

Salient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria University, Wellington

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SAPIENTIA MAGIS



AURO DESIDERANDA

WHAT HAPPENED TO HERK?

Many students have been enquiring about the mysterious absence of Mr Hercus at this critical time of the academic year. SALIENT has investigated the matter, and we now present a full explanation of the story.

WHO IS HERK.? For those unenlightened innocents John Hercus is president of the Students' Association of the Victoria University of Wellington. Herk. is a name to remember—for he has done much for the association. He is a science graduate, and was recently married to Ann Sayers, also a student of Victoria University.

WHERE IS HERK.: Mr and Mrs Hercus are now living in the Coromandel Peninsula. He is now teaching at the Waihi College. The Coromandel Peninsula is however a long way off from Wellington, and any attempt to manage the affairs of the Association from there would be impractical. SALIENT thinks, however, that Herk. is not where he should be. As president of the Victoria University Students' Association, he should be here in Wellington if he is to do his job satisfactorily.

HOW DID OUR PRESIDENT GET LEAVE: Herk. applied for leave of absence early last December. In an executive meeting held on December 15, 1960, it was decided that Herk. be granted leave of absence until May 5 of this year—an unusually long period. Leave of absence was legally necessary, since section 17, subsection one of the Victoria University Students' Association Constitution provides that "the position of any member shall be vacant if such member fails to attend three consecutive ordinary meetings of the executive to which he has been duly summoned unless he has first obtained from the executive leave of absence in respect of any such meetings or respect of any period of time during which any such meeting is held."

WHAT HAPPENED AFTERWARDS. In a subsequent executive meeting, however, some members of the executive proposed that the leave of absence originally granted to Herk. be rescinded. The effect of such a proposal being carried out would mean that Mr Hercus has to return to Wellington if he is to retain his presidential seat. It would be impossible for him to attend the executive meetings otherwise. And the Association cannot function smoothly without the supervision of a president. The motion that leave be cancelled was in fact voted upon and carried, though not unanimously. So Herk. is now in peril of losing his office.

WHAT SALIENT THINKS. The granting of the leave of absence in the first place was highly irregular. Surely, the wide administrative experience possessed by our executive members should have

flashed the red light against such a move! The position of president of the Association is too important a post to be left vacant for long. Hence, the only place for Herk. is Wellington—where he can properly conduct the affairs of the Association—and nowhere else. Herk. is in the executive; he is in the Student Union Management Committee; he is in the Student's



JOHN HERCUS

Union Planning Committee; and he is ex officio in many other committees. Can all these committees function smoothly without him? We leave that query unanswered. But this much is certain: as president, he should be here in Wellington.

Secondly, SALIENT believes that the absence of leave being granted, the situation can only be aggravated by having Herk's leave cancelled at this late stage. For having the leave of absence withdrawn now would in practice mean that Herk. must vacate his presidential seat. Then not only have we lost efficiency; we will also have lost a president—a very capable one at that! On the other hand, it must not be forgotten that it is essential for the president to be in a position where he can personally keep an eye on everything if he is to perform his task satisfactorily. The task of a president is a difficult one; and it would be unfair and impractical to expect the vice-president and the rest of the exec. share the president's burden while he continues to hold that office.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HERK.? Armour Mitchell has now been elected acting-president. It seems unlikely that Herk. will be able to leave Waihi College, and it is probable that Herk. will have to abandon his office. This is somewhat unfortunate, in view of

the fact that the Union Buildings will be open soon. For Herk. did a lot of work over the new buildings. SALIENT is happy to note however that the executive has decided that Herk. be invited to speak on behalf of the Association at the official opening ceremonies of the Student Union Building, regardless whether he is still president or not at that time.

Editor's Note: After the above article had been written, SALIENT received news from Mr Steve O'Regan—executive member—that Herk. is no longer eligible for the executive because he did not enrol as a student of Victoria University for 1961.

Notice to Contributors

★
Copy for the third issue of "SALIENT" must be in before
March 13, 1961
—Editor.

THE UNION BUILDING AGAIN: For those characters who are becoming impatient, SALIENT gives them assurance that we are watching over their interests closely. After all, who does not want to move into that wonderful building? Those sceptical beings who are inclined to be critical should attend one of these executive meetings—and see for themselves just how much work is involved in the whole project.

CHRISTMAS TRAMPING

The Tramping Club ran two trips, one to the inland Kairouras (5 people) and the other to the Hopkins Valley, behind Lake Ohau (14). One dominant impression of the Hopkins trip is of 10 people telephone-boothed into a rock-bivvy big enough for three, trying to work out whose foot was in whose armpit, with the bitter rain outside. My other impression is of the leader strolling up the valley with a sacking-and-beechwood sun-umbrella fixed above his head and the three girls following behind like a potentate's obedient wives. Four fierce, tough characters climbed Ward, a handsome 8,600-foot peak. Six others climbed the Dasler Pinnacles (7,500). Hughey, the weather deity, curse him, laid on five days' rain right in the middle. People were frustrated, but not dismayed.

Quotable quote:—"Tomorrow, tomorrow, and tomorrow"—the Cafeteria situation.

SALIENT

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The views expressed in SALIENT are not necessarily those of our
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"A PROJECT FOR EXEC.?"

In this issue of SALIENT we have an article concerning "University Accommodation in Finland," by the associate editor of Ylioppilislehti. This report by Eemie Piimies reminds us of our own problem—the shortage of suitable accommodation for the university students of Victoria. And SALIENT was able to witness just how bad the situation is: during enrolment week, and even afterwards, the Students' Association office was flooded with hundreds and hundreds of calls seeking help and information regarding board for students.

However, Eemie Piimies's article may well give birth to a new idea which can help us. When the Students' Union Buildings are completed, and once the teething troubles are over, the Students' Association executive will have had a large project out of its way. The Students' Association may consider following the bold footsteps taken by the students in Finland—get Victoria University students build low-cost dormitories for themselves. Admittedly, we hear of plans being drafted for new hostels—but it may be many years before these phantom shapes will attain material dimensions.

Furthermore, it is more than probable that such building projects will cost less if they were to be left in the hands of the students. SALIENT hopes that this suggestion will be pondered upon by all students—executive and non-executive members alike. For the shortage of accommodation in Wellington leaves us a challenge. Will we take it on? For who can say, perhaps, student apathy is the result of unhealthy living quarters!

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RELIGIOUS STUDIES QUESTIONNAIRE

The Education Sub-Committee's questionnaires at enrolment unfortunately missed several hundred students at the beginning of the week. They will be contacted.

So far the analysis reveals 125 students who would like to take a University course in Religious Studies. Those to come are Arts students, so the numbers may reach 200. The actual content of the course required shows a slight bias towards comparative religion and the philosophy of religion. Comparatively few would favour Hebrew or Greek Bible studies. One student would like to take Bible studies in English and Methodist Church history! Seventy-five would oppose such a course.

The questionnaire was stimulated from several sources. The report of the committee on New Zealand universities, better known as the Parry Report, states (page 95):

"We would like to commend the idea of courses (in religious studies on a non-denominational basis) and would suggest that funds might be made available in the first instance as an extension of a department of history and philosophy." Already other New Zealand universities have made a move in this direction. The Canterbury Students' Association did recommend such studies to the Parry Committee, thus indicating that students have some powers in these directions.

In August, 1958, the N.Z.U.S.A. Council's Education Committee carried the following resolution.

"That the committee recommends that N.Z.U.S.A. Council support in principle the introduction of a Stage I unit for a B.A. degree consisting of a study of comparative and historical trends of religions of the world and their theology and influences, with prescriptions being determined by appropriate authorities within that framework."

Finally, the Victoria Education Sub-committee received a letter from the Student Christian Movement in October, 1959, requesting the conduction of a questionnaire to give a concrete basis on which to carry late work.

The current questionnaire was thus conducted to ascertain the number of interested students at Victoria and the nature of the course required. Future action will be decided at the next Education Sub-committee meeting. However, before this happens there must be an education sub-committee. A number of resignations have left vacancies which need to be filled urgently. Interested students are asked to contact the chairman of the Education Sub-committee at the Students' Association Office. It is hoped that a fresher who intends to major in Education will be included.

Other activities will include dealing with the letters received from students last term regarding the language requirements for Arts and Science degrees. The recent questionnaire has, we hope, created a precedent for students and groups of students to use the committee in a democratic manner to deal with genuine moans, groans and suggestions.

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"A MOLECULE OF STUDENT OPINION"

The Editor,

Dear Sir,—After reading your appeal for articles, I have felt compelled to sit and write upon a subject which has caused me some thought for years—that old subject of religion. I wonder how many of us who profess to be Christians have really sat down and pondered the significance of our belief. Or rather, how many of us after doing so would continue to find satisfaction? Let us, then, look at this religion called Christianity.

Exponents of Christianity have as the foundations of their belief the writings of the Bible. They believe that the biblical writings were divinely inspired; that only God could have been responsible for the wisdom and fine literature found in its pages. Certainly because of its quality, the Bible has outlasted most other books. But I ask you—does this mean that it has holy origins? Other books, for instance, the Koran have similar traditions in which different concepts of God play as large a part. Are they all divinely inspired also? All this aside, it is questionable whether such a philosophy of life as propounded in the Bible is beyond the creative imagination of man. After all, have not such writers as Shakespeare or Milton equalled the literary output of the biblical writers in relatively modern times?

Furthermore it is impossible for me to take literally everything that the Bible says. For instance, scientific opinion throws much doubt upon the biblical interpretation of the origin of man. Other remarkable events, without parallel in life today—the turning back of the waters—Sampson's super-human strength—the miracles of Christ—are completely unsubstantiated to the best of my knowledge, by any concrete evidence. I conclude therefore that much of the Bible, especially the Old Testament is purely legendary—which raises my next point. When does it cease to be legendary, and commence to touch upon factual history? And in the light of this—how can we be sure that the life of Christ itself is truly and faithfully recorded?

I do not want to create the impression that I condemn the Bible

out of hand. I wish to state that I believe it to be a document of great ethical value, and as such, is worthy of reading. But what proof is there, that we have a duty towards God in the absence of the validity of its message being established beyond doubt? Without this assurance, we may as well accept the verdict of Buddha or Mohammed. Yet there are those Christians who contest this view. "God does not need to be revealed to us in black and white," they say. "One becomes convinced through faith (not fact), as everything is unfolded after the act of faith has been performed."

This is possible because any number of people have experienced new hope by this means. However, faith in anything grows stronger very often because the object of faith is given credit for the psychological effects of faith itself. To my mind Christianity cannot really escape this rule, for it depends upon the very force required by other religious adherences to make converts. As such, along with these other beliefs Christianity must depend more upon faith than upon truth—and this being so—how can it still make special claims for recognition?

Given that we accept the Bible, it is not enough, unless God shows concern for man in return. I find this difficult to believe, for it cannot be in character with an all-powerful loving God to allow the manifold misfortune of this world to prevail over happiness. Moreover, these appear to strike at random, afflicting the God-fearing as well as the ungodly. Does this show that some benevolent divine power exerts control over our destinies?

Now that I have considered the relationship between God and Man, I arrive at the question whether there is a God at all. I think it is reasonable to suppose that there is a supreme being; a creator of the wondrous order of things that constitute life. Upon this subject all religions appear to concur. They all subscribe to some conception of "God," but beyond this point there is confusion. We need only note the divisions of religious thought, and the dogma within Christendom itself to see this. I believe that to expand the personality of God beyond that of a Creator introduces too much of the element of supposition. On the

other hand I don't believe it is impossible to accept the idea that the process of Nature has taken over since the Creation.

I anticipate that I may be asked to account for the higher motives that the human being is capable of displaying. First of all it is in man's nature to distinguish between right and wrong conduct. He is innately a gregarious being who by instinct, shuns from those acts that put him apart from his fellows. Furthermore his superior intelligence enables him to classify his behaviour. He can easily recognise that those actions that work for the ultimate benefit of mankind are moral, and conversely they are immoral. Secondly, whereas I recognise that any spiritual faith strengthens morality, I consider that the ideal of a perfect society is sufficient to generate the higher human motives and to ensure purposeful living.

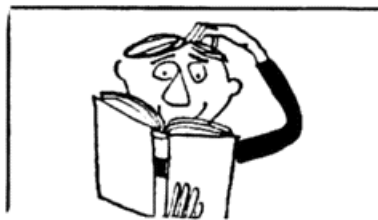
Even if I were to change my religious views towards spiritualism, I still doubt that I could wholly accept the Scriptures. This is because I could never alter my contention that morality is greater than faith. I outline my reasons for this:—

- (1) Morality will endure after the failure of faith.
- (2) The greatest good comes from morality without faith, than from faith without morality.
- (3) Morality affects people's lives to a greater degree than faith.
- (4) The greatest degree of agreement can be reached on points of morality.
- (5) Disbelief is a lesser evil than immorality.

The Christian viewpoint is that duty to God is obligatory. Should one build a church instead of clothing the poor? This is a question all Christians must ask themselves.

I am etc.,

DEIST.



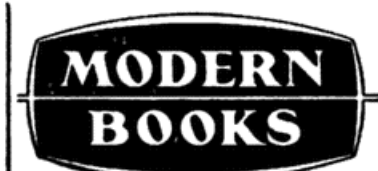
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FRESHER !

Dear Sir,—At this time of year we see young people fresh from school beginning to integrate into university life. They are starting to develop a maturity only university students can have. One stage of this development is often an abnormal interest in sex, beer, legalistic religions or Beatnikism. These are to be passed through quickly by recognising them as signs of immaturity—of a search for individuality, of a desire to belong by conforming to a certain system of behaviour. Please may this be commended to freshers for consideration. They want to be accepted by their contemporaries but may they not violate their own natures by adopting an artificial behaviour pattern which soon becomes a habit closing them from further development.

Yours, etc.,

MIDDLE WAY.

SPORTS

Dear Sir,—Re "Moans from Moens." Whyfore moanest thou sweet B.D. Thou has missed the point methinks.

Be there not verily oceans of difference twixt training a la demi-mille and league covering, oh fair knight of the plume?

Let's face it B.D. Zatopek was a long-distance runner and that Snell is not.

Think you not that Moens made a valid point? Perhaps his long career at the peak of half-mile is in effect not cause of his training methods.

Moens' running was heady wine, but this snacks suspiciously like an attempt to make our grapes of well-mellowed criticism. Perhaps B.D. should ferment (I did not say ferment) further, or keep his libations well-corked.

Finally, B.D. New Zealand hotel fodder is not something to chafe about. If your point is that it approaches closer to poison than meat, you may have at last scored.

Yours etc.,

D.B.

Sports Editor: No comment I think is necessary. D.B. has demolished himself with inanity.

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SHORT STORY: THE RAT

MY GLOVED HAND approached the frightened animal cautiously. Pink eyes staring unseeingly into space; the rat trembled. Now! The brown leather glove darted across the cage. A white streak. Damnation! I promptly drew back my hand. Bloody morning! First, I get into a terrific row with my wife. Then now, it is a

By
W. P. AIROTCIV

blasted laboratory rat which does the biting. Biting . . . I associated that word with my wife. The thought of Marilyn made me frown. Warily I pushed my gloved hand nearer the animal again. Those damned gloves offered poor protection against those evil, sharp fangs. Marilyn . . . even money would not keep her quiet. The rat blinked once, twice. She twitched her ears nervously. Queer, I thought. Number three had always been a quiet animal, until I had started starving her for experimentation. We had been happy at first, of course. Marilyn and I. Just us . . . then we had those horrible "friends" . . . the gambling. I recovered what I lost. But she lost faith in me. The animal was quieter now. No one would have believed it. Beautiful wife . . . house . . . car . . . She is still beautiful, of course . . . Yet, this hell. The rows. The fight. Her nose searched the air. Hungry, I thought. Number three had been starved for over 24 hours. Starving! Could Marilyn be starving of love? Not that. It was alright before—a sharp pain in my index finger. Damnation! Again! Vexed, I slammed the cage door shut and began hunting around for antiseptic. The poor light of the psychology laboratory did not help much either. My hand throbed horribly. I washed the wound. The cold water was unpleasant. My finger stung. Stung. I recalled her parting shot before I slammed the door. "You can take your b—— money . . ." Had not remained to hear the rest. Blood dripped on to the sink. Bright red spots. They turned a sickly pink in the water at the bottom of the sink. A thought struck me. Hell! I couldn't do THAT! But why not? I looked around me apprehensively. No eyes. No human eyes, at least. But those bright pink eyes seemed to gleam triumphantly. Evilly triumphant, I began laughing. A horrible disembodied voice. Mad laughter. I clutched the lapel of my coat. The cages swam round and round. Am I insane? I felt O.K. The plan must be thought out carefully . . .

Patience, I worked. Twice, I almost gave up the idea. Sometimes, Marilyn could be nice. So nice. But we still argued, and quarrelled. We fought. She was trying to destroy me, I told myself. Number 15 was chosen for the job. For he was the wildest. Still untamed. I used a plastic doll right from the beginning. I chuckled inwardly as I worked. It was quite a job getting that doll made. It was a beautiful doll . . . Doll! Marilyn was beautiful. Still is. Ah! Marilyn . . . pity it has to end this way. I had marked out the jugular veins on the neck. A pretty neck. Marilyn's neck! Slowly, my rat learnt to perform his evil mission. Jump! Jump! Hunger, thirst, and fear of the cruel electric shock compelled him to work. Jump! Again and again. Pounce on to that pretty neck, my

boy. Right into that target. Sever the vein . . . So ferociously did the animal sink his teeth into the rubbery neck that I soon had to get another one made. The second doll involved less difficulty, though. Glennis—that was what I had named her—was even more real than the first doll, especially in that dark lab. Pretty. Marilyn was pretty, and still is . . . but her soul? Has she a soul? . . . Do we have souls? . . . Glennis does not have a soul, that is certain, at least . . . Or am I mistaken? . . . Do dolls have souls? . . . Patiently I worked.

Once, someone disturbed me in my lab. "Well?" It was a fresher. "Who are you looking for?" Damn her! "Speak up. I can't wait all day!" Must not show alarm. I endeavoured to smile. But my cold lips only moved, stiff.

"I—I—am sorry sir. I am only looking for Professor Fords."

"He is not here."

After that encounter, I grew more careful. Then number 15 had grown sickly for a few days. I had overstarved him. Anxiously I nursed him back to health. Then the starvation diet began again. Poorer scores at first, then improvement. One morning eight months after I had thought up the PLAN number 15 scored his first 100%. That meant that out of 100 training jumps he had scored a hit 100 times. Again and again, his teeth sank into that rubber neck. Then he dropped back to 80%. I shocked him relentlessly. It must be soon. Marilyn was driving me up the wall. 70% . . .

90% . . . 97% . . . 98% . . . 97% . . . 100% . . . 97% . . . I would just have to risk that last bit. What was a 3% chance of failure? If I fail? . . . It must work . . . There was no turning back now.

Zero hour was six hours away! Six more hours and I would be free! "Free! Free!" I felt like shouting. "Get a grip on yourself now." I visualised her lying there, blood streaming from her throat. Blood! Blood all over those green kitchen floor tiles. Blood! I retched. No! Must go on. I smiled to myself. That pretty face. The lovely figure . . . All useless. No longer will she eat into my soul. Caught myself smiling in the swinging glass doors. Fool! Careful now . . .

"Sir—" I swung around, clutching my coat.

"Well?"

"Sir, are you Mr X—?" I nodded. My heart pounded. I must go on with it.

"What is it?"

"Sir, I am sorry . . ." His voice receded into the background amidst a crescendo of imaginary screams which filled my head. ". . . police . . . grave news . . . said it was suicide . . ." Marilyn! Oh Marilyn! What have I done? . . . "She was found too late . . ." Too late! But was it too late? I had not done anything yet. At least, not the last part of my plan. ". . . Are you all right sir? . . ."

PRAISE FOR ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

A letter was received recently by Mrs Dunmore, office secretary of the Students' Association Office. The letter was addressed to The Accommodation Officer (whose work Mrs Dunmore handles) and an extract is set out below:—
Victoria Univ. Students' Assoc.,
P.O. Box 196,
Wellington. Feb. 20, 1961.

Dear Sir,

We wish to thank you most sincerely for the help that your office has given us in our search for board for . . .

. . . You are certainly doing a great job and many hundreds of parents must be most thankful towards you, as indeed we all are.

Hoping that all your students are now settled for the new academic year.

Yours sincerely,
(Mrs) R. DUNLOP,
(Mrs) R. M. WILLIAMS.

MORE MONEY!

It has been reported that the Auckland University Students' Association is now charging a membership fee of five guineas per student. Victoria University students pay only three pounds five shillings. So when you feel like complaining, just remember the unfortunates living in Auckland.



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STUDENTS AND WORLD AFFAIRS

It is possible that some Victoria University students have noticed that there are sufficient nuclear weapons stockpiled at the moment to blow up a considerable part of the world at very short notice. It is not, of course, polite in New Zealand to talk about such things: whoever gets a bomb dropped on them, the assumption seems to be it won't be us.

New Zealanders have always been noted for their optimism. But as fortunately or unfortunately, our country is committed to the defence of the free world by several military pacts, it is possible that the Russians detest us sufficiently to toss a few nuclear warheads in our direction. It will be a new experience to have one's country devastated; New Zealanders, unlike Europeans, have never really suffered in a modern war.

It is mainly because New Zealand has never been sufficiently hurt by the outside world to notice its existence that the outside world may, on occasion, feel annoyance with this small island. If one does not care about other countries, one commits blunders in foreign policy and puts one's country in a position where H-bombs may be thrown at it. New Zealand, isolated from the consequences of two world wars, is conducting the foreign policy like a child of four playing in an ammunition dump. Any movement may blow the child to smithereens, and the child does not know enough about ammunition to realise either its danger, or how to act to get out of danger. This is precisely our own position as long as we prefer reading the sports news in the Dominion to working out what the banner headlines about the Congo really mean.

The overseas news section in SALIENT hopes to be able to inform those students who have nothing better to do than read it about the ammunition with which their country is playing. We are not ambitious, we do not expect to have much effect; we only hope that the issues which are interesting so much of the world today have sufficient intrinsic importance to make students read about them. If we emancipate a few students from the tyranny of the right and left-wing stereotyped views of world affairs and succeed in persuading them to think matters out for themselves, we shall have succeeded.

For, let us make it clear, there are stereotypes. We know all about the angelic Americans gallantly defending freedom against totalitarianism with the aid of such great free nations as Fascist Spain. We know, too, the all-beneficent socialist system which the workers love, and never raise a finger to injure, unless they are Fascists like three-quarters of the population of Hungary. These are myths: we want the reality. If there is a conflict between good and evil on the international scene at the moment—and every political judgement assumes there is—it is not a conflict between angels and devils but between human beings, who are on occasions stupid, make mistakes, and act wrongly, even though on the whole right. It is always easier to believe the myth than the reality; myths are especially constructed so as to be easy to believe. But the society that is founded on a myth eventually fails, because men only tolerate societies if they effectively grapple with reality. If we fail in foreign affairs the penalty is greater than the mere dissolution of a decadent society; it may be perhaps the dissolution of civilisation SALIENT wants this year to de-mythologise

international affairs: it is up to you to decide whether it is effective in so doing. We want to present every possible view, and to have each view argued out, its consequences judged, its value assessed. Then we may be able to pick our way gingerly out of the international ammunition dump.

THE CONGO RECORD

The current crisis in the Congo has summed up concisely in one situation most of the problems besetting the new African states. These problems are not, primarily, concerned with the need for Africans to be educated for self-government; the former Prime Minister, Mr Lumumba, was one of the best educated men in the Congo. Rather, these problems concern the legacy of colonialism. In the Congo, the secessionist provinces of Katanga and South Kasai have armies run by Belgian officers, and have Belgian administrative advisers. These provinces, by a curious coincidence, are also the wealthiest in the Congo, and the principal company operating there, the Union Miniere du Katanga, is largely a Belgian concern. It seems fairly clear that the secession of these provinces has been inspired by the Belgians to maintain Belgian control over the area. The Belgians have not really abandoned the Congo; their grant of independence has, largely been a fraud. Here, then, is a case history of colonial rule persisting after formal independence has been granted: a case history which cannot but alarm African opinion.

Independence, as everyone knows was granted to the Congo in a hurry, and some have seen in this evidence of Belgian stupidity. Evidence, however, seems to tell in other directions. The grant of independence was preceded by an economic recession in Europe which affected Belgium sharply, and widespread disturbances in the Southern Congo, particularly a strike of ferry workers which paralysed transport. The Southern Congo was affected by disturbances; the Northern Congo, the area including Katanga and Kasai, was not. Was it pure chance that, when independence was conceded, the southern Congo remained in the hands of Africans friendly to Belgium? A case can be made out that Belgium was trying to free herself from the burden of ruling a relatively poor and troublesome part of the Congo, while retaining control of her chief source of wealth in the Congo.

If this was indeed true, Belgian actions did not belie it. After independence, Belgian medical men left the Congo; the Belgian officers left en masse, having taken care to train no Congolese to take their place; and the Lumumba administration felt itself saddled with a huge national debt accumulated by the Belgians. If the Belgians were not trying to sabotage the new government, it is hard to see what they were trying to do. The secession of Katanga and Kasai, which occurred soon after, left Lumumba in an impossible position, but the Belgians claiming that the secession was due to the incompetence of the central

government, stepped in "to protect Belgian lives." Actually, any breakdown of administration was due to Belgium; and the Belgian intervention to aid a province technically in rebellion against the central government recognised by Belgium, was connivance at rebellion.

It was at this point that the United Nations intervened. The Security Council passed a resolution authorising U.N. troops to be despatched to "aid the central government in its tasks." These tasks undoubtedly included the suppression of rebellion in the north. The United Nations force, however, first occupied only the southern Congo, and only after a delay of three months negotiated with Mr Tshombe the entry of troops into Katanga. Tshombe would only agree to admit U.N. troops on his own terms; and these terms were kept to, despite the fact that Tshombe was in law a rebel against the government the U.N. were supposed to aid. Shortly after the U.N.'s, unexpected deference to his authority, Mr Tshombe elevated himself to the rank of President of Katanga. The U.N., apparently convinced by Tshombe that Mr Lumumba was a Communist, then announced that it was not aiding the central government, but only protecting European lives.

The subsequent quarrel between Kasabubu, a supporter of tribalism, and Lumumba, the supporter of centralism, checked any possibility of the use of a Congolese force against the Belgian-aided rebels. Lumumba had to seek the protection of the U.N. and was eventually betrayed by Kasabubu into the hands of his enemies in Katanga. The rebels and Belgium, had won out.

How long they can win out remains to be seen. The new American administration may well aid Mr Lumumba's successors. Many African countries are tremendously concerned about the situation. All is not over yet.

But, from what has happened, there are lessons to be drawn. The United Nations has shown that its impartiality cannot always be relied on: in this moment of crisis, it has failed and assisted a colonial power. The myth that is the guardian of the rights of small nations will now be difficult to preserve. But Africans may now have doubts about other things besides U.N.O. Now that one colonial power has openly tried to preserve its economic interests in a country by the grant of formal independence, Africans will ask how often this has been done less openly. In Accra and Conakry there will be more suspicion of Western capital investment. The result may well be fatally injurious to Western influence in Africa.

—OWEN GAGER.

AWAKE! AWAKE!

This is not a contribution by Ripley, but did you know that in many countries the opinions of students are respected by people other than themselves? This comes about through the belief (mistaken, is it?) that the students of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

You are now at Victoria University of Wellington. Perhaps it is for the first time, perhaps it is just another year. But in any case you are now among the future leaders of this country, which could be a great, though small, one.

If you are capable of appraising the position around you, you may come to the conclusion that today's leaders are not the students of yesteryear. If you are a "genuine Kiwi" you will probably sit back and let the world go on as it has been.

Here's a word of advice. If you do sit back, you are going to be left behind! There is a definite change in attitudes throughout the world. Look at the Harvard team now running the United States—undisputed leaders of today's Western World.

"This does not concern me," you say. Phooey! There is a group of young people in New Zealand today who have become more dissatisfied with the rate of progress of their small, underdeveloped country. They have become fed up to the teeth with the "Welfare State" which they blame, at least partially, for the lack of initiative which New Zealanders (so proudly) display.

These young people are going to have a strong influence on the future development of New Zealand. You could be one of them, as long as you sit up and start taking an interest in more important things than beer and rugby. Yes, there are more important things, believe it or not. I'm a Kiwi, too, and like the rest of you I like both. But all they do for you is to create a vicious circle. One makes you fat, the other fat. You don't need an electronic computer to work out which part of the cycle you will end in.

As citizens of New Zealand you have a duty to start having opinions and to start doing something constructive about them. As human beings you have a duty to yourselves to climb up out of the rut you have got into. As students—and, therefore, presumably "thinkers"—you are going to be the leaders of New Zealand in the not very distant future.

Wake up, Victoria, and make yourself felt as a powerful influence on the community! You are going to be felt whether you like it or not! If you are happy to let a small group express opinions for you, you had better all leave University today and find for yourselves positions as labourers—New Zealand needs labourers.

But if you sit back, you are going to be left behind. Look around you! It is already happening to many New Zealanders. If you can't see it, give up!!!

—R.J.L.

STUDENTS STRIKE IN CUBA

A student strike protesting the numerous death sentences pronounced by the Castro government in recent times was called by two Cuban student opposition organisations in mid-January. Since Fidel Castro came to power two years ago, a total of 580 executions have been undertaken. On hand bills distributed by students on the grounds of the University of Havana were the words: "Students, the time has come to put an end to the inhuman executions!"

ANY PLACE FOR EVANGELISM?

To some, "evangelism" has become a dirty word. It is thought of in terms only of high pressure advertising, or perhaps in terms of Pavlov's dogs. The University, it is said, is the place for inquiry after "truth," free of prejudice and restraint from vested interests, financial or otherwise. Evangelism, by implication, has no place in such an environment.

In this article I wish to defend the view that Christian evangelism has a legitimate place in University activity.

First, what is understood by evangelism? It is the dissemination of the body of knowledge usually known as the Christian gospel, in

By Wilf. G. Malcolm,
(Lecturer in Mathematics
at V.U.W.)

order that those who enquire into that knowledge may be convinced of its truth and, being convinced, open their lives to the influence of its teachings.

The methods available for dissemination of the knowledge are those of the small study group, the public meeting and lecture, and articles and books. Give and take a little, the agreement must be to accept the New Testament records as substantially accurate in so far as such accuracy can be measured by independent means. The chief questions and answers will form around the person, Jesus. Who was he? What did he do? What did he teach? What is it that is claimed to be so important about his death? What truth is there in the stories of his resurrection? Of course much wider questions too must be considered—the nature of God, if any—the nature of the world, and the nature of man. But answers to these will find their roots in what is taught about Jesus Christ.

It is correct that those who pro-

mote evangelism do so out of a desire to persuade others to receive the teaching they themselves already believe to be true, and in receiving the teaching identify themselves as fellow Christians. But the means used will be as far away as can be from those often used in selling toothpaste. There, as long as the product is tolerably good, major emphasis is placed on side issues and gimmicks which will provide the chief motivation for buying. Nor will they be the constant repetition of emotional stresses described by William Sargent as the technique of the brainwashers.

The first invitation in University evangelism is to a thorough and uninhibited enquiry into and examination of the relevant issues in the Christian gospel. It does not mean prior commitment—it does not mean playing ostriches in front of difficult questions. Conviction will come, if it comes, because of the integrity of the knowledge taught.

Evangelism makes open to enquiry and study a large area of human experience and knowledge. If for some it leads to conviction of the truth of the Christian gospel, and identification with other Christians, then well and good, but in any case it justifies its place in the spectrum of University activity.

only be done with the consent of both parties to this Act consent being the main ingredient of any Act) the new Owner shall not be liable for any further fee (simple —f-to-fum diddle-dee, or otherwise).

6. PREVENTION OF HIGH DADDIES

All Owners shall be required to produce dolls at the aforesaid premises for a de-grading inspection and dosing.

7. DANGEROUS DOLLS

Any doll exhibiting mischievous or other animal propensities will at the discretion of the Local Authority be pounded and if necessary placed in confinement.

8. PENALTIES

For any breach of the aforesaid provisions or where any Owner is in the opinion of the Local Authority not doing his utmost to break all laws of licence he shall thereupon be liable to examination and if he returns a negative swab and is hereby certified to be a misfit either as a Law Student or as a doll he or she will be subjected to a course in the Lex Romana at the Smithsonian Institute under the tutelage of such well-known Kurt Hardie-Foddes as Confessor Acheman (on a flying visit from Samoa), Doc' D.B., B.B.C. Bottles Jingles; I.C.I. (Hooks Mon), Blue Bells, and "Orge" and shall be liable to be Calned.

9. REPEALS AND SAVINGS

The enactments specified in the Schedule to this Act are hereby repelled.

SCHEDULE

Enactments Repelled
Frustrated Contracts Act.
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Law Students Reform Act.
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—From a V.U.W. Law faculty club invitation.

STOP PRESS: "CHRIST AGAINST THE CHRISTIANS" at Little Congress

Mr Conrad Bollinger has just revealed that the subject for his Little Congress talk is "Christ Against the Christians." We predict that this will trigger to boiling point what already simmers in the murky depths of student mind. Fire extinguishers will be provided.

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Freshers! This is the greatest opportunity available to tune into University Life. Others dig in, this is it! Culture with a "k"—a product of the Kultural Affairs Subcommittee.

Little Congress will provide some really concentrated extra-curricular activity. Hurry, hurry, hurry to Student Association for registration forms clasp ten bob in your little hot hands.

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Dr. John Elder has not been discoverable in his decorated study. By phone he promises bombshells with "Science, Art and Passion." The whole man—what is he?

Prof. Buchanan hasn't failed yet to startle and stimulate the student mind. Prof. Holmes is going to tell us what's wrong with us. It's all too good to miss. Don't risk doing so. Register NOW!

If you haven't a clue what all this is about, you should have read the last "SALIENT." You should have looked on the notice boards, but just for you, here it is again:

Little Congress: The Orientation Activity to end Orientation activities, March 17-19, at Otaki. Speakers already mentioned. Food good. Coffee cheap. Transport comfortable. Sleep — non-existent. Home in time to collapse into restorative slumber before Monday's lectures.

P.S. We may have the use of the Science faculty's truck for transport. We want a responsible being with a heavy driver's licence. Please contact Diana Picton, Stud. Ass. Office.

To the reader:

Letters to the Sports Editor will be treated with the gay abandon they deserve.

i.e. Any comments in letter form will be printed in unsecured form if their subject matter deserves it.

ORIENTATION COURSE

Between Monday, February 6, and Sunday, February 12, the Students' Association organised an Orientation course for overseas students. The aim was to give students from Asia and Fiji an introduction to New Zealand life, and aid in their establishment in a new cultural setting.

The following five lectures were given: "The Maori in Society," Mr N. Puriri; "The New Zealand Student," Mr T. Woodfield; "The Welfare State in New Zealand," Dr. W. Oliver; "These New Zealanders," Mrs C. Cole; "The New Zealand Economy," Mr W. Easterbrook-Smith.

Members of the University Maori Club assisted Mr Puriri with a demonstration of Maori dance and song. The group attending these lectures was small—consisting of thirteen Colombo Plan students—but discussion was effective.

A visit was made to the Dominion Museum and to the Freezing Works at Ngauranga. Particular interest was shown in the Maori section of the Museum.

From Friday until Sunday a camp was held at Raumati. The camp formed the nearest approach to the original ideal of the course and a deeper understanding and appreciation developed among those present. Thirty-four students from Asia, Fiji, and New Zealand attended. There was little organised activity and the time passed peacefully in swimming, sun-bathing, playing games, singing and talking.

Without the camp the course would have very little to show for itself.

The lectures were friendly and informative and achieved their aim—namely, to present some aspects of New Zealand life and to stimulate discussion. But the students, although possessing theoretical knowledge about New Zealand, had not the opportunity of meeting New Zealanders. The camp provided this opportunity and the prevailing atmosphere of easy informality and willingness was witness to its success.

By means of such a course as this, overseas students are provided with a foundation which their predecessors of two or three years ago did not possess. The aim now, or indeed, the necessity, is to make it easier for students to attend such courses and to encourage New Zealand students to participate.

—D.W.

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WORLD YOUTH FORUM ENCOUNTERS OPPOSITION

The preparations for the World Youth Forum are encountering increasing difficulties in many parts of the world despite the large-scale propaganda efforts of the Soviet organizers and of the Communist press media everywhere.

The World Youth Forum will be held in Moscow in July, 1961. Called by its organisers "a major international undertaking aimed at strengthening the co-operation, peace and friendship among young people of all countries," it is organised along the lines of the highly propagandistic world youth festivals. The only difference seems to be that for the Forum emphasis is placed on the participation of youth organisations rather than individuals, as is the case with festivals.

Among the organisations which recently voiced their criticism of and opposition to the Forum is the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY), which has nearly one million members. At its recent congress in Vienna, the IUSY called the Forum "another Communist manoeuvre to throw dust in the eyes of youth." Based on past experience, IUSY condemned the Communist organisers of these events because they are misusing the "idealism of youth for the purpose of power blocs," and because these gatherings are nothing but "demonstrations in favour of Soviet foreign policy."

A similar stand has been taken by a number of other organisations. The Indian Youth Congress, the youth section of the Congress Party of Prime Minister Nehru, rejected a Soviet invitation to participate in the preparations for the Forum and refused to send even observers to the preparatory meeting in Moscow last September. In the United States, the National Committee of the YMCA took a stand against sending an official delegation not only to the preparatory meeting but also to the Forum. The USNSA (U.S. National Student Association) sent a letter during the last week of January to each of the student governments at the 380 colleges and universities where it has affiliates, reporting on the results of an investigation into the Forum and taking a strong stand against American participation in it. The letter declares that the Moscow meeting "was not broadly reflective of student and youth groups in the world and, in some cases, individuals were falsely listed as representative." In addition, the "tone of speeches at the meetings were reflections of the partisan line which has been followed in most Soviet propaganda; the Chinese delegate even suggested that the purpose of the Forum should be to attack American imperialism which 'aims at unleashing a new world war'."

A careful analysis of the preparatory meeting for the Forum held in Moscow—on the basis of the material distributed by the Committee of the Youth Organisations of the U.S.S.R. (CYO)—shows that out of 118 persons listed as delegates (18 are listed as observers), 66 represent Communist organisations and 15 represent Communist front groups. Thus, over two-thirds of the delegates attending the preparatory meeting represented Communist youth and student organisations. In this respect the meeting was even less representative than any of the pre-festival preparatory gatherings.

The true nature of the gathering and of the "non-partisan nature of the delegates" was revealed by an Indian weekly which reported that

an Indian delegate to the preparatory meeting declared at a press conference that "true democracy will be ushered in India only after Mr Nehru's death; it is therefore the duty of every Communist to work for his liquidation." This statement was too radical even for the Soviet authorities which did not allow its publication.

The opposition of the non-Communist student and youth organisations to the World Youth Forum is due to their past experience with festivals and similar events, which has taught them that there is little to be gained by their participation in Communist-staged and stacked events.

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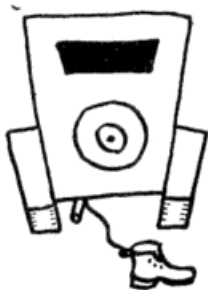
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SERVICE PAGE

This year SALIENT again introduces a Service Page for students. We have, we hope, provided a full list of the goods and services you will be needing this year. Freshers especially should find it useful. By shopping with the downtown firms which advertise on this page you will be returning some of the goodwill they have shown to students.

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University Accommodation In Finland

ONE of the most important objectives of international and national student policy is to uplift the social conditions prevailing in the student world. In those countries where the potential of student activity is not used up in fighting for various liberties, aspirations for social betterment make up the principal part of the programme. Finland long ago

By

EERO PIIMES.

Associate Editor of
Tiivistyslehti of Finland.

passed the stage of fighting for liberties, but still unsolved in our country are a large number of problems affecting students, among which the shortage of housing is one of the most acute and timely issues.

Nearly all the university towns in Europe are experiencing the familiar phenomenon of housing shortage, especially at the undergraduate level, and in Finland there are additional reasons for this: matriculated students have enrolled in institutions located in the two largest cities in the country; the need of post-war reconstruction; steady migration of people from rural areas into the cities. The grievous lack of room for students immediately after the war forced students to enter into a bold undertaking on their own—building low-cost dormitories for themselves. However, even now, only about fifteen per cent of the student population live in cheap dormitories. In Helsinki, where the total enrolment of the University and other various institutions of higher learning is approximately 16,000 and constitutes the largest student community in Finland, the fourteen dormitory buildings erected can house only about 2,000 students. Others must live at home, with relatives or in rented rooms which vary considerably in quality. Married students have the greatest difficulties finding living quarters in this capital city.

Problems of Collective Living

The lodging standard and habits of university students are by no means the same as those of the ordinary citizen. Collective living is liable to produce considerable adjustment difficulties unless they are dealt with in advance. Although, considered in a body, students may present a mass picture, nevertheless each student must be treated separately as an individual. Excessively large dormitory buildings and, above all, excessively large rooms would collect too many different individuals under the same roof, but excessively small dormitory buildings might harmfully isolate individuals from their environment and from other people too much. Thus the Finnish student dormitories have been so designed to have mostly double rooms. More mature students have the opportunity of enjoying the peace and quiet of a single room, a valuable asset while studying for final examinations. There are very few rooms for three tenants.

Student dormitories are erected, as far as possible, in the close vicinity of institutions of learning and reasonably near various art, recreation and amusement establishments. Certain of the dormitory buildings afford opportunities for participation in various activities like sports, games, developing photographic negatives and making prints, etc.

All the large dormitory buildings have a restaurant of their own and, moreover, it is possible for one to cook tea, coffee and small meals for oneself in them. The smaller dormitories generally have a kitchen which the tenants are at liberty to occupy and use according to their needs. Many of the buildings have central radio and telephone outlets connected in each room or floor, and some television receiving sets have started to make their appearance. Thus many of the students feel more at home in their dormitories than even in their own homes.

The first of the student dormitory buildings, the *Domus Academica*, owned by the Students' Union of the University of Helsinki, was ready for occupancy in 1950. The complex, which is situated some two kilometres away from the University, consists of three buildings, each seven storeys high, which accommodates 600 tenants. There is a long corridor on each floor, lined on both sides with rooms as well as the necessary sanitation facilities and other conveniences. Each storey also has a common living room and one of the buildings has a tennis court, another a sauna steambath, and the third a restaurant. In the immediate vicinity is the new library building belonging to the Students' Union, containing over 150,000 volumes.

The Dorm at Tech Town

The largest and in many respects the most interesting of the dormitory centres in the Helsinki area is Tech Town, a self-sufficient housing development for 700, engineered by the students of the Institute of Technology. Located on a head-bus from the Institute and has its own communication lines to the city as well as various facilities for recreation and amusement. In addition to its large independently situated restaurant, it boasts a chapel, a monumental sports hall, a postal, telephone and radio centre, and a log sauna by the shore. The architectural units of which the Town is composed are known as "cells," consisting of four or five single or double rooms, a kitchen, shower-room and living room. The cells form towers in which there are still even more common rooms reserved for different purposes. Tech Town is wholly self-governing: its executive board maintains order and discipline as well as arranging many sorts of functions to gladden the hearts of the tenants.

Among the other major dormitories in Helsinki are the one owned by the *Satakunta Student Corporation* near the centre of the city, the ones owned by the Students' Union of the Institute of Commerce and Business Administration, as well as the *Agrarian Village*, occupied by students of agriculture and forestry, a short distance past city limits.

All the aforementioned dormitories are kept open during the summer when they are run as international student hostels.

Facilities at Turku

Turku is the second largest seat of learning in Finland and, accordingly, the students of Turku have built for themselves their own modern dormitories. The building of the Students' Union of Turku University, accommodating 380 tenants, closely resembles, in respect to principle, the *Domus Academica* in Helsinki. The *Turkuites* have, in addition, a dancehall which, it goes without saying, is quite a popular place. The Students' Union of the Swedish University in Turku, the *Abo Akademi*, also has a dor-

mitory which accommodates 111 students. A foreign student visiting Turku in the summer time has a good chance of landing a room in one or the other of these dormitories.

Jyvaskyla boasts an Institute of Pedagogics, the 160 place dormitory of which offers the cheapest accommodations in the country. It is divided into two sections, one for men and the other for women. The distance to the school is about 30 paces, and considering that the restaurant is situated in the same building, with an indoor swimming pool a stone's throw away, the future educators of the country have no cause for complaint.

Next autumn, the Teachers' College of Oulu will be transformed into a university and in time it will doubtless provide sufficient living space, but even at present the existing dormitory can put up 100 students.

The College of Social Science, which is now spending its final period in Helsinki, is soon going to move to Tampere, the great industrial city of the Finnish Interior, and present plans call for reserving space for accommodating students. The dormitory itself will represent the most ultramodern design in this sphere of architecture.

The Finnish student dormitory has gained tremendous favour in student circles, and the number of applicants for admission as tenants always exceeds the available space. Although collective living quarters have features all students cannot stomach, occupancy is quite voluntary, and therefore such disadvantages do not have appreciable effects.

It is hoped that the reader does not think that Finnish students are one hundred per cent satisfied with their present living conditions. This is naturally not the case. Much work remains to be done in order to open to all who desire it an opportunity to cut study costs by living cheaply and well.

THAT GOOD ADVICE

Students had no seeming objection to absorbing some good advice last Tuesday evening, and were assured that it would be of more practical use than the University welcome of the previous evening.

Professor Somerset gave lucid and entertaining advice on "Methods of Study": it was obviously, as he said, the result of his own experience.

With the analogy that an actor must understand the part he is acting, Professor stressed that the student should realise the role he must fulfil as a student and first of all, despite many "threats" to the contrary, that he was not left entirely to his own fate when he arrived: many people were prepared to be interested in him. The difference was between the school and university community.

The university had no hierarchy but was a community entirely concerned in the search for truth, and therefore offering a considerable intellectual community—and the Student Union will eventually provide the social community.

The student therefore has a responsibility to discuss his problems and ideas with his teachers, but Professor did not mention the difficulties concomitant with the staff shortage and very large classes. Three aims were set down for the student: to keep an open mind; to set and maintain standards of accuracy and precision (a 50% pass mark is not sufficient for 100% accuracy in knowledge); to gain full appreciation of a subject. The teacher-pupil relationship in school was gradually supplanted by a pupil-subject relationship, and the subject becomes the discipline.

"STUDENTS ASSN. EVENING"

The Students' Association evening held in the Main Lecture Theatre last Monday was a much needed innovation in the orientation programme. For the first time freshers had the organisation and functions of the association explained to them; and what is more important they were able to see and hear for themselves exactly who made up this mysterious 'guiding hand' which directs student affairs above our disinterested needs.

Yet in spite of this praiseworthy effort on the part of the Students' Association, it was disappointing to record that barely one-third of the nine hundred freshers who enrolled this year turned up at the official welcome by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. T. Williams.

It can be assumed that the other two-thirds of the fresher body will remain unacquainted with the officers and committee members of Students' Association (She'll be right, mate!). It is to be hoped that the characteristic antipathy of many Victoria students to varsity affairs has not already taken root among this year's freshers!

In his speech of welcome Dr. Williams stressed that although the main purpose of a university career is study, the student will gain full benefit of university life if he is prepared to take part in extra-curricular activity such as offered by the various clubs. He also pointed out that although students were spoken of as a privileged group, they were preparing themselves to serve the community later on.

Armour Mitchell, Acting-President of the Students' Association, then called on various members of Exec. to give brief talks on their spheres of business. Steve O'Regan spoke on the university publications, "SALIENT," an organ of student opinion which all students should support; "Spike," a more cultural publication due to appear after a prolonged absence at Easter; and "Cappicade" (sniggers). Diana Picton of the Culture Committee explained that students could voice complaints and suggest improvements about what they are taught, and the way they are taught, to the Education Sub-Committee. Little Congress, which is intended to hasten the process of integrating student thought, is also under her care. Cecilia Frost, who is in charge of the Social Committee, promised the revival of the fortnightly social once suitable facilities are available. Don Brooker spoke on the set-up of the sports organisation at Victoria, and the New Zealand Universities Sporting Union.

THE ESSENCE OF STUDENT LIFE!

At the mention of Capping by committee member Julian Watts, audience reaction showed positively that this was regarded as the essence of student life.

At this juncture Peter O'Brien,

(Continued on page 12)

Professor quoted Arnold Bennet that "the best thing he learnt at school was to work to a timetable" for systematic study does not come naturally and this new discipline demanded a system.

Firstly, the student should find a place and create a habit of working there (if it must be the library, claim a seat quickly: there is only one to every fifteen students) and avoid distracting pin-up girls and scenery. Nor can he afford to wait for the working mood: that must be created.

Professor recommended underlining a book during the first quick reading, but was later warned by Mr Briggs that many books belong to the library: not to be underlined.

Above all, man has the gift of imagination, it is the source of his wisdom, and he should use it.

Realistically he advised a time for recreation, one day free of study each week because the results of study are long term, but the effects of recreation are immediate and satisfying. He spoke of the new gymnasium as being especially for the busy, and not-so-fit students.

He finished traditionally with a word from Plato: "No man can know the good except by passing through years of discipline."

Communism And Japanese Students

Nine months after the Japanese mass riots and four months after the murder of Socialist leader Asanuma, Aussie Malcolm, SALIENT'S special Japanese correspondent, presents an insightful picture of the working of Communism amongst Japanese students.—Exclusive to SALIENT.

Although Japan first had a parliament around 1890, it was only in the period 1918-1932 that any form of party government existed. However, even this period was by no means democratic, in our sense, as the Emperor had many prerogatives, and the military many exclusive rights.

After World War II the American Occupation Forces fostered a new democracy. In 1946 the new Constitution removed undue emphasis on the military in government and made many changes—such as decentralizing the police force. A giant "purge" was held, and 210,000 men were banned from taking an active part in politics again. Of this number, roughly 80% were men who had formerly been "military politicians." Having thus barred the military element, the American-inspired government then attempted to break up the zaibatsu or huge cartel companies—a move that has not proved of lasting value, as cartels have once again appeared on the Japanese industrial scene, but which was nevertheless effective in its day.

Two of the problems of post-war Japan—the military influence and the huge cartels—were thus solved. However, a third and perhaps more serious one remained—the extreme support of Right-Wing parties in Japan.

Now, if a person does a lot of good, then accordingly as he does more good things he will inevitably do some bad things also. This was so with the Americans during the occupation. Among all the admirable things they did for Japan, one of their serious mistakes was their method of dealing with the third great political problem—Right-Wing fanaticism. For in their attempt to counter Rightism they fostered and encouraged Left-Wing parties and labour unions.

However, the Socialists grew in Japan, not as moderate parties, but rather as militant Marxists. Nikon Rodo Kumiai Sohyo Kai (the General Council of Trade Unions, commonly called Sohyo), with a membership of 3,500,000, is the largest single union organisation in Japan, and whatever was the intention of the general H.Q. of the Allied Occupation Forces in fostering this labour organisation, it has grown into a Marxist, if not Communist, trade union. A considerable number of its members are found to be in full support of the "Sakiska Theory" proposed by Professor Sakisa to achieve a "peaceful revolution" (ironic term) through general strikes, mass demonstrations and, if necessary, mob violence. The members of this organization claim that labour's rights to collective bargaining, strikes and other more violent activities, are vouched for without restraint under the new Constitution, and that all the legislation restricting or likely to restrict such activities (irrespective as to how unjustified those activities are) are made in violation of constitutional provisions. Sohyo's formidable strength is appropriately described by the oft-quoted aphorism, "Military cliques of yesterday, Sohyo of today."

However, the Japanese people as a whole have, thankfully, shown little preference to Left-Wing socialism in government, and the socialists, while remaining a powerful

group, have never been able to gain real power since 1947. Instead, they imitate the tactics of the trade unions such as Sohyo, who illegally support them to the extent of some tens of millions of yen each year, and produce child-like tantrums and sulks in the Diet, hold sit-down strikes on the floor, and boycott Parliament when they

12 days from N.Z. live 93,250,000 people. Of these over six and a half millions are University students. Trained Communist agitators are working amongst this vast number of people.

- ★ What effect is the agitation having?
- ★ How will it affect N.Z.?
- ★ EVERY THINKING STUDENT MUST READ THIS.

cannot get their own way. The several socialist parties cannot coalesce, but instead bicker about minor points of Marxist doctrine. However, the one point they do have in common is their support for all the illegal actions of their supporters—the trade unions.

Under these conditions, with a militant, aggressive Marxian socialist movement, the Communists are more than content to leave the political scene alone, and instead observe quietly and occasionally supply trained agitators when the foreign press is watching. The most seats the Communists have ever gained was thirty-five (in 1949), but since the Korean War they have considered it expedient to keep out of the fore in the class struggle.

In fact, policy-wise, the Japanese socialists and trade union leaders are barely definable from Communists.

Sohyo, the main trade union, draws large numbers of its members from governmental departments, and enjoys the affiliated support of Nikyoso, the Japanese Teachers' Union. Nikyoso has some 500,000 members of the teaching profession, in charge of compulsory general education, and these intellectuals show a frightening knowledge of some of the more revolutionary ideas of Marx and Lenin. They support "Bolshevism," i.e., a militant inner party, rather than "Marshivism," a general national party of the people, and widely express their views. Thus it is of little wonder that at the University level we find Communism and Marxism rife in the Japanese Students' Association, Zengakuren.

This first article has stressed the activities of Marxist thinking in politics and trade unions, and has led up to Nikyoso and Zengakuren. However, in fairness to our Japanese neighbours, it must also be stressed that these radicals by no means necessarily gain the support of the Japanese people as a whole, as evidenced by their inability to gain power in the Diet (Parliament) has shown. Also, as we know even in New Zealand, a trade union can have radical leaders, yet moderate members.

In the next issue of SALIENT we shall discuss the precise make-up and aims of the students' union, Zengakuren, how it fits into the political framework described in this article, and we shall analyse

just how much support it gets from the general student population in Japan. In the third and final article, certain events and background facts concerning the recent world-shattering riots in Japan shall be discussed. The coming articles promise to produce some surprising conclusions of great interest to SALIENT readers.

W.A.C.

The World Affairs Council is the newest club in the university and unfortunately did not have a place on the Students' Association Enrolment cards. We write this so that you may contact us if you share our concern.

W.A.C. stands for an attitude of serious study of world problems and a rejection of any dogmatic solutions to them. Already we include a diversity of outlook. It is our desire to include every element of responsible student opinion from that of ecstatic Christian to cynical Socialist.

The only specific stand that W.A.C. makes is over Nuclear Disarmament and the club has a secondary aim of "furthering the cause of Nuclear Disarmament." As the founders we felt that there was a problem that had to be faced by our generation. Yet we realised that the present Arms Race is only the scab on the surface of far deeper human problems. Hence we made our first aim the "cultivation of a responsible awareness of world problems."

No particular stand is taken by the club over unilateral or multilateral disarmament. Naturally as individuals we differ in approach. We are united in a common concern and want and need to meet all students with similar interests. This year we are going to ar-

range activities in which changing viewpoints will be presented for analysis in discussion. But discussion alone is not a complete end in itself. One way of expressing views in a positive manner was the recent Nuclear Disarmament March in which some of us took part. Currently some of W.A.C.'s members are jointly organising with the Wellington Movement for Nuclear Disarmament a four-day march through the Hutt Valley during Easter. This will end on Easter Monday with a rally in Parliament grounds. All interested in participating are asked to contact the secretary.

Preparations also include the organisation of a talk on Laos, a screening of the film "March to Aldermaston" and a panel discussion to be labelled "Hunger and War—which the Greater Problem?" The campus notice boards will give fuller details.

It is your concern is world problems even if you don't share all the views expressed, please come along and differ. I may be contacted at 78-579 evenings.

GRAHAM BUTTERWORTH,
Secretary W.A.C.

Quotable Quotes:

Punctuality: "Six o'clock means half-past six."—S. O'Regan.

Weird House: "Weir House is a confession of public guilt!"

—Anon.

On a certain university publication: "The whole thing was a tremendous muck-up!"

Sub-committees: "What sub-committee is the sub-committee of the Cappicade sub-sub-committee?"

INSECTS AND YOU

Quantities of the following insects are required for biochemical research studies. The prices indicated will be paid for healthy, live, adult specimens. They should be brought to myself or to G. B. Kitto in the Biochemistry Research Laboratory on the 3rd floor of the Easterfield Building.

M. H. BRIGGS,
Lecturer in Biochemistry.

Katy-did	Caedicia sp.	6d. each
Weta	Henndenia thoracica	6d. each
Bumble bee	Bombus terrestris	2/- doz.
Dragonfly	Uropetala carovei	6d. each
Huhu beetle (adult)	Prionoplus reticularis	6d. each
Cicada	Melampsalta cingulata	4/- doz.
Large moths	e.g. Oxycanus sp.	3/- doz.

FINE ARTS SECTION

RECORDS

BLISS. Checkmate Suite.

HANDEL. Water Music Suite.

PURCELL. Airs and Dances.

Sinfonia of London/Bliss, World Record Club Tx 129.

Checkmate, composed in 1937, is a pleasant little ballet, full of quirks and smirks, receiving here as it does, a fine performance from the Sinfonia of London. This is a very spacious recording, but play it with plenty of top cut and bass boost: the strings are overall wonderfully clear and full, the percussion crisp and forward. The woodwind is as usual, at its English mellowest; with some notable oboe playing from virtuoso Goossens. I would assume it a more successful ballet proper, than a Suite for music—the orchestration at times, tends toward the banal.

The Water Music on this disc is played from the original edition of 1717; some notable features being, the horns using much more trill than in the Harty arrangement, and, in the Hornpipe, the roles of trumpet and horn have been reversed—all this, I may say, to great benefit. The performance is extremely well handled by Sir Arthur Bliss.

The arrangement of airs and dances, also on the record, is probably its most successful item, musically—though obviously not trad. Purcell.

TOCHAIKOVSKI. Symphony No. 6 in B minor. Sinfonia of London/Mathieson, World Record Club Tx 127.

For a work which requires originality in approach, a subtlety of imagination and a dynamism in drive, we are here, treated to a rather curiously flat, and, one may say, false interpretation. There is little or no originality in Muir Mathieson's performance, and in no one section is there the imaginative expression there should be: his reading on the whole is spirited, but it is a spirit devoid of life, warmth and any essence of emotional appeal.

The orchestra too, fails to maintain a reasonable standard; the chief lack here being in the strings, having no lushness and little depth. And though one can merit the group with some particularly fine woodwind phrasing (as in the initial Adagio), a generally capable and extremely sonorous brass section, and duly uninhibited playing, the lack of cohesiveness, the superficiality of sound, mars the whole recording.

I am aware that this record (and others of the same make), may be specially compensated for the home radiogram. The usage on such equipment will no doubt remove much of a dominant tape-hiss and brittleness in the strings: no amount of compensation however, will hide the glaring mistakes, as when the strings (in IV coda) play a full f when it should have been ppp.

FILMS

Gervaise

In the Aurenche and Bost movie adaptation of Zola's *L'Assomoir*, we see a unity between cinematic and literary realism, so often striven after in the cinema, yet attained with such little success. *Gervaise* features the embodiment of a spirit, essentially that of Zola and his nineteenth century Paris, and a creative artistry, essentially Rene Clement, which has resulted in a

work of great importance, not only to novelist and director, but to the cinema generally, the French cinema in particular.

Indeed, Clement has not produced better. Not from his initial *La Bataille du Rail* to the late *Le Diable Amoureux*, and including the outstanding *Jeux Interdits* (1954), has he reached such a pinnacle of understanding, enforced such assiduity for period creation and achieved such rapport between the literary and cinema figure. *Gervaise* true enough, is the movie of Clement, yet it is not such a personal *tour de force* of his as may generally be felt: it is not entirely his solidarity as director which we feel is responsible for its greatness, inasmuch as it is the players themselves—naming in particular Francois Perier and Maria Schell. In the former, we have everything of the good-natured Parisian working man, finally diseased by alcohol to the point of hopelessness: his is an easy life, a life of squalor, but one without desires, attainments and care.

Maria Schell's being cast as the central figure has raised many eyebrows, and caused a good many adverse remarks. Yet why? Surely she is the very figure of Zola's *Provencale*, in giving, as she does, *Gervaise* a character of strength, a moral fibre which never lapses, an almost sorrowful contempt of the world. Her expressionism I found curiously unincongruous, a little unsure at time perhaps, but full of detail and emotion. Witness when, after her husband has ruined her shop, we see in a final close-up of her face all the torment and frustration which has been latent for so many years, take a final, moving, grotesque relief. By all accounts, a grand performance.

As *La Belle et la Bete* and *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* were, or rather, are, great achievements, for their singularity of style and purpose; *Gervaise* is great too, for its singular, tangible evocation of human suffering, hope and despair.

Butterfield 8

This is an unfortunate film, suffering from acute star exploitation and a hopelessly sick script. Fairly obviously, in any film starring such a photogenic beauty as Elizabeth Taylor, one is going to be confronted with a fair bit of close-up work, time out for dressing, undressing, etc., and other tedious but moneymaking routines. This inevitably happens here, the point being it carries on to the limit of absurdity. The opening sequence, for instance, takes place in a bedroom, with sole occupant Taylor cavorting around, mooching, sighing appropriately, suffering the camera to take in her glorious figure, all with the sole accompaniment of a ludicrous woodwind obligato—and this for about seven minutes of precious film time.

The script, an adaptation of John O'Hara's novel, is disgusting. It literally jerks through the movie, like a bad case of St. Vitus through the Ballet Russe. Again, the pretentious and childish acting of Miss Taylor, ably assisted by Laurence Harvey and Eddie Fisher (who's he, anyway?), does nothing to relieve the burden of a film which—going by Daniel Mann's presence alone—could at least have had the makings of a respectable piece of cinema.

MUSIC

Four Promenade Concerts were given by the National Orchestra in Wellington this festival; a varied, on the whole interesting, series,



Elizabeth Taylor proposes a toast to Eddie Fisher and the latter's suspicious girl friend, Susan Oliver, in a scene from "Butterfield 8," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film version of John O'Hara's explosive novel. Also starred in the Pandro S. Berman production are Laurence Harvey and Dina Merrill. The new picture was filmed in CinemaScope and colour.

catering to all levels, assuaging all tastes. Below is a review of the first concert.

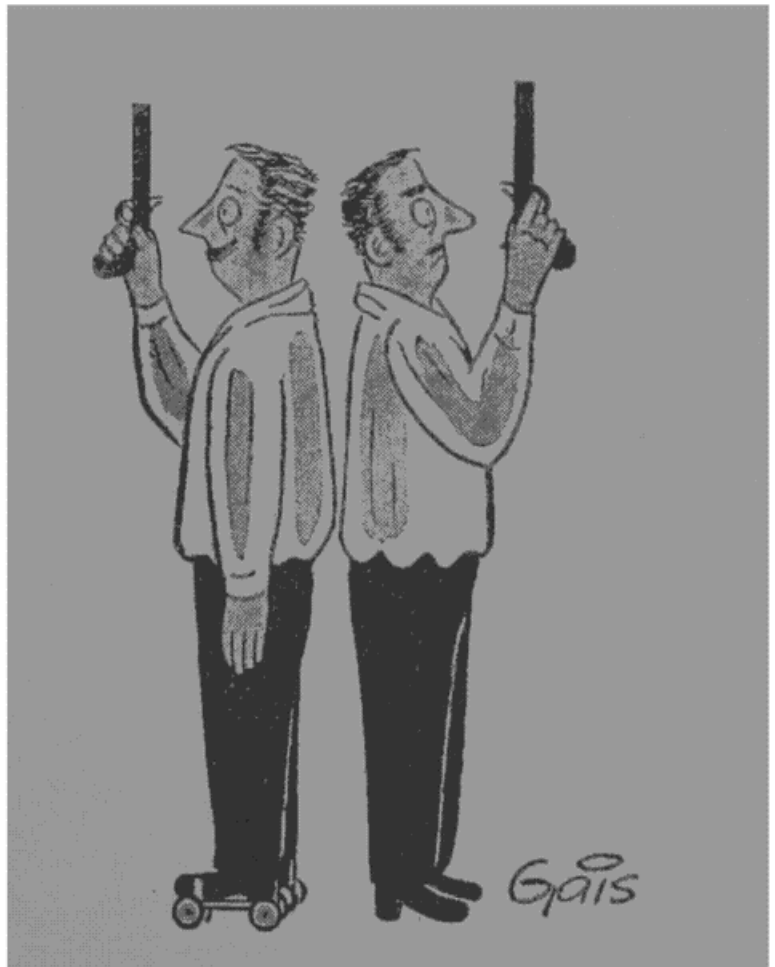
In the opening, Alfred Hill *Overture of Welcome*, the audience found a startling, highly unconventional pot-pouri, composed out of stage and musical irregularities; and a rendition successful in the extreme—but obviously embarrassing to a usually staid orchestra. Ibert, however, enabled the players to find their mark. A light-hearted work, with a minimum of serious musical thought, the *Diversissement* came off remarkably well; a point worth noting—though scored for small orchestra. Mr Hopkins utilised his full string ensemble, to no disadvantage, as the playing was as light and gay as could be wished for.

With Honegger's *Pacific 231*, though, we were confronted with things in a more dramatic vein. Curiously enough, this music is far more successful when heard with the accompanying film (shown by the V.U.F.S. last year). The per-

formance was reasonable, considering the piece is hard to pull off well.

Saint-Saens *Carnaval des Animaux* was easily the most enjoyed item of the evening. All credit goes to duo-pianists Judith McDonald and Shirley Power, and to narrator David Tinkum, for a most enjoyable zoo trip. Some notable cello playing by Farquhar Wilkinson in *Le Cygne* must also not go unmentioned.

As if for good measure, the programme also included another little known work—Beethoven's *Battle of Vittoria* Op. 91. Rather trite when compared against some of Tchaikovsky, a master in creating enjoyable blatancies, this work obviously taxed various sections—brass and percussion—to the full; and left the audience musing, 'and all that fuss about Schoenberg being so discordant—well!' An enjoyable evening, if messy in some ways, unique and interesting in others.



SPORTS NEWS

SWIMMING

The fact that the 1961 N.Z.U. Swimming Team in Australia made history by defeating Australian Universities seems to be little known outside swimming circles. This is perhaps due to the meagre coverage given by the daily newspapers. In this regard the Broadcasting Service gave excellent coverage.

The tours are biennial, being started shortly after World War II. This is the second time women have been included in the team and the first time New Zealand won either trophy.

The outstanding swimmers were undoubtedly Peter Hatch (Victoria) and Alison Bell (Otago).

Peter won the 110 Butterfly in both Tests. His times were 68.9 secs. and 66 secs. compared with the N.Z.U. Blues time of 73secs. and the N.Z.U. record of 72.1 set by him at Easter, 1960. He also won the 220 medley in both Tests in 2.50.9 and 2.44 compared with the Blues time of 2.49 and the N.Z.U. record he set last Easter of 2.46.8. To cap it all Peter won the 110 Freestyle in 62.5 in both Tests equalling the Blues time and .4 secs. outside his N.Z.U. record.

Just in case you think he was loafing he was a member of the Polo team which lost in the first Test and won in the second Test. He also swam in the relays.

Alison won the Women's Medley in 3.10.1 and 3.5.5 (N.Z.U. Blues time 3.9 and record 3.8.4 held by herself), the Women's 220 Freestyle in 2.39.9 and 2.36 (Blues time 2.38, no N.Z.U. Event) and the 110 Freestyle in 70secs. in both Tests equalling the Blues time and .4secs. outside her N.Z.U. record. She of course also swam in the relays.

New Zealand won all but two swimming events in both Tests, a remarkable achievement though of course the Australian team was not as good as their team in New Zealand in 1959.

Others who broke Blues times in the Tests were:

Geoff Elmsley (Otago, 110 Backstroke, 71.9 (Blues time 72) and Kirsty Macallan (Otago), 110 Breaststroke, 90sec. (92sec.).

The Relay teams also performed creditably winning all but the Women's Freestyle relay in the first Test.

The tour from all accounts was most successful and I hear that Swimming Council have received a number of complimentary letters from Australia.

The Inter-Dominion Swimming Record Book has been rewritten, the six girls and 12 chaps have had an excellent tour and the New Zealand clubs have had their moneys worth.

Roll on Easter in Dunedin so

that we can hear those tales of the past.

You do not have to worry, remember not all those at Tournament are N.Z.U. Blues or even potential ones—why not try and be one of those in Dunedin for the fun.

—C.P.



BLUES AWARDS

Here, at last, is a list of Blues for Winter, 1960. We offer congratulations, belated though they may be, to the recipients.

Badminton: Miss V. Readman.
Men's Indoor Basketball: D. Edwards, D. Roberts, P. Betts.
Fencing: R. D. Peterson, N. A. J. French, Miss G. Buchler.
Miniature Rifles: W. I. Hoggard.
Cross-country Running: D. Beauchamp, M. Honeyfield.
Men's Hockey: D. B. Paget, M. R. Lints.
Rugby: M. Williment, C. D. Gunn, J. H. Williams, N. T. Wolfe, J. W. Millar, J. E. Scott, G. E. Rose, K. M. Comber, W. J. D. Oliver, E. R. Savage, D. L. Brooker.

STUDENTS' ASSN. EVENING.

(Continued from Page 8)

the hon. secretary, called for a ten-second break so that everyone could fidget, blow noses, etc.—a loud organised snort from the back of the room indicated, perhaps, the presence of a future stunts controller. Mr O'Brien was largely concerned with his personal integrity and ability as secretary, and took advantage of the occasion to demand in remuneration for his services that he be sustained with as much grog and young women as possible contributors and applicants to form a queue...

Such was the impression of Exec. as laid before the freshers. After this insight into those wonderfully naughty aspects of student life which was lapped up by the audience, the Acting-President brought the evening to a more respectful level by describing the constitution at the NZUSA.

The lights went out... then rumbling, shuffling noises... (the boys from Weir)—terrified freshers rose in alarm... SALIENT fair-sexed reporters were seized and carried off (unmolested) to the Little Theatre, where supper was provided by the Social Committee.

CONFIDENTIAL

Some folk in dis liddle outpost of the Far North have heard that our cousins in da Frizzin Sarth is havin' a hooley about Easter time und dat dey is disguisin' it as a Tournament. Anyhow bein' as how it iz that we is intendin' to go to dis 'ere picernick in many multitudes we is callin' for some volunteers to join us that is providin' there is no Polar Bears or cowami-mals on them there train tracks.

You want to go to Tournament? Well why not, Easter in Dunedin will be a unique experience. Join the others in Sport and—well, why not find out for yourself?

Teams are at present being selected in: Athletics, Swimming, Water Polo, Women's Outdoor Basketball, Yachting, Cricket, Defence Rifles, Tennis and Rowing. So see the Club Notice Boards for details and be in the team that goes

south. All Freshers are eligible and the standard is not necessarily high. —C.McB.

SWIMMING AND WATER POLO

You too can go to Easter Tournament. Why not come to the Inter-Faculty Swimming Sports and get into the team.

Remember March the seventh (7th for those who don't know the lingo) at Thorndon Baths, Murphy Street (near the Railway Station). 7.30 p.m. March 7.

All styles catered for—slow, fast and medium.

Remember Peter Hatch can only fill one position in the team. So why not be one of the others.

Girls—Vic. has yet to take a full Women's team to Tournament. Who will be the lucky six this year?

A Water Polo Trial will be held on Wednesday, March 8 at Thorndon.

See the Swimming Notice Board for further details of both shows.

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