£1,050 Against Fascism

Exec Carries On

Biggest decision at Executive meeting last Thursday was to invest £1,000 (from the Building Fund) in Liberty Loan. Another £50 (from S.A. funds and representing a twelfth of our income) goes to the Patriotic Fund. And so the Executive (Douglas Maymon, Morry Boyd, Dave Cohen, Waffo Rosenberg, Jim Winchester, Phil Taylor, Huddy Williamson, Janet Fogly, Shirley Suth, Anneichelbaum, and Osm Creed) carries on. Next, Patriotic activity may be Procession and “Cupcake.” Vance Henderson, Warren Johnson, and Jim Winchester are tackling it.

Wives of the Staff have offered cooperation with Social functions. Mrs. Parker and her committee have thanked us for this generous gesture which has all the makings of something rather good, Exec. members say.

The Catholic Students’ Guild is the Association’s latest affiliate.

Mrs. Algirds has kindly offered the Association a picture of Jack, best known and best loved of all V.U.C. students.

N.Z.U.S.A.’s decision to cancel University Blues for the duration was challenged by Messrs. Ives and Bonda, deputes from the Hockey Club. Bruce said that both Swimming and Basketball Clubs were behind him.Orm Creed reported the Football Club of the same mind and pointed out on behalf of the N.Z. University Cricket Council against N.Z.U.S.A.’s acting before the various affiliated councils had been approached. Dave Cohen’s motion, that the Exec. instruct its Corresponding member on N.Z.U.S.A. to have the matter of the award of the N.Z.U. Blues reconsidered, with Morry Boyd’s amendment that the various sports councils be consulted by that body before coming to a decision, was carried.

Frank Corbin is to represent the Association on the W.E.A., overseas parcels are being managed by Durie Maymon, and Huddy Williamson is to charge round for an amplifier.

“SALIENT”

IS YOUR PAPER—WRITE FOR IT.

NONSENSE

With a subject which could have been hatched anywhere but in the earnest emptiness of a women’s community discussion, the debate on “That This House disputes that New Zealand is civilised” was as momentous as a thoroughly icy cream. The almost unanimous negative vote at the end topped of a completely negative evening. In which there was a little laughter, a lot of talking, and no thinking. Outravings were the speech, fluent and forceful, of Mr. W. Stevenson. President Medi winner, and Mr. Winchester’s pointed revelation that while impure restrictions largely prevent the importation of culturally valuable sheet music to New Zealand, they permit the entry of thousands of Sunday school cards. Incidentally, Mr. Winchester continued the cheerful custom that has developed among chairmen at V.U.C. debates, of speaking for one side or the other. This makes it so much clearer that the chairman’s casting vote, if needed, will be based on his judgment of the debate, and not on his personal opinions. The judges, Mr. P.A. Smithills, placed Mr. Wah first, Mr. Patrick Macaskill second, Messers. Eric Swimmer and Reeves Smith third, equal, and Miss G. Bell fifth.

SOMETHING GOOD

The sincerity of feeling and quality of expression of the speakers at last Friday’s debate, “That Parliamentary Democracy Lacks Dynamism,” placed it far above any of the previous debates this year. There was no clowning, and little demaggogery, and a well-filled and attentive house was treated to a long-awaited proof that the old fire has not gone from thought and expression at Victoria. Some of the hobby horses of the past have been retired, it is true, but it seems that they were retired to the stod, for new ideas and ideals have come forward, more wholesome and less cant and cynicism, but which show that students have honestly assessed what they and their fellows are fighting and dying for to-day. PIERcing the search of propaganda and patriotism, they have found that there are many faults in their country and their democracy, but they have found a worth in which they are prepared to believe in, and nurture to greatness.

Perhaps it is strange that such earnest effort on the part of the establishment order should appear either at a debate or in “Salient,” but anyone who heard Friday night’s speakers must have been struck by their proud, challenging denials that there is no longer a vital driving power, and consequently hope for the future, in our system. With more debates of such standard, the Debating Club will become an institute of unrivalled importance in the College.

With that uncustomed effusion over, we can come down to the individual speakers. It was the first debate for some time where the judge has not been one of the most versed in the art of these, but after the house had voted the motion out, Mr. Wash lost no time in announcing that he placed Mr. W. Wah first, Mr. Bert Polay second, Mr. Dorian Saker third, Mr. Jim Winchester fourth, and Mr. Frank O’Flynn fifth.

It is a tribute to the placed speakers that they much more nearly approached Mr. Wah’s, standard than in the previous debate, reported below. There are many talented students who this year are yet unpractised. It will be worth every student’s while to hear them.

ALCOHOLIC REFORM

Hamilton, 31st March, 1942.

The President.

Dear Madam,

Your letter of the 31st March has been referred to me for reply. My Executive has unanimously rejected the proposals as outlined by your Association, and I have been instructed to state that this association is not prepared in any way whatever to lend its support to your movement.

It is considered a most inopportune time, when so many of our men are overseas—there are about 360 students from this College alone abroad at present—to raise once again such a controversial point as an alteration to the licensing laws. One remembers with some misgivings how similar reforms were urged towards the end of last war, without our men overseas being given an opportunity to express their opinion thereupon. I may say that as the present holders of the N.Z. University Drinking Horn, the students of this College would most emphatically reject any such proposals as laid down by you, whether or not my Executive supported them.

I notice with amusement that you have not bothered to review the question of “tied houses” which, one would think to conclude, is probably the greatest factor against a more orderly control of the liquor trade. The idea is submitted for your attention for what it is worth.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Secretary.

TEA DANCE

The first Tea Dance for the year was not what you would call a howling success. A somewhat ascetic atmosphere prevailed, and everybody seemed frightened of everybody else.

These Tea Dances are run for the students to enjoy, so keep up and show a bit more spirit next time (June 29th).

The Women’s Common Room is ideal for dancing, and we have quite a lot of records this year. Come along next time and get to know more of your fellow-students.

JUNE 27th

Recording of Mass in B minor (Bach)

Music Room (CS), 4.30

Tea in Cafeteria during interval

Admission 1/-
Editorial

University and the War

To-day we are facing the age-old problem of war in a new setting. The turning point of the ages which may settle on a university may be conducive to thought; is it conducive to action? However that may be, our position in the community cannot justify inaction. Anti-fascist speeches alone will not keep the Japanese away—where trained and spirited defence will not. Many of our boys are serving in the armed forces, at home and overseas, but that does not excuse us from taking our part. There are men in the E.P.S. who should be in the Home Guard, there are women who imagine that they are too busy to devote one evening a week to E.P.S. This in a University College which has always prided itself on its advanced views; in a country which may well need to be in a state of preparedness in the near future; at a time when men and women in Europe are fighting together as partisans against Hitler; at a time when the most old and conservative Universities in England are putting into action schemes for real war work for students, we remain without any real activity. We must not gloss over this inertia—we must combat it by every means in our power and recognise that the more strong is our defence, the less likely are we to be attacked. In England women are active in the Home Guard; in at least one part of New Zealand they act as auxiliaries.

We must ask ourselves: Can we honestly say that our actions as well as our words are anti-fascist?

Home Front

STUDENT IN HOME GUARD

"Students tend to be more fit than the average Home Guard men," said a student we interviewed. "We've done quite a lot of work on mobile manoeuvres round country; on our occasions we were out overnight." The guard is being trained as a first line of defence. Only 24 hours a month are compulsory, but this student had done 144 hours in April.

"I joined the Home Guard, which should be an efficient defence force, because I felt it was worth while defending New Zealand."

STUDENT IN E.P.S.

"Our work is very good when there is enough to do," said a University woman in the E.P.S. "Practice alerts are good. I think that the idea of women in the Home Guard is good. Personally, I lack confidence, but I would like to be able to handle a rifle in the event of an emergency. We only devote one evening a week to E.P.S., and lately have been studying blitz work."

CORPORAL GORDON

This student was enthusiastic. He was obviously intrigued by things mechanical, and his ability to work seven different kinds of machines, guns. The Home Guard, in his opinion, is fairly efficient (more so than the Territorials)."

J.C.B.—NEW RECRUIT

We interviewed one of the newest members of the Home Guard. He showed a truly serious and impartial attitude to it. Dr. Beaglehole explained that he disliked distortion, but was interested in construction. He thought that the efficient Home Guard is a good thing, and that women should not be debarred from joining it.

CATHOLIC AND COMMUNIST

Still vividly remembered is the demonstration of Catholic students in front of Cathedral in August when hundreds of Socialist and Communist workers joined the Catholic students to make a demonstration of all Vienna against the German rulers.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In the struggle against Hitler, worker youth and student youth fought side by side... Hundreds of young girls and fellows paid with their lives for their courageous stand. Time and again the ranks of the killed and arrested were refilled with new valiant soldiers.

NEGRO YOUTH

At the national conference of Negro Youth, with 700 representatives, the keynote was: "Without the military destruction of Hitlerism there can be no further progress by my people or any other people anywhere in the world!"

FASCISM DESTRYS FREE UNI

in every country because it cannot tolerate independent thought and free expression of opinion which are part of a University. Because the Nazis realise that their power is based on the compulsion of opinion. That is why the Universities of Warsaw, of Cracow, of Prague, of Belgrade have been closed down.

War Work

The melancholy wail about someone or other being on war work is grating more frequently across the swarms of misery that are our law courts, and the puddles of inanity that are our women's clubs, and in many other of the places and institutions which we call New Zealand. Often it is presented as an excuse. "I was working eleven hours a day on war contracts," explains counsel, thus making it clear that his client was not in any way blame for getting drunk and hitting a restaurant proprietor over the head with the leg of a chair.

Do these people think that war work is some mysterious passion, into which few are admitted, and which inures an urge to hit people on the head with chair legs, or to ensure the welfare of the local bookie by presenting him with a sports club's funds? War work is no more an excuse for transgressions than hucka nor is it any more worth boasting about. War work should now be a normal part of the lives of each of us, so much so that it is no longer a subject for comment. In peace do we brag about earning a living, or use the fact that we have to work as an excuse for our misdeeds? It is so long since we have been able to refresh your memory by telling you that we don't. Today is the right day to think about the peace in which to live. No.

Nowadays the hush-hush jobs should be those not engaged in war work. As one example, I suggest that the munitions factories in Scotland and Germany at the moment is not at its brightest and best, yet it seems to be from the hop here. It is possible that because of the manifold difficulties brought about by the war, such as staffing problems and shortage of materials, it is no longer feasible for proprietors of dress shops to mult fashion-hunting females to the tune of £20 or £20 net each week, which all right-thinking capitalists will realise is tottering almost to the brink of financial ruin. How terribly the war has disorganised our life, and so on, they piously mourn.

The war would disorganise the lives of these "profit-minded" people a darn sight more if they had a Japanese bayonet piercing their intestines because they had made feminine fripperies instead of weapons of offence.

I am not singling them out with any particular vindictiveness. There are many other trades and occupations apparently determined to carry on as in peace time. Retired managers and executives surround themselves with a halo of ersatz patriotism by coming back to their jobs when younger members of the staff put on uniform to fight. Till these men turn their planning and executive organisation to organising the production and supply of munitions and equipment, or till they turn their physical strength to a labourer's job in a similar cause, they may as well stay retired and parasitical. The drivel about the Home Guard keeping up the morale of the people is devised by the same crafty brains as produced 15 per cent. and more of dividends at the expense of the people for whom they are supposed to be keeping the peace. Everyone must contribute directly to the war effort of the United Nations if we are continuous or worthy of sympathy to do so than it is to refrain from batting your neighbour's nose in the back of the neck with a meat chopper.
Education in the Army
General Puttick's Schemes

TEACHERS
Under present conditions the teachers in any scheme would have to be civilians, we were told. The T.A. instructor is not at present a part of the scheme and is completely taken up by his military work. To be a T.A. instructor it is necessary to be at least a Second Lieutenant, if not a Major, due to the complexity of the scheme. The concept of having a T.A. instructor would be problematic due to the lack of interest in the scheme. It was suggested that a T.A. instructor would be of little value to a civilian instructor.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING
Vocational training was to be given to the students, but it was unclear whether the training would be of any practical value. The scheme was designed to provide students with skills that would be useful in the Army, but it was unclear whether the training would be sufficient to prepare the students for the demands of the Army. It was suggested that the training would be of little value to the students.

ORGANISATION
The scheme was organised into a series of small units, each under the supervision of a T.A. officer. The units would be responsible for the training of the students, but it was unclear whether the T.A. officers would be able to provide the necessary support for the students.

EFFICIENCY
The scheme was designed to be efficient, but it was unclear whether the students would be able to achieve the desired level of efficiency. It was suggested that the students would be able to achieve the desired level of efficiency, but it was unclear whether the scheme would be able to provide the necessary support for the students.

STUDENTS
The students were to be recruited from among the students of the Army, but it was unclear whether the students would be able to achieve the desired level of efficiency. It was suggested that the students would be able to achieve the desired level of efficiency, but it was unclear whether the scheme would be able to provide the necessary support for the students.

MORALE
The scheme was designed to improve the morale of the students, but it was unclear whether the students would be able to achieve the desired level of morale. It was suggested that the students would be able to achieve the desired level of morale, but it was unclear whether the scheme would be able to provide the necessary support for the students.
FOOTBALL

SENIOR "A"

After three games the Seniors had not won, they were making the Jubilee Cup Competition, and in spite of lack of weight and experience in the forwards, were more than held their own so far. For two weeks running we were the main attraction at Athletic Park, scoring a good win over A.A. Battley and a very meritorious draw with the powerful Army XV. Eight of our men were out of action against Athletic on Saturday, but the promoted Juniors fought back well, and might possibly have pulled the game out of the fire in the last 20 minutes.

Shelley started badly, but in each of the last three games has been the best back on the ground. Swinburn has given him good support, and their defensive work is excellent. Harris and Caldwell, despite lack of weight, have proved themselves against the best opposition. MacLean, Leslie, Price, and Johnson have worked well in the tight, and we have the best loose forward in Wellington in Murphy. He must surely be a certainty for the Wellington Reps.

Results to date:

v. A.A. Battery. Won 6–3.
v. Athletic. Lost 3–11.

JUNIOR

Following a disappointing start, the Juniors have now settled down, and with two wins after a draw in the last three games look to have to be hard to beat. M. Le Panger at full back is a powerful sight, and a powerful threequarter line in Fleming, Richardson and Quinn should score many tries. Fleming, who uses his head all the time, lacks just that extra two yards pace to make a crack Senior centre. King, like Fleming, plays intelligent football, and has been one of the best of the backs. He has had good support from Bennett and Kjurkovic, but their overlap in the whole pack is too much for the Junior Centre. Forget it, men! Forget it, men!

Results:

v. Hutt. Lost 8–33.
v. A.S.C. Won by default.

THIRDS

With the assistance of some Training College men, the Thirds have been in form during their three to date. On Saturday last they bastled a much older and heavier Second XV, and off its feet for a good win. There were too many hands up in the forwards, but the two smallest men, Igglestain, the Captain, and Milburn, rushed with a will, setting a great example to their heavier pack-men. Todd was clever in the loose, and a good back three, followed by a well timed pass, led to the winning try. Roberts, at half-back, was good, and more will be heard of him. Preece and Riger also played well, but the narrowness of the ground was against anything but constructive back play. Congratulations Thirds!

HARRIERS

INNOVATION

Why, because the tree has been so much one of the same coin of since 1904, and because the piano terrains lead down that same path, should the piano be renamed Frank O'Flynn as he presided over it in front of the jubilee cup race at Paekakariki in June. So off into hitherto unexplored territory, (including) the first to re건 him unquestionably. A combination of trial and error and sheer reckoning finally brought them out of the woods in two rolls; the hill links, then back to Sherry's. Frank O'Flynn won the race for the third time, narrowly beating Ian Mc- Dowell, with Giff Rowbery third. The cup was won by Dave Holford, in liquid accented delivered a short talk on "A Cup Winner's Training Methods" before adjourning to prepare for the next week's run.

BIRTHDAY

Tenth birthdays are not generally afeared for housing in a young man's life, so the Hrirurer Club, not only a decreasor and abominable body of money, celebrated its corresponding anniversary with an extensive array of tea, coffee, sandwiches, sausage rolls, and so forth. There were also speeches, friends of the club, memories, a run, and talk of next Saturday, Enough.

The Club had been looking forward to the occasion for some time, and the afternoon well rewarded the planning that had gone into it. The run, a two-miler, was a teams' race, the time being held by four of the Club's old-timers, Dave Cairns, Norm, Clarke, Brian Shubin, and Nelleson O'Connor. It had been heard said that the run was going to be somewhat wildly and unwise, as befitted the advanced years of the captains, but with all the impertinence of youth Frank O'Flynn, Giff Rowbery, and Peter Pan (never give up), O'Connor went to the front and, what's worse, stayed there to finish in that order. Unafflicted by this irreverence, the three remaining captains shepherded their teams home from a little further back. The winning team was: Dave Cairns (captain), Rowberry, Smith, and Bari Shubin's team, 37 points, won second, and Norm. Clarke, with 20 points, third. Afternoon tea brought together members and old friends of the Club in an atmosphere of reminiscence and cakes. The Club's history, already fading into the dim years beyond the running memory of to-day's members, has been a grand one, for from small but enthusiastic beginnings it has risen to be capable of holding its own with any of the other 'varieties or any of the city clubs. It was the earlier years that were thought of most on Saturday, years whose members would be proud of the Club to-day, and of whom to-day's members are equally proud.

Results:

v. A.A. Battery. Won 6–3.
v. Athletic. Lost 3–11.

Letters to the Editor

[Limit 100 Words]

Sir,—It's about time Victoria had more claim to being a University than "the U" in U.C.G., and the student readers of your article, "Universities and Anti-Fascism," must realize that it is their duty to raise Victoria to a far weightier place in the community. I'm afraid that for many of them its only purpose is to enable them to say to prospective employers, "I've had a University education." Remember Prague, you who just come up off the hill for lectures and hurry away as soon as they are over.—Yours, etc.

ACTIVE STUDENT

Sir,—Thank you for the privilege of seeing "Active Student's" letter before you printed it. I would add to his pompous peroration: Remember Pearl Harbour . . . Remember the Alamo . . . I remember, I remember, the house where I was born . . . The leaves of brown came tumbling down, remember . . . Remember, remember, the Fifth of November . . .

All of which are equally pertinent. Every one knows "Active Student" has long known that we who are working extended hours these days are doing a lot more to defeat Fascism than if we spent the time propaganda three wise men at University.

Yours, etc.

[Anyone else got anything to say about it?—Ed.]

Sir,—Re your last issue—raspberries.

THREEPENCE DOWN

[Equally pithy articles by "Threepence Down," on a slightly broader scale, if possible, will be welcomed by "Salient."—Ed.]

THE BEST ATTENTION HERE!

MOTION:

"That this house considers it desirable for the British Empire to survive the war."


Judge: Dr. Martin Findlay.

8 p.m., IN THE GYM.