The Women of Leningrad

This is how Smirnova, Deputy to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., describes the women of Leningrad:

"For over 200 days and nights the women of the city Leningrad have "struggled" manfully, putting all the efforts of the enemy to break down her defense. "In the front ranks of defenders of this invincible fortress, shoulder to shoulder with their husbands, brothers, and sons, stand the steadfast, heroic women of Leningrad.

"In the very darkest days of the women never lost their courage and confidence in victory. To-day they are more confident than ever and playing a more important part. They tend the wounded who lie in the mobile hospital, they bring in food, they go into battle armed against the enemy. They built the fortifications of the town, they are working at the benches, giving the new and more work, and in large quantities ever since the war began. "They take Krestovskaya, Soboleva, Mukhina, Yeremova, Fyodorova, and others. These patriots are successfully replacing the men on heavy work. There are eight of them in all, but they are doing the work of twelve men. "An urgent order came to the works, and it had to be completed quickly and under the most difficult conditions. Often under artillery bombardment the works had to go on, and one of the finest women, chickens to the Goliath's, was an electric welder. Nothing deterred the women. The Front required it; the job would be done. "Many women have found outlets for their strength in the enemy in ordinary everyday life at home. There they surround the children of parents engaged in the factories, and at the Front, with a warmth of mother love not to be found at any other time. The majority of the children were evacuated from Leningrad far to the rear of the country, where they found neither the same or other children who otherwise would never have been away from the Front. "The children who still remain in the town are being given the greatest care of all. A former working woman from the Kirov works, Erzhinskaya, is now Head of the children's rehabs. She has been to that good artists, and sufficient food. If a child falls sick and the mother cannot get it isolated in any other way but by keeping it at home, there they surround it to it. "I have been visiting many factories during these months of war, and have been on the Leningrad defenses and everywhere I have met that determined, invincible will to struggle to the final complete victory over Fascism."

"Alcoholic Reform"

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—As a Life Member of the Victoria College Students' Association I feel it my duty to make some comment on a letter signed by the "Hon. Secretary" and published in your issue of the 15th June.

What seems to me to need comment is the attitude of the "Hon. Secretary" to the "N.Z.U. Drinking Horn." The women who addressed us, have stated that assuming the "N.Z.U. Drinking Horn" is doing no harm, we may assume it is dealing with a well-recognised subject. Now I have the impression that the women of Victoria College are not in the least aware that such a subject is being dealt with, and if we assume that the students of Victoria College are aware of the subject of alcohol and smoking, it seems to me that the students of Victoria College are not aware that such a subject is being dealt with. This is the more surprising, considering the present-day view of a life member, that the reply lacked that essential courtesy which one hoped would be accorded to the general public from a University College.

The Honorary Secretary's letter, letter, however, should serve one good purpose, it opens up the question of the "Drinking Horn." If the University Colleges make public exhibitions of drunkenness—and these would seem to be inseparable from an alcoholic drinking competition—the public and the University authorities may well ask whether the University is in safe hands. If the N.Z.U. Students' Association is controlled by young men who are prepared, as in the present case, to flout their drunken orgies before the public, the question raised is one which cannot be dealt with and by whom. I venture to protest that a competition of this kind is a disgrace to the University and I hope something will be done about it by the students themselves.—Yours, etc.,

F. A. in MARE.

Hamilton, 2nd July, 1942.

W.E.A. tutors are not allowed to visit the men or give lectures in the camps.

The Wellington District Council of the W.E.A. desires to draw your attention to the facts and also to its lenient position, which is justified by the City Council action. In addition to the loss of the £50 grant per annum, which has been cut down due to cancellation of our Summer School last Christmas owing to emergency conditions. The total revenue of Wellington W.E.A. last year was £347. You must not assume that the income of £100 from two items alone makes up the present position. Please convey the greetings of the W.E.A. to your organisation.—Yours, etc.,

Secretary.
It is now thirteen months since Hitler's culminating treachery.

For thirteen months the most powerful instrument of aggression in history has been pounding our ally without pause. All the resources of Europe from Madrid to Schlussburg, from Kharkov to Narvick, were organised with German thoroughness. All the machinery, all the mineral and agricultural wealth of a continent, the labour of five hundred million people, went into that blow.

Faced with the treachery of the attack, outnumbered in men and metal at every battle, is it any wonder that the Soviet retreated?

France lasted three weeks against a force immeasurably weaker. Poland a few days. The free peoples of the Soviet Union have lasted thirteen months.

From the first day of the attack all the voices of progressive thought throughout the world, every patriotic citizen of every one of the United Nations, has joined unanimously in demanding what any child could see is tactically imperative—a second front in Europe—Now.

For thirteen months we have received promises—exclamations from comparative inactivity in a war which is as vital for us as for our allies. There has been assistance, it is true, valuable assistance, given generously. But more must be done. The war will be won by destroying Germans; soldiers, not civilians; forts, not factories.

In thirteen months Soviet dead have been counted in millions. Fair cities, fertile ground, powerful industries, the laborious hopes of millions who have built a new society; all have gone down before the Fascist jugernauts.

There is a limit to what flesh and blood can stand, a limit to the endurance of even this the strongest social system of all.

And now the sands are running out. Now the call goes out with desperate intensity, as a great nation cries out in her agony.

Help is now, to-morrow is too late.

Shall we let that call go unanswered?

SALIENT STAFF
Editor: Cecil Crompton.
Business Manager: J. Miller.
Distribution Manager: Anne Eichelbaum.
Press Bureau Correspondent: Betty Arza.
News Staff: Jim Witten-Hannah, Jim Winchester, Reece Smith.
Literary Staff: Hubert Winchford, Eric Schrimer.
Sports Editor: Alec McLeod.

Second Front—Now!

Dear—Are the universities of Britain semi-canonical? Is enthusiasm lacking at Oxford and Cambridge in Club? Has July 2nd and the plenipotentiary provoking statements are attributed to Count Wodzicki, and I beg your leave to let this subject invoked.

Let me not be misunderstood. I am not a Chauvinist; I am sure we have not a warm friend in London and Warsaw. I do not defend my own country, but a plan, 'The Count' does. But I am concerned to correct the totally false impression of the universities of Britain, and in particular of Oxford.

If, as 'The Count' suggests, full-time makes a university; if hallowed discussions till three or four in the morning (with or without the interruption that prolongs the sessions of the Harem Club) on philosophy, art, religion or politics make a university; if ill-organised clubs make a university; then I declare, March 21st, that Oxford is a university. Surely a no more amazing range of student activity can be found than Oxford (or existed before the war), and will again be found.

Lack of enthusiasm? Has 'The Count' heard Harry Pollitt speak at the University Labour Federation? Has he heard Professor Price's philosophy seminars? Has he watched the boat race? Has he seen the original production of the Experimental Theatre Club? Has he punched up to the Chequers Arms on a summer evening?

My pen runs away with me. Finally, I ask Victorian students to remember the statements and manifesto of the University Labour Federation. 'The Count' has itself reprinted. Do they show a semi-canonical or apathetic spirit?

With best wishes to 'Salient!' continued health and high spirits.

Yours, etc.,

HILFRI SMITH, B.A., Oxon.

Sir,—Would you publish the circulation figures of 'Salient'? It has been getting better every issue this year. Every student at Victoria should read it thoroughly, but I fear there are many who do not. I believe there are between 600 and 700 taking lectures up here at present, and if you publish the circulation figures it will show what proportion of students take 'Salient.' Such a paper can well fit on the focus of student life. —Yours, etc.,

STUDENT.

(275 copies of the last issue of 'Salient' were sold. The 1941 annual general meeting of V.U.C. Students' Association adopted a resolution that half a crown a year be added to the Student Association fee, and that the money so gained be used to finance 'Salient,' which is not the least distributed on an equable basis to every student, but the College Council held the resolution unconstitutional and quashed it. —Yours, etc.

July 12th, 1942.
(The Editor, 'Salient.')

Dear Madam,

The correspondence in regard to the History Syllabus has been very interesting, and reveals quite a pacy of thought on the subject on history as a whole. The first cor-

respondent after three years of University history can hardly be expected to set up that "history is a series of facts" taught "for very vague reasons," for "facts they have no use for". I suggest that the whole business be dealt with generally.

As a non-history student I find it difficult to reconcile these two views, for I have no way of knowing whether the correspondents are coming radical historians or just two dissatisfied students forced to take history for their degree.

Now, I quite agree that men such as Alex Carrel have written disparagingly of history as the "connective science," and that Freeman has said, "In history every step in advance has also been a step back," but I feel that all history students of the past really taken independently we would have been spared the rapid growth of the Fascists and the present world conflict. I think history attempts to give an account of the origin and development of human institutions and ideas, and from this data endeavour to give to the world general principles of conduct and policy so that we in the present may profit by the mistakes and successes of the past.

It is true that in the early stages of touching history it was regarded merely as a branch of general literature, and that a pleasing mode of expression was encouraged to the prejudice of historical accuracy. But have we not swung too far in the opposite direction, for to-day the emphasis is placed on the correctness of the facts and the soundness of the understanding of the particular period in review? And this has led to the idea that "history repeats itself, but Croce has written, "We must dissipate the simplicity of the likeness of history and of the rigid persistence of its products, generated by the unceasing activity of the imagination. We must, on the contrary, get to understand what in history everything takes only in so far as everything changes."

Now, Croce was not advocating a drastic withdrawal of all dates and similar material from our history books, but merely a plea to see things in their right proportion and correct relation to the affairs of other parts of the world. When this is achieved, it is then necessary to eradicate the false appearance of all history as just a ridiculous reiteration. Has not our method of affixing descriptive labels to different historical events destroyed their essential characteristics and rendered them little more than pegs on which to stake our political theories?

To sum up, not only does history not repeat itself, but events are not preserved inviolate through the ages. If the two history students had really thought about the subject, I am sure that they would not have rushed in print with just an attack on the number of our thoughts and a plea for the treating of all history as a whole. I am in total of our knowledge of the human race.

Yours faithfully,

J. G. READ
Dynamism in the History Department

The History Department has proved itself singularly ready to meet the challenge of a new textbook. A great deal has been made against its teaching methods, but is syllabus A line to the possibilities of reform. Professor Wood and Dr. Beaglehole arranged for Stage II and III students to hear their views on the subject. If a realistic attitude is to be avoided, serious study is necessary first to face a few concrete facts.

The average history student comes to university in all probability with a negative attitude towards the study of history for history's sake. But faced at the same time with the necessity of passing his degree. Up till this year the scope of lectures has been limited by the fact that students had to sit for examinations set outside their own college. Now that the Stage I examination has become an internal examination it is possible for a greater amount of freedom to be exercised. A period of history assigned for this course. The hitherto neglected aspect —post-war history—United States and Japan may be included in the course if the Courtauld tutorial for the average New Zealander is still dead. Ignorant may be studied in detail.

The real problem facing the history teacher at this stage is how to make the student fresh from school, has to first be trained in the history of the country to which he is to be attached. The problem of history to kindred subjects such as literature, art, economics and political thought, is a real sense of the past has been built up. A systematisation of history can be suit- should be emphasised in part and could be extended if the suggestions for a closer cooperation between departments and exchanges of lectures were carried out.

As many students take only Stage II history it is of primary importance to arouse their interest in the subject from the start and to give them the most valuable course possible. It was suggested that a broad general view of history was the first essential and that a study of a book such as H. G. Wells's "Short History of the World," for example might be made in the first term. On the other hand a series of lectures of contemporary history was an equal good introduction. Specialisation in various periods of history was followed by the submission of the syllabus were extended, a longer course provided, or a specialised history degree inaugurated a selection of periods must be made.

As to teaching methods, various experiments attempted during the last five years were discussed. These were mainly confined to advanced classes due to the size of the Stage I class and the financial difficulty in increasing staffing to deal with it. Discussions, student lectures and pre-dinner talks were more easily adaptable and in the necessary work beforehand many objects that they were not getting their money's worth unless lectures were on examination work. A decision on tactics of teaching notes no agreement was reached. The use that had been made of the Art Room in conjunction with history was discussed and its value stressed.

A new lecture on the history of science at Victoria College fits it seems in the hands of those students who have taken the examination system and a broad or non-text book type of lecture they are not so responsible for raising themselves to be more mute uninterested lookers.

AND REPLY

Sebastopol

Sebastopol makes no attempt to defend "Two-Faced Woman" but as a young girl was enjoining "small" people and criticised only those who were a great housewife of extremely poor houses which it drew in the one week it showed in Wellington. It suggests that its horn of normality is fortunately unjustified and that appreciation of the film was confined to those who can believe that "Ulysses" was banned because people would not enjoy its wiccracks for their wit and stiffness or the story for its own sake. Actually, of course, Joyce committed the unpardonable sin of dealing honestly with sex and showing our Sebastopol to be not quite the pleasant and healthy-minded place the players they shibboleth. Nor old I assume M.G.M. of producing the film with a desire to deceive the minds of the proletariat; they produced it because they knew it was something they had to put up with suitably tolerant and slightly envious. The film is accompanied by political criticism of the enemies of society and the--and our most optimistic hopes for normality. Also, while yesterday's race was being run, Frank O'Flynn was观察ing the runners and riders on the New Plymouth express carrying him towards his aerodrome for a flight to Taumaru.ing the best rain in the night made the Taumernuk River impassable next morning. The track is very quick and well drained, and we made a quick trip out to catch the early window at Woodside.

HARRIERS

HARRIERS

The Harrier Club admits a modest cheer for itself. We have at last a group of people who are having been consistently second to them in inter-club events for years. Geoff Rowberry, Myles O'Connor, Ian McDowell and Peter de la Mare were the team, and they did the trick in the Ingram Cup race at Mimaut last Saturday. There was a minor hitch, however. The race happened to be a handicap, and when the handicap might have altered the situation was only third. To suffer the blow the "B" team, Ian McDowell, Ian Saker, Peter Marchant and Frank O'Kane, was second. Add to this that Geoff and Myles were second and third in the individual plating, and the main reason for the slight cheer earlier in the piece. Those events did not go uncelebrated.

The names of two former Harrier Club members appeared in Air Force recently. One was a crop duster, Brewer, who ran with us all the 1949 Ingram Cup but did not win a D.P.E., while Norhan Holmes, who in the same award season was awarded the cup for the most improved runner, has been reported missing an operations. Instructions are that he is--and our most optimistic hopes for normality. Also, while yesterday's race was being run, Frank O'Flynn was observing the runners and riders on the New Plymouth express carrying him towards his aerodrome for a flight to Taumaru.
SPORT

WOMEN'S HOCKEY CLUB

The team that visited Auckland last week were, in their own phrase—
Good Sheila Mason.

Backs: Daisy Filmer (capt.), Pat.

Mid-field: Mavis Davidson, Betty
Ridley, Iris Kean.

Forwards: Irene Keen, Marion
Marwick, Doris Pedler, Ruth Rus-
nell.

Although Auckland's profuse appalo-
za seemed to have put the ground as com-
pared with Milford Park—the home of women's sports in
Auckland—Hobson Park proved to be
much faster than any field we visited.

This sudden change from "Newtown Mud-pool," and the effect
of a sleepless night on the train, may have
reckoned on the unexpected outcome.

At the whole team seemed to be opted off form, and a good deal
of work fell on Sheila in goal. The
excellent passes of the Auckland forwards, especially the right
side and centre, rather rattled our de-
fence. Several times they passed our
backs and would have scored, if Sheila had not so swiftly diverted the
ball, or were it not for the skill of the
goal, they were making headway, and the score was 1-1 to their favour.

With the change of ends and louder encouragement from the sideline,
our team began to take up. Repeatedly
the ball was taken down the left side-line
by Marion Marwick and Irene Keen,
only to be repelled by the Auck-
land backfull. These girls played a strongly game, and their efforts
were rewarded. An opening ap-
peared on the right side, and the ball
was swung over to Mary bell, who
made no time in passing the oppos-
ing half and centred the ball to Ruth
Russell, who cleverly evaded the full-
back and to her credit, finally got the
ball away. This, together with the enthusiastic
but rather hasty barracking from the
sideline, led to our team's first goal
spun on our team. The pace of the game in-
creasingly was getting the better of us; we
were held up by a strong full-back. Victoria,
though not victorious, were certainly the "Vicks." The Juniors.

This team is proving very keen,
but being comprised mainly of begin-
ners at hockey this season, finding it
rather difficult to work up our ex-
ceptions. Inexperience is certainly con-
spicuous for the enthusiasm and vim of the players.

Among those showing good promise, Doris Filmer is playing a steady
game as left inside, Betty Boys in
a few weeks scored the team's only
and, Shona Bell (right) will be full-
back. The team will miss Jean Smith this year, since, owing
of illness, she will be unable to play again this season.

M. & Y. THIS YOUR GOAL!!

TEN DANCE
SATURDAY, 1st AUGUST.
5.00 p.m.—7.30 p.m.

Ent. by Women's Hockey Club

Printed by The Civic Press, Wellington, for the Publishers Victoria University College Students' Association, Kelburne Road.

MEN'S HOCKEY CLUB

TOURNAMENT

On Friday, July 10th, with little allowance of predictability, the league
of Victoria for matches in Auckland against A.U.C. the following day,
won a clear victory, but the
scene at the Railway Station was a
two. However, when all had
settled down in the train, it was not
long before old Victoria times were
recalled. The lights were put out and some
fortuitous (for unfortunate) people man-
aged to sleep.

On arrival at Auckland next morning,
the players instantly dispersed to their
billetos, to re-assemble for the Women's Hockey match at 1.30 p.m.
Kean. The players, led by Evan
Kean, showed Auckland how
right.

On Sunday afternoon (the last day of the tournament), A.U.C.
travelled by motor to Titirangi, where the
two clubs, Moira Wicks and Bruce Hands, were
much in evidence.

Sunday evening the last farewell
was held in the Railway Station
amidst "huzzas," and we set out on our
tour of sport in New Zealand. Despite a
number of late comers the match was
well
enjoyed. We were welcomed back by the
great Victoria tradition of Victoria, and
the team wandered off up the hill to lectures again.

It can safely be said that although
the teams did not meet with great
success, the trip was greatly enjoyed by all,
and, old timers, the youngsters are
carrying on the baton.

VICTORIA

BASKETBALL CLUB

For the first time in years V.U.C.
fielding only one team—the Senior "A" team, so slight was their experience,
and, in the capable hands of Coach
Pixie Higgins, an ever creditable
showing was made in the opening tourna-
ment, and we decided to maintain our
senior status, come what may. Subse-
quent matches showed that we were
fully justified.

In the first match of the season,
against Aspro, by quick passing and
accurate shooting we were narrowly
21-20. In the two later matches we were
unfortunate, but in each case our girls
put up a keen fight. Then our first win
of the season, on a wet ground, but
with some way and inexperience,
V.U.C. defeated Wellington East Old Girls 11-10, promising well for
the match against A.U.C. next week-end.

It was ten weary and unwashed
girls that stepped from the Limited
Express at Auckland Station on Saturday morning. These ten to
meet the Auckland team, a list of N.Z.U. blues and provincial
representatives was formidable.

If it's
Sports Goods
You'll find them at
The Sports Depot
Wincombe & Caldwell Ltd
45 Willis Street
Wellington

"For All Good Sports Goods"

★

Buy your Suits and Sports Clothes at

Hallenstein's
Lambton Quay
Wellington

The BEST ATTENTION HERE!
"Once a Client always a Client!"

R. Stanley Green
West Coast
Hairdresser and
Tobacconist
26a Lambton Quay, Wellington

New • Second-hand • Library

The BEST Books
at
Modern Books
26 Woodward Street
Wellington

APPROACH TO POETRY
MARIA DRONKE
SUNDAY, 16th AUGUST,
2.30 p.m.
Catholic Students' Guild
St. Patrick College
Cambridge Terrance.

Commerce v. Communism
VISITORS' DEBATE — FRIDAY, 31st JULY
MOTION: That the Communist Party holds out more hope for mankind than the Communists of Commerce.
Mood Mr. DICKSON
Seconded Mr. GRIFFIN
Visitors welcome: Opposed Mr. FOLEY
Seconded Mr. BURGIN
1/- Admission

Press, Wellington, for the Publisher, Victoria University College Students' Association, Kelburne Road.