A PETITION IS IGNORED
When the graduands and undergrads of V.U.C. heard of the Council's announcement of capping in C.3. there was great indignation among the students. On Monday a petition was organized and signatures on the petition numbered over two-thirds of the graduands, and in the half-hour before the petition was handed in some two hundred signatures of undergraduates supporting the graduands.
This support was given freely to protest against the Council's arbitrary action. At five o'clock a deputation led by Sir Thomas Hunter. The result. as might have been expected, was a refusal to cede. This attitude met with the disapproval of the large majority of the students.
The-Chairman. V.U.C. Council.

The result. as might have been expected, was a refusal to cede. This attitude met with the disapproval of the large majority of the students.

Dear Sir,

The undersigned strongly protest on the following grounds, against the Council's decision to hold a graduation ceremony in room C.3.

We have been offered no valid reason why the ceremony should be held under conditions where ceremonial dignity is impossible.

We feel that this is the only public function held by the College as a whole which confine it to a remote and inaccessable corner of the College.

Owing to the inaccessibility and to the severe restriction of space. many of those who particularly desire to attend, will be excluded.

Moreover, considerable disappointment will be experienced if the ceremony is held in the manner proposed by the numerous graduands now in the forces who have been granted special leave for the occasion.

We feel that unless a suitable alternative is substituted there is little incentive for us to attend. We are,

The 1942 Graduands.

CAPPING BALL
Capping Ball at the Majestic Cabaret, and it was pretty bright. The place was full, and full of people. In the best of spirits—teaching staff and students, social butterflies and confirmed swotters gracefully intermingled. The orchestra was up to standard, and certainly gave all we could take in a military two-step. There were a lot of uniforms at the dance, but though the war is on it did not cloud those few hours' fun, which always was there (about three hundred and seventy) will look back on with pleasure.

Editorial
We are not so very much surprised that the Council chose to ignore the representations of its only responsible member.

Nor are we very much taken aback by the Council's studied inattention to the wishes of the Students' Association and to the wishes of the all graduands.

And we can hardly say that we are astonished at the trivial, farcical, and always contradictory, explanations which those Council members approached gave for the decision to abandon Capping this year in the Town Hall.

We haven't become heated either at being accused of "rebellion," of "subversion," of "action which savours very much like the setting up of a dictatorship."

Interesting and delightful as these things are in revealing the attitude of mind of some of our intellectual Bourbons, we have, over the years, come to expect them and, because there is no help for it to resign ourselves to them.

No, what saddens us is this. An opportunity has been missed which will not come again.

Surely, surely, of all the years that we've had capping, this year demanded a dignified public ceremony.

Our graduands, many of them soldiers, all of them having won their degrees under conditions infinitely more difficult than any of their predecessors, had the right to expect it.

But, above all, such a ceremony was necessary to correct any impression that the University is a bystander in this war.

To reassert that it is we, above all other sections of the community, whose clear and plain duty it is to direct all our actions and all our thoughts to the destruction of Fascism which, by its very nature, is the mortal enemy of all the humanities, of all true science.

To show how deeply we feel, indeed, that the whole struggle is to determine no less, whether or not, free universities in a free society shall go on.

And again, because there are no academic ceremonies this year at Prague, at Belgrade, at Cracow, at Louvain, at Kiev, wasn't it all the more imperative that there should have been one here—in the Capital of one of civilisation's last bastions? Because over so much of the world the best hearts are broken, and the wisest voices are silenced, wasn't it all the more necessary that there should have been a ringing statement in defiance of that independence of the mind, that deep-felt consciousness of the essential dignity of the human spirit, for which our soldiers, sailors, and airmen, who were students here and will be students here again, and our academic friends everywhere, struggled?

Had the Capping ceremony this year been such a demonstration it would have been a trumpet call in the fight.

We are hurt and we are worried that it was not.

CAPPING
The Capping ceremony held in C.3 was carried out with as much dignity as was possible in such surroundings. In contrast to the Council's arbitrary behaviour earlier in the week, the students behaved excellently, despite the indignity felt for those students who were to be capped. The rising times of Nazis gave a feeling of superiority to the parents, friends, and students over the small figures of the hardly-thought-of Council.

The names of the students were called out and they passed by the Vice-Chancellor, the people watching could notice the military uniforms among the graduates and heard lists of students unable to attend because they were on war-work or in the Army. The first graduates on the Public Administration received their diplomas, and Sir Thomas dwelt on this in his address.

Should We Hate the Germans?
D. N. Pratt, M.P.

The short answer to the question contained in the title is, of course: No, we should hate the Nazis.

What are the principles that underlie the problem? The first is, surely, that any people who have faith in the international working-class, and both expect help from and offer help to the German working-class. As one of the Soviet watchwords for the 24th anniversary of the Revolution put it: "Greetings to the German people wearing under the yoke of Hitler's blackguard bands. We wish them victory over blood-thirsty Hitler."

The second principle is that, whilst we know that in the long run we can only drive out Fascism, i.e. capitalism, we must also deal with the immediate problems of the Germans who have shown both at home and on Soviet soil that they are not fit to be at large in a civilised world. For these there must be no mercy; they will only be safe in captivity, and any of them who are alive after the end of the war must go into captivity.

Write for "ROSTRUM"
UNIVERSITIES AND ANTI-FASCISM

THE MAYOR AND THE TRUTH

We asked them what they thought of the part that the University was playing in the struggle against Fascism. We asked them if they must be converted completely, not often called us a menace and a festering hotbed of Communism. Armed with a report of his speech, we asked His Worship the Mayor, Mr. T. C. A. Hislop, whether his remarks to the Royal Society of St. George could be applied to our own countrymen, and perhaps traced to the influence of our College, among other things.

NO NEWS VALUE

"That's got no news value," said "Truth," when we produced a copy of the famous "Manifesto." We replied that we regarded "Truth" as potential "news" for our own paper, and that we only wanted to read the Manifesto to start a discussion. The interview with "Truth" developed. Several members of "Truth"s staff and members of "Salient" staff. For this reason we cannot guarantee that our report exactly represents the policy of the paper.

For the first time in history, "Truth" disclaimed any uneasy feeling at having to say anything about the present King's home feeling at Victoria. What had been said in the past, however, was left to stand. While it was admitted that our past editorial remarks had lacked objectivity, it was pointed out that the same might be said about College completely. Not only "Truth" was guilty of exaggeration for effect. The outlook of the paper, we were told, might be likened to that of Winston Churchill when he admired Russia's stand for freedom without approving of her system of government.

DEMOCRACY

"Humanity is on the march in this war," said "Truth," and the barriers to full political and economic democracy will be finally broken down.

We were in accord with this pious hope, but it seemed to us that "Truth" was taking the ease with which the change-over would take place.

"Truth" agreed that no solicitude for the future of democracy had been shown by the giant industrial corporations of the United States which had sabotaged the war effort by keeping to their cartel arrangements with German firms. Although it was admitted that the holders of economic power would not lightly surrender, "Truth" believed that the hope for the future lay in British methods of compromise and non-violent revolution.

"If you University students should threaten the British method of progress, by extravagant enthusiasm for Russian methods of government, we would not apologise for denouncing you."

"On the other hand, we have never suggested that the University and its students were not playing a valuable part in the life of the community and in the future of the world."

To sum up, we can say that "Truth" admires Russia's heroic stand against Fascism, but is not sure that she has been successful in founding a new civilization.

ST. GEORGE

"I am taking nothing back. 'The Dominion' will give you my final word on the subject," declared Mr. Hislop. "If you want to know anything more, read Sir Keith Murdoch in 'The Times' of December, 1941."

"Salient" resolved to try another tack.

"The Guards are jolly good fellows," said Mr. Hislop, in reply to a suggestion that they of the 2nd Echelon had been unfavourably imputed by London. "They are a bit rougher than the British Army and in London."

"The better class of people in Britian, the upper class, do not look down on Colonials. They gave our troops, both in the last war and in this, a better time than they had in the war. It applies to British and to the British Army."

Mr. Hislop feels that there are tans of sentiment in Australia and New Zealand represented the monied class, and reflected its views; now there was no feeling of that sort.

We gave Mr. Canham a copy of the "Salient" and he appreciated it. The men on the wharves are trying to fight Fascism and to do the sort of work they appreciated. Five years ago they had protested against the sending of scrap-metal to the United States, but after the Labour movement from the I.W.W. days till now, it is anti-Fascist, like the students.

As far as young students being Reds and changing their tone later—well, there were always scabs, and he wouldn't talk about human nature, but rather about the circumstances, both economic and social. A man who, from his twenties till fifty years later, has stood by the Labour movement, told us this: "If you students stand by your beliefs as I have mine, you will do a lot for the good of the workers."

THE COMMUNIST VIEWPOINT

Dr. Harold Silverstone, graduate of the Universities of New Zealand and Edinburgh, said that as one who had spent seven years of his life as a university student he felt a keen interest in the role of the universities in this most fateful of all wars.

"In Nazi Germany," said Dr. Silverstone, "universities are made to serve only two purposes: first, as centres for the teaching and spread of the so-called National Socialist ideology of German superiority; second, to prepare for war by furthering research in the area of destruction as well as in training personnel for the handling of subjugated populations."

"In New Zealand, as in the other countries opposed to Nazism, the university is more to do with the training of public men—not art for art's sake—"art for art's sake" must be the guiding principle. It is my opinion that university students have three things to do to-day:

"They must uphold the cultural standards of our people against the inroads of Fascism. They must study hard to complete their courses as soon as possible and become as proficient as possible in their work—this both for the purpose of war and for the work of reconstruction after it is won. They must emerge themselves completely as young men in the national war effort, whether as present or future soldiers or in the ordi

SCIENCE UNDER FASCISM

It is nonsense to say that Fascism destroys science. What Fascism does is something much more terrible for mankind: it perverts science to the service of the greatest evil; it uses science against mankind, it degrades the scientists to the level of a clever beast. Only if it is possible to give the people the power to change the strength and power of Fascism and the strenuous efforts required from us in our efforts to overthrow it. It is no accident that the only country which is winning against Fascism at present is the Soviet Union, does not of enemy hands to the present Fascist strength still left to German Fascism, and to call on everyone who loves freedom to give his best in the common effort to crush and annihilate German Fascism."

"Cello Recital"

On April 28th, Maree Vandervoort, accompanied by Norah Gray, gave a "Cello Recital in the College Music Room.

It is seldom that we have the opportunity of hearing such fine talent and it is to be regretted that there were so few students among the large audience. Sonatas by Brevat, Bach and Schubert interspersed by lighter piece made up a well-balanced programme. The proceeds were given to the Student-Parcel Fund.

A NICE TRAMP

The V.U.C. Tramping Club would have gone to Cone. Saddle Hut last Saturday, but for the rain. So, at Cone Saddle, if it hadn't been raining and the V.U.C. Tramping Club had a picnic instead, we guess. They kicked out at Cone Saddle, if it hadn't been raining and the V.U.C. Tramping Club went back to Tauntoninaiu.
Film Review

WITHOUT PARALLEL

The film "Pimpemlal Smith" has been reviewed as "a piece of honest huck prow." Although some critics praised Professor Smith as portraying an ordinary cultured Englishman, one can hardly regard the classic opera "Von Raum as a serious portrait of a Nazi. Nor does it seem to share the common traits of the English character can be summed up as a silent and dignified man, devoid of a sense of humour and culture—that is, a Nazi. An absent-minded Professor Smith, the jabberwocky lover of Aphrodite in Macbeth and the node, who is so distressed by the presence of women in the dormitory. It is an able man with an amazing ability to snuff distinguishable men from concentration camps.

Nevertheless, there is an honest purpose behind this contrast of civilization and barbarism, and "Pimpenral Smith" has won the admiration of a country which can turn out such an unworkman-like man.

The contrast between civilized ways of life and national barbarity of Nazi Germany is brought out in the film "49th Parallel," which really is, as the posters shout, a film about the Parallel.

Professor Smith was a hero, as a silent one, as is the English way. "49th Parallel" is indeed the Nazi in a heroic role. It does arouse our sympathy for them. Yet we cannot forget that the hidden man is the result of a hunt and a cold-blooded murder innocent of the innocent people.

The theme is announced by skilful photographic montage of the opening scenes and the "49th Parallel" —a line drawn on a map—sealed by a handshake—the "not-unavailable front"—on a hunting world.

U-boat 37, hiding in Hudson Bay, is sunk by the R.C.A.F., and the only survivors are six men in a landing party, including Lieutenant Hirth. The six begin a trek to the Yankee border through a country steepled in the ways of peace and freedom. They are filled with a consciousness of their mission as the brave vanguard of Hitler's millions. Their mission, to be a little unkind, is to provide situations in which the official stars Oliver, Walbrook, Bruce McGill, Lewis, and the Little Nigger Boys play out the story with a fair degree of realism. The setting, "the Railroad Track" and about a girl who would dance with the boy what he bought.

There were other toasts to the Executive and such worthy people, dealt with seriously in the main, though with the notable exception of the celebrated, "The Toast of the Century," which had a toast in honour, was memorable.

Debate

"That there can be no sound post-war reconstruction without the abdication of Christian principles." This bold and forthright statement was made by Mr. O'Connor and seconded by Miss O'Connor. The opposition consisted of Mr. Mather and Mr. Hannah. The speakers on both sides have been the most of their subject, and this fact was brought out by the numerous speakers from the floor. The Christian speakers' plea for a wonderful era comparable with the middle ages, prior to the Reformation, failed to impress the audience, and the debate's success could be measured mainly in the number of new and promising speakers, who were likely to be worthy of our pages:

"I admit that I'm, a bit septic about Russia."

"Blessed are the meek"—there's been too many meek for us.

The speaker suggested that Christianity should be added to Communism to make it respectable. Also the following phrase was introduced: "We refer to "Our Lord," causing the ripples to stir: Mr. Winchester, "... God bless him."

The debate was provocative and well-conducted, and the debate was lost.

The R.A.F. summed up at the end, before giving judgment, advocating more moderation. He delivered the order: Miss Bell, Mr. Newell, Mr. Winchester, Mr. Witten, Mr. Hannah, Mr. Brendon O'Connor.

Undergraduates at Supper

This was really very good. It was an example of real student co-operation and solidarity. The main work was shorn of the work of the student Morale, or should mean.

Duty to our Public. The public for whom we present Extravaganza is largely our own public. They always come to see our shows because they want to, and they always would. They will be the last to condemn our abandonment of the evening. In fact, many of them would (very justly) punish us if we did not give them support.

Funds for the War Effort—With price increases the conditions at a normal good, Extravaganza is not outstandingly successful as a money-raising concern. If the profits accruing under the present arrangements (such as cash labour and advertising) were large enough to justify the amount spent.

There were other toasts to the Executive and such worthy people, dealt with seriously in the main, though with the notable exception of the celebrated, "The Toast of the Century," which had a toast in honour, was memorable.

Paris Students, 194?

Students in Paris carried through the street, a banner with one word of support for the students of Paris (dix gaulois). "For: many stu-

December 3

General Resolution of the Labour Federation of Great Britain.

(Carried unanimously.)

"This Conference of the University Labour Federation meets at a time when the forces of the world are in full swing, and in the common front against the Fascist aggressors. The superlative achievements of the Red Army and the Soviet people in throwing back the Nazi invaders give us inspiration unprecedented, and that the possibility of advance to Socialism.

"Nationally and internationally it is our task to strengthen this unity and to oppose any attempts to break up or to falsify the ties of friendship, our full and sincere support of the Nazi invaders. At the same time, there is no place in the political and literary life of our country for those who do not wish to co-operate to the utmost with our victory. This is a condition not only of survival but of growth.

"The Government of Great Britain is the government of the people, and its policy is the policy of the people. It is the duty of every citizen to support the Government in its policy of war and to work towards the establishment of a new social order.

"This Conference of the University Labour Federation has resolved to give the fullest possible support to the Government of Great Britain in its war effort, and to work towards the establishment of a new social order, which shall be based on the principles of freedom, democracy, and international cooperation."

December 3

Paris Students, 194?

Students in Paris carried through the street, a banner with one word of support for the students of Paris (dix gaulois). "For: many stu-

Patrick Macaskill
SALIENT

FOOTBALL

In marked contrast to the wonderful enthusiasm that all teams last year club spirit this season is bad. Attendance at practice has been inconsequential and the chief offenders are, as usual, from Weir House. A variety of troops has dwindled off for certain gentlemen to absent themselves not only from practice but even from their teams on Saturdays. One child from Weir, finding the weather somewhat inclement, saw fit to withdraw himself from the Seniors without notifying anyone. He had been privileged to carry on that great tradition set down by Wavering victors of past year—Siddeley, Jackson, Mackay, Baru, Eastwood—and that was how he fulfilled it!

Far be it from the Football Club to force the children of the neighborhood away from whatever puerile itersions they deem meet to occupy themselves with on Saturdays, but a special General Meeting of the Club will be held in the Gym, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, at 217 St., when the whole question will be reviewed.

Before the War this Club had eight teams, now reduced to three. But we shall carry on because we have promised those left us we shall.

If you want Rugby we'll give it to you: but if you intend to act the infamously remiss taken back by the team up from the Committee AND GET OUT! WE DON'T WANT YOU!

O.V.C.

Two Colleges' S.C.M. Meet

In a time of war it is very important that every person should be constantly thinking and re-thinking out his whole position in regard to everyday problems and their relation to the time to come and the individual. The fact, therefore, that 25 members of the Victoria and Canterbury Student Christian Movements met together at Cashmore Hills School for a week during the holidays to decide on the relevance of God and the World, assumes even greater importance than it would usually, in view of the fact that the next meeting may only be held under conditions of Japanese aggression. Leading speakers were Mr. Leicester Webb, leader writer for the Christchurch “Press,” Mr. Keys, Vocational Guidance Officer, Christchurch, Rev. Merlin Davies, Canterbury College chaplain, and the Rev. Frank Engel of the N.Z.C.M. The dominating note was that students in New Zealand, at present passing through a period of preparation for Christian action when the opportunity revives. To try to carry on this thought and relate it to the basis of a Christian faith, a series of study circle activities were held this activity, details of which will be posted on the notice board, on Christian doctrine. The basis of this creed will be taken as the basis and all those students who are interested, and members of Bible Classes, are invited to attend.

—W.H.N.

DEBATE ON FRIDAY

Motion: “That this house denies that New Zealand is a civilized country.”

Mover: Miss Bell

Opponent: Miss Mackenzie

Judge: Mr. Smiths

8.00 p.m. The Gym

SALIENT

TO-DAY

Ten years ago the German people began to realize fully what fascism really meant. For nine years the Nazis have held power over the German people, yet opposition to them has been alive and well in their ranks. That is why Hitler is being forced to withdraw some of his most needed troops from the Eastern Front and to begin the internal use of Germany. This underground movement remains alive and well in the country. Because

NINE YEARS OF FASCISM HAS MEANT

For the Emperor

Profits in all important industries have increased four, five, and even six times, since Hitler came to power.

Krupp’s profits in 1932 were 15,000,000 marks, and in 1937 were 1,000,000,000 marks.

The Dresdner Bank received 1,100,000 marks salary a year each.

Profits on one ton of coal rose from 4 pfennig in 1932 to 33 pfennigs in 1937.

For the Workers

“A marked decrease has taken place in the sphere of wages to an even greater extent during the past two years” (“Frankfurt Zeitung,” 1936).

“We hereby give you notice to terminate your working agreement with us by April 10th, and we offer you further employment from that date under conditions apart from a reduction of 15 per cent. in wages and hours” (Notice in United Metal Works, Hamburg, April, 1936).

In the Ruhr coal mine average earnings per shift in 1929 was 8.50 marks, in 1937 was 7.33 marks.

For the Middle Class

In the year 1936-1937 the number of small workshops declined by 50,000 (German statistics).

In the same year the number of retail stores declined all over the country; in Brandenburg they fell from 55,932 to 41,945. Percentage of credit given by large banks to small concerns—26 per cent. in 1936; 21 per cent. in 1937.

For the Students

Between 1932 and 1937 the number of students declined by 578 per cent.

The number of women students is limited to 10 per cent. of total.

“Teachers shall be trained only in the art of teaching, but in the art of war” (Rust, Nazi Minister of Education).

FASCISM DESTROYS FREE UNIVERSITIES

In every country because it cannot tolerate independent thought and free expression of opinion which are part of a University. Because the Nazis realises that the Universities will become centres of opposition. That is why the Universities of Warsaw, of Cracow, of Prague, of Belgrade have been closed down. That’s why in this country.

UNIVERSITIES CAN HELP DEFEAT FASCISM

Because they, by their existence, oppose Hitler and all he stands for; because they can become centres of opposition to Fascism; because the students can take the lead in anti-fascist propaganda and activities.

But Hitler succeeded because his enemies were divided. If we want to defeat Hitler, WE MUST BE UNITED

WHO BURNED THE REICHSTAG?

That was the question which everybody was asking each other nine years ago. Several arrests were made, but everybody outside Germany knew that the real criminals were

THE NAZIS!

Because they needed an act of provocation as an excuse for suppressing their opponents.

Because they had lost two million votes in the previous election.

Because opposition to them was growing every day.

Because they feared a legal election.

WHO SUPPORTED THEM?

Thyssen: “I personally gave one million marks to the Nazi Party” (“I Paid Hitler”)

Krupp: Armaments king and keen supporter of Hitler from 1932.

Kirdorf: President of the Steel Trust, member of the Nazi Party since 1937.

Schacht: Director of Reichsbank, who “has worked consistently for us” (Goebbels, 1932).

AND ALL BIG BUSINESS MEN! who used Hitler and the Nazis as a cover in order to make sure of their own profits, and were prepared to finance them as a bulwark against Socialism. It was only after Hitler had won the support of these people that he was able to make any big advances.

WHY WAS THE OPPOSITION WEAK?

Why, when the total number of members and votes of the Social Communist Parties was greater than the Nazis, and powerful Trade Unions existed, was it possible for all this to be allowed to happen?

Because PROGRESSIVE PARTIES WERE DIVIDED!

Yet, even so, the Nazis realized that the power of the militant workers was growing, they would not be able to win and hold power without using force. They used the burning of the Reichstag to start A REIGN OF TERROR

which sent thousands to concentration camps, which ended in speech and thought in Germany, and which has been going on now for nine years. Issued by University Labour Federation, Cambridge (Eng.).

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Write for “ROSTRUM” Contributions in by June 15th