

Sabient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria University, Wellington.

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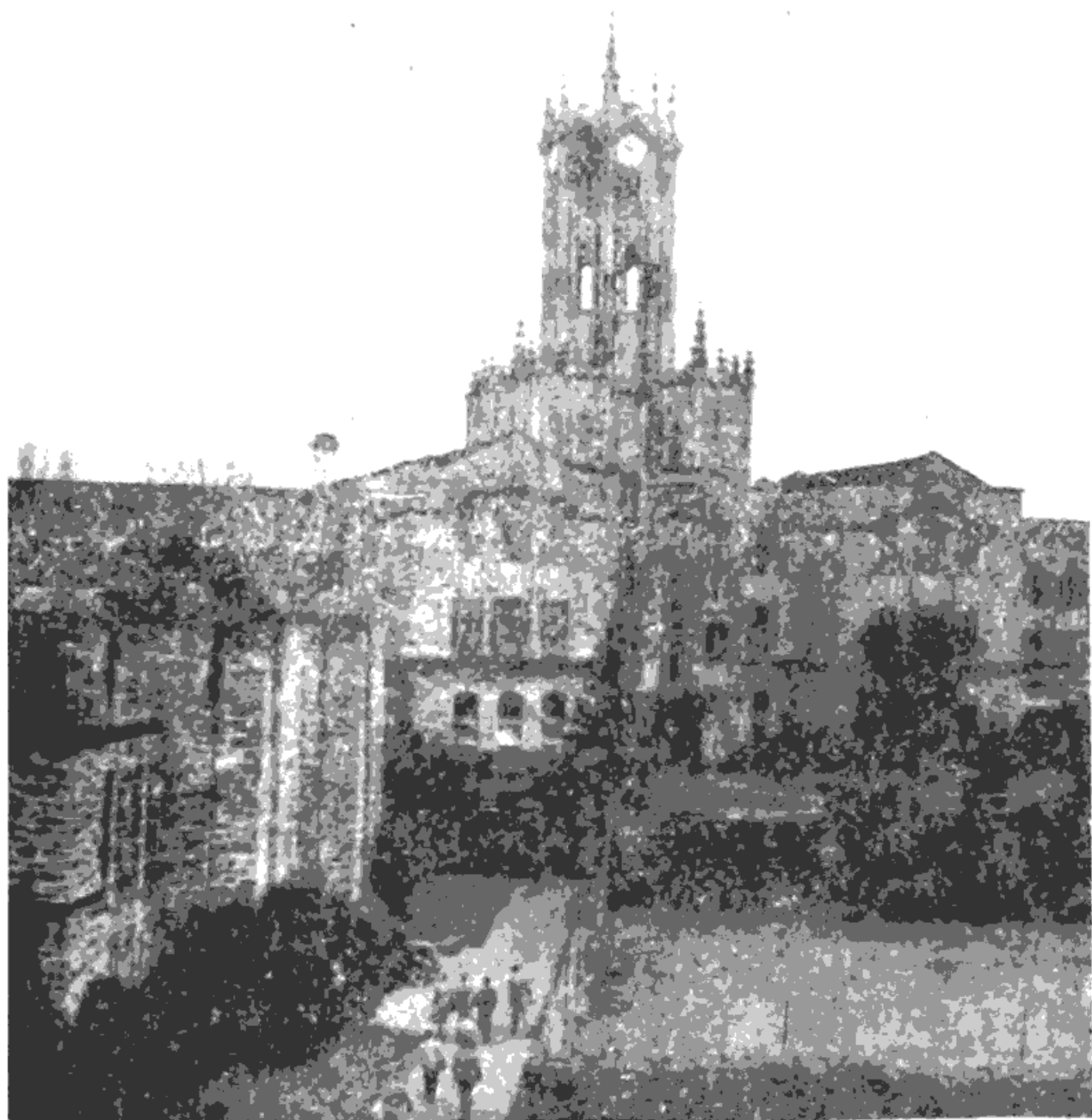


AURO DESIDERANDA

“THE HUCKSTERS AND THE UNIVERSITY”

The future site of the University of Auckland hangs in the balance pending the new Government's decision as to the amount of finance that can be made available for its development. If the £3.1 million required for the University Council's choice of Hobson Bay cannot be raised, the University faces another period of postponement and deadlock, for expansion on the Present Princes Street site now involves the use of the Public Works Act in the face of violent Auckland City Council opposition.

Any further delay in the execution of the University's building programme will prove fatal for it will be impossible to retain a highly qualified staff with the conditions under which they are now forced to work, and it will be equally impossible to accommodate the students entitled to admission. Wholesale exclusion will be the only alternative.



Since the war the University has had the greatest difficulty in providing adequate space for the housing of its students. The number attending lectures has at no time fallen far short of 3000 and this year totalled 3100; 2900 students seek higher education at the University crammed into the 4½-acre Princes St. site; 74,700 square feet of floor space is available in three permanent buildings and 120,000 square feet in temporary converted army huts. Three neighbouring two-storey residences (that were formerly boarding houses) have been converted to accommodate the Law, Economics, Anthropology and Psychology departments. The Engineering School, located 25 miles south at Ardmore, accommodates 150 students in similar makeshift shacks, while the Elam School of Fine Arts occupies the 85-year-old, former Newton West primary school, four miles from the city.

Conditions for research work in the Science Faculty are appalling and lack of space forces many experiments to be conducted in the corridors. Large arts classes, such as English with a Stage I roll in excess of 300, cram seven to a bench and the overflow sit in the aisles.

As long ago as 1937 it had become apparent that the existing site was

quite inadequate for the future development of the University, but efforts to find elbow-room in the Princess Street neighbourhood were unsuccessful. The government of that time refused to cede Government House and its grounds on the northern boundary, and the City Council declined to make any land available to the south. In 1944 the University acquired an area of 120 acres at Tamaki—approximately 20 minutes by car from the city, and this was accepted as the future site of the University. But in June, 1955, Sir James Fletcher, representing the Fletcher Construction Company, placed before the University Council a proposal for the reclamation of 340 acres in Hobson Bay, 240 of which could be made available for University development if the remaining 100 acres were set aside for an hotel (15 acres) and multi-storey dwellings (85 acres), the ground rents from which would, within a reasonable period, reimburse the Government for its initial outlay and provide a permanent and substantial source of income to the Harbour Board.

Hobson Bay, surrounded by the residential suburbs of Parnell, Remuera, and Orakei, offered the prospect of a complete new University

The writer of this article is WARWICK ARMSTRONG, Editor of Craccum 1956-1957, and formerly Secretary of the New Zealand University Student Press Council.

two miles from Queen Street, and it was this central location that moved the University Council to adopt it in favour of Tamaki. The proposal was carefully studied by a special Government inter-Departmental committee, and in June, 1956, the Hon. the Minister of Education, Mr. Algie, informed the University Council that the scheme was financially impracticable.

On the other hand, the Government was willing to secure for the University Government House and its grounds, together with all the land bounded by Princes St., Wellesley St. East, Wynyard St., the proposed new motorway, Waterloo Quadrant and Alten Rd. A section behind St. Paul's Church, making a total of 32 acres in all, was also included. £750,000 was authorised for the erection of a Physics and Chemistry block within six years.

This offer the University Council accepted and prepared a Site-Plan which was approved. The Ministry of Works required the City Council to zone the proposed area as a University site under the Town Planning Act 1953, and the University Council followed suit.

The decision to remain in Princes St. produced a sharp cleavage in public opinion, stimulated by the two daily newspapers taking opposing editorial views, and the prominent publicity given to bitter clashes between representatives of the University and City Council. General public opinion was divided as to the form the new university should take. Some favoured a centrally placed "city" University to cater for the 65% part-time roll, with playing fields at a distance, thereby identifying themselves with Princes St. The Hobson Bay supporters favoured the "campus" type University with extensive adjacent playing fields. A poll taken among students at the height of the controversy revealed 60% in favour of Hobson Bay.

But among the local bodies and other interests with direct concern in the future of the University, difference of opinion was based on petty political and financial grounds. The Auckland City Council opposed any expansion in the Princes St. area because of the loss to the city of rates, rents and property which contributed a revenue of £11,794 in 1956-57—small in comparison to the £350,000 contributed annually by the taxpayer for the upkeep of the University. The threat to Government House brought a sudden historical sentiment for this almost forgotten 102-year-old borer-ridden structure, that had been used in recent years only for the annual Debutante Ball.

In February, 1958, Sir James Fletcher personally conducted Sir Sydney Holland, then Prime Minister, over the Hobson Bay site and offered an alternative scheme re-

claiming only 95 acres, that his organisation had drawn up. The Auckland Harbour Board, as owners of the sea-bed had a close interest in the reclamation of the Bay, and the consequent rent revenue it would contribute.

Matters came to a head on 23rd May, 1957, when a conference was held between representatives of the Government, University, City Council, Harbour Board and Hospital Board, to discuss the proposed Princes St. expansion. Voting power of the various delegations had been decided by the convenors of the meeting, the Prime Minister and the Mayor of Auckland, and the fact that the City Council had seven votes to the University Council's four, turned the conference into a farce with a foregone conclusion.

The City Council's veto of expansion on the Princes Street site forced the Government and the University to seek alternative sites. Ministry of Works engineers prepared an accurate survey of the cost of reclaiming Hobson Bay, and this report published on March 11, 1958, gave the cost of reclaiming 229 acres as £3.1 million; or alternatively development of 82 to 147 acres at a cost of £980,000 to £1,760,000. This was merely the cost of reclamation without a penny having been spent on planning and construction of University buildings on ground that requires piles 25 feet in depth as an initial foundation.

On April 1st, the University Council reaffirmed its choice of Hobson Bay as the future site and asked the Government to develop the full 299 acres. It emphasised once again, as it has never failed to do, the necessity of avoiding fragmentation. If and when the University moves, it must do so at least by whole Faculties. It would be useless to move the Physics Department to Hobson Bay while the Mathematics Department remained in Princes St., and so on. But this involves the planning and erection of a whole series of Departmental buildings simultaneously, not just one by one as would be possible on the present site.

Irrespective of the site finally adopted, at least seven years will elapse before the first permanent buildings are ready, and temporary accommodation must be provided to solve the immediate problem of overcrowding. A two-storey "temporary-permanent" wooden building to house the Geography and Geology Departments, due for completion next year, is about to commence construction on the last remaining free space—the cricket pitch and custodian's garden. Other old boarding houses are being acquired for conversion to lecture rooms.

The future site of the University is by no means settled. In view of the country's bad economic situation it seems extremely unlikely that the Government can afford the fabulous cost of reclamation and a complete new University at Hobson Bay. No one can deny that this site would be the ideal, but the expense and the

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The editor does not accept any responsibility for the views expressed in "Salient" and it is most improbable that they should correspond with the views of either Executive or the student body.

Price War

A University bookshop scheme started in Christchurch by students of Canterbury University is threatened with extinction by a "price war". The scheme, enthusiastically supported by most students and staff, but opposed by the University Council and Professorial Board, is running into what Canta, the students' newspaper, calls "strong and rather unscrupulous opposition" from the city's and New Zealand's largest firm of booksellers.

The University bookshop had its origins in dissatisfaction among students and staff with the standard of service from most shops in the city. It was felt that a shop dealing exclusively with the University trade would be more satisfactory. Students also had as a model a most successful and efficient University bookshop which had operated at Otago University, in Dunedin, in recent years.

The Canterbury University student body voted in favour of the scheme in mid-1957, and a proprietor for the shop was chosen. He received permission from the city authorities to run a bookshop. The Students' Association was to invest £1000 in the shop as preference shares, and to receive a yearly percentage of the profits.

These plans received their first check when the University Council refused to approve them, contending that the Students' Association was barred by its own constitution from investing money in this way. Taking the only course open, the Association then altered its constitution at a special general meeting, but the amendments failed to receive the necessary approval of the Professorial Board "because it (the Board) did not think it was proper for the Association's funds to be used in a way which the law did not permit for other University money."

Balked on two occasions, the student body decided to go ahead without investing money in the scheme. The proprietor managed to set up the bookshop, but when students came to enrol early in the year, they were met with posters from a firm of city booksellers offering 20% discount on all textbooks.

Since the firm has never in the past offered more than 15% discount (and then only for very large bulk orders) students have interpreted the new offer as an attempt to throttle the University bookshop at birth. They also anticipate that once the University bookshop has succumbed to the opposition, the old city prices and bad service will return.

Canta comments: "The idea of a monopoly is frightening; a system where most of the power lies on one side is stultifying to private enterprise; and it is the inevitable result of monopolies that slipshod and slap-dash methods develop, with a falling off in the standard of service."

Meanwhile, a complaint has been forwarded to the New Zealand Booksellers' Association, for it is contended that the city firm's action is contrary to the Booksellers' Association rules.

—From N.Z.U.S.P.C. Bulletin.

"Marriage and celibacy are both evils; it is better to choose the one which is not incurable."

—Nicolas de Chamfort.

Salient

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CIVIL LIBERTIES

One of the most cherished rights of the people in democratic countries is the right to demonstrate and to register protest, whether by procession, by letters to the paper, or by banners and placards. One or two recent events and statements relating to different parts of the globe suggest that this fundamental prerogative of the people is not always being respected.

During the visit to this country of the German industrialist, Baron Krupp, a number of placards appeared on various buildings and power poles. These advocated banning the baron from New Zealand and named him as a prominent Nazi war criminal. Since then a senior police officer has announced in the Press that police prosecutions will be brought against those concerned. Whatever one's views may be concerning the visit of Baron Krupp, one must agree that the suggested police prosecutions are an unwarranted interference with the right of every citizen to demonstrate. I can only hope that the law in this regard will be changed and that the police will cease to display such intolerance and narrowness of mind.

In Australia recently the publishers and editor of the Sydney "Daily Mirror" were convicted of contempt of court on two charges and fined a total of £600. The fines followed two "Mirror" editorials with headings saying that a certain Judge Brennan had shocked the community by lenient sentences against motorists. This is a shocking instance of bureaucratic arrogance. If citizens are not to be free to criticise the administration of justice, whether by Courts or administrative tribunals, then they have no guarantee that the cause of justice is being served.

In Italy a Franciscan priest has been sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for disturbing a Red election meeting. He is the head of the Bologna archdiocese's famous "Flying Friars", a group of Franciscans, specially trained in Marxism, who use cars with loudspeakers to drive to Red rallies and answer Communist propaganda. Admittedly, this is an extreme case. But nonetheless it raises the question of the right to "heckle," i.e., the right to protest during rallies at certain statements made by the speakers. This decision is a dangerous precedent and the principle could be extended to cover all interjections at political meetings.

I hope that readers will carefully consider these cases of interference with civil liberties and will send protests to the appropriate quarters.

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and sound effects, much superior to those in earlier major productions and, if more attention to the speech and gestures of some actors would have brought an improvement, the larger considerations of Miss Millar's production were more than adequate. The success of the staging emphasised the success of the whole venture in taking a neglected play which too many read without witnessing and showing it to be, if not the best Shakespeare, at least very good theatre and in flashes as excellent as many more familiar plays. It was fitting then that the outstanding performance of the production was that of Mr. Vere-Jones as Lafew and the reality he gave to a part supposedly tedious and fatuous was an indication of how worthwhile it is to see Shakespeare and not just read him.

—S.J.

To Hell With Swot

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TONIGHT?

186 WILLIS STREET

between Dixon and Ghuznee Sts



Continued from page 1

need for immediate construction of new buildings without Departmental fragmentation, are the limiting factors. The only logical alternative is to take the Princes St. area under the Public Works Act and face another local body outcry, for there is little hope that the present City Council will withdraw its objections to expansion on the site which has long been regarded as the finest in the city for a University. There is a third alternative, and the most dangerous—the shadow of indefinite postponement.

Meanwhile, in Hamilton, an enthusiastic committee is pressing for the establishment of a University in the Waikato and has already investigated a 200-acre site near Ruakura. Such a location would enable the construction of a "campus" university that would relieve pressure on Auckland for several decades.

The tragic delay caused by the site controversy was one that should never have arisen. The University Council, in consultation with the Government as the financiers, are the only authorities qualified to select the most suitable site for higher education, but unfortunately their freedom of decision has been transgressed and influenced by local petty politics and private vested interests.

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E X E C —D.B.K.

**ON CENSORSHIP—
A JUSTIFICATION**

The Editor:

Sir,—At the last meeting of the Executive of the Students' Union, grave concern was expressed to you concerning certain offensive comments contained in your issue of 27th March. After hearing you at that meeting: after putting it to you that certain comments were in poor taste, to say the least, and possibly actionable: after hearing your reply that, had you the same situation again, you would print those comments in toto (with the exception of one heading): the Executive further resolved that in future all copy which you proposed to publish be first submitted to the President or his nominee, before being set up for printing.

A formal agreement was made in 1949 between the Association and the then Principal, Sir Thomas Hunter, to the effect that all material that would be published in "Salient" would be seen by the President, whom the Professorial Board would regard as personally responsible for such act of publication. The agreement has been tacitly renewed by succeeding Executives of the student body, and such an agreement exists at this time.

Should a youthful and over-zealous person be appointed to the Editorship of "Salient", there is a possibility that, despite the vigilance of printers, comments might appear in print to which objection and successful legal action might be taken. To the extent that the President of the Association, together with the Editor, would be liable, to that extent it is plainly desirable for the Executive to see to its interests.

Normally the Executive would be expected to see to its interests when it appoints the Editor, and would therefore have regard to such matters as maturity and commonsense as well as the technical qualifications of the appointees.

It would be expected that censorship of opinion, particularly the opinion of the highest educational institution in the country, is not lightly regarded by the Executive. To this extent, Executive's concern is that reasonable laws of the land are complied with: if an Editor, after his appointment, gives strong indications that he is either unaware of, or negligent with regard to, these reasonable laws, then it is clearly if reluctantly the duty of some higher organisation to enforce this compliance.

Executive's policy on this matter is clear: as publisher, it has a legal duty, and as the supreme arbiter of student affairs it has a moral duty, to guide the Editor in the exercise of his responsibilities. What opinions are offered on what matters, through the columns of this subsidised newspaper, is the sole concern of the Editor. If an abuse or other situation exists on which strong opinions exist, it is proper and desirable that these opinions should be expressed, regardless of whether self-righteous umbrage is taken by the subjects of that opinion. When, however, comments are made regarding the character of a public figure, it is clearly desirable that some discretion be exercised by the Editor when he makes the decision to publish: it seems further desirable that opinions of another's character, if true and in the interests of the public, should be supported by more concrete evidence than a mere opinion.

An eminent American judge said some years ago that "freedom of

speech" did not give a person the right to cry "Fire!" in a crowded theatre. Executive considers that "freedom of the Press" similarly does not mean freedom to publish everything and anything that may be contributed. Clearly there are limits; responsibilities bring in their train obligations, and Executive's view is that there has been a regrettable lapse on the part of the Editor, on this matter.

A further resolution, to the effect that you be informed that your period of editorship will be reviewed at the end of the first term, is designed to indicate to you the gravity with which Executive considers these matters.

It is a matter of some regret that it seems necessary to restate the issues as Executive saw them when it made the decisions it did. You were present during the majority of the discussion on the matter, and said nothing to indicate that you recognised your obligations.

Yours faithfully,

B. C. SHAW,
Honorary Secretary,
V.U.W. Students' Union.

CENSORSHIP

To enable readers to know the censorship situation as it is at the moment the following motion is given. This was passed at the Executive meeting on the 16th April, 1958.

Motion:

That this Executive expresses its grave concern to the Editor of "Salient" concerning offensive comments contained in an article of 27th March, 1958: That it direct that in future all copy for publication including cyclostyled material must be submitted to the President or his nominee before its being set up by the printer. That we inform the Editor that his period of Editorship will be subject to review at the end of the first term.

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**UNIVERSITY PARKING
PROBLEM**

Have you ever arrived at University to attend a six o'clock lecture at five to six to find that you can't park your car within a quarter of a mile of the University Campus. Then have you, when walking back, late for the lecture, noticed the vacant tennis courts (the ones that are to be intruded upon for the purpose of a Student Union Building) and wondered as to the perceptiveness of the Exec. that they haven't hit on the solution that is right under their noses. I have, and like you are amazed.

The parking of students' cars is surely the appropriate use for such a space as the tennis courts if it is true that the Foundations of the new building will not be laid before the beginning of the next season. Could it be possible for the Exec. to take some action now, or does it take someone higher than the Vice-President to be frustrated in his attempt to park, before any action is taken. (Only two would be required, leaving two courts for the odd winter player of tennis).

**IRRESPONSIBLE
ELEMENT IN EXEC**

**JANE BUCKLEY AND
COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY**

To have the confidence of its constituents must surely be one of the primary aims of any Executive body.

To achieve this all decisions of that body must be supported by the various members of that Executive, publically at least.

To this end there exists in the Constitution of V.U.W.S.U. a section regarding the obligations of members of Exec. towards that body. This states:

SECTION 16, CLAUSE 5, SUB-SECTION 1—

All resolutions of the Executive and all acts and things duly done or executed in good faith thereunder shall be binding upon all members of the Executive whether present at such meeting or not and upon all property and assets of the Association provided that such resolutions can not be shown to be ultra vires the Executive or made in bad faith or with any improper motive.

If members of that body still can not agree to give their public support to any motion passed by a majority vote they have but one alternative—resignation!

The case in point is, of course, the recent letter by Miss Jane Buckley referring to a decision of Executive to carry out strict censorship of "Salient". In this she virtually dissociates herself from that decision.

The position is that:

Miss Buckley was not at the meeting when the subject was raised.

Thus she had no real knowledge of the background discussion which lead to the motion.

The Constitutional procedure is resignation (far from unknown at Victoria) if she feels as strongly as she professes to do.

Despite these and more subtle objections of etiquette she saw fit to have published the statement that she has.

I personally feel that by her action she has done little to further the cause of a "Free Press" and has only brought discredit to herself and to the Executive.

MR. WILSON ON TOUR

Recently the Men's Vice-President, Mr. D. Wilson, visited six east coast secondary schools for the purposes of giving prospective University students a picture of student "life" in the University. This tour was not in any way to replace that by the Liaison Officer of Victoria, Mr. Hogg, but rather to supplement it and give a more balanced picture of life at the University. While stressing the academic side of University he attempted to give his audiences a picture of University which incorporated all aspects of student life; that is, academic, social, and sporting.

Approximately 250 students received the benefit of Mr. Wilson's profound knowledge, most of whom had but a rough idea of University life.

This is the first of such tours but as the advantages of being able to arouse interest in student affairs in prospective members of our life can be clearly seen and as the tour this year has been described by Mr. Wilson as an outstanding success he consequently, in tabling his report, recommended that the tours be continued in forthcoming years. This suggestion was adopted by the Executive with the suggestion that the tours be alternated between East and West Coast Secondary schools yearly.

LIBRARY

Recently the Librarian, Mr. H. Miller, waited on a meeting of the Executive to enable complaints and students' suggestions to be handed on to him. Among the topics discussed were:

1. The difficulty that some people have in finding their way about the library which, in some cases, caused the students to be forced to leave without the book they sought. It was felt that the initial instruction given to Freshers was inadequate and that some further instruction was necessary.

To this Mr. Miller replied that he was fully aware that the instruction on the use of the Library was not sufficient to enable students to feel confident that they knew how to operate the system. He added that a reference Librarian had been appointed for the last two years—part of her duties was to help students in their search for books. Unfortunately Miss Miller, the first appointment, left before she had come to know the Library well enough to be qualified to give any advice to students (Miss Art incidentally is a very highly qualified person—in her career she has been in Rome with F.A.O. for six years and with United Nations in Washington). Mr. Miller stated that "it was certainly part of her duties" to help students. He also pointed out that for more routine matters students should consult the desk librarians.

The problem of enabling students to receive sufficient instruction would, he said, be solved in the course of time as the reference librarian became more knowledgeable about Victoria's library.

2. The difficulty that is sometimes encountered in the getting of books from the stack rooms.

To this Mr. Miller said that because of standing orders of the Library staff which required two librarians to be at the desk at all times it was sometimes difficult for books to be got immediately. It is felt that if students appreciate this point and also the fact that Stack Rooms are growing in number and complexity then slight delays will be accepted.

3. The problem of borrowing of periodicals. There have been complaints recently and not so recently that the borrowing of periodicals by staff and students meant that if an assignment had been set the relevant periodicals would be immediately snatched up, leaving some students with a great advantage over the others who had not been the first to rush to get them.

This point was only lightly treated by Mr. Miller and he did not appear to realise the importance of it. Obviously in our competitive education system there are students who will deliberately refrain from returning the periodical in order to retain his initial advantage over others. Personally I feel that the borrowing of periodicals should be stopped both from staff and students.

In conclusion Mr. Miller spoke of the "dream" library of the future Victoria, but realistically said that the present students would not be around to enjoy it. The question of stolen books was also mentioned by the Librarian. This question could be practically solved by the introduction of "turnstiles". This sort of theft protection is obviously effective, but humiliating for a University to have to introduce, but unless students realise their actions are causing considerable losses some measures will have to be taken. So please be honest!

A Fanfare of Strumpets

An Anthology of prose

The various world religions and cultures have taken different attitudes towards prostitution which is as old as human history.

The ancient countries of the East such as Egypt, Phoenicia and Persia, practised the temple worship with its wild orgies of the flesh. The priestesses were prostitutes. The religion was used as an excuse to indulge in prostitution which was apparently not regarded as a moral evil.

Greece has known various stages. Solon's legislation aimed to ostracise and segregate. The prostitutes were forced to live in isolation, not allowed to be in certain parts of Athens and compelled to wear distinctive dresses.

It was not until following the Persian wars and after the law had fallen into disuse that drastic measures were again taken. The ladies of easy virtue were brought under police control.

A period of laxity returned and the prostitutes gradually achieved social standing. Their sisters of the upper class, called the "Hetaerae", exerted a great influence on the society.

Later on the Greeks reverted to the Egyptian system of temple worship. They established a temple in honour of Aphrodite at Corinth. The rituals were performed by prostitutes.

Prostitution has always thrived in China. Religion has not interfered, which is not surprising, for Taoism and Confucianism are two philosophies rather than religions: both only deal with the art of living.

The Chinese people are very down-to-earth and realistic. They never tried to stop prostitution since they looked upon it as something human.

In the days of the Old Testament prostitution existed in abundance in Palestine. It was tolerated as long as it had no repercussion on the chosen race or the Jewish religion. It was not forbidden provided only Gentile women were involved.

The Romans were rather strict: they took a very poor view of prostitution and despised men who visited brothels. They were the first people to introduce the system of registration. In the days of the Republic women could register as prostitutes. They had to pay a fee and their names could never be removed from the records.

Inevitably laxity managed to creep in.

Christian ethics regard sexual intercourse outside marriage as sinful. Consequently prostitution is disapproved of.

Reviewing history it is interesting to note how gradually the gap between prostitution and religion has widened in the course of the ages.

The first Christians, however, children of the pagan world of Rome with its moral decadence, were tolerantly understanding.

One of the most prominent Fathers of the Church, St. Augustine, considered prostitution as a necessary evil.

He was of the opinion that suppression would encourage it: "Forbidden fruit is sweet".

Prostitution was thriving throughout the Middle Ages. Rather than endeavouring to stamp it out direct, the Church followed an indirect line of attack. It sought to convert the black sheep that had strayed from the fold. Special convents were formed for repentant prostitutes.

Bachelors were encouraged to marry them and were highly thought of if they did so.

The movement of the Reformation made a firm stand against prostitution and advocated the closing of brothels. Severe punishments were introduced.

The epoch of Rationalism weakened the influential position of Christianity in the West. The world became less susceptible to Christian reasoning. A more realistic attitude towards prostitution caused the nations to ignore its moral aspect as much as possible as time went by.

On the other hand the various Governments began to take much more notice of the health angle owing to the alarming spread of venereal diseases. The 18th Century returned to the old pattern of the Romans and established the system of registration under police control. Application fees were not required and names could be erased.

The present legislations are based on protection of the general public rather than on suppression of this apparently unconquerable evil.

In 1949 the British Social Biology Council made extensive investigations into London prostitution. It has found that one of the main causes for taking up prostitution is the background of an unhappy homelife. Most prostitutes come from the lower classes.

The homes of the poor are often overcrowded which invariably stimulates promiscuity. The girls, when still very young, notice loose living going on. The parents need all their time and energy to make ends meet. As they have no time for anything else, the children are neglected. The little ones miss out on the love and affection they are craving for and nothing is done about their moral education. Disappointed in their homelife they break away from their

family. Morally ill-equipped they have to stand on their own feet and to fend for themselves in a big lonely city. They are unsettled and soon they associate with the wrong people. They may get into further trouble: the birth of an illegitimate child has often caused the unfortunate mother to become a prostitute.

There's the other side of the picture; the force of demand. Even some family men, who live an unsatisfactory married life, patronise brothels.

Many prostitutes in London are of the opinion that young amateurs spread V.D. which is alleged to be the result of unorganised sexual activity. According to them organised houses of ill-fame, run by professionals, controlled by Police and Health authorities, are not likely to endanger the health of the public.

As far as the prostitutes are concerned the solution seems to lie in the improvement of the home conditions. Moral education and character training should start at home and be continued at school. Proper instructions to teenagers before marriage may save many matrimonial relationships.

Here is a task for parents, churches, teachers, and psychologists.

However it is not as simple as all that: history has proved that prostitution cannot be completely eradicated. The ultimate responsibility has to be borne by the sinners themselves. It is a private and moral matter between God and man's conscience in which no legislator has the right to interfere.

(The author wants to make it clear beyond doubt that he himself has never patronised any brothels anywhere in the world.)

—JOHN C. HENDRIKSE.



WHATS IN A NAME?

SOC. DEM. SOC. CHANGES NAME TO LABOUR CLUB

The first meeting of the year of the Social Democrat Society was held on March 29th at Mrs. Naylor's flat, No 6 Salamanca Road. There was no formal business and discussion ranged over a wide field. Members of the Society discussed the best ways of developing the activities of the club both inside and outside the university. It was agreed that the club should continue to sponsor prominent speakers at the University and invite contributions for "Left Review". It was also hoped that a weekend school might be arranged in the second term.

There appeared to be quite general agreement that the current

economic crisis in the capitalist countries of the West was in fact part of a deeper general crisis that has existed for a considerable time but which had for one reason or another been masked by other factors. While it seemed difficult to predict what the exact course of events would be, there could hardly be any doubt that even at the least, more community control over the processes of production would be needed to maintain full employment, and that if the present malady of free enterprise became chronic then no solution short of the socialisation of the basic industries in the most industrially advanced countries would suffice to provide a remedy. Members of the club agreed that

NOMINATIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

1. Written nominations are hereby called for life membership of the Union.

2. Section 5: "Life Membership" of the Constitution of the Association provides as follows:—

"1. Life membership of the Association may, in accordance with the regulations set out in Schedule No. 1 herewith, be conferred upon past or present members of the Association in recognition of their faithful services and personal sacrifices in the interests of the University, provided that every member so elected must have merited such distinction in the opinion of at least four-fifths of those members of the Association recording their votes in a ballot taken for the purpose.

2. Life members shall be exempt from payment of further subscriptions to the Association and shall be entitled to become on written application and without any payment a member of all affiliated Clubs."

3. Nominations must be accompanied by a written statement setting out in respect of each nominee the special services and personal sacrifices which in the opinion of the members entitle such nominee to election as a life member of the Association.

4. Each nomination shall be signed by not less than three members of the Association.

5. The ballot referred to in Section 5 of the Constitution shall be held at the same time as the annual election, namely on Thursday, 19th June, Friday, 20th June and Monday, 23rd June, 1958.

6. Nominations will be received by the undersigned until 5 p.m. on Thursday, 8th May, 1958.

7. The result of the election will be announced at the termination of the Annual General Meeting, set down to commence at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 25th June, 1958.

28th April, 1958.

B. C. SHAW,
Honorary Secretary.

it was now highly important that specialised research on New Zealand problems should be undertaken by Socialists in the university.

On March 17th the club held its annual general meeting in C.1 and elected its committee for 1958. Notice of motion in the name of John Fernyhough and Hector MacNeill had been given to the proposal to change the name of the club to the V.U.W. Labour Club. After some considerable discussion as to the merits of this change the new name was unanimously adopted. It was agreed generally that though the club's name might lead some to think that it was an affiliate of the N.Z. Labour Party the club could make it clear by what it did, that it was a grouping of independent democratic left-wingers unattached to any political party. On many subjects the club might feel itself in agreement with the Labour Party but this might not always be so on all issues. The pattern in both British and Australian Universities had been to have both Labour clubs and Labour Party clubs and if students wanted a body that was affiliated to the Labour Party then the way was open for them to form one but that the possible and probable disadvantages of the present club doing this outweighed any prospective advantages.

After formal business had been concluded there was a discussion on the history of the labour movement, industrial and political in New Zealand.

Officers of the new club: President, Hector MacNeill, telephone 73-081, or letter rack; Secretary, Terry Kelliher, 70-471.

God And The Bodgies

To the Editor :—

continued from page 6

"All three political parties passed over in silence the question of religious education in public schools. It looks as though the Christian ideal of life is to be permitted to give way to a pagan culture exemplified in our youth by 'chicken', 'stove-pipes', and 'spring-knives'." —("Salient," 13/3/58.)

"Religious teaching in some form or another is vital to the community . . . The teaching of religion is at the heart of all teaching."—Dr. Ian Cumming, Senior Lecturer in Education at Auckland University. (Dominion, 14/3/58.)

These two outbursts are scarcely original. They are of a pattern with declarations that have been made with increasing frequency in the past few years.

The stampede towards religion as the solution to the social maladjustment of modern youth was started with the Mazengarb Report on Juvenile Delinquency in 1954—the work of Dr. O. C. Mazengarb, Q.C. (sometime National Party parliamentary candidate and a particular pin-up boy of "Salient's" editor, if we may judge by another passage in the editorial quoted above), a Presbyterian minister, a prominent Roman Catholic lady, and others. The various axes they had to grind are forgotten, and their viewpoint has become fashionable by repetition. It is time its factual basis was investigated.

Does the evidence support the contention that a religious upbringing makes children less prone to delinquency than a non-religious upbringing?

The sect most given to advertising the efficacy of its especial brand of religious education and of the family life it fosters, is the Church of Rome.

The last figures to be published in New Zealand indicating the incidence of crime among the adherents of various religions were issued by the then Chief Justice in 1914, when 41.74% of the inmates of New Zealand's jails were of the Roman Catholic persuasion, as compared with 14.07% of Roman Catholics in the total population. Much more recent figures in New South Wales (1946) show 38% of jail inmates as Roman Catholics at a time when the Roman Catholic proportion of the total population was 20%.

Facts like these are ignored by Christian apologists in their keenness to prescribe a Christian cure for delinquency. The 1954 Commission in fact overlooked ample evidence that a considerable amount of the Hutt Valley's adolescent naughtiness was the result of too much, not too little, religion in childhood.

Attitudes that go with religious instruction in childhood are often highly conducive to anti-social outbursts in the teens. The concept that an action is good or bad because an arbitrary God has so ordained, without any relation to the social or personal effects of that action (completely ignoring a famous dictum of Christ's), is not likely to encourage respect in the questioning teen-ager. The rule of the strong right arm as exemplified in the religious sanctions of eternal reward or punishment, will inspire only the very meanest-motivated sort of good behaviour, if any at all.

Mrs. Margaret Knight, in her B.B.C. talks a few years ago, pointed to the alternative which exists for giving children a moral basis of a very much higher order without any religion at all. And, in fact, many English, American, and New Zealand homes have for generations been bringing children up in this atmosphere with a conspicuous lack of delinquent or aberrant results.

That influence of religion often encourages evil behaviour can be clearly illustrated from political history of not very distant date. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Metropolitan of Moscow give their blessing to the atomic armaments of their respective governments, just as the late Pope Pius XI blessed the Italian troops departing for the assassination of Abyssinia. To the great non-Christian populations of Asia and Africa, Christianity simply

means the creed of the West, which, in turn, is synonymous with rapine and exploitation. Rev. Dr. Soper remarked that after the Suez assault "millions of brown, black, and yellow people . . . still anxious to give Christianity the benefit of the doubt, have now written it off as incorrigible."

Such acts as the excommunication of Tito for his persecution of Cardinal Stepinac (described in your last issue), have the same effect. To Western democrats, Tito has all the hallmarks of a totalitarian dictator, but to the Yugoslav peasants he was a liberator. The "New York Times" (15/10/46) noted that the contrast would not be overlooked between the Church's action in this case and the fact that "Although Adolf Hitler was a Catholic, he was not excommunicated for his persecution of religion."

The whole attitude of the Church towards Hitler opens it to the charge of compromise with the most horrible evil. The Conference of Roman Catholic Bishops at Fulda in August, 1936, issued an appeal for the cessation of strife between Church and State in Germany because "the danger from Bolshevism in many other countries demands peace, unity, and complete support of Hitler and the Nazi regime within Germany". This, at a time when the Nazis were labelling as "Bolshevist" such mildly liberal governments as those of Spain, Czecho-

slovakia, and others of their early victims.

The Christian political record is marred with countless such instances of positive evil. By contrast, Rev. Father Trevor Huddleston wrote recently ("New Statesman", 9/11/57): "It is a humiliating, chastening, but inescapable fact that Christian social ethics are today being proclaimed with far more vigour and effect by humanists, agnostics, and scientists than by Christian apologists."

Priestley, Russell, and Einstein have, from their standpoints as infidels of various kinds, taken a firm stand on the H-bomb in a line which accords with Christian ethics, where Church leaders (with the exception of some Roman Catholics and a few others) have conspicuously failed. And while Church leaders (with

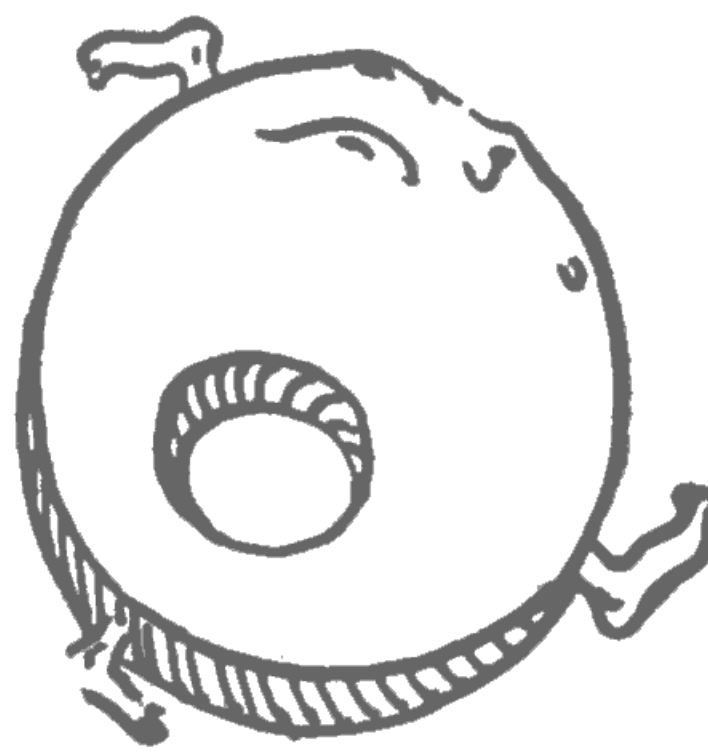


Rome certainly not excepted here) were busy appeasing Nazism, the task of defending everything merciful and aspiring in the European tradition fell largely to the humanists and agnostics of the liberal and socialist movements.

Is it a coincidence that Christian ethics are most actively rallied to by people who do not embrace Christianity as a religion?

Is it a coincidence that the juvenile crime wave is occurring side by side with a much-publicised "return to religion" highlighted by mass hypnotists like Billy Graham and Fulton Sheen?

These questions should be seriously pondered before we rush into acceptance of "religious education" as a panacea for the ills of our time. —C.V.B.



The Editor:

Sir,—Mr. Bollinger's numerous attempts, in the past decade or so, to reduce any rational dispute to the level of facetious remarks and expressions of childish innocence do seem to suggest that he is possessed of a delightfully simple nature and consequently incapable of condescending to the level of rationality and coherence. I shall do Mr. Bollinger the service of giving him the benefit of the doubt. Leaving aside, the possibility of Mr. Bollinger being a simpleton after all, we are left with only the possibility that he possesses that simplicity of mind that usually comes only after long periods of self-denial, deep spirituality, and mystical experience. One can almost visualise the look of innocence, those hands clasped in prayer, and that glowing halo that adorn the saintly figure of Mr. Bollinger. In a spirit of deep humility I bow to Mr. Bollinger's greater sanctity and ascetic virtue.

—"FALLEN ANGEL."

ANGELS v. ASSASSINS

The whole controversy on the virtues of Catholicism that has been raging in your pages, and especially the interchange between yourself and Mr. Hall, highlights all the blind prejudice and stupid oversimplification that follow when discussion on a religious theme is raised along narrow sectarian lines.

The blame must, I fear, be laid at your editorial door. It was the blaring trumpet-blasts of your first two editorials that awoke the chorus of discordant echoes. To make exaggerated and swaggering claims on behalf of the faith into which one had the (good or bad) luck to be born, without any serious attempt at any intellectual argument, is to invite diatribes of abuse in return. It is a familiar pattern in New Zealand, and one which has had a disastrous effect on the traditional tolerance which was a national characteristic of the stock from which we are derived. Roman Catholic bigotry breeds Protestant bigotry, and vice versa.

It is almost hopeless to try to straighten up the substance of the resultant discussion. To Mr. Hall, the Church of Rome is a sinister secret society of schemers, obscurantists and assassins. To you, it is an army of angels robed in dazzling white. Since both viewpoints are so wildly wide of the truth, it is only natural that the arguments marshalled in support of these viewpoints are based on myth rather than fact.

Just one example: Your comparative treatment of the Spanish Civil War. I believe it can be amply documented (a) that this war was not engineered by the Vatican, and (b) that the impressively attested tales of Republican atrocities are a medley of distortion and fabrication. Let us get this straight—there were Roman Catholics on both sides in the Spanish Civil War; there were also heretics and infidels on both sides. The war was not about religion at all, although the fascists exploited religion for their own ends—apparently with some success, if one is to judge by the delusions about the war cherished by many Roman Catholics in New Zealand. The issues were also confused by the disruption behind the Republican lines set off by an unholy alliance of conservatives and communists.

But still, broadly, the Spanish Civil War was a battle between fascism and democracy—a sort of curtain-raiser to World War II. Religious bigots do great disservice to democracy by attempting to represent it as anything else—as by almost everything else they do.

—C. V. BOLLINGER.

SALIENT'S CORRESPONDENCE

READERS PROTEST ABOUT CENSORSHIP

THE PRIVILEGE OF CENSORSHIP

This article was considered necessary by the author following ugly rumours of Executive high-handedness, including the censorship of a letter he had written on the Cafeteria.

The laws protecting the individual against slander or libel, the church against blasphemy and the state against anti-state activities are considered adequate by a general consensus of opinion. If it were otherwise strenuous efforts would have been made to extend these laws.

There is one point, however, upon which a considerable divergence of opinion, explicit but more commonly implicit, is evident; that is the rights of censorship.

This is quite natural for in some of its aspects censorship is intended to prevent the dissemination of material harmful for the community. And just who is to decide, whose opinion is sufficiently clear to weigh in the balance the "advisability" or otherwise of the material offered for publication.

In the community at large the all-powerful State decides this, one church has the Index, and in each town and city additional checks are provided by the local influential groups which bring pressure to bear to prevent this or that material being offered to the public for perusal. In our own University we have the University Council, the Professorial Board, each of whom has the ultimate legal right and who can bring pressure to bear to stop publication.

When any of these three groups, either nationally or in the University, wield sufficient power to censor material which—in their opinion—is unsuitable, then we have to all intents and purposes what we would call a totalitarian system if it happened almost anywhere else in the world.

For democracy presupposes the interplay, the counterbalancing of conflicting groups, whose open conflicts are ultimately decided upon by the voting public.

Curiously enough some of our student leaders (and here I am only offering an opinion) would deny this. They would say, "But how can you call it totalitarian when the students can voice an opinion?" When it is explained to them that they have not made certain relevant facts available to students so that they may more correctly form an opinion they would reply, "But the students can find out for themselves if they really wish!" This is a tautology, for who calls for a fire engine without first having knowledge of a fire? "We could present the facts," they say, "but who would care? Students are so apathetic!"

Essentially such an attitude, and the conviction that they alone are capable of interpreting this "apathetic" silence, is the root of the Exec's belief that they hold the mandate to censor what they consider undesirable for public student consideration. Yet by censoring or seeking to censor or by being peeved when cheated of the right to censor controversial and provocative opinion they are unwittingly perhaps, throttling some whose voices echo from this apathetic void.

They deny this claiming, but those who are provocative are not representative of the average student, they are the vocal few in the void or are from a particular pressure group.

Of course they are not average students; who can say who is and



Big Brother

if this average student can be found should all conform to this pattern? Perhaps the opinion is from a pressure group, but pressure groups are the working foundation of democracy.

Perhaps the Executive may venture one further utterance. They do not as a general rule like to censor material but in this particular case it would not be tactful to allow publication, perhaps matters could be best settled without a general broadcast of the information.

There are cases when this is true but, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Executive, they are few and far between.

Use your privilege of censorship wisely. This is a University, not a kindergarten. You would be advised to remember this when thinking how not to displease the Board, the City Fathers, the General public and all others you can use as apologies for censoring our opinions. Try not to displease overmuch the students who, both by good luck and good management, you have been chosen to represent.

—A. C. WALSH.

The Editor:

Sir,—It was with deep regret that I learned of the intention to restrict "Salient's" right to free speech. During my two years as a student at this University, I have taken pride in the fact that I have been a part of a community whose members, while believing almost passionately in the rightness of their own ideas, have been prepared to respect the views of others. If this University makes no other contribution to a better life, it can surely offer this small example to a world bedevilled by man's intolerance to man. Free speech here is not a privilege to be extended or withdrawn at the whim of an Executive but a right won by students of other years, who were willing to face public scorn, fines and imprisonment rather than surrender their claim to it.

It would be unjust to doubt the good intentions of the Executive or to underestimate the difficulties with which they are faced in the present situation, but all the good intentions in the world cannot make an unlimited system of censorship consistent or just, nor free the censor from his own prejudices, however fairminded or conscientious he may try to be. If the realities of the situation call for a compromise, as I believe they do, then surely the Executive can devise some formula whereby censorship can be confined to articles which leave the Students Union open to legal action. Perhaps it might be possible to appoint

some outside person with legal training to carry out this work.

It is to be hoped that the Executive now regrets its momentary panic and will follow the example of Miss Buckley who must be highly commended for her defence of the right of another to put forward a viewpoint, though it was expressed in a manner which she personally could not approve. This surely expresses the very essence of tolerance and is in the highest traditions of the University.

—B. R. de CLIFTON.

The Editor:

Sir,—I was hardly surprised at the action taken by Exec. in imposing a rigid censorship on "Salient", but it did surprise me that they took no action to change your paper's name. The name "Salient" was meant by the paper's founders to indicate a policy of fearless and forthright criticism where that was considered necessary.

Something might also be done about that little line that appears on the front page under the name "Salient"—"An organ of student opinion at Victoria University, Wellington." I suggest that Exec. should direct the editor to do away with the present offensive and provocative title and substitute, "MOUTHPIECE—Opinions approved by the Stud. Ass. Exec. at Victoria University, Wellington."

Yours sincerely,

D. A. PATTERSON.

The Editor:

Sir,—Re the recent (and continuing?) furore on the subject of censorship: may I add a personal comment? It is true that now "Salient" is gagged by the Executive. But to take an extreme example, which I am not at all sure I would necessarily suggest applies in this instance: would one not gag a mad dog?

Yours frothily,

"YUKATA-HOO."

Don't Knock The Rock

The Editor:

Sir,—Your reply to my letter in the last issue of "Salient" gives rise to considerable doubts about your policy as Editor of that paper. In a previous issue you described your editorials thus: "Rather they are nothing more than an attempt to set the ball rolling. Every reader is invited to send in his own viewpoint and in that way correct any mistakes that the editor might have made." Having done this to the best of my ability, I was promptly told that in future such letters would not be acceptable. I would like some clarification on this point; are the only acceptable letters to be those that agree with your own opinions, or is "Salient" to be a genuine expression of student opinion.

I am afraid that your rather laborious reply not only evades several of my points, but signally fails to refute the others.

Calls for peace, and pleas for an end to all strife are characteristic of the Catholic Church, which is a past-master in the art of saying one thing, and doing another. Effective measures towards a much-publicised end are only undertaken at the convenience of the Church.

The Pope never condemned fascism, and the fulminations of the Bavarian Bishops cannot be accepted as a statement of Official Vatican policy. The two encyclicals "Mit

Brennender Sorge" and "Non Abbiamo Bisogno" have been quoted ad nauseam to prove the antagonism of the Pope towards Fascism, but they are nothing of the sort.

In "Non Abbiamo Bisogno" (1931), the Pope simply denounced fascist violence against Catholic Action, and fascist doctrines about the education of youth, which tended to place the supremacy of the State above everything, including the Catholic Church; I quote from it: "We have not intended to condemn the Party and the regime as such. . . . We have intended to condemn only those things in the programme and in the activities of the Party which have been found to be contrary to Catholic doctrine and practice."

In "Mit Brennender Sorge" (1937), the Pope condemns certain of the more extreme Nazi doctrines, but does not condemn political and social totalitarianism. The encyclical made no attempt to break diplomatic relations between Berlin and the Vatican, German foreign policy was not condemned, and Hitler was not excommunicated. The complaints were wholly ecclesiastical, bemoaning the lost privileges of the Church, and the lost control of schools. The Vatican never protested against Nazism as such, as it could not afford to offend such a valuable political ally.

The Spanish Civil War did not break out until July, 1936, and Spanish Catholics had contacted Mussolini with a view to planning it as early as 1933. (See "Manchester Guardian" 4/12/1937).

The present educational arrangement in Quebec originated in the British North America Act of 1867, which provides for subsidised separate schools for Catholics in Ontario, on condition that Catholics in Quebec contribute to Protestant schools, which are really public schools, as they are undenominational for all practical purposes and wholly unsectarian, whereas Catholic schools in Ontario are entirely separatist Church schools controlled by the clergy. It is obviously in the interests of the Catholics to treat the Protestant schools fairly, which they certainly do not do because of any altruistic ideals. Incidentally, Quebec spends about one third as much per capita on schools as does Ontario. The "educational democracy" of Quebec, as a matter of interest, does not permit divorce, forbids birth control and has no public schools. Its capital city has no public library. Comment would be superfluous.

Your reply raises a question which I am sure you will explain for me: who are these "thoughtless" people, whose reading the Church guides so assiduously? Are they members of your own religion? But surely, if anyone is fit to accept Roman Catholic doctrines, and partake in the observances of that faith, he cannot be classed as thoughtless. Perhaps these "thoughtless" people are deliberately being kept in ignorance and superstition.

I sincerely hope and trust that these few comments of mine will lead you and many others to study this subject from a less biased position, and to formulate an individual assessment of that most complex organisation, the Catholic Church.

—R. G. HALL.

[To show my good faith on the matter of "setting the ball rolling" I shall refrain from writing a reply. Moreover, a reply would only lead to replies and counter-replies ad infinitum.—Ed.]

BRIGHTER CAPPING

Publication of "Cappicade" late on the last Thursday afternoon of the first term has traditionally inaugurated the annual Capping festivities, originally designed to fete the graduands of the year. Graduands' supper on the evening of the same day was closely followed by a hectic activity in the small hours of Friday, culminating in the "procession" at noon on Capping Day. For a few hours all activity lapsed until the Capping Ceremony proper in the Town Mall, followed by Capping Ball, which continued into the very small hours of the Saturday. A few days' rest, and "Extravaganza" played at the Opera House for a few evenings, and then there was only the cleaning up and the memories for a twelve-month.

This year there are some changes.

Graduands' supper—an informal and hearty gathering of the graduands and the senior University officials, together with representatives of the City fathers and the Government—remains the same: the Executive are hosts to these persons, and toasts are recorded to traditional institutions. "Cappicade" and procession, however, had for some years been deteriorating in quality: and, as a result of heavy comments made in interested groups, the Association last year adopted an improvement policy for these activities. Some Executive members felt that if there was no appreciable rise in standard, then neither the "Cappicade" nor the procession should be continued.

"CAPPICADE"

A triumvirate Editor of "Cappicade" was appointed, and has finally completed the very difficult, and at times heart-breaking task of producing a magazine which showed at least some acquaintance with University wit. Many of those who have seen portions of the Book this year, consider that it will be the finest ever published by the student body at this University. The magazine will be available to students on the Wednesday afternoon: the Union has received permission to sell "Cappicade" in the City of Wellington streets on Thursday, 8th, and Friday, 9th May, and in Lower Hutt on the Thursday only. Twenty-one thousand copies will be printed, and sellers will not need to worry about rushing back to a float as in previous years.

GENEROUS SALES COMMISSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO SELLERS: CLUBS AND GROUPS ALSO QUALIFY FOR GENEROUS FINANCIAL REWARDS. FULL DETAILS OF THE SCHEME ARE ON THE EXECUTIVE NOTICE BOARD IN THE MAIN FOYER, AND OUTSIDE THE CAFETERIA.

Procession will also be better this year, and groups are being encouraged to enter. Only representative groups: Faculty teams, clubs, etc., may enter a float: and the design and theme must be approved by the procession controllers, John Hercules and Amour Mitchell. Other details are also on the notice boards.

COLLECTION FOR CHARITY

Apart from improved quality of process, this year there will be a collection for charity during the procession. All processers and charity collectors are asked to be costumed, or at least dressed up. The City Council has approved our request to collect for an organisation of our choice, and we have nominated Birthright, a civilian counterpart of Heritage. This will be the first time that students of this University have collected for charity, and we hope that the public will respond generously to this very worth-while cause.

PROCESSION

Permission has been granted for procession, but the conditions must be observed if we are to have this in future years. The route will be slightly different from the last two or three years, as the volume of passenger transport vehicles which now traverses Wakefield Street and Lower Cuba Street have prevented Council from granting permission to use these.

The following are the conditions to which the Students' Union and the City Council have agreed:

- 1. The procession is to commence at 12 noon sharp on Friday, 9th May, and the route is to be as follows: Assemble in Cambridge Terrace, in the vicinity of Vivian Street. Proceed via Courtenay Place, Taranaki Street, Jervis Quay, Hunter Street, Lambton Quay, Bowen Street to the Terrace.
- 2. The procession must be kept as close as practicable to the left of the roadway and must not impede the traffic in any way.
- 3. All instructions issued by Police or Traffic Officials must be complied with immediately.
- 4. The Students' Union is to accept responsibility for any damage to Corporation property caused by Students during the whole of Capping Day, whether they are participants in the procession or not, and has undertaken to make good any such damage or to furnish the names of those responsible.
- 5. The Students' Union is to take thorough steps to acquaint all our members with the abovementioned conditions under which a permit is issued.

EXTRAVAGANZA

This year's Extravaganza season is for a full six nights in Wellington, beginning with a Gala Opening which hopes to emulate the style of overseas premieres. This will be followed by a five-night season in Wellington, and a two-night stand in Lower Hutt on Thursday and Friday, 22-23 May. At Queen's Birthday weekend, the cast will travel to Napier to perform on Friday and Saturday, 30 and 31 May, and Monday, 2nd June.

Proceeds from the Gala Opening in Wellington, on Saturday, 10th May, will be devoted to the Student Union Building Fund. In Napier, the net proceeds will be handed to Birthright. Last year, Extrav. went on tour to Hastings at the same time.

All students should do their best to get to one or more of the performances: a regrettably small number have attended in previous years, and the standard and team-spirit of this year's show and cast are very

good. Tickets for the Wellington season are priced: Circle, 10/-; stalls, 6/-; gallery, 4/-.

TIMETABLE

The following timetable indicates Capping activities:—

- Wednesday, 7th May—late afternoon, "Cappicades" available.
- Thursday, 8th May—"Cappicades" on sale in Wellington and Lower Hutt.
- Graduands' supper, 8 p.m., Little Theatre.
- Friday, 9th May—"Cappicade" still selling in Wellington if stocks last.
- Procession, 12 noon.
- Capping ceremony, 8 p.m., Town Hall.
- Capping Ball, Town Hall, 10 p.m.-3 a.m.
- Saturday, 10th May—Gala Opening, Extrav 1958, at Opera House, 8.15 p.m.
- Monday, 12th--Saturday, 17th May—Extrav at Opera House.
- Thursday, 22nd--Friday, 23rd May—Extrav. at Lower Hutt Little Theatre.
- Friday, 30th--Saturday, 31st May—Extrav at Napier.
- Monday, 2nd June—Extrav at Napier.

Those are the main points on Capping. To be successful, these activities require YOUR support: you will find you can enjoy yourself thoroughly, without abusing the privilege of letting off steam in good-humoured, clever stunts.

Further information will be found on the notice boards, or may be obtained from members of the Executive, or Capping organisers.

—B. C. SHAW.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE ROUND

The Drama Club's production of *All's Well That Ends Well* was a bold venture in so many ways that it could easily have flopped. The play is unfamiliar and commonly regarded as one of Shakespeare's worst, muddled in its action and nasty in its material. The staging was unusual, with three platforms in the body of the theatre and the audience around them, scarcely any scenery and no curtain to veil the comings and goings of the actors. The costumes, too, were unconventional, not, the programme told us, just to be novel but to help capture the mood of the play. The boldness paid off; the play came across with a liveliness few had expected and was enthusiastically received by many who had written it off as dull and unpleasant.

This success was achieved to some extent in spite of the professed aims behind the experimental staging and costuming. We were told that Helena was to be seen as a resolute go-getter whose determination we must admire however little we sympathise with her methods. It was this conception of her as a "Shavian superwoman" which prompted the use of Edwardian costumes; she was to be as modern and as unsubmitive as any of the modern dramatist's heroines. In the actual performance the Helena of Donella Palmer was very little of this. At no time did she lose our sympathy or provoke our displeasure and her rich costumes, which were as much traditional as modern, served to emphasise the departure from the interpretation of the part we were led to expect.

Bertram, the Countess and Lafew fitted in well enough with Miss Palmer's Helena but Parolles was so exactly typed by his costumes that he seemed more like an Evelyn Waugh militarist than the boisterous braggart whose deflation by Helena in the first act is but the prelude to

his complete discomforting at the end of the play. We were hardly conscious of him as the uninhibited mis-leader of youth whose loquacity undoes him. The clown, Lavache, was altogether too off-hand for the important lines he has in the many-voiced consideration of love and nobility and his relationship to the central characters not very clearly established.

If these parts seem to have suffered from the conception of the play as belonging to our world there was a great deal gained by the staging of the play in something like the Elizabethan manner. Scene followed scene with just the right pace and the complicated plot was much less tedious than reading of the play had suggested. Nola Millar's talent for getting people moving and speaking with a minimum of fuss and by-play was obvious throughout and the experience of a Shakespeare play as primarily something to be spoken was a most satisfying one. The three platforms restricted the actors at times, especially in the last scene and, in the taunting of Parolles, room should have been found for Bertram to be more than a bystander on the floor. The final entry of Helena was disappointing; this is the crowning moment of the play and she had far too little room and time to make it that. Would one central platform have been better?

Allowing for disagreements about the interpretation of the play and some of its characters, the acting was very good. David Vere-Jones had a command of movement and gesture as impressive as his fine speaking of verse, and whenever he was on stage others seemed to rise towards his level. Irene Demchenko similarly spoke and moved very well and Bernard Grice, after a rather uncertain start, was a fitting third to these others in the ranks of the older generation from whose presence this comedy of young people growing up takes so much of its meaning. John Gamby, as Parolles, I have mentioned already as failing to give the part the full-blooded energy it needs, but his performance early in the play as a rather cynical spiv was great fun in itself and at the end his dejection had just the right note of good humour about it to make Lafew's favour towards him completely convincing.

The minor characters were not always given full weight and some of the speaking of verse and (more surprisingly) of prose was too elocutionary or hurried. Geoff Henry as Lavache was irritatingly full of gestures which distracted the attention from what he was saying. The naturalness of the movements about the acting area which the production called for helped the inexperienced actors and only in the scene where Parolles is unmasked were the minor parts seriously slack.

John Reynolds as Bertram got all the rashness and impetuosity that are called for and in the last scene made the most of his all too few lines. He kept the audience sufficiently sympathetic to him as a young, unseasoned courtier to make Helena's regaining of him more satisfactory an ending to the play than many consider it. Donella Palmer, as Helena, had a splendid ease of movement and expression and her interpretation of the part gave support to Coleridge's much-maligned description of her as "Shakespeare's loveliest creation". Without playing down the ambition in her love or her readiness to use the means which come to her hand this Helena was enough to debunk her severest critics.

As a whole the production had a polish and precision in its lighting

continued on page 2

V.U.C. SPORTSMEN for EMPIRE GAMES

In the New Zealand team for Cardiff, to sail shortly, are three Victoria University students. This is indeed an outstanding achievement for those concerned and the warmest congratulations are extended from the 2697 students who will remain while they leave for honours on a distant field. To say that we will follow closely the fortunes of these men is to express only a fraction of our interest; and the staff of "Salient" takes this opportunity to wish those concerned the best of luck at the Games.

ROWING—GROTTY

Frank Grotty, a third-year Science student, has been rowing for several years with the Union Boating Club, Wanganui. He came into prominence in the 1956-57 season as No. 2 in their Senior Four, which was successful at regattas throughout the season, qualifying for the final of the N.Z. Championship Fours, and winning the Plate Race at Karapiro. The following week this crew won the Senior Fours at Wanganui Regatta, defeating the champion Clifton crew. This same crew, with one replacement, was rowing this past season, and was therefore one of the first to be reckoned with. However, though always well placed, they did not show top form until the championships, when, in spite of a last minute replacement due to sickness, they were convincingly first in the heat, and then the final.

Much credit for their success must go to Mr. C. Healy, official coach of the Union Club, who has incidentally, often helped V.U.C. crews in the past with last minute coaching.

Frank has now rowed in the Vic Eight for three Tournaments. He was selected as a member of the N.Z.U. Eight last year and gained a Vic Blue. This year he was six in the Vic Eight which rowed very well to come second to Otago. He was again selected for the N.Z.U. Eight and was then awarded a N.Z.U. Blue.

Frank is now in Wanganui training with his crew for the Empire Games at Cardiff and trying to continue his studies extramurally.

JANE BUCKLEY AND THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS

Elsewhere in this issue there appears a criticism, written by the Sports Editor, of Jane Buckley's conduct in publicly disagreeing with the rest of Exec. on the matter of censorship. The Editor does not accept the validity of the arguments brought forward, in all sincerity, by the Sports Editor. It is his belief that in doing what she did Jane Buckley showed a rare degree of personal integrity and gumption. Sometimes it is necessary to ignore constitutional quibbles in a defence of principles.

If, in the circumstances, Jane Buckley had resigned, it would have been necessary to have a fresh election of all the co-opted members on Exec. This is because Exec. has already co-opted as many members as it has the constitutional power to do and because it may not leave any vacancies on Exec.

Consequently, resignation would have caused considerable disruption in the management of student affairs in that a special election would have been necessitated.

FENCING— BINNING and TEMPLE

We of the fencing club like to consider that we belong to the strongest University sports club in the country. With the announcement of the N.Z. team to the Empire Games in Cardiff, these incipient delusions of grandeur have been greatly encouraged. We had a fencer at the 1956 Games (Fand Flaws) another at the 1954 Games (Peter Hampton), and now two, Percy Temple and Bob Binning, have been selected for Cardiff. Both of them fully deserve their inclusion in the foil, epee and sabre teams.

Bob has been New Zealand sabre champion for the past three years without too much trouble, and looks as if he will stay at the top in that weapon for some time yet. Though a sabre specialist, he has also done very well at foil and epee. He fought for Vic at the Winter tournaments for the first time last year (coming back with an N.Z.U. Blue) and he has recently returned from the Australian championships, where he came a very good fourth in the sabre. Bob is technically accomplished, very fit, and a brainstorm on opponents' weaknesses ('wrinkles' in fencing circles). He might easily make the sabre final at Cardiff.

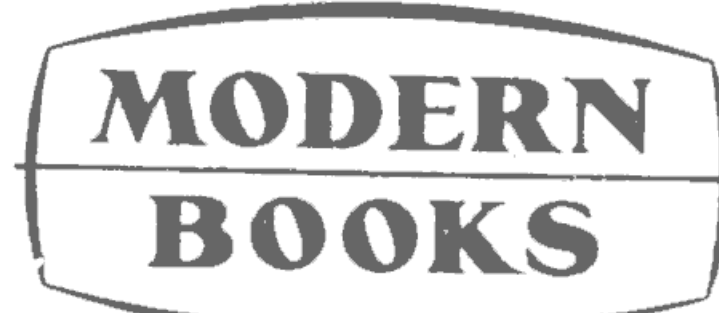
Percy, a foil specialist and a fairly recent convert from Christchurch, won the New Zealand foil title in 1955 and has done well in all three weapons since then. He is left-handed, fast and difficult to manage, and the same 57 fencer who has had the ability to give much more experienced fencers overseas a lot of trouble.

International fencing is, from all reports, very different from what we are accustomed to in New Zealand—rather closer to duelling than might be expected. Our two have been baptised in a fairly hard school, and should not be unduly troubled by the ferocity at Cardiff. We wish them the best of luck.



WHAT WAS WINNIE THE POOH'S SECRET VICE?

Read all about it in—
The House at Pooh Corner 10/6



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48A Manners Street, Wellington



WINTER TOURNAMENT APPOINTMENTS

Although Winter Tournament is months away as yet it is essential that organisation should begin immediately. To this end Exec. has made the following appointments:

The office of Tournament Controller goes to Jim Zohrab, who has months of hard work in front of him if Tournament is to be a success. Assisting him are: Sports Controller, the recently returned John Martin; Corresponding Delegate, John Hercus; Treasurer, Don Trow; Billeting Controller, Elizabeth Beck; and Entertainment Controller, Glen Wiggs.

It is going to be with these people that the success or otherwise of Winter Tournament will rest. Students should realise that the organising of an Inter-University Tournament is not a matter of last-minute rushes (though these do occur) and that the co-operation of all will be appreciated—especially when it comes to Billeting! More on this topic later.

DEBATING— SEX and ALL THAT

Promiscuity was the topic under discussion when Debating Society activities for 1958 went off to a flying start on Friday, 18th April. Assentions distinctly non-academic provoked interjections and laughter which seemed somewhat out of place in C.3's lecture room atmosphere.

Doogue, this year's President, briefly outlined the year's activities, the tradition and history of the society and the prizes open for competition and the year's first debate on the motion that man is a prociscuous animal was on.

Larsen, opening for the affirmative, gave the first surprise of the evening by trying to steer the debate away from the sexual aspects of the motion to the diversity of human activities. This only had the effect of making the audience simmer expectantly for the negative's reply.

For the negative, experienced speaker Whitta, having no illusions as to what the audience wanted to hear gave the affirmative both barrels. He told the expectant audience that the negative would not only show that the mal animal was not promiscuous but would go further and show that the female animal was. In a delightful mixture of whimsy and fact with the Kinsey reports to the fore Whitta made things decidedly awkward for Fernyhough, affirmative second speaker.

Fernyhough bravely attempted to return to the thread of his leader's argument but soon succumbed to the large red herring thrown across his path by Whitta. Once more it was Kinsey to the fore with the audience in glee.

O'Brien, seconding Whitta, kept the argument solidly on sex with some success and it was then the turn of floor speakers.

Wiggs kept the audience at a high level of anticipation and then new speaker Preston took the centre of the floor and by a series of brilliant syllogisms effectively exploded the arguments of both affirmative and negative. His efforts gained the perceptive ear of adjudicator Denys Garrett, himself an exceptionally able speaker and debater, who placed him first speaker for the evening.

Following this performance new speaker Henricks turned on an almost equally meritorious performance—he electing to present a personal serious point of view.

Roberts suavely showing his knowledge of the art of Girl Watching expertly added two and two together to make four to prove the affirma-

CURRENT COMMENTARY

THE SUMMIT

Apparently when in an earlier issue of "Salient", I said that a summit conference should be held on a mountain-top, I was wrong. A summit conference is one at which leaders of delegations summit proposals, drink each other's health for a week, and then sum it all up.

THE CABLE CAR

Students have been generally appreciative of the improvements made at the bottom of the Cable Car. The place no longer looks like the entrance to the dungeons, and indeed, with a row of flowers along the wall it is quite attractive. Male students also appreciate the blonde who sometimes clips tickets. Some improvements at Salamanca (the 'Varsity stop') would be welcomed. A more substantial shelter is required and those brightly painted signs "Alight here for University and Fountain" must go. I don't like the association they imply between the fountain of knowledge and the fountain of water.

RUGBY

The New Zealand Colts—including men in the six-foot plus, fourteen stone class recently trounced those Japanese, who were several stone lighter and several inches shorter. In boxing it is not customary to match bantamweights with heavyweights. Perhaps international rugby should be conducted on the same principle.

tive's case by a tricky line of statistics.

Past-President Thomas (neg.) was greeted with a murmur of anticipation and took full advantage of the position with the best told story of the evening. Briefly it went this way. The master of a fox hunt had a very nice bitch dog and it happened to be the time of the year when male dogs were more than a little interested in their female counterparts. When the hunt had been progressing for some time imagine the surprise of the Hunt Master when he saw his bitch well out in front and the fox running a poor fifth.

Dent (neg.) also came out with a story but while more closely connected to his argument that man was not promiscuous because he did not get a chance to be it could not compare with that of Thomas's.

Miss Boyle was next to speak for the negative but she replied more on logic than the close to the wind double talk which had been prominent.

After Doogue (neg.) had introduced the categorical imperative and a new line of logical argument Whitta summed up with fluency for the negative and Larsen did his not inconsiderable best to tie the case up for the affirmative.

However, when the vote was taken the large audience by a five to one majority decided that man was not a promiscuous animal.

Adjudicator Garrett started off with a glowing reference to Debating Society traditions and then showed old and new speakers just where their faults lay with a sharp analysis of tactics, methods and speeches which was of considerable interest to all present.

Thus ended a lively evening of wit, humour and neat argument and in all a good introduction to the lighter side of debating.

The next debate is the eagerly awaited Staff-Student annual battle with the students affirming the motion "That Conformity Breeds Morons".

Place: Little Theatre.

Time and Date: 8.15 p.m. Friday,
2nd May.

JPudge: Dr. Currie, N.Z.U.