TO THE ATTACK

Soviet Students Call

A big rally of Soviet students was held in Moscow on International Students’ Day. The following resolution was passed:

Friends, brothers, dear colleagues! Today, in decisive battles, each of us is fighting for the right to live. We do not want to have to live. We have become fighters in the mighty anti-Hitler coalition. Thousands upon thousands of students are taking part in the struggle against the Nazi blackguards.

The youth of the world are keeping strict account. We remember the ruined universities of Odessa and Kharkov, Prague and Brussels. We remember the streets of Kiev and Minsk, Paris, Volokolamsk and Belgrade, drenched with the blood of the tormented. We remember all—the ruins of Novgorod and Warsaw, devastated Yasaya Polyana, Tolstoy’s home and museum.

We know who are guilty of these and countless other crimes, and we say: “Not one of the bloody Fascist criminals will escape the reckoning.” Our revenge will reach out to every German bandit.

Some will perish at the hands of Soviet fighters. Others will be killed by British soldiers or American sailors. Others again will be killed by the bullets of the Yugoslav guerrillas. We are not only fighting to defend mankind from the horrors of the brown plague, but are wreaking merciless vengeance on the Nazi bandits.

Students of the world! Young men and girls, victory will not come of itself. It must be won. It is the civic duty of each of us to fight and to conquer in the historic battle of the freedom-loving peoples against Hitler Germany and its accomplices.

Students at the front! Smite the enemy harder. Perfect your military training. Be models of discipline and staunchness in battle.

Students of Britain and America! The second front is needed not only by the Soviet people, but by your people, too. The successful operations of the Anglo-American troops in Africa, which are an outstanding factor in the present situation, are an indication of the growing might of the anti-Hitler coalition.

It is for us to hurl all this might against the enemy, to hasten the downfall of the Ito-German coalition and the complete defeat of Nazi Germany. Open the second front quickly, bring it closer to the vital centres of Germany. That is what is needed now.

Students of the world! Your peoples demand that each of you should forget for a time your peaceful plans and dreams. Be bold. Be fighters, iron-strong against Fascism. Our peoples expect us to be worthy progeny of freedom-loving mankind. Let us carry our exploits into battle against Hitlerism, and bring glory to our native countries.

Let us be the boldest, most determined, fearless fighters against the enemy. Let us not spare our efforts, or life itself, but let us fight on for our just cause until the final, complete victory over bloody Hitlerism. We must and shall honourably justify the hopes of our peoples.

The time will come when we shall take off our army greecaros, return to our lecture room and dedicate our lives to creative work. But until that longed-for moment comes, when we have defeated Nazi Germany and sent Hitler and his criminal band to execution, our lives must be devoted to struggle.

Forward, students of the world, into struggle—into the life and death struggle against Fascism!

ACADEMIC STUDIES IN FULL SWING AT A GERMAN UNIVERSITY.

"SALIENT," Males! Females! Students all! Are you budding journalists? Have you a newspaper complex? Can you write? Can you report? Can you read? Any of the above qualify you for a place on "Salient" staff. We need articles on topical problems, letters, discussions—and above all, keen and interested people to help run our paper.

The Army Education Welfare Service is appealing for current textbooks to be given, lent or sold, for the use of members of the Forces here and overseas. Books should be sent to the Director, Army Education Welfare Service, Army Headquarters, Wellington, C.I., and should be accompanied by the name and address of sender, with an indication as to whether they are donated, on loan (and if so, for how long) or for sale (price?).

APRIL 3rd
KEEP THIS DATE FREE
GARDENING COOKING IRONING PAINTING MINDING CHILDREN

Students! Here is your chance to prove to the world that you can do something besides talk.

Help us to remove the scornful expression from the face of that "bread-and-butter-on-the-principle" man and the weeds from his lawn.

At the same time you will be providing food, clothing, reading and studying material for students in Europe and China and for those (some of them ex-students of V.U.C.) in prison camps.

Several requests for text-books have been received from members of V.U.C. who are now prisoners of war, and unless we have funds we cannot help them.

Everyone is therefore expected to keep Saturday, April 3rd, free, for the INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICE WORKING DAY.

Please sign the lists on notice boards, stating what you are willing to do, and whether you would prefer to go alone or with a friend. You will then be notified as to where you should go.

REMEMBER—APRIL 3rd—Morning or afternoon or both.

For new headquarters to the International Student Service Headquarters, Geneva. This headquarters will then be able to receive direct from students.

STUDENT'S RELIEF

(1) Use your imagination, and try to realise the plight of students in war-ridden parts of the world. Compare their state with your own favourable position in this country.

(2) Do all you can to assist your local Student Relief Committee by interesting your friends in its plans, by offering your services, and by cooperating whole-heartedly in the definite schemes being promoted in your college.

(3) Go short of something yourself; for instance, cut down your cigaretties, or your cinema-going, or some other luxury, and give what you would have spent on them to Student Relief.

(4) Then realise that you are doing your bit in one of the few constructive activities arising out of the war; that you are expressing your kinship with fellow students throughout the world; and that you are furthering a work which will be carried on after the war, and which must play an important part in reorganisation for peace.
Modern Books

In Place of an Editorial

"The Germans also took a certain number of girl students, at Prague, especially from the Hostel Budec, in the course of the same nocturnal raid. Many girls, dragged on to large open spaces surrounded by tanks, were raped before the eyes of the terrified students, some of them killed by another. The German troops, after the Nazi triumphs, began to beat the breasts of their victims with cigarettes. Other girls were compelled to drink the contents of spittoons filled with urine and became ill with disgust. The men students were powerless spectators of these frightful scenes. Those who, from fear or disgust, uttered a cry or manifested their horror in any way whatsoever, in face of such ignominy, were immediately subjected to fresh tortures; one was shot, another had his thighs pierced by bayonet thrusts. "The thelogians of the Grand Seminary of Prague and the inmates of Arnot the Archbishop of Pardubice Catholic College were likewise subjected to savage cruelty.

NAZI ATROCITIES IN BRNO

"Even though the Czech students at the University and Polytechnic Institute of Brno took no part at all in the events at Prague, the Kounic Foundation of that city, corresponding to the Syrhej and Masaryk Foundations in Prague, was burned by the German troops, the girl students raped before the detected witnesses, who were powerless to do anything. Four hundred and seventy students were sent to concentration camps. In the town of Pribram, the students of the School of Mines were not treated any better.

DESTRUCTION OF CZECH UNIVERSITIES

"In all requisitioned schools or scientific institutions the Germans immediately seized the valuable apparatus, instrumets, and scientific books in the Polytechnic Institute, the Natural History Institute, and the Faculty of Medicine in Prague. The scientific libraries were pillaged in a systematic and methodical, certainly in a premeditated way. Books and scientific films were either torn or taken away; the records of the Academy Senate, the highest authority of the University, were torn or burnt, and the card-indices destroyed or scattered. The Czech institutions of higher learning closed for three years by a decree of the State Secretary, R. H. Frank, were:

Charles IV. University of Prague
The Polytechnics of Prague and Brno
Masaryk's University of Brno
Commercial School of Prague
School of Mines of Prague
Agricultural and Veterinary School of Brno
The Faculty of Catholic Theology at Olomouc
The Jan Hus Faculty of Protestant Theology of Prague
"Recent reports from Prague state that all these institutions will remain closed for the duration of the war."

On Friday the fifth it was, and gaw! What a crush! Never, I think, have the old gym, planks supported such a diverse and packed array of ankles and anklelets. Rarely has there been such singing, only occasionally have we seen better hackies, and never has there been such a sticky floor. Gum arabs, I suggest, should be kept in its place, which is synthetic confectionery. Apart from dancing, interest centred mainly around the typographical epic produced by Wielr's chemists—naturally so, when even our exec. president spoke on the climatic conditions of the environs. In spite of this, an improved trend in College moral could be deduced from general behaviour in the Monte Carlo and Elimination (wait for it!) Dance. The cheating was of inferior technique and a definite non-professional standard, in fact one might almost assume that the winners were authentic. The same could not be said of the Freshers-Only Dance. Numbers of persons trod on their childhood and stumbled with rather too much insistance, we thought. Inconsistencies in their attitude might be tabuised in any hotel. The fresher attendance was magnificent—they must be one of the most complete with high and fevered spirits. Long may these spirits last. The College can do with them.

Training College Life

must first express my thanks to the editor of the College Paper for setting at my disposal the space to discuss Training College life, which is rejected by the majority of strangers in a strange land. It is with great pleasure that we have been able to partake of the spirit of bitterness which has existed between University and Training College in years past. We have come in the course of the last six months to realize the futility of the methods which both bodies have been in the habit of bandying at each other—accusations of "childishness" and "heartiness," "pedantry" and "playing students." We now see another, even though it be through a glass darkly, as striving to achieve the same aims and ideals.

For this I believe we have to thank the social intercourse about the College last year, and the respect and understanding born of it.

Training College, 1943, owes a great debt to the University Executive and to the committee of the affiliated University Clubs. We are deeply appreciative of the welcome that they have given us and of their mighty efforts to secure our cooperation in enriching the student life of Victoria College.

Spectators we wish to thank the Executive for all they have done, the University for the list of friendship to Training College pupils, with, we may add, most encouraging results, and the Academic Society and the Tramping Club for their hospitable offers. On Saturdays, the most enjoyable tournament, sponsored by the Tennis Club, was held on the College courts, resulting, I regret to state, in the defeat of Training College. We understand that further matches are to be played and look forward to them eagerly. The Varsity Cricket Club and the First XI Training College Club have had a long association. In particular, grade four has been for some years remarkable for the number of school teachers it has contained, and it is a hearty welcome to all University students to any of our social functions throughout the year, so that they will turn up in even larger numbers soon.

Finally, a word about ourselves. We differ from University students in that we are public servants of a sort, set under the authority of boards, inspectorates and departments, who can say unto us "Do" and we do it. Perhaps this will suggest some of the restrictions which bind our student body, and account for our general conservatism when compared with the University tradition of independent and outspoken utterance. Again we cannot claim the academic dignity which is the University's. Our studies are, in the large, of a practical kind. The grubby snotty-nosed infant whose education is our concern. Hence arises the apparent abnormality of many of our activities, the spectacle of hairied-legged manhood emulating in small compass the activities of the world, and so on. Despise us not. It's part of the game.

Lastly, let us hope that Varsity-Training College collaboration will be fruitful of much good for both institutions.

DOUG. OLSON.
Letters to Editor

Dear Gabriel,—One good point you brought up in the article “Revelle” is the impossibility to punish the sin while letting the sinner go real-free. But I heartily disagree with the rest. I would like to remind you also that the brain is never untrained and untrained people pick up their habits first and last as they band together on the village square to overthrow their government. It would require too much time and space to point out all the details. which brought the Nazis into power. I have experienced with my own eyes the incapability of the German communists to sell themselves against the Nazis.

The communists in Germany are helpless not because of a lack in numbers but because it is nowadays possible for a well-armed and well-trained minority to press and tyrannize a whole people. The German communists were incapable of winning from the people their support and admission. That is why no major revolt has yet occurred against general leaders of the sort who worked in an Austrian factory after the German occupation.

There are more people in the world than ever before. Now and again a Brownguard or a Black-guard runs his course in the blackest of black-guards in the blackest of black-streets. And then about two dozen people disappeared in a concentration camp. It is a world that is jaded and cost lives and was absolutely senseless. It is a world that is a step back, as we seek to discriminate between Nazis and Germans. We are not afraid of the whole people but must show sufficient understanding not to do it. Violence shown by the German people does not mean any sort of violence on our part. We cannot and must not punish 80 million people.

Many Germans are Nazis because of the environment in which they have been forced to live during the last twenty years, and not merely because they are Nazis. Race and culture are not inter-related. Culture is not a function of race.

Allow me to quote Ruth Benedict, a well-known American anthropologist, in her book “Patterns of Culture.” Ruth Benedict writes in her latest book, “Race and Racism” that Japan has the history of peace and nonaggression that cannot be matched in the Western World. During the first eleven centuries of her recorded history she was engaged in only one war abroad. Indeed the sole conflict ended in 1600 and from that time until 1850, when Japan opened her doors to the world outside, the building of all ocean going boats was forbidden by imperial decree to make certain that Japan would preserve her policy of isolationism. The commerce between the world outside and Japan, the aesthetic appreciation of the Japanese were traits that passed current as their essential qualities. Since 1850 they have fought five times overseas and achieved their present day way to becoming one of the most aggressively warlike nations of the world. Their 500 years of centuries-long existence free from conflict is a record not likely to be broken by the next generation may not become the lion.

The Germans have for centuries been squeezed between Western and Eastern powers. Conditions of this nature, many say, will continue until these Western and Easter powers will try to understand the German mentality and until they will try to improve economic and social conditions in Germany. We must remember that Germany is a far better guarantee for a durable peace than an inconstant Germany striving for a chance to take revenge by starting armed conflicts with either the West or the East.

After this war we will have to do our utmost to change the attitude of the German people. We will have to create an environment which will not create any discontent among the people and which will not create any Hitler’s, Goering’s, Goebbels and Himmlers.

Dear Sir,—I must express my astonishment at “Gabriel’s” not to say misinformation, but ignorance up to an unparable degree. If the purpose of the article was to make fresher’s think, I might add that indiscriminate thinking is just as detrimental as not thinking at all. Anybody who has done some elementary reading in Psychology and Political Science, would realize that the state of management always has to draw a distinction between the Nazi Party and the German people. It has not been possible, or otherwise, of being a true picture of the Nazi-German people relationship.

Firstly, the most reliable sources of information on the workings of the Nazi Party, including Hitler’s “Mein Kampion,” tell us that the German people were never expected to adhere wholly to the Nazi Party, but they were to be approached and persuaded by psychological and other methods but perhaps less genti—to accept the Nazi doctrine.

Secondly, it is the main policy of the German Reich to reject all works of art, science and literature that do not make any contributions towards its political system.

These points prove that even the Nazis did not expect the German people to wholeheartedly support them. That the German opinion cannot exist without supporting its rulers.

It will come out after the crumbling of the Third Reich, which is certain, probably, probable crumbling of the Russian Imperialism was certain in 1918. EUROPEAN.

Dear "Sallent"—Why do people go on saying nasty things about University Reds? When I left school last year my father told me I would have to be very careful at Varsity (not because of the Tramping Club—they are known to me) but mainly because of the Communist. Even then I thought they were mad, and, of course, they are only like that because there has not been the redeeming influence of Catholicism in their lives. If one of the unfortunate creatures are met I shall not trouble them, they are not likely to approach a S.C.M. study-circle (though I am sure the members of that are always friendly to Students Guild do very good work also).

But "Sallent," University Red Clubs is where I met the real young man at Freshman’s Welcome and it wasn’t until people told me afterwards that I found out he was one of our most notable Reds. He didn’t say anything nasty about God, he only said that the Reds would be real patriots but really patriotic and said the most exciting things about the wonderful world that would do to Hitler and some of the people in this University who live in ivory towers and fiddle while Rome burns and watch the lovely patterns on the blackboard through the barricades. It was just like the editors of the “Statesman” that I had read out at dinner—only, of course, more cultured.

I may be only a silly little freshman but Reds are always right. I think governments are very stupid to be so unfriendly to them.—Yours,

PLEASANTLY SURPRISED.

Music Club

In the past very little interest has been taken in the musical activities of this college. This fall, among students of 1943, we therefore offer the chance of building up a Music Club, which will remain an integral part of College life and tradition.

As the president told you in his "Message to Students," the Executive, has decided to pursue an active social and cultural policy. In the last issue of this paper you were welcomed as potential members of the Tramping Club (oh, how lyrical were those phrased patting raindrops and waving ferns!) were urged to keep series of musical lectures, musicians, cricketers and tennis players. Now we ask you to seek out that old coin or ving the threats of the boulevard to that subconscious urge, we are sure you have it, to express yourself in music.

For one of our biggest undertakings this year is the forming of a College Symphony Orchestra. It is fortuna-

ate in having the assistance of Mr. Greenwood, we has he just conducting an orchestra at an English University. It is hoped that in years to come our Cappella Ceremony or other official function will be ungraced by the presence of "our own orchestra."

The Music Club also offers you an informal concert once a month in the Music Room. The programme is provided by members of the club—this means you—and by visiting artists. These evenings promise to be both bright and interesting. Watch notice boards for announcements.

Various members of the staff are kindly offered to help us arrange these concerts, we hope will be well supported. The lectures will take the form of short talks illustrated by recordings, or gramophone records and explanatory remarks.

The Gramophone Committee are arranging lunch-hour and evening concerts, and certain programmes will be sent in to the secretary, Mr. John Money.

SALIENT ADVISES.

Many Students to-day find University life in war time has problems of an exceedingly difficult nature. Accordingly "Sallent" has decided to devise these columns to the solution of some of those problems which do so much to darken those years which should be the happiest of our lives.

Dear "Pleasantly Surprised."—It is indeed fortunate that you have met a genuine University Red. There have been some young women who have had their social consciousness increased by association with Trotskyites, Mensheviks, Kautskyites, and in one or two particular cases, left-wing deviations. We print your letter in full as it shows that you are carrying our armies to victory over the barbaric Fascists. So pass the word on to your friends. "The University Reds are just like the chaps from Weir House.

WANTED—News of all V.U.C. Students in the Armed Forces, extracts from letters, news from relatives, etc., for publication in "Sallent."
SPORT

Tennis Club

Saturday, 6th, saw a group of 60 enthusiastic tennis players at the Tennis Club, taking part in the first form of a Yankee Tournament. Throughout the afternoon a high standard of play was maintained, and despite the fact that a disturbing wind played havoc with the balls, Abdulla Ashraf, who recently tested a jelly between Goodwin and Miss Peabody v. Benge and Miss Norbury, found the latter pair victorious by a narrow margin.

On Sunday the weather finally decided to be fine and an enjoyable match consisting of twelve doubles was played between Tennis Club and Varisty. Our team consisted of four men and four women. The players were well matched and games were interesting and well contested. Varsity won by 5 games to 4. We hope that we will be able to arrange a similar match with Training College some time.

FRESHMEN—remember you are welcome to play on the courts any time you wish. The tennis season is now in full swing. The weather has been more than satisfactory.

Cricket Club

The senior cricket team has performed well in its game against Wellington College Old Boys, who were then competitive, but hardly defeating Wellington Battalions the following week. The weather has served as an impetus to the game, and if indeed it needed anything, it needed just how much the team has been, and is still, for certain victories. In the last two matches, Bernie Paetz, for many years the one most consistent all-rounders in cricket, and Stringer, the left-handed opening bat, whose consistency during the entire season was rewarded with a fine not out, scored 64 not out and now has an average of 35. Two other opening partners, who have been regarded as serviceable, were Peter de la Mare, whose average is 22.4, and the captain, Leonard, who not only has a batting average of 20.1, but also has taken many wickets with his fine left arm.

The Seconds registered their sixth win consecutively at the expense of Petone, who are nine points behind the Wellington College Old Boys, scoring 78 against opening bat, taking four wickets and fielding brilliantly. Though the bowling as a whole is far from strong, Ken Moore, a medium-paced bowler who shows much promise, has taken some fine performances as has Tom Anderson, the pace opening bowler. The batting has been in and out, and by far the most consistent being "Trinity". Bowers, who tops an aggregate of 150, and average, followed by Doug Olsen. Both have played several innings at this time.

Swimming Club

The ghost walks! Quite energetic efforts were made by the Swimming Club, which was close to extinction, and it is pleasant to record the fact that it seems to have just been willed. Many names are on the list on the notice board already—add yours to the register.

The evening at Thornton Baths was postponed to Tuesday, 16th March.

Women's Hockey Club

Notwithstanding the loss of many keen Varsity players, the club has enjoyed a successful season and is now in full swing. The first Sunday of the term saw fifteen tournaments and the few teams setting out from Petone station up the Kotoro and Porirua roads. It was of the utmost delight to see the Petone water reservoir was a most delightful spot—even the apathetic instructor was carried off and labelled us as trespassers failed to detract any of the beauty from the surroundings.

Climbing the hill, a little variation was offered in the form of an almost impenetrable tangle of apple-jacks, but much cursing and swearing enabled mother nature has an appeal which top—and what a view! Hutt Valley and Wellington Harbour lay below us like a man—further to the west over more hills, the Pacific ocean and the South Island were visible. It was grand to be up there in the fresh clean air, gazing down on the man made city—so small and petty. With plenty of time to spare, so we thought, Portius station was reached. The train was pulling out five of the party left standing on the station, one of which was not noticed, particularly calamitous, as a train travelled at a speed of seventy miles an hour to reach Wellington at a reasonable hour.

For the first trip, it was a great success—freshers were there, though there could have been more. The purposes, which are ideas for an initiation into the ways of the training club—but not so strenuous, nor so grueling, and good company provides ample opportunity for discussion on anything. More enjoyable are still the weekend tramps. Sleeping next door to the stars in the fresh cool air, few other things have. Join the Tramping Club and experience life in the great outdoors.

Basketball Club

Women of V.U.C.

If you are thinking of taking up some sport this winter, join the V.U.C. Basketball Club. All fresh- men, including students from secondary schools last year and wish to keep up the good game this year, are especially welcome. If you have never played basketball before, now is the time to start, as club training for both men and women is provided. This year, the club is well equipped with a group of highly skilled players, and the team has been selected with much care and attention. If you are interested in joining, please communicate, via the letter rack, with any of the following: J.R. Winnifrider, Cecil Crompton, A.V. O'Brien.

Dear Sir,—It might make things a little clearer if we had just what Stalin said. When, in his November 7 speech he said this:

"In an interview with a Turkish journalist, I had a large newspaper which is an organ for the use of a well-equipped gymnasiurnm. He had a man to keep the exercise: he will not be long before the club is under way.

MARKIST DISCUSSIONS

It is intended to hold a series of Sunday evening discussions on Marxism. Anyone interested is urged to please communicate, via the letter rack, with any of the following: J. R. Winnifrider, Cecil Crompton, A.V. O'Brien.