BLOOD FROM A STONE?

That anti-fascist "minority" has been arrested—perhaps by reason of their political convictions, or out of fear of action, or perhaps even by reason of their public position or wealth. A hundred V.U.C. students contributed approximately £400 to the four-day Food and Liberty campaign held in the College two weeks ago. This is a marvellous response from the 900 students at the College, for many of them had already contributed to the national food and liberty campaign held in the various offices where they worked. The majority of students are traditionally British, and while today few if any at Victoria exist on bread-crusts and water in damp garrets, they are still a relatively impoverished section of the community. However, students of Victoria have shown themselves willing to make sacrifices, for they remember an old tradition which claims that students are always in the vanguard when it is freedom that is being fought for. To such people it was hardly necessary to reiterate the purpose of the loan, the vital urgency to spur on the war effort in order that fascism may be defeated. The whole thing is worth while.

Second Front

N.M.U.S.A. Work

Miss Vassilakos reported on the N.M.U.S.A. Exec. meeting. As the Student Congress is being held in Durham, the Exec. made up the necessary machinery. The date is to be Easter, 1944, and there is no intention of further work to be put in. The report of the Exec. was made by the Executive following the necessary machinery. The date is to be Easter, 1944, and there is no intention of further work to be put in. The report of the Exec. was made by the Executive following the necessary machinery.

New Move

The president was worried at a rumour that the new Exec. was anti-training college and immediately proved any such rumour groundless by asking that a liaison officer be appointed to attend V.U.C. Exec. meetings—ex

(Continued on column 2)
President: O. J. CREED.
Men's Vice-President: L. STARKE.
Women's Vice-President: DAISY FILMER.
Secretary: Mrs. MARY BOYD.
Asst. Secretary: J. W. WINCHESTER.
Treasurer: J. J. PULHIN.
Men's Committee: ROBIN OLIVER, MARTIN TE PUNGA.
Women's Committee: ANN EICHELBAUM, JANET GRANT, PAM WILTON.

EDITORIAL

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO O.U. EXEC.? 

A question which has been pending for some time. Unity in the present crisis surely demands close co-operation with Training College, up-to-the-limit participation in Liberty Loans, etc., and intensive all-round work in aid of the war effort. We ask of Otago Exec., as we asked of our own Exec. at Undergraduate Supper, “How do they measure up?” The answer is disappointing.

In T.C., they seem moreover to differ, without the law,” an academically inferior article and dismiss the subject with a resolution, “That this Executive is unaware of any reasons why Training College should affiliate . . . .”

Surely Victoria presented adequate reasons at the N.Z.U.S.A. Conference. Surely our own Exec. has good grounds for appointment of a liaison officer. And yet the friendly advances of O.U. Training College seem to be regarded as “more than the importunate scratching of a puppy at the door than as the just request of a corporation of equal footing,” as an incensed member writes to “Critic,” Enough of this side-stepping—Wake up, O.U! Take a lesson from those students who also teach.

The following extraordinary statement also appears in “Critic”:
“‘This Executive has been given no mandate by the Association to make a financial contribution to the war effort. . . . Has it ever thought of asking for that mandate? Victoria has recently put £1,234 into the Third Liberty Loan. £324 of this was ratified, unanimously, by the Annual General Meeting; the other £800, if it proceeds, adequately demonstrates the spirit with which V.U.C. students meet the call for funds. Surely Otago students would show the same, if not a better, response. Why not ask them?”

Hicherto the only voice of criticism and constructive comment has been that of “Critic,” the O.U. newspaper, in spite of severe censure (imagine an Exec.-appointed editor working under the eye of an Exec. censor) they appear, to us at least, to have attempted that leadership which the Executive lacked. Even “Critic,” however, has now been silenced. Editor and staff have been forced into resignation. For this the Executive must answer, not in words, but in an attempt to rectify past mistakes and to rally Otago students behind the war effort.

K.T.F.

YOU SEE WHAT I MEAN BY BEAUTY

Beauty is Alive

There was a time when only Sweet . . .

I've heard the screams of braked wheels
And seen time-tied faces weightied by asking feet.

It's sweet to feel
And feel its sinuous fingers
In suburban trains
That rock and grind and creak and hiss . . .

What could make me ache for beauty more than this?

 ugliness ugliness everywhere
Rustling iron and city dirt
Painted faces superbly bright
That quicker when exposed to light
Height-beaked shoes pecking at the pavement
Drooping shoulders, hollow cheeks
Clamming trams, halting with bodies
After five o'clock; People
Streaming into the railway station
Like sheep from the yards at shearing time

Yes, Beauty is Alive

That once to me was only Sweet.

(Continued from column 1, page 1)

The conjuror invited a young lad from the audience to draw a number from his hat to name the winner of a Liberty Bond—Gunther Weisheimer was the winner. Mrs. Boyd supported Mr. Rosen- berg's remarks and added that helpers —men and women—were welcome in the cafe.

Mr. Starke spoke of two hundred odd pounds accrued from an old account and the meeting allowed that the money should go into the building fund.

Mr. J. W. Winchester moved that 400 available should go into the Liberty Loan. Messrs. Creed and Starke spoke for an amendment to tie the proceeds to the building fund on the latter's maturity. The meeting passed the original motion with two dissentient voices. The exec., new and old, retired to supper.

SWING

The motion: "That swing and jazz music have no place in the cultural life of this College," was well and truly defeated on the vote of a bare majority present at the Debating Club's meet on Friday night, 25th June. Mr. Rosenberg led on behalf of the Classics, putting up a good case for the position of the Classics. Mr. Fowler then blew his own trumpet with a neat analysis and discussion on "Swing." The debate was adjourned.

The next debate is scheduled for Friday, 16th July, when U.C.D. debaters will hold the floor against the Hutt Valley team. This debate is held under the auspices of the Wellington Debating Union, and it is hoped that debaters will on this occasion all that is known to the capacities of the visiting speakers a hearty welcome.

The project: "That the workers of New Zealand have not pulled their weight in the war effort"—our motion.

Dear Miss Crompton,

Dear Sir,

Although not a member of Victoria University College, I am a frequent reader of "Universities," and am considerably disappointed by the political views of its contributors.

I am an admirer of the world are recognised centres of unrest and discontent. The U.C.D. shows a sign of deviating from the rule. Nationalism was reared from pulling infant to lusty yachts within the walls of the Universities: student riots are the amongst certain of those who have accompanying turmoil of hate and blood.

Humorous and idiotic though the drivelletting of your contributors may now appear, they will prove dangerous to the peace of this country, unless they tear down their red flags.

I am, Sir,

B.B.

Dear Sir,

I draw your attention to a highly unwarranted attack upon the English public school system which appeared in "Universities," under the guise of a review of "A Yank at Elton." Your critic obviously knows nothing about the English public school, nor has he read the book. He plausibly brings forth the usual catch phrases about class distinctions which are supposed to foster public schools.

As an old boy of one of these institutions, I have had contact with old boys of many others, from both England and New Zealand. I would assure him that his assertions must be entirely groundless. In fact, the only people who are snobbery of which he complains is that their expressions of means of acquiring this form of education, but have failed to do so. This feeling, I presume, must be what is denoted partly to an inferiority complex, which they would hide by a show of aggressiveness, and partly to jealousy of those whom they fear might be better off than themselves.

I am, Sir,

P. L. R. ABRAHAM.

Dear Madam,

May I be permitted to reply to my two critics, "J.W." and "Not Very Amused.

I have not a copy of my own letter—be it me, but I believe that my reference was to "a small minority, very, very anti-Fascist conscious, who, having defied Russia in their own minds, seek to bring others to worship with them." Neither of your correspondents took the trouble to quote me correctly, with the result that there is no point either of their criticisms and no reason for further comment on my part.

May I, in conclusion, congratulate Mr. J. M. Ziman on his review of the picture, "A Yank at Elton." Seldom have I seen so much irrelevant evidence (Wee House has no other word for it) concentrated in such a small space. Yours faithfully,

LAW STUDENT

University Calendar needed urgently by student overseas. Please communicate:

Calendar, c/o "Salient."
BOOKS THAT STAND AGAINST HITLER

Writers Measure Up to The War

At last the War is getting into the books. After three and a half years, novels are now being turned out that reflect the temper of the people and our times. The war is not only long in appearing but that they appear at all. And despite the complete blackout on war activity over the greater portion of Asia, despite the unprecedented calls which all the inns of the war has made on the time of writers in the free world, novels have been written which not only take the responsibilities of this century but also challenge the people, to stouter and stouter blows against our beastial Fascist enemy. Ehrenburg's and Pozner's books are books of this kind.

Vladimir Pozner's "The Edge of the Sword" is not just another book about the fall of France. It is one of the great novels of our time. More, there are passages in it which are among the great things in Literature. Pozner takes hisrenchmen, a bee, a metal-worker—privates in the Army—a Colonel, a civilian—each with his own problems, and makes them one. After reading "The Edge of the Sword" you know, when Paris was evacuated, there left behind was the gas, the electricity and the police.

There is a wonderful scene where the remaining fifteen men of an Infantry regiment which had entered Belgium five days before, were three days later—come to a bridge over a river, pitch camp by it.

"It was pleasant to be there with one hand on the pole, the other resting in the cool grass, watching the bobbing of the float, reflecting harm-less gestures which did not imply death—pleasant and restful. They were learning anew the natural use of their hands, of their eyes. And the long standing there intact, was in itself agreeable." Suddenly there comes up an old man, small and lean. He bellows out "NATION of fishermen! You cold-blooded men! Nothing can stir you up, you pilies! The only thing you can be interested about is a stiff Penn." They shrug him away and he comes back,leniently, and in the same tone, the name of heroes, the name of rows of old ribbons that must have gone back to the war of 1870. His whole line of argument standing there intact, was in itself agreeable.

"Do you know what France is, I wonder? The France of Jeanne d'Arc and the Communards." Suddenly he bursts out singing in a cracked voice: "Contre Nous la tyrannie, mon sang va couler!" "The banner of tyranny is waving," he said, quivering with emotion. "You've forgotten the soldiers of Valmy!" he screamed in such a piercing voice that in his excitement he trampled many of the flowers on the sidewalks. "What do you do at night? You sleep! I meditate, 1789," he said ecstatically, "was a glorious time! Why don't you meditate? What have you left of all that, you freshwater fishermen? What have you left?"

The book is filled with passages like this. Another man, a colonel and chauffeur—the Communist "underground" worker—looked back on Paris.

"The two men looked in silence at the city where they had been born, and without knowing their eyes divided for the tragic analysis of them. For Colonel Carvis, the gilded glory of the nation of Nabul and Auteul, the palaces of the time in its history Fascism has received a spontaneous rejection from the people whose ancestors had manned the barricades in the great days of the Commune. We witness a sit-down strike in one of the aircraft factories. The workers are stirred by the thought of their future, and by the thought that they, like the workers at the Paris Commune, will build a new society. The Spanish drama continues; they are daring to again to seize the initiative. The struggle is not only one of force, but of sincerity."

Ilya Ehrenburg has made a supreme contribution to the cause of freedom. He has given a warning that concerns all us.

Above all things—Unity in the face of Fascist aggression!

LAW—Last Inspection

Here is a record of cynicism, frus-tration, and despair. It is not the story of the Army in England during the two years after Dunkirk. And there is no doubt at all that these short stories, these trivial tales of everyday life, are the result of the brown-ing off generally do reflect the mood and temper of that time. The author, a young Army officer, points out: "The only deaths in these stories are by suicide and in accidents. The motif is the rootless life of soldiers having no enemies and always some-thing to do."

If you want a picture of what happens to an army inactive when even the threat of action is being pre-empted, you have it here in these tales of the British Army in England sitting waiting, while they read in their newspapers every day the story of their comrades of the Red Army as they fight the greatest battles in all history.

We Carry On

This collection of modern Russian short stories, "tales of the war," pub-lished in 1942) has conviction and spontaneity, combined with the hon-est, unpretentiousness of the soldier's chronicle that is both touching and very real. But it is an expression of the nation's temper and outlook, which are as simple and whole as the English. The author's life on the front and his views have subjected him to severe criticism. As he states, "The picture here is a world of life lived on a nation can be a life-giv-ing impetus to those fighting against it. This aspect is in "We Carry On" largely taken for granted, and far overshadowed by fierce antagonism to-wards the German people as individu-als. "Not human beings, but, malicious monsters, savages..." You cannot defeat an enemy without hav-ing learned to hate him from the bot-tom of your heart." Surely the real military trick is to make them feel that the psychology of personal hatred is necessary only when there is no ideology inspiring those who fight. This is certainly not the case with Russians, so that emphasis on vicious anti-Germanism seems false and unjust. Russian soldiers must have a profound belief in the philo-sophy they defend, and hatred of the enemy is a disappointment. The book finds the small and insidious aspect emphasized.

The book offers from the resistance of the people, from the comments and the reactions of the people, a picture of the Russian soldier as a man who has a profound belief in the philosophy he is fighting for.
SPORTS

WOMEN'S HOKEY

At the end of the qualifying round the senior team, with nine points, is second equal to T.O.C.G. with 12. The games played are through to Senior A after regrading. This is a real achievement on which the team is to be congratulated. It is years since a Varsity team played in this grade, and although the A Grade game was the present field, it has improved steadily and is showing the benefit gained from practices in much improved combination, especially among the forwards.

Myra Baker has shown herself an outstanding goalkeeper in the games she has played.

The Juniors finished the round about seven goals up on their opponents, which is creditable considering the inexperience of its players. Elise Bannister, Brett Perry and Rosemary Watt are playing well in this team.

The B team are working well the same team twice, but they have not won two games out of four. The team needs more coaching, as many of the players know little of the game.

Boreen Dore, who has been playing for this team, is obviously too good for this grade.

Last Saturday two fairly evenly teams were entered in the seven-a-side tournament. The Brown won 2 — 1, and lost one in their section, and the B's won one and lost two, neither qualifying for the semi-final.

SCOTS WHA HAE!

Twenty-one runners, the largest of all the eight teams entered, represented Varsity at the first inter-club race of the season. Unfortunately in the teams race the best we could manage was a very poor second to our old rivals, Scottish Harriers. Derek Olson was first home for U.G.C., being placed sixth.

Considering the fast pace set by the leaders Doug, did remarkably well. Others well placed were Rowberry (13th), de la Mare (18th), Collins (16th), Gihon (20th) and Hunt (23rd).

Bunnie Swindon wishes to be congratulated on this run.

UP THE AIRY MOUNTAIN

Once a year the V.U.C. Trapezing Club runs a trip which is usually returned to schedule. The four stunts on the winter Artee trip kept Leakean and Downs hard at work. The venturous time, although conditions hardly warranted the alarm and ructions that flourished at Varsity on the afternoon of Monday, June 28.

All went well until midday, the B team showed much improvement in their field-work, especially in the defence third. During the second half, Varsity settled down but were unable to score a 10 goal lead and lost by 11 goals to 4.

Photography

This year the Photographic Club started with a lecture by Mr. C. E. Singleton, a member of Wellington Camera Club's most progressive members. This address touched on all phases of photography and was amply illustrated by competition work which had won high awards for Mr. Singleton.

After the meeting had been thrown open to discussion, prints brought along by members were examined and helpful criticism was given.

Unfortunately the shortness of films does not give members much scope for experimenting. The club has arranged addresses, visits to studios, open competition where members may bring films taken over the last few years, discussions on the relative merits of different types of cameras, and on "aerating" photographs as against "touching up," etc.

The club extends an invitation to all students to attend the meetings held on alternate Thursdays. Watch the notice boards.

SALIENT THINGS TO COME

SEASONAL

Swing in Session

At Victoria we have heard three programmes of Jazz and swing in session by the Wellington V.U.C. with sessions by Doug Yen. This was a great session, nevertheless no fair start with such items as Louis Armstrong's "Basin St. Blues" and Other hits from "Glee Road," etc. Numbers like "Anvil Chorus" and others catering for the ladies and the vestal fell during the concert.

The next was a Training College effort by Mr. Bateman, which promised to be a good show because it was well directed. Numbers like "Honeymoon," "Saratoga," "Sunny Morning," and "Higher and Higher," etc. were sung and played.

The best session so far was Mr. Yen's recent one. It was labelled jazz and was jazz. There were but two hits of double quality, and the PW's "Ode to Spring" might well have been included in the session as the inebriate's got-to-get-aways, "Wistful," "Body and Soul," "Jimmy McPartland's Waltz" and "Sunset." The second session was "Sunny Morning," "Lady Be Good," "Blue Moon," "Blue," "Blue Heaven" and "Blue的世界." It was a good session, and Mr. Yen carried it too far. His knowledge of the music was too extensive for the short time in which we had the lot.

Mr. Bateman should check up on some of his concepts of the art. An example of a sad error was the substitution of "Wind," "Wistful," "Lady Be Good," "Sunny Morning," and "Blue Heaven." Both are orchestrations from Negro Folk Music.

Mr. Yen's obvious quality in selection of records should qualify him to choose a very program devoid of any bowing to popular taste; devoting more attention to what a university college should at least be serious—HOT JAZZ.

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