs and G. Aitken.

TOURNAMENT SIDELIGHTS

PARKING METERS

Right in front of A.U.C. in Princes Street there are parking meters. How long would such objects be tolerated at Vic. if the city fathers chose to place them in Kelburn Parade?

CIGARETTES

Prominent among the dull grey stone of A.U.C. is a shiny new automatic cigarette vending machine. A similar machine at Vic. would be appreciated.

TOURNAMENT BALL

This was not the success it has been in other years. The band was poor and no drinking was permitted in the Auckland Town Hall.

Tournament Drama Local Talent Wins

The Drama Competition was won this year by Auckland, with a very able and imaginative production of "Machine Song," a play by a New Zealander, A. S. Coppard. The competition was marred by unhappy judging, but one hardly would have seen fit to quarrel with their decisions had it not been for the comments with which they were accompanied. Certainly its production was the most effective of the three I saw. The set was fine—grey oblong shapes looming up into the darkness to suggest the angular melancholy of a deserted factory, a machine relentlessly turning out bolts in the foreground, and its solitary operator, bewildered by his own imagination. The play, however, has a crippling disadvantage when compared with "Modern Times": it is deadly serious. Indeed it is the highest praise of the performance of the machine-operator, and of the production in its use of the machine, a booming voice in the background, and the conflicting influences (which took the guise of a barmaid, and angel, an agitator, etc., and were concealed within the oblong shapes) to say that there was no time to think about the play until the tension was over, and it was only then that one realised what a terribly hackneyed play it had been.

DANGEROUS CHOICE

Canterbury followed with a cut version of "In Camera," a dangerous choice for a drama festival held in conjunction with a University sports tournament. It would take great confidence and conviction to master a typical tournament audience with a play such as this, but the cast was not experienced, they seemed to be under-rehearsed, and I rather wished, at the time, that circumstances had influenced them to choose a different play. I did not think it was a success. The climaxes were missed, and through this and the cutting of some of the starker (but most significant) scenes in the play, its whole build and significance seemed to have been passed by. The man clearly had the part within his reach, but made you flinch by missing the structure of every other speech. This play is too strong meat to bear inadequate performance. Its lines are witty, but the whole tone of the play is too bitter for you ever to laugh easily. If the players cannot cast its spell on you, you laugh at their embarrassment.

Recalcitrant Nose

On the second night, Otago opened with "The Happy Journey," by Thornton Wilder. At this stage I was struggling with a recalcitrant plasticene nose, and I heard only the applause, which increased my discomfort, but led me to suspect that their performance had been tolerably good.

Finally Vic. took the stage with Shaw's epic, "Man of Destiny." It is one of Shaw's finest and most moving works, and the character of the Lieutenant must rank with St. Joan in subtlety and care of delineation. John Gamby in this part was outstanding. It is, of course, a wonderful acting part—the sensitive courageous officer, out of his time, struggling with the treachery of the Woman (adequately portrayed by Elizabeth Kersley) and the perverse orders of his commanding officer (played with energy by myself) to triumph over superstition and leave the general and his lady to a questionable happiness—but Mr. Gamby's moving performance cannot be too highly praised for its delicate variations in pace and diction, and its overpowering pathos. The right touch of malice was provided by the innkeeper (Trevor Hill) and the play was produced with patience by Colin Bickler. It was unfortunate that the judges should have construed this play as "Much Ado About Nothing," but I take comfort in their comment, "No man alive today can be Napoleon!" and so leave my readers to resume my usual imposture as

—D.V.J. (B.Sc.)

Martin Recommends

Among the more interesting items from the report of Senior Winter Tournament Delegate, John Martin, tabled at the last exec. meeting, was the news that V.U.C. had supplied Miss Winter Tournament 1957 (Janet Duncan, of the women's hockey team), and also the winning Drinking Horn team.

Recommendations from Mr. Martin's report, which are to be considered by the Exec., are: The designing of one V.U.C. badge for both Easter and Winter Tournament, thus saving unnecessary expense; the levying of some charge to defray the high cost of badges and ribbons; the provision of insurance for tournament competitions (as is done for "Extrav."); the payment of subsidies on a rate proportionate to the cost of travel rather than a flat rate of 25/-.

On the bridge stood the Bishop of Buckingham,
Taking sweets from his pocket and sucking 'em.

Watching the women
All divin' and swimmin
And at last jumpin' over and duckin' 'em.
—(Adapted from the original by Anon.)

On the lawn stood the Bishop of Buckingham,
Taking sweets from his pocket and sucking 'em.

Gazing for hours
At his bedfuls of flowers
And occasionally stooping and plucking 'em.
—(Adapted from the original by Anon.)
(More Religion on pages 4 and 8)

N.Z.U. RUGBY

At the Winter Council meeting of N.Z.U.S.A. Res. Exec. announced that no further progress had been made in solving the problem of eligibility for N.Z.U. Rugby team.

Res. Exec. had previously attempted to reach a compromise with the N.Z.U. Rugby Football Council, the basis of eligibility for N.Z.U. matches against provinces and overseas touring teams remaining as at present, while for matches against visiting university teams eligibility be in line with that for other sports under the jurisdiction of N.Z.U.S.A. The stalemate has apparently been caused through a difference of opinion within the Rugby Council. On the one hand Otago University, with their preponderance of full-time students, are adamant in their view that N.Z.U. teams should be composed of bona fide students. At the other extreme the local V.U.C. club is equally forthright in its claim that the status quo should be preserved; that anyone who plays for a University Club should be eligible to represent N.Z.U. (The V.U.C. delegates at the N.Z.U.S.A. meeting were instructed by our Exec. to support the view of our Rugby Club if the matter should be discussed.)

The whole question seems likely to remain in the present unsatisfactory state unless N.Z.U.S.A. itself makes some positive move to budge the Rugby Council from their entrenched position. The arguments of those who defend the existing lack of eligibility rules for N.Z.U. Rugby teams seem to be based on considerations of finance and prestige.

Obviously the question of finance is an important one and no doubt influenced our Exec. in its decision to support the status quo. But should one sacrifice first principles for this?

By name an N.Z.U. Rugby team would seem to represent a team representative of students in the six colleges. Some argument can be made for the inclusion of graduates of, say, two years' standing, but certainly not of international players who have never completed a degree and whose attendance at lectures ceased some five or six years ago. Not for one moment would one wish to disparage the magnificent football turned on by a team including these same players against the Springboks at Athletic Park last year, but was that a truly representative N.Z.U. side?

The parallel with local College Clubs holds no water. The writer would be the first to rise against any suggestion that local clubs should be composed only of bona fide students. Quite obviously no club could continue to maintain senior teams without the experience and continuity supplied by graduates and ex-students. On the national scale the situation is quite different. Here there is no question of club spirit, of continuity from one season to another. An N.Z.U. team is a representative team, representative of contemporary students. For Rugby club administrators to claim, as they are understood to have done, that to have restricted eligibility for N.Z.U. teams to bona fide students would have deprived Victoria of the services of several of their most noted players is quite unreal. If in fact players have joined the V.U.C. Rugby Club only to gain N.Z.U. selection and the tours that go with it, then the local club is better without such players.

And then there is the question of prestige. Just what prestige the University in New Zealand gained from last year's Springbok game is debatable, particularly in view of the comments of Auckland's Tom Pearce.

The University and University Rugby gain little by lending their name to teams which, however good their football, are masquerading under false colours. If games against provincial and international sides can only be arranged with teams of N.Z.U. "old boys" then better they should not be arranged at all. But surely this would be unlikely when this year's bona fide students include such players as All Blacks J. B. Buxton, M. W. Irwin, H. J. Levien (all O.U.), W. J. Whineray (C.A.C.), and B. P. Molloy (C.U.C.).

—H.S.Q.W.

S.G.M. FLOPS

Generous estimates are that fourteen people attended the S.G.M. called by the Exec. for August 8. At least half the Exec. were present. To many it will be a surprise to hear that an S.G.M. had been called. No congratulations are owing for the advertising of the event. Many object that this is a typical example of the cavalier treatment by the Exec. of their constituents. No organisation would even consider a function unless it were prepared to give at least three times the publicity sponsored by the Exec. The same can be said of the Students' Association elections. The Exec. financed the special issue of "Salient"—and little else. And even "Salient" staff were never officially asked to publish their "blurb" sheet.

It is time that the Exec. seriously considered its relations with students. A typical promise made in the Students' Association elections was to bring the Exec. more in touch with the ordinary student. The need is obviously strongly felt. It would be a very good idea if the Public Relations Officer's functions were extended to inner-university relations as well as the outside press. More consistent use should be made of the students' paper, and far more attention paid to elementary publicity techniques. For example the modest notices explaining the Exec.'s attitude at the time of the closing of the Common Room were torn down, and many students quite understandably felt that they were the victims of silent bureaucracy. Some should have been on hand to promptly see that the Exec.'s position was known. Paternal broadsheets days later, or an unofficial article in the next issue of "Salient" were hardly sufficient to placate the general indignation of the innocent excluded for the crimes of a few hooligans.

Well over two thousand students, with the number rapidly increasing are a fair enough field for budding Dr. Hills.

—G.

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New View of Christianity :

IMMORAL, IRRATIONAL AND UN-BRITISH

The participants in the controversy about Christians and their coats, hats, and trousers, seem to all take their stand on a number of presumptions especially (1) that the readers of "Salient" are exclusively Christians, (2) that Christianity has some special claim to intellectual respect, and (3) that practical Christianity will somehow supply the world's worst wants.

To begin with, there are at this College a sizeable number of Buddhists, Moslems, Hindus, Jews, people who (like the Christian Scientists, for example) hold an only tenuously Christian position and deny the divinity of Christ, and atheists, agnostics, and infidels of many hues.

These people are probably not really very interested in the edifying spectacle of Christians scratching their mental fleas.

You could parry this with the argument that New Zealand is predominantly a Christian country. But to what extent is this true? A documented case could be made out for the proposition that the British people have never been fundamentally Christian. The work of Columba and Augustine and the rest of them was very superficial. A few Kings were brain-washed, and their subjects forcibly joined up (much after the manner of the Chinese regiment that was collectively christened with a fire-hose), but the Gospel never seeped down into the grass-roots of Britain and eradicated her profound paganism.

The fact that so little fuss was made about the royal order to switch the national allegiance from Rome to the Reformation, and that the only brands of Christianity to flourish outside the hot-house of State patronage have been the tight discipline of Rome and the hypnosis of evangelism, and that the Established Church itself (including its limb, the biggest Christian sect in New Zealand) has a theology so vague that it can embrace everyone from practical Roman Catholics through hell fire fundamentalists to atheists—all testify to the same truth.

Anyway, how many of the basic tenets of the Christian faith can command the respect of a reasonably self-respecting rational person? As the late learned Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. E. W. Barnes) said ten years ago: "There have been many great conflicts during the past two centuries between religion and science. The latter, in every case, has won the battle." His book, "The Rise of Christianity," wisely bases the claim of that creed to be taken seriously on its only intellectually-acceptable aspect—the ethical doctrines of its founder, so far as they can be extricated from the prejudices of the ignorant age in which he lived.

This attitude, dubbed "Modernism"

about 70 years ago, won a new respect for Christianity from wide sections of people in whose eyes the old-time religion was utterly discredited.

The return to emphasis on Calvary rather than the Sermon on the Mount is comparatively recent, and has done more than anything else to produce a generation of intellectuals like Bertrand Russell, Fred Hoyle, Margaret Knight, Albert Einstein and so on who have no time for religion at all, with the consequent collapse of the moral authority of Church leaders.

If Calvary is (as P.A.S. and K.K.C. believe) the essence of Christianity, then naturally Christianity can never hope to command rational respect. That the life of one innocent person (assured in

any case of eternal life after death) should be accepted by the Judge (who was also the Creator) of the Universe as a sufficient sacrifice for the sins of everyone who believes this (but not of those who have never even heard it suggested)—turns the whole of existence into a fantastically irrational joke perpetrated by the Creator at the expense of the created.

It is small wonder that the only political movements claiming to be exclusively Christian—Von Papen's party, which paved the way for Hitler, for instance, or Adenauer's ruling clique in present Germany—represent the most irrational and reactionary forces.

Thirty years ago, a debate took place in New York between the rationalist Percy Ward and the Christian Socialist Professor Scott. Nearing on the question "That the practice of Christ's social teachings would make for social progress." Ward won on points for the negative by pointing out that Christ's teachings involved monarchism, feudal hierarchy, and non-resistance to evil.

It is possible to defend the most immoral and backward ideas with quotations from Scripture. That is why it seems to many of us that University Christians would be much better advised to limit their proselytising to the rational, ethical elements of their Creed, which are, after all, remarkably similar to the equivalent elements of most other creeds.

I would recommend Matthew Arnold's "Literature and Dogma" as an excellent and stimulating text.

—Ecrasez l'Infame.



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Crucifix vs. Swastika :

THERE WAS A DEATHLY STRUGGLE

Everyone is well aware of the 'im struggle taking place today between the Christian Churches and the enemies of religion in the Communist part of the world. Only recently eight Czech priests were imprisoned for obstructing the nationalisation of churches and religious societies. Yet very few people recall the ferocity of the struggle which took place between the forces of the Crucifix and the Swastika. Many even charge the churches with collaboration with the Nazis, but in doing so they forget about the fates of the thousands of clergymen imprisoned for their faith. Indeed, between 1933 and 1939 fully five thousand seven hundred priests and thirteen hundred Protestant pastors fell victims of Hitler's wrath. Nonetheless, the course of events in those dim years present a curious and a not always gratifying pattern. There were inconsistencies and tergiversations; yet, when all is taken into account one can only say that the Christians of Germany put up a gallant struggle.

National Socialism preached a 'positive' Christianity, a belief in Germany before anything else. 'German Honour becomes the new religion,' wrote Alfred Rosenberg, the Nazi prophet. 'National Honour is for us the beginning and end of all thought and of all action.' The German People's Church, he wrote, must proclaim a Germanic Christ who is a self-confident master, 'not a sorrowing Jew. There must be no 'Lamb of God,' but 'the teaching spirit of fire'; the whole philosophy was pervaded with racialism and militarism. Supposedly, its aim was, not to sweep away the figure of Christ, but to improve it. With a creed like this it was no wonder that a struggle had to take place.

The first salvos were fired in September, 1930, nearly two and a half years before the Nazi Party came to power. On the last Sunday of that month the parish priest of the small borough of Kirschhausen, in Hesse, made three points of stupendous importance during the course of his sermon. Firstly, he declared, no Catholic could be a member of the Nazi Party. Secondly, the

members of the party as such could not take part in the religious ceremonies of the Church. Thirdly, no fully fledged party member, bound by its tenets and active in its interests, would be allowed to receive the Sacraments. This statement was shortly afterwards confirmed by the priest's superior, the Bishop of Mainz. The following year in February eight Bishops of Bavaria signed a joint declaration to the same effect, pointing out five matters in which the party beliefs cut across Catholic doctrine.

Yet when the election was held in 1933, of twelve and a half million Catholic voters, seven million voted for the Nazis! Moreover, in March the Archbishop of Cologne authorised almost everything that the Bavarian Bishops had forbidden two years before. As one writer puts it aptly, 'the Swastika was given the freedom of the centre aisle.' In the same year the ill-fated Concordat between Germany and the Vatican was signed. Catholicism, then, made one last effort to make peace with Hitler and save the country from persecution.

The struggle began when Hitler broke the terms of the Concordat within six days of its signing. In the years to come thousands of priests were to be imprisoned for 'political Catholicism' and 'abuse of the pulpit'. Catholicism rose to answer the challenge; as 1933 came to an end Cardinal Faulhaber delivered a course of sermons in Munich Cathedral and called upon all Christians, Catholics and Protestants alike, to fight together for their faith in the true Christ. Early in 1937 the Catholic position was put beyond all doubt when Pius XI issued his encyclical, "Mit brennender Sorge", in which the errors of Nazism were specifically condemned. The encyclical was carefully smuggled into Germany and read aloud from the pulpits of the churches on Palm Sunday.

Protestantism, while numerically superior to Catholicism in Germany, was nonetheless weaker in that its followers belonged to three separate communions—the United Prussian, Evangelical Lutheran, and Reformed Churches. This source of weakness was skilfully exploited by the Nazi Party in a campaign to secure a united German Church under a puppet Reichsbishop. The attack against Protestantism, therefore, took on a different form from that brought to bear upon Catholicism. Whilst the onslaught against the latter was direct and external, that against German Protestantism largely took place by means of Nazi-infiltration within the mechanism of the churches themselves.

As early as 1930 a Nazi Movement led by Pastor Hossenfelder was started under the name of the Deutsche Christen. This group consisted of Protestant pastors, and taught that Blood and Soil came before the outworn tenets of Christian dogma. So successful was the Movement in the first years of Nazi power that in May, 1933, the Rev. Dr. Jaeger, a follower of Pastor Hossenfelder, was ap-

pointed head of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. In July Pastor Muller, a former Naval Chaplain and a prominent member of the Deutsche Christen, secured his election to the position of Reichsbishop of a United Protestant Church. So at first the Nazis were highly successful.

Yet in the same year Pastor Niemoller organised his League of the Defence of the Pastors, popularly known as the Confessional Front. With three thousand members, this group became the spear-head of German Protestant reaction against Nazism. From their pulpits they denounced the new paganism and the Blood and Soil racialism of the Party. The crisis occurred in March, 1935, after a statement was read aloud in the churches throughout the country, defying the party and heaping scorn upon its pagan tenets. The Party retaliated by arresting 700 pastors, including Niemoller himself, and by issuing warnings to five thousand others. Again, at Whitsuntide in 1936 the Confessional Front issued a secret memorandum to Hitler and officially denounced the Party.

But what of Pastor Niemoller's fate? After eight months in gaol awaiting trial, Niemoller was released by a court of judges who had learnt their law before the coming of Nazism. As this gallant clergyman stepped down from the dock, he was re-arrested by the Gestapo and led away to a concentration camp.

From this brief summary of events it can be seen that there is little substance in the charge against the Christian Churches of collaboration with the Nazis. The Catholics tried to co-operate with the Party for less than a year, and the pastors in the Deutsche Christen represented only a small fraction of the total number of Protestant clergymen. One must bear in mind Cardinal Faulhaber and Pastor Niemoller, and the Papal encyclical of 1937 and the Confessional Front's Memorandum of 1936. One must also remember the fates of those thousands of priests, pastors, and Christian laymen who suffered for the faith in the true Christ.—Terry Kelliher.

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