

Cricket Pitch Attack Suppressed By Press?

By Cecil J. Sodom

Pitch-hacking has been in the news lately.

The story goes that some scungy anonymous louts tore up the sacred turf for the first cricket test in a savage outburst of meaningless destruction. "Sneak raiders" shrieked the Post, and went on to discuss the "atrocities" with characteristic insight and philosophic sweep. "Vandals!" they were righteously labelled (the Post made sure of that; "vandal" always get a good emotional response), "vandals" who "achieved nothing". The Post certainly made sure that the act would achieve nothing—it effectively blocked all attempts to publish statements discussing supposed ethical questions involved in such "objectionable" acts. After all, we can't have a newspaper publishing divergent viewpoints can we? It may lead people to believe in that old slogan of the past . . . "freedom of the Press"; indeed, it may even give rise to something as ugly and unhealthy as discussion! In any case, what the hell has ethics got to do with cricket? Ethics ain't politics an' politics ain't cricket an' . . .

Tradition has it that controversies are good for democratic politics; they clarify issues and force politicians to defend their policies and reflect on "principles". Keith, of course, is a man of tradition. "The public (this is Keith) would regret the act of vandalism (that word again!) in an unnecessary, objectional and distasteful affront to a team of visiting sportsmen." One wonders whether the numerous Bantu who have been beaten, imprisoned or separated from their families regard the white South Africans as "sportsmen". Being a "sportsman" now seems to remove one from all moral responsibility. One cannot view these South Africans as human beings capable of moral decisions but only as some vague metaphysical collections of "sportsmen". This is enough to excuse them of the policies of a government they have elected!

There is an interesting theory about the pitch. Some "experts" who actually studied (empirically) the pitch on that fateful Friday morning claim that it was effectively ruined. Indeed, the NZBC in its early morning news coverage gave the impression that there would be no play until another wicket had been prepared. Even the Post let the cat out of the bag (quote) "at first sight it (the pitch) seemed impossible to use . . ." Later, when a "policy" decision was taken it was suddenly announced that "those responsible for the damage left 22 yards clear between the diggings."

Firstly the Police, crafty fellows, prosecuted under an obscure "regulation" and not under the Crimes Act. This meant that the prosecution did not have to show "criminal intent" on the part of the defendant (it would be rather embarrassing for our glorious Legal System if the defendant claimed "moral intent") but only that the defendant had transgressed the regulation.

In short, the Police carefully quelled the possibility of a learned magistrate being forced into making a moral decision. Indeed it reinforced the idea that there were no moral issues involved.

Salient has received this article anonymously. We feel that it contains some interesting ideas about the cricket pitch episode, so we reproduce it here for our readers to see.

If this theory is true then the "policy" decision enabled all true lovers of this manly skill to revel in a "prearranged draw." Even if it is not true it is still a good theory. After all the alternative would be rather embarrassing wouldn't it? Imagine the headlines it would get in Asia? "Direct Action Against Fascist Lackies" or "Kiwi Takes Stand; Test Transferred" or perhaps just "Kiwi Strikes Apartheid". It may even suggest to the Asian that the Kiwi takes the plight of depressed millions seriously. In any case you can be sure that the Afro-Asians understand the interdependence of sport, politics and morality.

Whatever the actual state of the pitch, more fun was to follow. The Kiwi Police with all its cunning and subtlety was carefully gathering evidence. A poor student who unfortunately had the guts to express approval of the "deed" was duly charged. Two points are worthy of note.

Secondly the evidence. The Police had only poor hearsay evidence. Even the most junior crown prosecutor knows that this is just not good enough. There wasn't a scrap of evidence to connect the defendant with the supposed "crime". The Police knew this and yet they still prosecuted! The "case" was of course dismissed. But the damage had been done; the New Zealand press saw to that. They cleverly "arranged" their news coverage in such a way to suggest that the prosecution failed simply because of lack of evidence.

Chief Superintendent W. S. Craigie (as reported in the Post) had an interesting comment to make: "Unfortunately an officer did not happen to be around at the crucial moment." I have it on good authority that the pitch was "fixed" while the Police were busy scuffling with perves in the Basin toilets! Police "evidence" was also well astray. The pitch was dug with a common garden trowel not with a pick axe as the Police claimed. "Experts" suggested that the deed would have taken about one hour to complete. It took 45 seconds in fact.

Keith must take the honours in concluding this episode of "moral enlightenment". Sayeth Keith: "I am sorry anyone should so offend against the general conception in this country of fair play." So sayeth Keith; statesman, scholar, man of letters. And this is what we in New Zealand stand for is it Keith? We Kiwis stand for miserable little white supremacists disguised as cricketers or rugby hearties who flock to the polls every so often to endorse their governments policies of forced domination? Perhaps Sharpeville is an example of Keith's "fair play"? What marvelous sport it must have been as the armed police mowed down the defenceless blacks. Just like a game of cricket. Pitches aren't dug up with the intention of changing your views Keith or your fellow Kiwi cricketers; that would be far too

optimistic. They are dug up simply to show the Bantu back in South Africa (via the "underground" news service) that there are some members of the great arrogant white race who are prepared to sneak out and break the law on their behalf.

The Kiwi may not understand the miserable little protest but you can be sure the Bantu will.

SGM Reverses Exec. Decision

Students have allowed their executive to make statements on moral, political and religious issues which do not directly concern the Students' Association.

Helen Sutch moved that a previous executive resolution, which prevented any such statements being made, should be rescinded. The motion was passed at the Special General Meeting of the Students' Association held on Monday, March 23.

Miss Sutch in her opening speech claimed that the Students' Executive should have the right to speak out on certain issues, even if it did not exercise this right. She said that by rescinding the motion the students would be "taking the gag out of their own mouths".

A member of the Executive said that if the Executive was to speak out on such issues it would be using its position to influence the public—the Executive was elected to make opinions on student affairs and not other matters. The next speaker pointed out that it is the nature of students not to agree on any one issue. Therefore it would be wrong for the Executive to make a representative statement of student opinion because it would be committing some students to views that they did not necessarily hold.

Answering this, another speaker said that the Executive could only be expected to reflect the general opinion of the majority which is characteristic of any democratic government.

One speaker believed this was the only Students' Association he had heard of which excluded its right to comment on anything except what is related to its own "personal petty life." Another said that by gagging itself in such a stupid way the Executive showed that it had no confidence in itself.

The motion was discussed for and against for about an hour and a half. One of the last speakers remarked at the beginning of his speech "I'm in a bit of a dilemma actually because there are two sides to this question". Many people showed that they agreed with him. The motion was carried by a majority of 84 to 16.

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Women hurdlers hurtle last few yards at tournament. Other pies and news on page eight.

Exec. Makes Co-option

Executive have co-opted a new Social Controller. Lester Roussel, who held the position, is now living out of Wellington.

Helen Sutch, second year arts student, was co-opted in his place on the casting vote of the President, Peter Blizard. Miss Sutch's nomination was opposed by Tony Cooper, who was four years a member of the Social Committee, and Robert Wear, a Ph.D. student who had previously organised the Science Faculty Ball. Voting resulted in a tie between Sutch and Wear.

Helen Sutch has the immediate task of organising the Capping and Graduation functions which involve a considerable amount of work.

She is already involved in the production of *Troilus and Cressida*. As a fresher, she played a notable part in Student Activities, taking major roles in many drama club productions last year, and acting on several executive sub-committees, and in other activities such as the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

Executive may co-opt new members

to fill vacancies caused by resignation. When the fourth resignation occurs, all the co-opted members are deemed to have resigned, and a by-election must be held.

Helen Sutch is the second person to be co-opted to the present executive, the first being Treasurer Tom Robins co-opted just after the executive elections last year. In the term of the previous executive, resignation of the capping controller caused a by-election just before the main annual election.



Playing Field Inadequate

The University council is to approach the W.C.C. in an attempt to gain the use of Kelburn Park for sports practices.

The Boyd-Wilson Field Allocation committee further requested that the provision of a new University sports ground be investigated.

These recommendations were the result of a memo from the Rugby Club tabulating the inadequacies of the present setup. Last year, the memo said, the Club's four top teams were forced to share the field on Tuesday and Thursday nights in order to have two practices a week. The remaining nine teams were left competing for space on Wednesday evenings.

-Reply To Letter Labour Club Rubbished

Fresh thinking, Mr. Shand, is what I am looking for. A political club in a University can be a constructive force for good, and there is no reason why your club, and the others, should not be just that.

In your letter in the last Salient all your attention was devoted to attacking small points in my argument: that you ignored my major point—that there is a need for “constructive ideas about public affairs”—strikes me as indicating that you certainly do not disagree with me. It also seems significant that since my article appeared, notices have appeared indicating your intention of holding a series of study groups on Party Policy.

A commendable step . . . taken without any prodding?

Apart from ignoring the central theme of my argument, you go, as you say, “wide of the mark” in attempting to demolish particular points.

For, I am not as you suggest, Mr. Shand, confused. You suggest that I am at variance with the facts when I accuse you of mudslinging and lack of creative political activity.

To deal with mudslinging first. You suggest that Mr. Kirk's meeting upset me—it did. What is more I will agree with you in maintaining that criticism of the present government is a perfectly legitimate activity, but I will go further to say that in a University at least, it should be done well. The material raised by Mr. Kirk was suitable for an impressionable public at election time, but at a time like this, students can hope, and as far as I could ascertain, did hope for a more objective and helpful approach. Why is it, too, that you make no defence for the debate?

And creativity. At your annual General meeting, held the day before my article appeared and after it had been printed, the actions of your committee at the meeting strongly bore out my basic assertion, and I wondered—what were you trying to achieve? The best members could do was to drop the names of a series of big noises, pontificate upon them, and then decide to get them to deliver addresses. Wouldn't it have been of more help to yourselves, if you had worked out what you had wanted to achieve, and then selected speakers accordingly?

From only one member of your club did I hear a glimmer of a penetrating thought. He was the elderly gentleman who suggested a topic which you could come to some conclusions on to advantage. Disappointingly, the idea was childishly treated. The club taking the approach, “Who could we get to talk to us about it?” Even then, when you did strongly consider someone

he was a senior and respected public servant who would probably have been limited in the amount of personal criticism he could offer, due to the restrictions of his post. Surely a study group, or research project would have been a better approach!

The addresses given by Mr. Nash and Mr. Nordmeyer which I acknowledged in my article, were I agree, very interesting, and we had, so as to speak, the official Labour Party viewpoints delivered right to the back door. But your activity should not finish there. Why not evaluate their assertions in the light of the present situation of the Labour Party?

I note your comment on the formulation of remits for the party conference. Although I had been aware of your activity in this direction, no indication of it was given to your members at the A.G.M. I would be very interested to know how much research and thought went into the formulation of them, and how much they are someone else's ideas which you took up uncritically.

Also, Mr. Shand, sophistry is hardly annulled by hard work. In fact I would venture the opinion that sophistry flourishes in election campaigns, where you say your club devoted its energies. Surely your ability at debating would make you aware of that!

Regarding your questioning of the number present at Mr. Kirk's meeting, I find it rather significant that our staff member who reported that meeting and who had his report printed before I saw it, came to substantially the same conclusions as I. He informs me that he counted 65 in the theatre at one time, and used it as the figure of the number present in his report. Your figure may have been based on different calculations.

So sir, you accuse me of making remarks so wide of the mark that in future I ought to think before I make sweeping statements. Thanks for the homily, but maybe it applies to you.

ANTHONY HAAS,
Political Editor.

Letters . . .

Revamp Grad Crud Crude? Ceremony

Sir,
Graduation ceremonies over the past three or four years have been rather unsatisfactory when considering the significance attached to graduation by the graduands, their relatives, and even the public. Those who have graduated since 1960 know that existing conditions fall little short of chaos, and are a disgrace to both the students' association and the university. Collecting one's hard-earned diploma is like being herded through a sheep dip. Having graduated in 1962, and about to be subjected to similar—or even worse treatment again this year, I am very critical of the entire organisation.

The two problems to be considered in finding a more satisfactory system are numbers and time, and with these in mind I wish to make the following suggestions.

Firstly, the number of graduands for 1964 will probably allow each grad, no more than two gallery seats for relatives, etc. The obvious solution is to have two ceremonies—probably one for the stronger Arts representation and a further ceremony for the remainder. As in Canterbury, a ceremony for each faculty would not be impossible. Whichever be the more acceptable the result will be more seats per graduand.

Secondly, a short procession of graduands about 2 p.m. on Friday afternoon from say the bottom of Church Street steps to the Town Hall (D.V.W.P.). This would help mollify the public previously subjected to the bawdy “processh”, and help to remind them that the current university image is not entirely one of sex, grog, vandalism, and misdirected satire. Following this the capping ceremony could start at 2.30 p.m., allowing plenty of time for this to be completed at a leisurely pace, and enabling the Graduands' Ball to start at a reasonable hour after the requisite pre-ball parties have run their course. Previously it has been hardly possible to arrive at the ball before midnight, and occasional individuals with initially good intentions are reputed not to have arrived at all.

This arrangement ignores the seating problem, but this could be remedied by a combination of the above two ideas, and having an afternoon ceremony and a shorter evening ceremony both on the Friday. These are not idle thoughts, as I am sure they have occurred to other students, especially after they have been capped and are no longer interested. It is perhaps unfortunate that similar ideas have not come from those in a position to implement them.

Yours, etc.,
R. G. WEAR.

Club Toes Party Line

Sir,
In his letter directed at Tony Haas, Mr. Shand has made little effort to refute Mr. Haas' accusation that V.U.W. political clubs have produced few constructive ideas.

This is the major issue involved—that V.U.W. political clubs have little to offer students other than an amplification of the party line; and Mr. Shand would do well to bear this in mind rather than indulge in another issue—that of face saving.

Mr. Shand can point to addresses by Mr. Nash and Mr. Nordmeyer as examples of his club's activities. These undoubtedly bring enlightenment to those who don't possess a radio capable of picking up broadcasts of Parliament in session. However, here again he deviates from the major issue at stake—that of original student thought and subsequent derivation of constructive ideas.

I find it ludicrous that Mr. Shand should accuse Mr. Haas' remarks of being “so wide of the mark,” when his own bear so little relevance to the article that caused his brain so little work in formulating his reply.

I am, etc.,
DON LAING.

Answers to Correspondents

J. J. Elliot. R. G. Wear makes the same points in his letter above.

Crud Crude? Poet

Sir,
How long will the just literate ravings of the “cruds” on the varsity campus be able to dominate so much space with their absolute banality? The myth of the sun-tanned, hearty drinking of a huge quantity of brown culture, treating women like “confectionery dolls,” is at last showing signs of dying in this University. It is dead, that is, except for the loud-mouth rowdies from Weir House who keep up the tradition of boorish behaviour, as their out-of-town fathers expect them to do, because it is a closeted tradition in the family, like the musty varsity scarf in the wardrobe.

We are very perturbed that Mr. Crud had a party after which he had bloodshot eyes, worried that they had a party that was “crashed” by some gentlemen or ladies with homosexual or lesbian traits; all this is so unusual in Wellington and looks really fine treated in such a bull neck way.

Without making a value judgment (cough), Mr. Crud's preference for the anal imagery of the Taj Mahal does show a crude literary appreciation. Crude is the operative word.

—Yours, etc.,
MURRAY ROWLANDS.

Crud Cribs?

Sir,
To the small band of admirers who know me as the eminence grise of University literature, my influence upon the style and content of El Crud will not come as a surprise. But I feel that it should be made known to the wider public who have yet to discover me that the phrase “over-run by a swarm of O.B.E.'s” has its origin firstly in the folklore of the Goons and secondly in a short surrealist play entitled “The Largest Wooden Southern Hemisphere in the World” which appeared in the pages of the 1963 Weir House Magazine. After cornering the arrant plagiarist on Kelburn Park and threatening him with an old meat pie I forced this admission from him.

Yours ever,
ROB LAKING.

We deprecate the threat of violence which was made to our correspondent El Crud. We are also interested to see that Mr. Laking apparently equates “University literature” with the annual Weir House magazine.—Ed.

Crud Coarse

Sir,
It occurs to me that we have our perspective wrong when a serious New Zealand poet has his poem imperilled because it contains a vulgarity, yet the coarse, empty-minded and puerile work of El Crud is allowed to include a similar ‘objectionable’ term (line 10 Salient April 2, 1964).

El Crud's observations are dull and trite—one feels he uses the word in question simply because it is one of the few terms within the range of his impoverished literary mind.

I am, etc.,
IAN MITCHELL.

Crud Corny

Sir,
After the best one yet—bloodshot eyed and a mouth like the cat'd had kittens in it—ran into old Murray Rowlands in the boozier the other day. He and I both being all of 23, started saying things like “cliches, banal, trite, space-waster, why” and resolved to write letters.

Not, mind you, that we can't tolerate the cult of the Weirman or Vic A girls in their respective (or each other's) places . . . but these, trotted out with every issue of Salient and inflicted on us with monotonous regularity?????????

Fair go; it'd make a joker keep his sixpence and buy “Listener”.

JOHN RODGERS.

Replies

Sir,
What the blazes is Mr. Rowlands talking about? His reviewing is cal-low in the extreme. To say Hilaire Kirkland's poetry is like Chinese poetry is really to do no more than say it is like Afghan or Urdu poetry. Who does he think he's kidding, slinging the bull that way?

As for Barry Southam's opening sentence, I can guarantee to do Mr. Rowlands' trick with it to any prose writer of note he cares to name. It may be a sniggery nitwitticism, but is hardly reviewing, and certainly doesn't negate Mr. Southam's work. It merely shows Mr. Rowlands has a tendency to think in terms of advertising copy, which, since he slings around generalisations, is perhaps not surprising. Has he missed his metier?

As for my lack of implicit belief, I was not aware that my sonnet had to bear the awesome weight of a Second Coming. Surely one coming in a sonnet is enough?

Isn't there somebody who knows something about literature who could review Argot for you?

Yours, etc.,
RICHARD PACKER.

Misreported

Sir,
As the News Editor was present at one last Law Faculty A.G.M., his misreporting of the meeting cannot be excused.

Contrary to what he informed readers, the motion—“That the Law Faculty staff be requested to present to students a set policy on ‘special’ examinations, etc.”—was passed decisively.

The motion was of obvious importance when it was revealed that there was possibility of administrative carelessness in the organisation of “specials” exams.

Yours, etc.,
ALISTER TAYLOR.

Geiringer

Sir,
I would like to lodge an objection against the article published in last Salient written by Dr. Geiringer. Many students besides myself are rather annoyed at the uninformative and sacrilegious way in which the subject was approached by Dr. Geiringer.

Phrases such as “there has been only one reported failure”, referring to abstention are not the advice we expect from a qualified doctor! I would refer Dr. Geiringer to an article published in “Truth” (and if he cannot get hold of this magazine, the contents are published also in “Zealandia”, the Roman Catholic newspaper dated March 26). Where the B.M.A., the most authoritative medical association in the world, stated publicly that contraception should be avoided, Dr. Geiringer, as a member of the profession, then may use a little more discretion in future.

Yours sincerely,
TONY LENART.

Fashionable Cliche

Sir,
With reference to your article on Varsity Fashions, the problem appears to be that of separating the chic from the gauche.

I am, etc.,
ROBIN BELL.

Owing to unforeseen technical circumstances, an omission was made in the printing of the article headed “Weir House Plea”, appearing in the last issue of Salient. The paragraph concerned drew attention to the fact that renovations to the top floor of Weir House were carried out during the long vacation.

Festival Programme

- S.U.B. and Gym. Open in afternoon for public on 18th April. 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
- S.U.B. and Gym. Open in afternoon for public on 18th April. S.U.B. conducted tours
- Displays in Gym. of Fencing, Judo, Badminton and Trampoline. Coffee bar open.
- Polynesian Dance (Maori Club) 24 April. Open to Public. 8 p.m.
- 26th April, Novelty Boat Race (Yacht Club), probably at Oriental Bay in afternoon.
- 28th April, Mock Court (Comm. Comm. Room). Law Faculty Club. (Evening.)
- Sunday, 19th April, Memorial Theatre, Film Society. “On the Waterfront” (Evening).
- Monday, 20th April, Chess Club. John Eriksson (a former South African champion).
- Simultaneous display (up to 20 games), 7.30 p.m. Men's Common Room.
- Wednesday, 29th April, Tours of Science Labs., 7 p.m.-9 p.m. V.U.W. Open evening (in conjunction with Education Week).
- V.U.W. Photographers' Exhibition in Activities Room on 29th and 30th April.
- 29th April, Drama Club Play reading from Ibsen (Evening).
- 30th April, Extravaganza opens. Runs till 9th May, in the Memorial Theatre.
- 2nd May, Charity Performance of Extravaganza.
- 3rd May, Education Sunday. Special Academic Service at St. Paul's (Matins). Academic dress where possible.
- Also special service at St. Mary of the Angels. All students invited.
- 3rd May, C.S.G. Coffee Evening, Common Common Room. Foss Shanahan will speak.
- 8th May, Processh. Capping.
- Other probable items (not yet definite) include:
- 18th April, Weir House Open Day, 2-5 p.m. Will have definite decision by Monday, 13th April.
- 27th April, Gymnasium sports Evening.
- Friday, 1st May, Debating Club v. Waterside Workers Team. E006. 7 p.m.
- April 30, Jazz, Poetry, Coffee Evening—Contemporary Arts Group.
- May 6th, Religious Clubs (all five) Discussion on Indecent Publications Act and Censorship Principles in General. Common Common Room or Concert Chamber, 7 p.m.

Ban The Bombers Join Establishment

By Murray Rowlands

The two articles in the latest "New Statesman" on the future of the C.N.D. movement, have led me to do some positive re-thinking of the role of the movement in New Zealand.

Kingsley Martin, takes the line, that without the C.N.D. movement all interest in political and public affairs by the so-called "Beat generation" would have died. Rightly I think, the post-war teenager despaired of the "Old Boy" establishment which seemed to control English life, on both sides of the political spectrum and right through almost all the recognised organs of protest. Martin neglects to mention that this generation was not as naive as their counterparts of the thirties, fed on apologia for the Soviet system, most of which emanated from the "New Statesman and Nation".

This is the tradition that most of the liberal Professors in the university became accustomed to and which has severely distorted their perspective in looking at many cases. Still, even if the ghost of Joe Stalin does look over their shoulders in many cases, Martin's and their attitude is better than that of Stephen Spender's for instance, the Left poet of the thirties who now, as joint editor of "Encounter", seems to have become completely reactionary.

Faced with the alternatives of Gaitskell's mildly controlled capitalism with its morally repellent policy of retention of the nuclear deterrent and membership of a petty bourgeois Communist Party, most of the voluble younger generation opted for cynical apathy. Most of them had despaired of effecting anything through constituency branches of the labour party, after the top bureaucracy of the party had almost helped the Labour Government fall in 1951 through fear of being forced to adopt a more radical programme. But the birth and increasing manufacture of the hydrogen bomb in the late fifties saw a new type of radical movement, dispersed into committees and ranging from anarchist groups to professional groups like doctors, scientists, and to religious bodies including Anglicans and Catholics.

The one uniting symbol linking all these widely diverging groups was a realisation of the power of complete destruction of the "nuclear deterrent." This was a grass roots movement, with at the beginning nothing deliberately planned. When for instance the suggestion came forward that a film should be made of the Aldermaston march a group of film technicians volunteered materials and labour to make this possible. People began looking at the whole set-up for civil defence and seeing what a farce it actually was. This led to "The Spies for Peace" document of last Easter.

The movement, had given the left, a new and broad basis of support which enabled it, and not as the Popular press crowd, Mr. Gaitskell, to revitalise the Labour movements. In the North, the depressed areas of the North East had radical groups founded originally on the C.N.D. platform, but because of depression and unemployment, they became vocal and outspoken groups of dissent.

But, even in the earliest stages the scope which the movement quickly began to embrace, frightened and brought attempts at curb and restriction from Canon Collins and the most conservative section of the movement. They were bent on changing Macmillan's reported comment on the C.N.D.

"It seems to me that the C.N.D. are the rag-tag and bob-tail of English society."

If we can jump to New Zealand the parallels seem obvious. The same growth was evident from the grass roots, which contained a great many people disillusioned with the Labour Party. There was of course the same Quaker, communist and religious-pacifist support backing the movement. There was the same split always evident between the left, principally younger members of the movement and the Canon Collins style supporters.

The libertarian group has repeatedly demanded some form of direct and positive action, sit downs, etc., to be taken against the French, and at the last conference, found themselves having to fight hard to keep opposition to the pacts.

S.E., A.T.O. and A.N.Z.U.S. Part of the platform. Beginning in arguments about the singing of working class songs on the march, the debate has usually broadened itself into wider and more extensive areas. It logically seems like a British movement all over again.

This year's march was a failure. The Aldermaston march has been discontinued and it was doubtful whether but for the strong insistence of out of town groups there would

have been a march at all in Wellington this year. Quite legitimately, some sort of vigil outside the French Embassy was proposed. But nothing was done to organise it. In the past as with many mass movements, the best work, like the original organisation of the march, have been done by small and united groups within the movement. Thus Mr. Butterworth and a small group of students were

able to initiate and start something which each Easter became a reasonably efficient mode of protest-speaking, retrospectively that is.

However by now most of the original founders have dropped out in protest because of the overriding demand there seems to be on a "nice" public image. This was once some form of protest about a vital issue but it is now a group of somewhat eccentric people, thoroughly respectable though who perform a ritual of marching a certain distance at Easter. The Labour Party supports its proposal for a nuclear free southern hemisphere and the test ban treaty has achieved some of the movement's objectives. Where does the movement, in both countries, go from here?



Competitor in Men's Discus event at Easter Tournament puts power into it.

Wrong Ideas About Dominion Takeover

From the SALIENT poll on public opinion concerning takeover bids for the DOMINION, several possible conclusions can be drawn.

Firstly, students are even less interested in social problems than many people have thought; or secondly, students are interested but allow their opinions to be formed for them by such high intellectual authorities as TRUTH; or thirdly, that intelligence and attractiveness are inversely correlated and SALIENT's reporter is more attracted to the latter than the former. The last seems most likely.

A Thomson takeover of the DOMINION could conceivably have some advantages. It might possibly introduce new technological process into the printing of the DOMINION and it might raise the standard of journalism

Technological progress does not depend on ownership. It would not necessarily be a corollary of a Thomson takeover that such progress would follow, and if significant advances have been made overseas, it should be possible for the present directorate to seek access to them through some form of licensing, preferably with royalties terminating after a definite time-period. But in the absence of more concrete evidence, it seems likely that vague suggestions of technological progress are so much guff.

The Journal of the Journalists' Association has been rather more specific about the benefits for journalists likely to result from a Thomson takeover. The most prominent of these is the possibility of service with the Thomson organisation overseas.

By Political Correspondent,
G. R. Hawke.

It cannot be doubted that this would have advantages for the journalists in so far as convenience of overseas travel is concerned. But this cannot be given great weight in considering the desirability of a Thomson takeover. This is not to deny that overseas experience may raise the standard of journalism in New Zealand to the benefit of all newspaper readers, but it is denied that a takeover is required to achieve this. It should not be impossible for the present directorate (perhaps rejuvenated) to arrange reciprocal transfers with overseas newspapers or in the absence of this for the Journalists' Association itself to take the initiative. It can be an independent action and is not necessarily a corollary to a takeover of ownership.

Against these reputed advantages, there are weighty disadvantages to a takeover of the Dominion. Although it may in the first instance give access to some overseas funds,

it will eventually, almost certainly, add to New Zealand's balance of payments problems. It is highly unlikely that the Dominion will ever add to New Zealand's export earnings, or replace imports, while dividend remittances either directly or indirectly will become an added charge on these export earnings. Thomson has claimed that dividends will not be remitted but as he has also disclaimed any intention to interfere with editorial policy, one wonders why he wants to control the Dominion at all. Unless sheer prestige has become the prime aim of a rather hard-headed Canadian business man, it seems more than possible that the non-remittance of dividends is limited to the early years or that they will be remitted through investments in some other New Zealand concern.

This argument, of course, applies to all foreign investment. It may be a useful way of introducing technological knowledge, etc., but it should be carefully vetted to ensure that the advantage to New Zealand is not outweighed by the costs in foreign exchange. The particular form of overseas investment here considered does not satisfy this criterion.

Nobody would describe the Dominion as the ultimate ideal in newspapers. But New Zealand papers are in comparison with those of England of a very high standard. The transformation of the Dominion into something like the Daily Mirror would not be welcome.

Government has been criticised for its role in the takeover business. The Dominion has, of course, been the staunch supporter of the National Party but arguments which serve self-interest are not thereby automatically invalidated. The motive of a party in presenting an argument is not a factor in its essential validity although the recognition of self-interest may lead other parties to inspect the argument with greater concentra-

French Restaurant

From George Andrews in Nice.

French students in Aix have a restaurant service which makes the Victoria set-up look very ordinary.

For one franc thirty (about 1/9) students get a full course meal with as many second helpings as they wish. The restaurant is open for lunch and tea every day of the week and married students bring their babies along with them. The service is subsidised by the government who also provide large hostels near the University where students can live for about 50 francs (£4) a month.

French universities have very little campus life such as in New Zealand universities. There are numerous clubs, but these are nearly all politically orientated and are interested only in propagating their own philosophy. Cafes, where you can buy anything to drink any time, take the place of a student union building and common rooms and the huge restaurant provides the other focal point for student activities.

Study is frequently interrupted by strikes on the part of students, teachers, electricity, water, restaurant employees, but this, we are told, is part of the French culture and must be tolerated.

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Auckland Students Support Editor

N.Z.S.P.A.

The Auckland University Students' Association has supported the editor of *Craccum* in publishing a poem and book review which were banned by the Executive.

At the half Annual General Meeting the following motion was defeated:

"That this meeting censures the Students' Association Executive for destroying 5,000 copies of *Craccum* on the purported ground of indecency, without first calling for a full and reasonable examination of the offending material." In response to pointed questions some executive members said that they had condemned the book which they had not read.

Although this motion of censure was lost, a motion which affirmed the belief of the meeting that the banned articles were of sufficient sociological and literary merit to be published was passed.

Speaking to the first motion, John Sanders, Editor of *Craccum* said that the Students Association were relying on the legal opinion of Mr. L. P. Leary Q.C. The *Craccum* staff objected that the Students Association Executive had adopted extreme measures by suppressing articles of genuine literary interest. He said "We consider that no group of students have the right to suppress the genuine literary, religious, or political opinions of another student. We object that the Students' Executive did not seek expert literary opinion on the literary value of the published literary works. We object that the Students' Executive did not go to the students in deciding whether or not students would have been unduly opposed to the publication of these literary articles, but rather took it on their own shoulders. We object to the supremacy of personal preference and uninformed taste where a question of the Public Good is concerned."

Sanders continued "The integrity of the writers is impugned by the Students' Association Executive. This is a vital plank in their argument that there was a mischievous design in publishing the original articles. If this is so then why have not the writers themselves been approached to clarify their motivations, intentions, and purposes. Should these be so readily assumed when the writers are in absentia or ignored?"

Immediately preceding the publication of the poem in 1963 Mr. Baxter said "a bit grim eh? And what has it got to do with poetry and education? The point is I think, that there are quite a few Miss Glubbs in this country—God help them and us if they are teaching poetry—it will bear the impression of their personalities."

Mr. Baxter explained his intentions in the following words:

"Not long ago I was asked to contribute some verse to *Craccum*. The request pleased me, as I have always felt the varsity newspapers were able to provide a livelier and less hide-bound slant on the customs of Pig Island Society than our established and solemn periodicals are able to do. Instead of submitting to *Craccum* my *Ode To A Seagull Seen From The Top Of Mount Victoria*—a five-hundred line poem in the manner of the earlier Shelley, which I am keeping for the school anthologies I sent up the *Sad Tale Of Matilda Glubb*, the story in rhymed couplets of a Primary School teacher who learns too late that she has chosen a dead end profession.

"Miss Glubb is a fictitious person. There is also a delicate moral issue which I, as a member of the Catholic Church, have to consider whenever I let a poem of mine be published—would the poem be likely to influence some person not already so disposed, to an act of self-abuse, or some less obvious sexual misdemeanour? I cannot see that the *Sad Tale Of Matilda Glubb* could lead anybody to do anything except retire from the teaching profession. There is also the even more delicate matter of my private intention in writing the poem at all. My intention was to expose one of the deepest ulcers of Pig Island society—the extraordinary ignorance and vacuity of mind which overtakes so many of our educational workers and drives some of them especially the women to the jumping off place.

Miss Glubb goes mad because she has never understood her own nature."

Mr. Baxter's view was in absolute contradistinction to Mr. Leary's, said Mr. Sanders. Mr. Leary's view is that Miss Glubb goes mad because the lawyer's clerk pursues her with lascivious intent.

About Mr. Babington's Review of Mary McCarthy's novel *The Group* Mr. Leary had this to say in his opinion: "I consider that in the article a sexual passage from an American magazine has been highlighted and in the name of literary criticism it has been discussed with every form of sexual epithet, and most forms of sexual depravity that can be stuffed into it. It is an obscene piece of work."

Sanders said that Leary's main point seemed to him to be that the mention of sex in a literary review is inexcusable. "One wonders if the distinguished Q.C. is thinking in terms of the 19th or twentieth centuries." Some of Leary's opinions concerning the article were highly emotive and non-legal.

Sanders then went on to quote from an opinion prepared by Mr. Frank Haigh of whom he said "the author of this opinion is also a learned and respected member of the legal profession." With one exception, he has concentrated on the question of literary censorship, and recently published an article in the New Zealand quarterly review *Landfall*. In his opinion Mr. Haigh had the following points to make:

The students of the University should have liberty and freedom to read and think as the spirit moves them.

We have to decide whether the tendency of these articles is to deprave those whose minds today are open to immoral influences and into whose hands this issue of *Craccum* might fall in the year 1964. We are not concerned with Victorian standards.

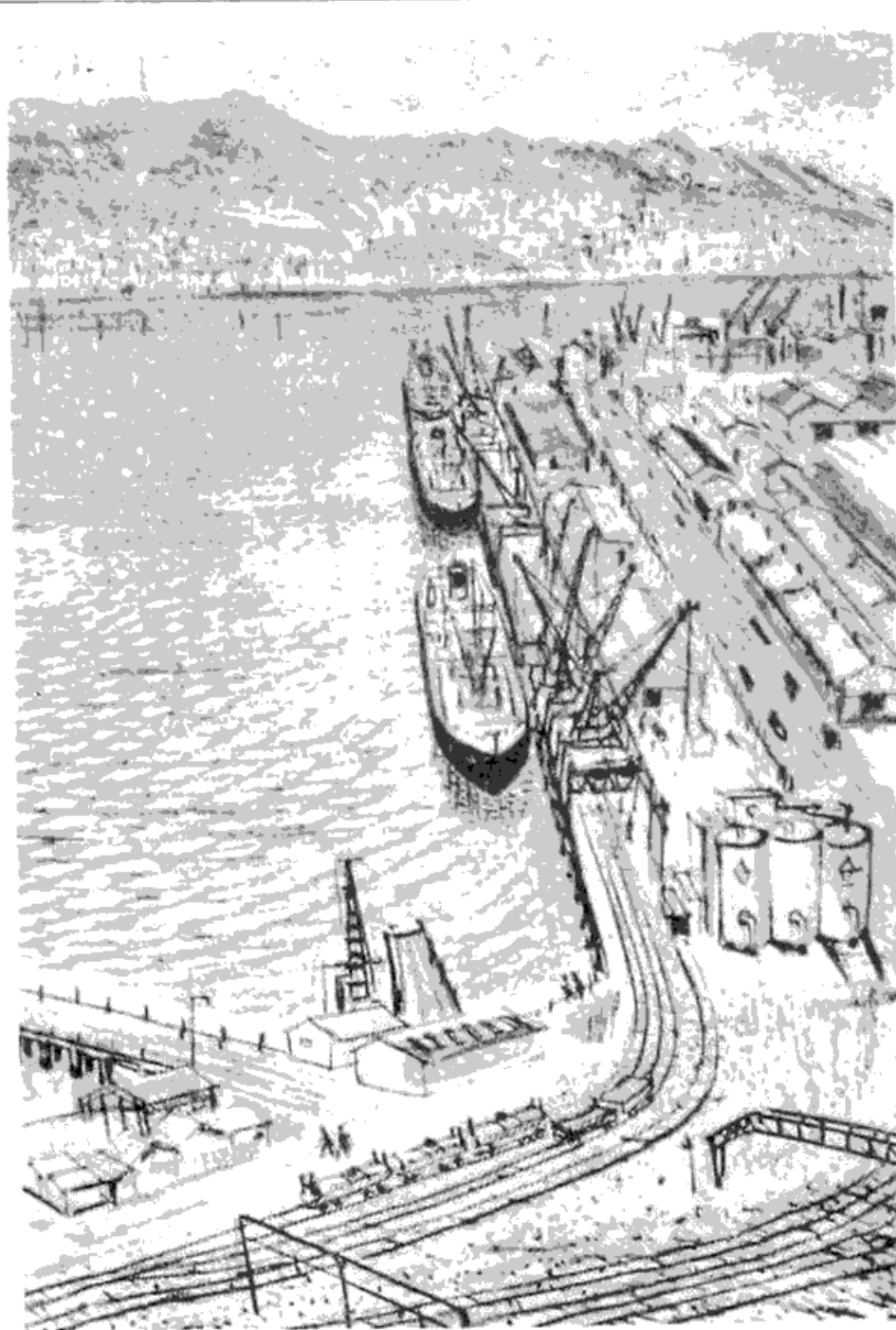
Since the act of sex is not shameful, neither are descriptions of it. Furthermore there is no reason why the fact that people enjoy sex should not be emphasized.

Mr. Haigh says in his opinion, "In the light of this background to *The Group* I consider that the review is an honest one dealing with the different facets of this novel, and also with Miss McCarthy as a writer and critic.

In my opinion the review is not indecent within the meaning of the Indecent Publications Act."

Referring to Mr. Baxter's poem Mr. Haigh goes on, "There is nothing to suggest that Mr. Baxter is not sincere and honest in the views he

puts forward. The fact that some of the words used may shock certain people does not mean that the poem is injurious to the public good. The poem must be considered as a whole. In my opinion it is not indecent within the meaning of the Indecent Publications Act 1963. This opinion is in accord with the recent decision of the Indecent Publications Tribunal re *Another Country*."



Arts and Crafts at Artides

By Sharon Crosbie.

The Artides Gallery exhibits anything that can be classified as arts and crafts. The objects d'art on display vary from oil-paintings by artists as well known as Stewart McLennan, Director of the National Gallery, to hand-made tapa-cloth which threatens to disintegrate at the slightest touch.

Between these extremes there are abstract wood-sculptures, clay figures over-laid with bronze (an interesting example being "Longbod" which has to be seen to be believed—not with a hangover). There is a very wide range of pottery and ceramics all for sale at reasonable prices.

The best paintings on display at the moment include an interesting treatment of Aotea Quay by Juliet Peter, done in shades of blue and brown. The reflection of light is very interestingly treated and the whole work captures the feeling of those rare windless fine mornings sometimes experienced.

E. Mervyn Taylor's long narrow woodcut of a standing nude (illustrated) once again represents the versatility of this well-known artist. Although this is only a small work it is very finely executed. Also on display is a group of early woodcuts used in the School Journals of previous years, depicting Maori scenes.

Those artists undaunted by not gaining a place in the National Bank Art Contest have brought their work along to the Gallery, no doubt in order to try again, but this somehow seems to lower the tone of the whole, as one wonders for how many more years these paintings will be dragged round the various galleries.

The Gallery will exhibit the work of any artist provided it reaches a certain standard; this costs nothing and there is a fair chance of selling.

The whole display is worth a visit because there is such variety.

May. The English Department of the University is assisting the group in the production of the play.

Unity Theatre has cast "Othello" and it will be presented shortly. "Troilus and Cressida", the V.U.W. Drama Club's first major production of the year, is the other Shakespeare play to be presented in Wellington this year. "Troilus and Cressida" opens on the 18th of this month, produced by Roger Savage.

An adaptation by Camus of "The Possessed" by Dostoevsky is to be presented by the Modern Languages Department. The play in English is to be produced by Nola Millar in the last week of June. Auditions are to be held on April 26th.

At present the Drama Club has no definite plans for its production in the second term. A revue will be produced at the end of the year, and if it proves to be as good as last year's effort it will be worth seeing. In an effort to keep enthusiasm alive amongst those interested in the practical side of drama, the Drama Club plans fortnightly meetings of readings, stage movement, back stage practice and discussion. Readings of Ibsen, Lawlor, Strindberg, Miller, and others will be presented during the year.



Woodcut by E. Mervyn Taylor.

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Federation Of Labour Re-asserts Itself

(By C.V.B.—an Experienced Political Commentator)

The Federation of Labour's 27th Annual Report includes a clarion call for a return to the full-blooded socialism of Harry Holland (obit. 1933) by the political Labour movement.

Journalistic and academic commentators have searched diligently for some explanation for this extraordinary manifestation of atavism in a body which was being hailed only a short decade ago as "responsible", "moderate", and "in tune with the needs of the times". Press editorials up and down the country have even declared that the fallaciousness of the Federation's new cry lies in the changes which have occurred in New Zealand society since Harry Holland's day—as if they, too, were stout upholders of socialism when things were different!

Shrewdest observation so far has come from Vic's own J. L. Roberts, who suggested on the N.Z.B.C. that what the Federation was after might, after all, only be some more clearcut differentiation between the policies of the two main parties. The glossy finish given by the hired ad men to Labour's campaign at the last elections certainly succeeded in concealing any substantial differences there might have been from the average voter. A straightforward appeal to the social conscience to reverse the current trend of setting social priorities in such a way that insurance companies can go on erecting skyscrapers while the public authorities can't even solve the traffic problem, would undoubtedly have an immediate impact on the electorate.

Any political approach which puts public welfare clearly before private profit is inherently socialist, and is likely to attract the support of a majority of New Zealanders. The experience of successive polls on the trust control issue in the licensing arena proves that.

But there are other factors at work in the Federation's minor bombshell. Nobody will need to be told that "things have been happening" in the Labour movement—both industrial and political—these last few years. The employment of a commercial image-maker to oversee Labour's election campaign for the first time ever, is one outward and visible sign.

The group behind the employment of Mr. Dryden and his department-store sale techniques was (need I say) centred in Auckland. The big levers of power in the industrial movement are situated, due to the decentralisation of authority that has accompanied the historically neces-

sary development of amalgamated national unions, mainly in Wellington.

Resentment at the huckstering appearance of Labour's election campaign thus gave combined expression to two feelings very common in the Wellington Trades Hall—a geographical jealousy of Auckland, and a political intuition that any prolongation of the attempt to present Labour as the pale imitation of National would be likely to keep Trades Hall in the permanent political wilderness. At least a Labour Government takes the trade union movement into account as a legitimate pressure group.

But there is more to it than that. The face of the Federation of Labour has changed in recent years more than can be explained by the replacement of F. P. Walsh's overwhelming beetle-browed countenance by the gentler visage of Tom Skinner. For a start, the departure for another place of Walsh's personality,

his unplumbed powers of political sagacity and manipulation, and his extraordinary hold over individuals who privately disliked him, have left a gaping void.

And in the years immediately prior to his death, Walsh had changed the nature of the Federation considerably. Nobody ever thought that the epidemic of libel litigation a few years ago was just a game. It was an essential part of a shrewd political adjustment to changed circumstances, which included a National Government with the will and power to toughen the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act and use its penal provisions against recalcitrant workers, and a Labour Party without the political nous to constitute an effective opposition.

At the height of the Walsh era, when relations were closest between Trades Hall and Parliament House (under Peter Fraser's firm control), the Federation top shelf relied on the compulsory trade unionists in the proliferation of tin-pot "moderate" unions to keep the militant power of the older industrial unions in check. But the changed circumstances required a shift of power to the latter group—and it has occurred assisted by Walsh's own shift to the left and open break with the Butler-Neary group, and his adoption of Molineux of the Carpenters' Union as a replacement on the Executive for the ageing and eventually deceasing Thompson of the Plumbers' Union.

Skinner is at a great disadvantage, trying to keep firm control of the Federation from Auckland when its driving apparatus is definitely in Wellington. But this may well be just part of a time-fuse left by the late Mr. Walsh. We must remember that Walsh knew perfectly well that Baxter, whom he helped into the secretaryship of the Federation at its inception nearly thirty years ago, was an avowed Marxist—which, indeed, he was himself once.

The pattern begins to emerge of a Federation knowing fairly certainly where it is going, and assisted not a little by the continuing stratagems of a mind that has been interred at Karori these twelve months.

If I was Arnold Nordmeyer, I would pay much more attention to the Federation than the newspaper columnists say he is intending to.

Ban the Bombers Where To?

(Continued from page three.)

For a start, members themselves are lacking in many cases fundamental knowledge of what they are protesting about.

The discussions held during the course of the march reveal this only too well. Members of a group such as this must be acquainted with answers to such questions as whether in fact it is possible "to ban nuclear weapons and how possible nuclear free zones for Europe and the south are." There is the second possibility of direct action against the French such as severing economic links. However the C.N.D. were strangely silent when proposals along these lines were made by the Federation of Labour.

The Direct Action group that was formed during the last year's march has so far done nothing apart from the reprinting of the "Spies for Peace" pamphlet. It remains to see whether with the French tests becoming more imminent its activities will not increase. Meanwhile, a rather slovenly attitude on the part of the N.Z.C.N.D. has prevented it so far from not becoming the focal point to opposition to French testing. There can be little hope for the

protest movement to gain more support, let alone stop losing its support, unless CND becomes more active and imaginative in the schemes it uses or adopts for protest. The N.Z.C.N.D. has long since ceased to be a dynamic movement, if it ever was one.

I do not agree with Anthony Howard who in an article alongside that of Martin's argues that this unilateralist or trend to concentrate on opposition to nuclear arms was a side track which the Labour Party stumbled upon, and has distorted and clouded many issues. Wilson has promised this group nothing and yet has their support, undoubtedly one of the main reasons for the waning interest in C.N.D. in Britain. If Labour again fails at the elections, the C.N.D. movement will still voice a slightly less shrill voice of protest. The French tests have produced a strong note of nihilism in New Zealand which induced people to scoff, though, in most cases sign, the demand for a nuclear free Southern Hemisphere. Positive and real action is needed to combat this attitude. The lead is not being given by the N.Z.C.N.D.

Salient

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editors or staff.

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Record Reviews

By Murray White.

WAGNER: Wesendock Lieder. BRAHMS: Alto Rhapsody Christa Ludwig (mezzo)/Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus/Otto Klemperer. Columbia 33MCX 1817 SAXM 2462

These are tasteful interpretations. The Lieder in particular being pleasantly orchestrated. Christa Ludwig's voice is such that she can cope with Brahms's alto and Wagner's soprano roles more than adequately. Perhaps the balance is too favourable for her voice in a few of the songs. Still, apart from the loss of some intimacy (in singing without piano accompaniment—see Lotte Lehmann's re-released disc) and suffering comparison with Kathleen Ferrier (in the Alto Rhapsody) these are accomplished performances.

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: Capriccio Espagnol, MOUSSORGSKY: Night on the Bare Mountain, BORODIN: Polovtsian Dances (Prince Igor), In the Steppes of Central Asia, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra/George Pretre (H.M.V. ASDM 509 (stereo))

A worthy record. Well-worn numbers but played with that right amount of punch and drive, so necessary but so often lacking. The separation between sections and the definition of particular instruments is remarkable. Notice in the Capriccio Espagnol how vivid the orchestral colouring is—its not what Rimsky-Korsakov composed, rather, the way it is performed that counts.

The Night on the Bare Mountain is pushed and not up to the taut standard of the others. Highly commended. But watch out for the (stereo) cover which reads: "this record is playable on mono or stereo equipment!"

WAGNER: Rheingold: Entrance of the Gods, Walkure: Ride of the Valkyries, Siegfried: Forest Murmurs, Goetterdaemmerung: Rhine Journey, Tannhauser: Prelude Act III, Parsifal: Prelude. Philharmonia Orchestra/Otto Klemperer Columbia 33MCX 1820 SAXM 2464.

Well! Through sheer coincidence, I have this issue three Wagner discs up for discussion. The first two can be recommended to persons who have a penchant for accumulating anything to do with the composer: the last named

(Wesendock Lieder) is considered open slather. 'Klemperer conducts more Wagner' is the title of the first essay. Random excerpts from six operas, mercilessly abbreviated. The Ride of the Valkyries for instance, stops in mid-air; Siegfried's Journey is given a commuter-conscious reading. And of course, there is no vocal line. The performances are average, on a level well below the complete—complementary—Decca recordings. Excerpts of such a nature make for very difficult listening.

WAGNER: Tannhauser: Overture, Walkure: Ride of the Valkyries, Lohengrin: Prelude Act I, Tristan und Isolde: Prelude and Liebestod, Goetterdaemmerung: Funeral March. Orchestra du Theatre National de l'Opera/Pierre Dervaux H.M.V. MXLP 20011.

Much the same schema as that just reviewed. Truncated items, lacking the vocal parts. With one or two advantages over the Klemperer disc. Firstly, this is some twelve shillings cheaper to buy; secondly, the interpretations are cleaner and follow the lines as scored closer (notice in the Ride); thirdly, Dervaux has chosen his excerpts wisely—selecting those that stand up to concert rendition, and fourthly, the recording—there is no stereo—is very good. How I hate to hear the brass muted, and smothered by an eiderdown of strings! All in all, this record is well worth its (meagre) price.

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Catholic View Of Contraception

Recently a Catholic correspondent in a London weekly ended his letter to the editor by claiming that it was only a matter of time before the Church modified its teaching on contraception and allowed the use of the new contraceptive pill.

"The Church," he wrote, "has had to modify its attitudes and teaching in the light of scientific discoveries (Galileo, Evolution and Genesis, Freud, etc.) or even as a result of increased social consciousness (slavery, the death penalty, the nuclear bomb), and in good time she will be obliged to reinterpret the divine truths in the light of the population explosion." And, of course, as every schoolboy knows, very much the same view has also been advanced by Dr. John Rock in his recent book, "The Time Has Come".

A few years ago Catholics expressing these sorts of views would have been judged to be crackpots or worse, but it is a fact that they now, for good or bad, represent a fairly substantial body of Catholic opinion, even if it is still very much a minority opinion. I know personally of a number of educated Catholics who seriously think that the Church will in time relax its ban on contraception and allow, for instance, the use of Dr. Rock's pill.

And apart from these Catholics, there is a good number of others who are honestly bewildered and uncertain about the whole business of contraception. If the Dutch bishops do not feel sure about the morality of the pill, how can the lay sheep be confident of where they stand? Catholics, in fact, are almost the only Christians now who oppose contraception on strictly moral grounds, and they find themselves increasingly out on a limb with the great weight of public opinion against them.

More and more the Catholic position seems to the outsider to be an eccentric sectarian fetish rather like the vegetarianism of the Seventh Day Adventists or the refusal of blood transfusions by the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Criminal

Even more damagingly, the Catholic position has been made to appear by the neo-Malthusians as irresponsible and criminal, in that (so they say) it stands in the way of real alleviation of the problems caused by population growth in underdeveloped countries. Just recently, the Family Planning Association of Great Britain announced ominously that "civilisation could no longer afford the luxury of large families."

This article was published in the January, 1964, issue of the Melbourne "Catholic Worker" under the title "The Pills and Responsible Parenthood".

We reprint it here because many readers have asked for some moral comment on contraception. We feel that the article makes a number of worthwhile comments on the subject, and would welcome any letter or articles from students or staff on this or related matters.

More and more, then, the Catholic feels isolated and eccentric over this whole question of contraception.

At the same time, unfortunately, the old traditional Catholic arguments against contraception seem suddenly to have lost a good deal of their point and plausibility. The old argument was that the natural end of the sexual act was the procreation of new life, and that any deliberate and systematic frustration of this end was "unnatural" and therefore sinful.

But now the Catholic finds his pastors and masters talking about "responsible parenthood" and enthusiastically promoting the "rhythm" method of birth-prevention, not as something to be tolerated, but almost as a good and necessary means for "responsible parenthood."

Of course, the distinction is made that the "rhythm" method is a "natural" means of birth-prevention, whereas the use of contraceptive devices is an artificial and "unnatural" means; but all the same it is true that the admission of the "rhythm" method as licit has made the Catholic position on contraception much less clear-cut than it was.

The admission of the "rhythm" method implies that it is not birth prevention or birth-regulation as such that is wrong (in the sense of deliberately and systematically using the sexual act in such a way that its "natural function" is not fulfilled), but that it is certain means of birth prevention that are wrong.

As a consequence, the difference between the Catholic position and what we might call the contraceptionist position has tended more and more to appear as a difference over means and techniques, instead of being a difference over the whole purpose of sex and marriage, indeed a difference over competing views of human life. In this perspective the difference between the two positions can be made to look very thin and "casuistical"; so, the Catholic position comes to mean that the use of any mechanical device, such as a

contraceptive sheath, is deemed to be "unnatural" and so morally wrong, while the deliberate restriction of intercourse to the few sterile days each month when it is known that the woman cannot conceive is deemed to be "natural" and so morally licit and good.

"Rhythm" Method

Thus, a couple using contraceptive devices to space a family of eight children (to cite an actual case I know of) would be morally blameworthy, while a Catholic couple using the "rhythm" method to have a family of two children would be morally praiseworthy.

Within this context, then, the difference between the two points of view does not look to be very large or very crucial, and Dr. Rock's contraceptive pill looks at first sight as though it were just what the doctor ordered to bridge the gap between the two and enable us, so to speak, to have our cake and eat it. I mean that from one point of view the pill is an artificial device, but from another point of view it is as "natural" as the "rhythm" method itself.

It is easy to see how the argument goes: If steroids can be licitly used to establish menstrual cycles of uniform length (so as to allow "natural" birth-prevention by the

use of the contraceptive pill is "unnatural" and so just as immoral as the use of any other contraceptive device. Thus, one critic alleges that Rock's argument is that "because the secretion of progesterone after ovulation prevents a further ovum from being released, to give progesterone before ovulation, so as to prevent the release of an ovum is physiological."

"But the precise reason for the secretion of progesterone is to secure the necessary conditions for the development of the ovum. To use it to prevent the release of any ovum is not physiological, and his assertion that it is will be a source of confusion to the non-technical reader. A physiological substance is being used, but in a non-physiological way."

This critic's argument itself, one may think, will also be confusing to the non-technical reader, for it seems to make the whole Catholic morality about contraception depend upon esoteric details of the sexual plumbing.

There is surely something wrong somewhere when, to work out a matter of fundamental morals, one would need to have undergone a course in advanced physiology (pure and applied). And it is surely no wonder that many intelligent non-Catholics should find the Catholic position on contraception interpreted in this crude mechanical way so utterly weird.

I have drawn out these views at some length, not because I hold any brief for them, but rather because teasing out the consequences of this whole way of looking at contraception—shared by both Dr. Rock and his critics—shows up its poverty very vividly. Not only is it a view based upon a simple-minded and arbitrary use of "natural" and "unnatural," but it is also a sub-Christian view; that is, it assumes that any reference to the Christian "world view" or to the Christian view of man is quite irrelevant to the whole question of the morality of contraception.

Instead, the morality of contraception comes to depend on physiological facts about the precise reason for the secretion of progesterone.

As I put it before, it makes the difference between the Catholic and the contraceptionist merely one of techniques, instead of a difference over the whole purpose of human life and sex as part of it. And yet surely it ought to be obvious (at least to a Catholic) that it is only within the context of the Christian view of man, taken in its full and complete meaning, that we can get a right and proper view of contraception.

In the last resort, the only sufficient and conclusive argument against contraception is nothing less than the whole Christian "argument." The present crisis over contraception has,

"rhythm" method), why cannot they be used to bring about temporary sterility in the female at will instead of simply having to wait for "nature" to do it? In other words, if temporary sterility in the woman is "natural," and if the artificial induction of temporary sterility is licit in certain cases (as for establishing uniform menstrual cycles), what is it that makes the artificial induction of temporary sterility for the purpose of preventing contraception illicit? Is it simply the intention for which it is used which makes it illicit?

Sexual Plumbing

Some of Dr. Rock's critics have argued that it is obvious that the

Ability Needed On Executive

(Political Editor)

In a few weeks' time nominations for positions on the executive of the Students' Association will be called. Each of these posts require students of ability and initiative to fill them, something not always achieved in the past. Last year we were fortunate in having a few people of calibre, and it would be valuable for the student body if the whole of the executive could carry their own weight in the coming period of office.

The elections are split into two sections, one at the end of this term when the PRESIDENT, SECRETARY and TREASURER are elected. The function of the Treasurer is fairly obvious, but it is certainly not easy. It is a responsible and important task which demands a good knowledge of accounting procedure and considerable astuteness.

The President is the keystone of the executive arch, as has been said of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

It is his duty to isolate the problems and issues facing the student body and see that they are tackled by the right people at the right time. He must be aware of current feeling in the student body, the university administration and in society and he must time his actions to meet feeling in these circles. Of course he must possess all the other abilities of a politician and an administrator.

The Secretary must handle minutiae and correspondence as well as keeping an eye on all committee activity of the executive for preparation of agendas. Both he and the President, as well as other executive members are in the interesting position of having their fingers on the student pulse.

Positions which will be filled at elections early next term are the Men's and Women's Vice-Presidents.

As their titular designations indicate, they deputise for the President. The Women's Vice President, who shall be a woman, is constitutionally provided for so as to ensure that that sex is represented. These students are usually given extra subcommittees to organise, for example this year the men's Vice President was chairman of the International Affairs Subcommittee and the Women's Vice President chaired the Education Subcommittee.

Other posts are: Capping Controller, whose activities seem hallowed by tradition. Ingenuity in the conception of frivolity would be an asset here in order to alleviate the conceptions of "Dominion" writers and other strange creatures that Victoria undergraduates are a dead lot.

Public Relations Officer; there is a danger that holders of this office will tend to mould the university to suit its desired image, but the activities of the past p.r.o.'s have shown that there is a lot of lying to be done between student and student, student and executive and student and society.

I believe, forced Catholics to recognise this unequivocally almost for the first time—it's an ill pill that blows no good.

EXTRAVAGANZA '64

The New Extrav!

The show is under way again, casting has been done and we're rolling. Working on a script, dug deep from the devilishly cunning mind of David Flude, and with a cast which contains quite a bit of talent—a welcome change—the Producer, Jeremy Agar is building up what promises to be a really first-rate show.

If at any time you hear asphyxiated groans like those of a mangled cow—don't worry it's only the singers practising their parts; if you hear a sound like a herd of wild Bull Elephants on heat never fear it's only the Male Ballet learning their steps and if as you lie in bed at night you think you can see the ghostly spectre of Cassius Clay or better still Christine Keeler or if four young men with hair all over their faces take you by the hand and say "We love you Yeah, Yeah Yeah don't phone for the Psyche Department. It's just that you've caught "Extravaganza", an Ancient Student disease that manifests itself around about Capping time every year.

You will be glad to hear that this disease has a cure. You simply go along to the Studdass Office a week or so before Capping and buy tickets for Extrav. It's simple, it's easy and all it will cost you is the price of a ticket at a Student concession. You will never have to worry again. In fact after a performance of Extravaganza, when you've seen what mighty messes the principal characters can get themselves into, you'll wonder why you ever worried about your small problems at all.

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Around The Campus

by El Crud

There is one thing certain at any tournament; Vic will put on shabby performances in every field, and thus it came to pass that at Palmerston North this Easter the ambassadors from Vic put on a show the peasants of the Manawatu will be a long time forgetting. I saw one game of basketball, in which we were completely overrun by Massey, and that was something. Basketball is a fiery game, with a ton of thudding femininity pounding around on asphalt, but I have a feeling the Vic girls had been to a party the night before.

According to Shot Boldt the whole Vic athletics team was on crutches and after a year on Weir food Osborne lacked stamina; I must admit though that he looked quite cute in his green tracksuit waving to his fan, Boldt. But of course Vic will not be remembered for their efforts in the official programme. It will be for other more strenuous, but less healthy pursuits that they will retain a place in the hearts of the young virgins of Palmerston North.

A contingent of noted Vic party-goers journeyed to Tournament but saw little of it. Billets were not arranged for them and so they camped under the trees outside Massey College, whereupon they were asked to leave by the warden who was told that he had "no show, spider" and was then invited to bring his wife and booze down and join in. They were evicted from several pubs and one was very hurt when asked his age.

Obviously, I cannot go into this in too much detail, but I might ask: who strangled the cat at a party? Who was pushed through a pub window? Who poured grog down the saxophone at the Ball? Who did a down-tro on the stage at the Ball? Who, in earthy Lawrentian terms tried to pick up stray motes in aptly named Broadway? Who fell from a moving car outside Massey College? Who had three meals in four days? Who invited a well-known young lady to reveal her most intimate secrets to the boys? Who missed out in the drinking horn from too much limbering up? Who put a collect call through to Tony Haas in Pahiatua, invited themselves to his party and then didn't turn up? Who thumbed a ride from a passing car and was then thrown out for swearing?

Perhaps as a final note I might ask whether there is any significance in the fact that five of the six men in the drinking team were ex-Weir? I am being taken to task elsewhere in this journal by Bob Laking for alleged plagiarism. Now, Bob is a friend of mine, if at times a rather arrogant and noisy one, and I should have thought he would have been delighted to see his efforts in this column. Like Lobachevsky I never plagiarise; I do research.

I seemed to have aroused the ire of many in the last issue. One noble-minded gentleman accused me of indecent suggestions. This I deny; any indecent suggestion lies perhaps in the mind of the reader. I admit that I often make use of the double entendre but the humour if any is above the umbilical. Despite good resolutions, I seem to have fallen foul of Vic A once again, and I would like to make clear that the girl who flaked at our party was not the same one that treated us to a dance. One has straight black hair, whilst the other had great Bardot-like tresses.

I have been asked to give the etymology of "El Crud". The Concise Oxford Dictionary does not give the meaning, but Tom Wilson (who has just returned from the wilderness of Hawke's Bay) claims that its meaning is rather vulgar; this may indeed be so, but as far as I am concerned the name was evolved in 1962. John Carlyon used to come into my room at Weir and draw pictures of the Saint over my books. The film El Cid was round about that time and I retaliated by drawing little pictures of a man on horseback and signed "El Crud". When Geoff Palmer asked me to write a column we were rather at a loss for a nom de plume.

In fact we were not sure what form the column should take. Throughout the holidays I made grandiose plans, wrote out things in long-hand and even checked the spelling and grammar. I read the Salient hand-out on how to write articles, but it was no use. I found it was best to just sit at a typewriter and bang away. The name "El Crud", with its connotations of hangovers, unshaven Sundays, seemed to fit the image that was to be portrayed. Few

people take the column seriously and I have a feeling that most of the pleasure people derive from it is from a feeling of superiority. It is sometimes unnerving to find out just who is reading it and also how difficult it is to keep your identity secret, because, let's face it, mine is not the type of image one likes to portray to the University authorities.

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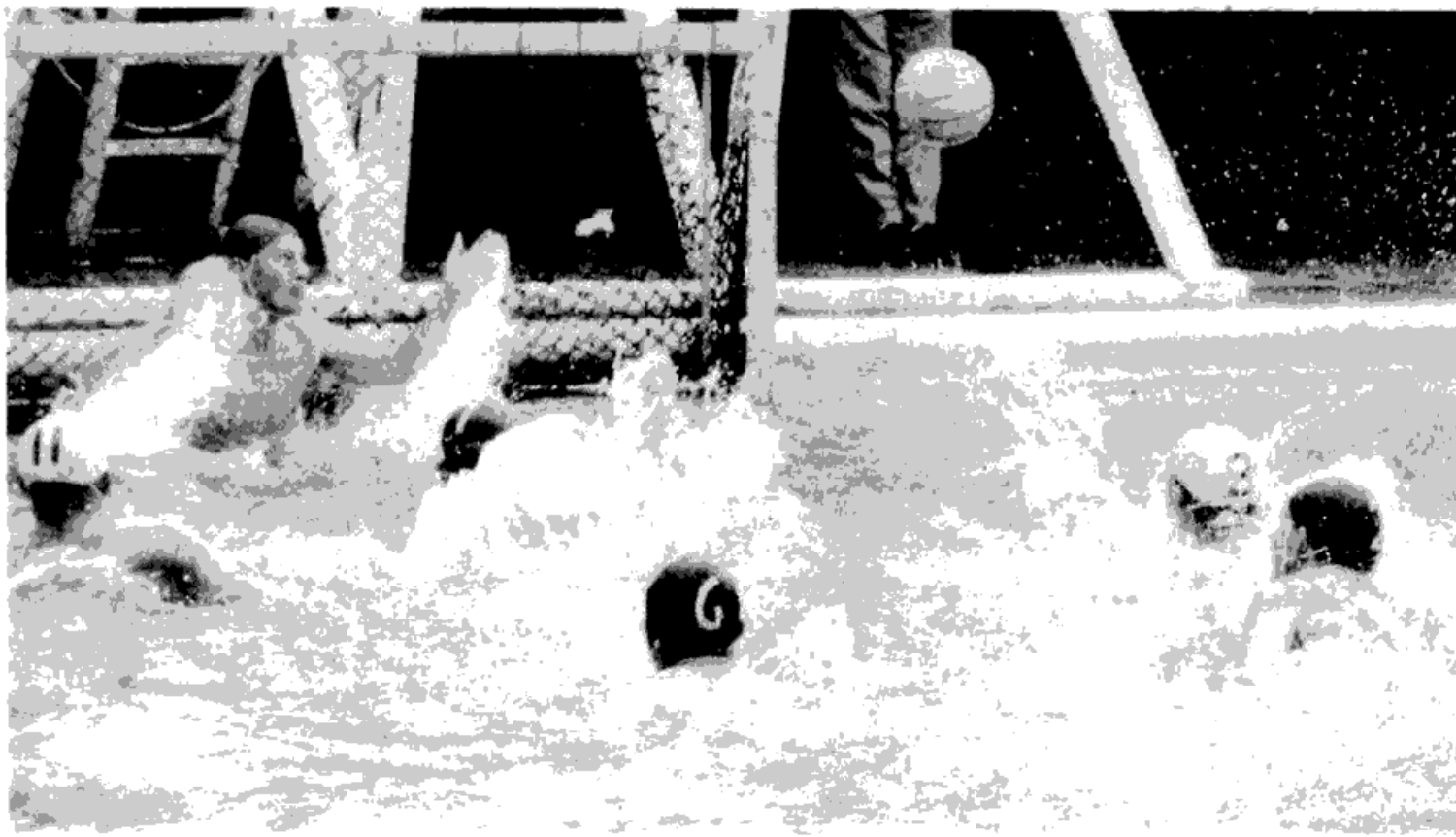
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Vic competes in water polo event.

This was held at Massey's own swimming pool, set in bush on the large park-like campus.

Tennis Laurels To Victoria

(News Editor)

Victoria left the Tournament tennis courts with all the honours this year.

In perfect weather, Victoria sliced into Lincoln with a six-match victory, and Otago fell for the same score. Otago's Thompson was beaten down after having a four-game lead, by John Souter's superior fitness and consistency; Souter had an 8-6, 6-4 victory in two sets.

The final round of the team's singles saw Auckland University as Victoria's next victim. Souter's experience beat Auckland's Brian Young in an even and interesting match. Young was winning the first set 5-3 on one occasion, but Souter's court experience came to his aid. He won the set 7-5 and the second went to Souter 8-6.

Victoria's Richard Hawkes had no trouble with Auckland's Farrell—6-2, 6-0, while N. McAllister beat R. Turner 6-4, 6-0, with somewhat less consistency. Both games of doubles in the teams matches were won by Victoria.

The final of the men's individual competition was played between John Souter and Richard Hawkes, both from Victoria. Previously Souter narrowly beat Graeme Boddy of Lincoln, in which game Boddy took the first set from Souter, forcing the latter into errors. He reached the final after closely defeating Johnson of Otago. Hawkes won easily against Thompson and Young.

Souter defeated Hawkes 6-3, 6-0, with ease in the final, much to everybody's surprise, as Hawkes had turned on the most polished performances during the Tournament. Souter pounded the ball at Hawkes' feet, took advantage of his weaker service and forced him into error.

Most of the Victoria women were put out before the semi-finals of the women's tennis. Miss Wright, Victoria's No. 1, gave Miss Cumberland a hard game, but lost 5-7, 4-6. In the final, Auckland beat Otago 6-2, 6-4, in a fairly one-sided game.

Basketball Blues

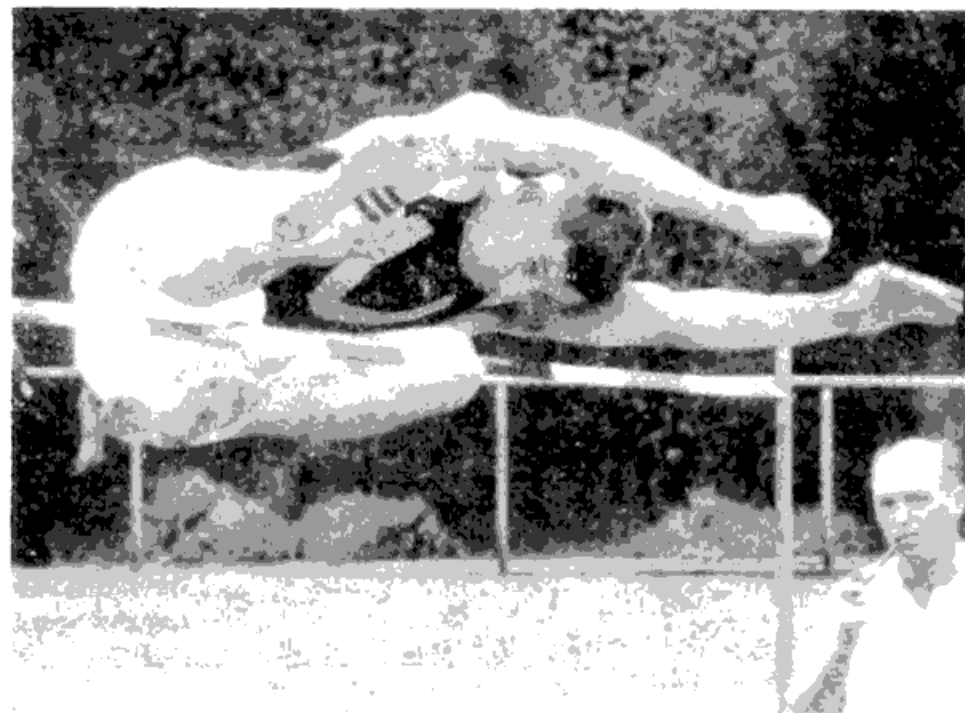
Women's Basketball: Victoria, in its first game, was beaten by Otago 33 to 7. An over-defensive game with a faulty, inaccurate attack, was Victoria's main trouble. 24 to 9 in Auckland's favour was the score in Victoria's next game, where the girls redeemed themselves by playing a much faster, more interesting game.

New Records

Thirteen University short course records were broken at Easter Tournament this year.

The outstanding feature of the carnival was the final of the 220 yards men's breaststroke where Tony Graham of Auckland broke the existing record by 13 secs. He created a new time of 2 mins. 42.4 secs., having previously won his heat in 2 mins. 50 secs. M. Hay of Lincoln was second in the final with a time of 2 mins. 56.4 secs., and Tom Cowdell of Massey was third.

Otago showed their superiority in swimming by winning ten of the nineteen events (including the diving).



Will he or won't he? High jump competitor in North Island/South Island Varsity Athletics match.

Canty Cleans Up Rowing

(N.Z.S.P.A.)

Canterbury won the Easter tournament rowing, taking all events in which they entered.

The events were held at Wanganui in perfect weather. The water was calm but an outgoing tide caused some difficulty. For the crews rowing next to the Aramoho bank there was no assistance from the current, but those in midstream were luckier.

The Ladies' Invitation Fours, a 3/4-mile event, were won by Auckland.

The Canterbury, Auckland and Victoria crews have had almost a season's experience for this race compared with Massey's four weeks. Otago's bid for a win failed but there were five boats in the race.

Canterbury had a win of about 2 1/2 lengths in the novice fours. Massey was placed next to the bank.

The N.Z.U. team contested and defeated the Wanganui Provincial eight. At the end of the 2000 metre race they were lengths ahead, giving a good indication of the strength of University rowing at the present time.

Results are as follows:

Ladies' Invitation Fours (3/4 mile): Auckland 1, Otago 2, Auckland 3.
Single Sculls (1 mile): Canterbury 1, Victoria 2.

Double Sculls (1 mile): Canterbury 1, Auckland 2, Otago 3.

College Fours (1 mile): Canterbury 1, Otago 2, Auckland 3, Massey 4.

Eights (2 miles): Canterbury 1, Victoria 2, Auckland 3, Otago 4, Massey 5.

Novice Fours (1 mile): Canterbury 1, Massey 2, Otago 3.

Auckland won the Easter Tournament yachting at Foxton this year in spite of not racing in the last two races.

The yachting is decided by taking a team's best four races. The Auckland team, who have won the New Zealand Junior Cherub Class Championship for the last two years, broke their mast in the fourth race and did not finish. They did not race in the fifth.

Vic Drinkers Under Table

(N.Z.S.P.A.)

The tournament drinking horn was held in the Cattle Pavilion at the Palmerston North Showgrounds.

Stands were provided for the three hundred people watching so they could get a clear view of the events. An electronic timing device, accurate to 1/100th of a second, was used for the individual drinks.

The first heat of the team race was between Massey and Otago. Massey won by one glass in the first drink but a redrink was called for on the grounds of excess spillage. Massey won the redrink in the time of 8.4secs.

The second heat was between Victoria and Auckland. Auckland showed themselves much superior and beat Victoria after one redrink in the time of 7.3secs.

Otago then drank against Canterbury. Canterbury won the first drink but there was too much spillage all round and they drank again. Otago won the second drink but they had too much spillage so another redrink was ordered. This Canterbury won in 10.0secs. (Otago 10.1.)

The time was close so yet another drink was ordered. In the end Otago came home the winner in 10.3 secs.

Massey and Victoria competed, the Massey team being encouraged by a haka of the appropriate nature. This drink was notable for the amount of redinking. Massey won the first and second drinks in the times of 6.6 and 7.5 secs. Victoria had excess spillage in the second drink so the glasses were filled for another drink. This Victoria won on the judges' ruling that Massey had caused excess spillage.

Victoria and Auckland drank in the final heat and Auckland won after one redrink. Their time was 7.8 secs.

Victoria met Auckland in the final, the first drink being won by Auckland in 6.8 secs., but declared null because of spillage.

In the redrink the Victoria numbers five and six drank almost simultaneously and so Auckland were declared the winners of the 1964 Easter Drinking Horn.

Cricket

Inconclusive

(N.Z.S.P.A.)

The cricket series at Easter Tournament ended in a draw between Victoria and Otago. Both teams secured three first innings wins and two draws.

The weather during the five days was fine but the last three days were marred by strong gusty winds. This made conditions difficult for the bowlers. All wickets were of a reasonably high standard but a little slow, giving little assistance to the bowlers.

Fast scoring was needed for a decision so most batsmen were well up with the clock. In most games there were over 100 runs on the board by lunch.

Three centuries were scored—by Hughes (Auckland)—111 not out against Lincoln—Collidge (Auckland)—115 against Otago—Hutchinson (Massey)—108 against Auckland.

Victoria were unlucky to lose their slow bowler Edward after the first two games. He had taken 11 wickets for 71 runs but was declared ineligible to play in the Tournament.

Results: Monday: Massey drew against Auckland (Massey 217 for 5 decl., Auckland 135 for 9 at stumps), Otago a first innings win against Canterbury. Victoria outright win over Lincoln.

Thursday: Victoria beat Massey on the first innings, Otago beat Lincoln on the first innings (Otago 208 for 9 decl., Lincoln 93), and Canterbury drew with Auckland (Cant. 223 for 6 decl., Auckland 111 for 5).

Saturday: Auckland and Otago drew. Canterbury and Victoria drew, and Lincoln beat Massey on the first innings.

Monday: Lincoln a first innings win over Auckland, Canterbury beat Massey on the first innings and Otago and Victoria drew.

Tuesday: Victoria, Canterbury and Otago all had first innings wins against Auckland, Lincoln and Massey.



Competitor in the Men's Shot Put takes part in the North Island/South Island Universities Athletics Competition.

Tournament At A Glance

	AU	MU	VUW	L	CU	OU
Cricket			6		2	6
Athletic—Men	8				2	4
Women	4				2	8
Yachting	8				4	2
Rowing	4	1			8	1
Basketball	4				2	8
Shooting			2		8	4
Water Polo	3		3			8
Swimming	4				2	8
Tennis	3		3			8
Total	36	3	12		34	55
Place	2				3	1