The Dead Do Awaken
EXTRAV IS REBORN

Has V.U.C., at last arisen from its war-time slumber? There are signs of it, chiefly in that it is again producing a full-length Extravaganza. These primitive orgies, political satires, song and dance shows, pornographic pandemonium, whatever you like to call them, have sounded something like fairy-tales to those who have come to the College in the past two years. But now, at last, they are about to taste of the real nectar, in all its pristine glory.

They are going to learn the ancient but well-hidden laws that regulate Extravas, and, even if they don't take part, many of them who come from the country are going to be watching for the first time. Not, of course, that seeing a work of art such as this is anywhere near as pleasing as actually producing it, but it's the next best thing, as we hope the residents of Wellington realise next week.

Snappy Work

The history of this particular Extrav is rather exciting. When, about three weeks ago, "Salients" reporter was asked to enquire about it, he could only report that Ron Meek had written a first-class show, for his own amusement as he said, and that nobody knew whether it would be produced or not. Next Monday morning he went up to the College, and scattered all over the notice boards he found gigantic notices informing him of a casting meeting for next Thursday. A full committee meeting was held on Tuesday night and preparations were got in train for all the varied aspects of the production, property, wardrobe, publicity tickets, Capricious, etc., etc. But when we went to the casting meeting, we knew the show could not fail to be a success. Hundreds of willing, enthusiastic people filled the Gym, and the talent was so great that the casting committee had real difficulties in deciding between them.

Enthusiastic Workers

Particular rehearsals are dealt with on other pages of this issue. They differ in detail, but they have this in common; they all show an extraordinary spirit of cooperation amongst the whole cast. If you take a glance around the Gym you will find students of every shape, size and description taking part in their part in the show. Arts students, science students, law students, T.C. students, freshers, graduates, sweaters, loafers, etc., etc., are all to be seen rehearsing with equal enthusiasm. Just sitting waiting to go on. It is probable that this Extravaganza will produce more cooperation amongst all the various sides of College life than anything else, in the past two years.

For it is not only among the actual cast that this working in unity is so evident. There are dozens of other people whose part in the show is equally as important as that of the players themselves. Think of the property men, working every evening to make the stage complete, of the wardrobe mistress and her team, sewin away for dear life to get their dresses finished in time, of the financial controller always ready to assist, of the publicity squad writing scripts, arranging photos and sticking up posters. They have all been going ahead quietly behind the scenes, ensuring the success of the show. Remembering that all this work is voluntary, one is struck by the fine way in which everyone has buckled into his or her job.

Co-operation at V.U.C.

In spite of the short time available in which to produce the production, everything is going well to schedule. Rehearsals have been an outstanding success. And although it has been experienced in getting rush jobs done by outside people already short-staffed, all serious obstacles have been overcome and "the show will go on." Mr. Meek has pointed out that the presence of women in the cast has had a very good effect on morals. Not only has it been possible to have impromptu dances during the tea interval, but they also give colour to the show, and make rehearsals pleasant social functions. (He also remarked on the number of romances that arise as a result. We make no predictions.)

To all appearances, the Extrav is not only going to be a great success as a show, but also it will act as an example to every member of the College how much can be done if we act as a body. If the University is to fulfil its true function, we must learn that, by co-operation, we can achieve a great deal more than we ever dreamed before.

That such a spirit is alive in V.U.C. is evident from the greater activity shown this year by many clubs and organisations about the College. The Extrav made it obvious to everyone.

Any students who have suffered disadvantage in regard to appointments to jobs or anything else, due to the various sides' reluctance to delay publication of examination results or matriculation lists, etc., etc., should consider this information in the light of the Correspondents' Club, N.Z. U.S.A., 6/0 Exec. Room, V.U.C.

Huddy Williamson, Ron Meek, Jack Barr (Treasurer).

Stage Manager

The opening words of the producer, "I may be in charge of the moment but on the night you will take directions from Mr. Meek. Mr. Meek is an important person. We went to see him. A slightly built, slightly bald, slightly self-conscious person, fished before our gaze. "Here are the answers to those embarrassing questions you asked me," he said. "Now go away. I'm shy, and I want to do some work."

Here are his notes: "Fresher in 1936, taken part in all Extravs since then. Stage Manager or Assistant since 1939. Not particularly successful in falling degree, but B.Sc. forced on me in 1940. Official excuse for presence at V.U.C. this year: "sick."

Message to cast: "Please! Avoid going on stage and tripping over thunder apparatus during love scenes."

Author and Producer

He is not as beautiful as the photograph would have you think. In fact, when we approached him (admittedly at a difficult moment) he was a man of terrifying mien, with a grim pipe and a green jersey.

"No, I am not shy," he answered.

"These balls were first granted by my presence in 1934, and my first Extrav was "Brave New Zealand" in 1935."

"The Photocrits," in 1937, came from yonder flowery typewriter, as did a certain script in 1941. This latter was unfortunately banned.

"By 1939 I had completed an L.L.M. together with sundry scholarships. I dwell in Hamilton, where I was not appreciated from 1941 to 1943 and suffered the farmers with expletives from "Johnto.""

My hobbies are angling and swimming, in which I have a blue or two.

And now for God's sake, stop this foolishness and get on stage! ACT ONE, PLEASE! A difficult man, Mr. Meek!"
Editorial

The Trade Union Situation

As might be expected, we have had further correspondence concerning an article in our first issue entitled "Students and Trade Unions." Our immediate action was to pay a visit to Mr. Thompson, with a request for his views and comments, if any, upon the letter. He clarified several points and gave reasons for enforcing full payment of union fees by students, as by other casual workers.

"Freezing chamber and a labour dispute is largely seasonal," he said. "The rush periods, with a large number of men employed, are relatively short. The union card cannot be considered as a yearly, but as a seasonal ticket. Many employers worked only a slightly longer term than the students and a concession to the latter would penalize most other firms."

Mr. Thompson's second point brought attention to the low charge made by the union. Twenty shillings is perhaps the lowest union fee in New Zealand. Capitation fees paid to the Federation of Labour come from this, and yet the decision by a joint conference of delegates to allow an increased fee was rejected by the secretary as unnecessary.

Perhaps if these two points had been made clear in the original article Mr. Stone would have been less irate.

We also approached Mr. J. B. C. Taylor, President of N.Z.U.S.A., on the matter. "We've beaten you to it," he said. "Arrangements are already under way to approach the Federation. We shall recommend fortnightly or monthly tickets, except perhaps in seasonal work, and should be able to give you definite results in the not-too-distant future."

We sincerely hope that Mr. Taylor is not over-optimistic. The system of short period payments is the only solution to an amazing anomaly. With this anomaly should disappear any student resentment to union membership.

Dear Sir,—In your last editorial, in mentioning the financial burden on students you claim that "little can be done about fees; they are, by comparative standards, moderate."

In my opinion you are wrong. That students should suffer at all from a financial burden is insufferable, because university education is not attainable by all. Most necessary relief could be afforded by the complete abolition of fees, which in any case only meet a portion of the expenses of the university. The deficit is met by a Government grant. The extra cost to the State if fees were abolished and the university was entirely State supported (as are our secondary schools) would be more than counterbalanced by the immeasurable gains by the community of free university education possible for all.

In order to take a science course a student must pay approximately thirty pounds a year in fees, unless he is fortunate enough to be able to give himself. This amount allows lecture fees for three subjects, examination fees, and college fees. This expense is great enough for students whose homes are in the city, but represents a comparatively greater sum for those who must pay the exorbitant amounts asked for lodgings in the cities.

Further, I would point out that the public always sympathetically supports any movement which aims at the extension of free education, so that if the students' executive energetically attempt it, they might meet with considerable success.—Yours, etc.,

J. E. HARRINGTON.

Music lovers—the college has provided an orchestra, you must provide the money. In any cultural centre this vital training and pleasing form of recreation should never be neglected. The orchestra provides food for the intellect, a pleasing affinity to his fellows for the player, and a form of relaxation for the listener.

Remember then—come to the next practice. It may be that a few numbers which are required first—if the players are willing to do it—and practice will make perfect. It up to you. See Mr. Greenwood today.

Dear Sir,—In your article on "Students and Trade Unions" (March 28th), Mr. Thompson, Secretary of the Freezing Workers' Union, cited the case of a student at Ngahauranga who refused to pay union fees. He pointed out, however, that the refusal to pay was based on the injustice that a student who worked three years without any benefit should have to pay a full year's fee.

I was the student concerned and could not accept the legitimate reasoning for paying a full fee. Although other casual workers also paid, the fee was in most cases partially transferable to other unions.

Had there been a similar agreement between the Freezing Workers' Union and the University Students' Association, it is the law that anyone refusing to pay union fees may have them deducted from his pay if the union secretary, via the Chief Manpower Officer, requests the employer to deduct the amount.

In my case this was done. Apparently at Auckland freezing works students were given a concession, but at Ngahauranga we obtained a dependant status from the manpower office, which only allowed us to pay the works to see what he could do. This seemed to be nothing.

I was finally levied on a weekly basis present the solution of the question, but the students from Ngahauranga, still fifteen shillings short. I am certain that the majority of them feel as I do, that they were being penalized.

Hoping for a square deal next time.

Yours, etc.,

A. R. STONE,
Medical School, Otago.

Dear Sir,—In the editorial of your last issue mention is made concerning the exorbitant prices of textbooks for university students. No doubt all of you are aware that they are too high, but why wait until after the war? This will mean the loss of several students and in students who can do with every penny.

Let me bring to mind that the N.Z. S.C.M. owns a bookshop which caters for the religious societies in New Zealand. Could not their scope be extended to cover all books needed for our universities throughout New Zealand? If the offices of the societies were pointed at each university for contacting the students and bookshop, and in this way bookshops make—Yours, etc.,

TRB.
LIFE IN THE COLLEGE

The last issue of Salient carried more criticism of college life and the Social Committee met immediately. The committee resolved to hear that Extravaganza would go on, but we felt that someone must be done.

First we examined the suggestions in Salient. Stan Campbell’s idea to form a club or association to “pop up” student life we rejected because we failed to see how we would foster interest in a club to foster interest in other clubs. We thought that we had the machinery already in our own existing clubs and our association as a whole. If a club is moribund it can’t be propped from outside, but must be strengthened from within.

Action

Miss Halton says she would welcome an opportunity to discuss and criticize, together with students, the various facets, matters concerning college life. We feel the same, and so we believe do many of our fellow students. We have therefore invited a student to a “Coffee Discussion” evening on Friday, June 9th, which is the first Friday evening of the second term, to fortnightly meetings thereafter.

Our present proposal is that there should first be a half hour talk last perhaps thirty minutes, and then an even more informal discussion around the coffee cups. We hope that some lecturers will take this opportunity to meet their students out of classes, in an atmosphere combining the cultural with the social.

We Never Mind?

Have you ever stopped to consider that up to now we have all met as a student body, in a social atmosphere, only once a year at the Undergraduates’ Supper? Certainly we meet to transact formal business at general meetings of the Association, and we have dined and debated, but at none of these gatherings is there a fine interchange of personalities.

These functions largely fill the needs they set out to meet, but we have other needs. A debate presents us with the views of a few people on a few subjects and may or may not represent their true beliefs. A dance is only for those who can or want to dance, and in any case the opportunities for conversation about ideas are more limited than the outlets for the discussion of personalities. A tea dance is a good place to gather after an afternoon’s sport, but there are many thousands of people you can dance with, and who wants to talk while they’re dancing, anyway?

Wanted—A hot contra-ute, for close harmony.
—G. S. BOGLE.

GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mental Health in the College

The health service which has recently been instituted for the benefit of the students at Victoria is one which we must surely meet with the approval of the great majority of the people affected. I would point out, however, that the scheme has overlooked one aspect of student health, and that is the need to look after the health of the student himself. The health service would be quite as valuable in catering for the needs of the medical health of the student as in catering for the needs of the mental health of the student. As a matter of fact the problem of mental maladjustment is of greater importance to a student body than it is, I believe, to any large or small research. In U.S.A. it has been shown that at least 15% of students are seriously in need of psychological treatment, and that many more would greatly benefit from it. The corresponding figure for the population at large is 10%.

Why is it then that the higher percentage of maladjustment among students lies in the abnormal condition of the student body? Perhaps the reason is that whereas the student body is exposed to a particularly virulent form of social maladjustment throughout our society, the prolonged strain of examinations superimposed on these conditions would make maladjustment more difficult to sustain.

We have no ambition to run the college at a higher level of mental health than actually exists in the college; we do not allow for 10% of maladjusted at all. We simply wish to emphasize the existence of the problem, and to make sure that the existing problem be a useful acquisition. A couple more alludes (we have a couple) would enable us to approach the problem for consideration (and to rely on a workable average representation) another basis: or two the last go amuse.

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The programme we propose to devote the present issue to a discussion of the new problem. We have learned with a considerable amount of experience both by Dr. J. F. L. Scharlau, a first-rate contemporary composer who happens to be at New College, Oxford at the moment. And then some of the things we did last year, say, “The Farmer’s Daughters,” for the good fun of it, and a couple of the Bach chorales, for the music in them.

The thing I look forward to hearing most myself, and I think some of the present members do too, is a short work that Mr. Douglas Lipton, a first-rate composer who happens to be at New College, Oxford at the moment. He could write for us if we are really keen enough. I hope we will be.

But, as I have met a few more singers. Surely any students who have the time and the will, will sign a sheet that will be put on the notice board, stating first and second preference as regards times. And then, would they hang the sheet for a notice for everyone to know when the next meeting, whenever the club meets, will be held, for example, Y.M.C.A., ANTONY ALPERS.

Student, paid Tuesday, broke Friday, would like to meet student, paid Friday, broke Tuesday.

MONDAY — Get your friends to Extrav!
OVERSEAS STUDENT CONGRESS
UNIVERSITY LABOUR FEDERATION

Students in New Zealand have never hesitated to perform their role in the fight against Fascism; nevertheless there is a definite lack of co-operation between the more progressive-minded forces of the various Colleges. These should be able to work collectively through a federation, to be known as the U.L.F.; at present, when a body does exist, the University Labour Federation. It comprises some 3,000 active members, who represent over thirty Colleges throughout the British Isles.

Their immediate aim is to unite the forward elements of the labour movement for the complete obliteration of Fascism and an establishment of a free and democratic society.

Recently the U.L.F. held its twenty-fourth annual conference in London. There were 123 people present who represented various Colleges. A demand has put forward have been voiced by other progressive movements throughout the world, e.g., the opening of a second front, the re-intervention of Molotov in Russian politics, and immediate assistance to India. Their weekly magazine "The Bulletin" published the following statement:

For over 150 years India has represented Paradise for British Imperialists. For over 150 years Britain has exploited India, has oppressed her people, has retarded her industrial development, crushed her culture. This has been done sometimes in the name of a "divine" mission to convert the heathen, sometimes in the name of "justification". It is only in the last few years that the truth has been admitted to having pursued this policy because "India is the brightest jewel of the British Crown," in which "moral and military, is sent to the North-west border regions.

Chiang Kai Shek
Leader of today, educated competent, Christian in religion, this man has brought modernization to China, and in 1937 was in power. From oppression of the peasant by the landlords, who were supporters of the government, came revolt and a peasants' army. It was joined by trade unionists and communists who had to fight the city to the towns, and these became the Red Army, and eventually after continuing attack by government forces, to its present situation - a soviet area called a 'special' area or North-west border region.

China has been at war with Japan, and on and off, officially and unofficially, since 1931. In 1938, the official beginning of this war, attack again was made this same year Chiang Kai Shek, representing the Kuomintang, the official party, came to an agreement with the communists who controlled a considerable area of China. The two parties agreed to 'peace' between them - Nationalist United against fascist Japan. Despite provocations, attack and once the Japanese possession of Army Units by Government forces, (sometimes it seems as Kuomintang policy, to support the local general) this United Front continues.

Madame Sun Yat Sen
Madame Sun Yat Sen, widow of the founder of the Chinese Republic, more liberal and humane than many educated Chinese, has recently had an appeal published in American papers, including New York Times, in which she describes the war in which no assistance.

"Their bodies were all our defences while we wrought our defences."

These Chinese soldiers in a more grave position than this. Agnes Smedley, who left China in 1941, wrote of the tragic lack of medical supplies and doctors. Chinese might be classified as cannon-fodder but wealthy or idle doctors would have no compulsion on them to care for the desperate plight of the sick, starved and maltreated Chinese soldiers.

Certainly the health and medical authorities have made a terrific effort to bring the scientific treatment to wounded possible. In The Place of Science in China by Yap Poo-Meng the writer has little to say of science in wartime China. Certainly Chinese need of trained medical personnel is very vast, but the impression is gained that the government should consider this more seriously than hitherto.

J'accuse
The lack of co-operation in the Central Chinese government cannot be dismissed as a purely internal Chinese matter, for it vitally affects every member of the United Nations, including, of course, New Zealand, with so many of her soldiers fighting the Japanese in the Pacific. Reaction in China is sabotage to the Allied cause.

"The elders are not keen on publishing debates within the family," explained a government official on refusing to allow a foreign newspaper correspondent to go to Yenan, capital of the S.S.S.R. Chinese, because that is what they feel. But regimented education and repression cannot keep China in a state of feudalism indefinitely. It is not without grave fears we see this weakening of democracy in China and of the Chinese government.

Students-
Cappicade
ON SALE TODAY
We know you will buy one. But will you help to sell it?
It contains
Full Extrav. Programme
Comments on Graduates
Songs
Cartoons
Verse
Story
PRICE: ONE BOB — WORTH TEN!

Tuesday - Send your relatives to it
THE WORM TURNS

Dear Sir,—I was most disappointed to see such a lamenterable display of harsh and showy criticism, as appeared in the recent reviews of your issue of April 13th. Surely Intelligent University students are not as apt to criticise worthless without completely derating. And how could "Salient's" editorials be offensive criticisms in one issue?

Of the film criticisms, that of "In Which We Live" was the least obnoxious though it scarcely did credit even to Mr. Coward's opinions in producing such a detrimental picture of the crew. Some of the "Random Harvest" criticism, for and against, was earned, but the writer seems singularly afraid of appearing over-artistic or of placing too much credence on the audience relating truth and fiction. He forgets also that much of the story is told only in part and that a couple who have comfortably boarded in the country on the girl's income or savings might quite possibly rent a "pretty little cot"-

Have you ever known Ralph Richardson to appear in a poor film? Possibly, but it would be rare indeed. The secret of Sir Laurence Olivier's success is that his trained and polished performance adds subtlety, wit, and tragedy.--THE SILVER FLEET

That underground work unites the forces of very wide classes of society is not generally realized. Van Leyden, manager of a Dutch shipyard, reopens it after the occupation to build U-boats for the conquerors; lets himself be refused as an outcast and quisling, plays the part of an active collaborator and assistant to the Nazis. Behind him it maintains anonymous contact with the underground on both sides, and the "invasion" of chivalry in the mind of the writer. Van Leyden kept his secret well, except a certain minor official who assistance could have been invaluable, her relativity was obvious. But the film proved to be a thrilling one. Van Leyden met death with his dearest possession, the love of his wife, and not even the love of his wife could lie.--THE SILVER FLEET

What a sight!--The all the world's a stage could be well appreciated for the names in this film. Recommended to rest on a speech which is so often polluted. Nor does a comedy set to music lose its entertainment value by being treated much as a musical comedy. Must Shakespeare and Dickens here--"Shakespeare"--in depreciatory tones--or may we enjoy his comedies as did many of his contemporaries and as have thousands of not unintelligent people through passing centuries.

Now may I truly aim myself, Yours, etc., CRITICS' CRITIC.

(May I bring to the notice of Critics' Critic a set of errors in the reviews: (a) In two or three hundred words it is difficult to put forward any more than a general impression of the film. (b) It is quite conclusive that three unfavourable reviews appeared in one issue. (c) There were very few film reviews, consequently there is little diversification in the reviews. We appreciate your criticism and hope that it will extend to one of the current outstanding films.)—Ed.

As films are in short supply due to war requirements, it is necessary to make the most of each. To this end the Photographic Club intends holding gun shooting throughout the year. Students will be able to hear lectures by recognized authorities who have acquired skill in their own work as examples. As in the past members of the club will have the opportunity to criticise; much valuable help will thus be obtained.

Watch the Notice Boards!

THE WORM TURNS

ORSON WELLES AGAIN

His Films and the Mercury Players

The Magnificent Ambersons was due to screen at a first run theatre in Wellington at Christmas. It was delayed because Amalgamated Theatres had refused it. Journeys Into Fear was not even given any advance billing; it just appeared. But the new Orson Welles productions, were screened to somewhat goggle-eyed audiences at a Joseph Cotten and Dolores Costello makes a film worth while at once. It is interesting, too, and intelligent direction can bring out good acting. Dolores del Rio, believe it or not, can do in Journeys Into Fear, and is quite amazingly good. These films should be seen; they are satisfying.

What happened to these two films, and to Citizen Kane, and Our Town, and The Long Voyage Home, and Tobacco Road? All these have been high grade productions of an experimental nature, but it is only good for movie audiences. A correspondent of the Listener suggested to Orson Welles his success for movie audiences. We recapitulate. The Listener critic, is slowly improving the taste of the movie audience. His moviegoers with his intelligent film reviews. Well, much as I admire G.M. I feel that even he can't raise the standard. It is sunk deep in the B-grade and flagged there.

True Art?

The Welles films are examples of true cinema art. I don't pretend for a moment that I understood the implications of The Magnificent Ambersons—it was a difficult film—and consequently I thought that it was much better than the better film. Each, of course, depended strongly upon atmosphere, and got it over, films, in a sense. In Kane, the story was subordinate to the acting, and the acting, by the Mercury Players, superb. Welles himself appeared in Journeys Into Fear, playing a dispossessed, cunning, Turkish police chief. Incidentally the story concerns the endeavours of the Turkish Government to deport the Macabees, an immigrant community of the country without assassination by Fascist agents—nothing rather lacking in point for us at the present time. The Magnificent Ambersons, a strong psychological drama, is fine. The story is the old one about the woman who has to choose a man to love, and love, but it is not trite. The technique, again, is that of atmosphere; the very early frames in the film might have come straight from your grandpa's photograph album.

The Welles Technique

In both films all the old Kiwi tricks are tried out again, with just as much success. There are the odd camera angles—a most remarkable shot comes to mind of Joseph Cotten leaving a tram at a Russian port, perched on the curious facial shots, and of course the idea—and only Welles seems to have thought of it—of having both back-and foreground in focus at the same time. And of the even cheaper film (for films) in which people pause, and cut in, and overlap as we do in life. The rush in a Welles film is vital and alive.

Perhaps the main feature in these Magnificent Ambersons, those who are interested in acting in acting as an art, will play in the best films: to have people the same and yet different. Welles is a master. We will draw on Argyn.

N.Z.U.S.A.

I would like to begin this message by extending the policy laid down by the Executive, and to individual students of the University of New Zealand, greetings and best wishes for a successful year from N.Z.U.S.A.

Next, I would like to bring to your notice the policy of the University for the year 1941, and be it known to all students that we are causing us some concern at Headquarters, and that is the furnishing of detailed and accurate information to help in representing matters affecting students to the University authorities.

As you know, the N.Z.U.S.A. Executive in Wellington is expected to carry out their duties, in addition to attending meetings of the University, and to this end the University annual meeting, or during the year by correspondence, and this free paper is a most important one. We ask for giving such information all relevant details should be mentioned. We err on the side of over-elaboration of detail. The accuracy of such information is what is important. N.Z.U.S.A. will give inaccuracy information collapses when closely examined, and the future of our students is not trite. The technique, again, is that of atmosphere; the very early frames in the film might have come straight from your grandpa's photograph album.

I would urge all students to take an interest in, and support their College Students' Associations, their affiliated clubs and societies, and student activity generally. And, finally, I would remind all New Zealand students of their responsibilities, and urge all of them to be familiar with the rules of the country in which they are studying, and to understand and to appreciate the work of their country and future representations. Vague and unauthentized statements, though sometimes understandable, are worse than useless.

Wednesday - Come to Extrav. yourself.

A rather extreme vegetarian. Looked down from his summit

He said: It's not odd I'm superior to God. Look round on Aryan.
REHEARSALS PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN

Foremost among College activities to be reported are, of course, Extrav, rehearsals, and the upcoming concerts. The cast is bushed and so are we, but the show will go on. Many people with experience of revues, both here and at other colleges, have remarked that they have never seen rehearsals so well organized, or so enthusiastically attended. Credit must go to both the cast and the producers for this.

To come down to details. The casting meeting opened with a bang, that is, a great number of enthusiastic people turned up, and Ron Meek gave them a lot of scope on the show, and many improv hints on Extrav. Then the casting began in earnest. It must be admitted that a tactical error was committed here, in that the women, who had turned up in good numbers, were not allotted their parts first. This would have been quite simple, since there are, unfortunately, no leading female roles, and the choruses could have been made up quickly on the spot. As it was, we had to hang round till 10 o'clock, and withdrew before their names had been taken. Fortunately, their places were filled at subsequent rehearsals, for, as Ron said, you can't have too many women in an Extrav. They help the morale. The casting of the male parts was done after the women, and that fast. The noise of hammers to be heard all the time from the property men, the wardrobe team working quietly in their room. Now and then, the whole cast adjourns downstairs for a song, usually an old favorite. At all times, the property men are on the go, and there is an almost continuous dance or singing. Altogether, it is quite a social affair, and many little groups can be seen, chatting about events of the day, the next act, or a new joke they have thought of.

The cast need little introduction. Dennis Hartley is too well known to require any comment. A definite "find" is Geoffrey Paton, who shows considerable talent as a singer and actor. Although this is his first year, he has had quite a lot of experience at acting, and he's a busy fellow. Stan Campbell, as usual, is without exception, and the Minx abounds. K. T. Powler, a man pink in hue, takes some pleasure in depicting Capitalism in Deline. As far as the men's chorus, tremendo; and for the women's chorus, fascinating.

TURMOIL AND TERROR

How often have I envied those people were able to get eyewitness news of great events and happenings. Now I no longer envy them, as I too have been an eyewitness to a great event—the Extravaganza.

The day is Sunday, the time 1 p.m., the place the gym. George Vassilis and Ron Meek are arranging the troops for the next hour. At the end of the rehearsal, Zombies, Blondies, Gremlins, and Bolshieviks all listen with rapt and intent countenance. Will the show be entitled the "ZEAUS ZOMBIES"? Judging by the performance today the title should be "over-zealous."

The Generalissimo starts by saying "quiet please"—he ends the day by yelling "quiet dam it." He is hoarse of throat, bleary of eye, and damp with perspiration. The Principals no longer have any principles; the Zombies no longer resemble a living dead, the Gremlins look like a blot; the Gremlins are grave; and the Bolshieviks are completely blown. Why? Because they have been rehearsing for the past eight hours.

What a hive of activity; something for everyone to do. If you are not in this scene you are practising your ballet. If you are not in the ballet, you're practising your song. If you have no song you are practising your lines. If you have no lines, you're helping the property man. No rest; no peace; what a life.

"Anyone got any smelling salts?" this cry goes up. The Ballet Mistress has gone into hysterics. The men are hopeless. No rhythm—no balance—no poise. It all looks so hopeless. The six men (wives of King Henry VIII) look sad, sheepish and sweaty. The Ballet Mistress recovers and the show goes on. Always "the show goes on."

We Continue a Great Tradition

For some reason (probably quite a sound one) every writer on this theme goes back to Aristophanes as the Father of the Extravaganza. This is logical, amusing and pertinent. Artistic of contemporary Athenian affairs is an incontrovertible proof that even in those days the Greeks had a word for it; and many a script simply printed with Attic salt has been salted down in the world's attics. Anyhow apart from Aristophanes the V.U.C. Extravaganza has a tradition of its own. There's no type of entertainment like Extrav. It's topically punget and often delightfully insulting, but those prominent personalities who have for so long smiled tentatively upon student eccentricities are generally prepared to take it in the spirit it's meant. In fact records reveal that some prominent figures have even written to thank those who have so cheerfully gayed them.

V.U.C. has always boasted of its freedom of speech, and that freedom is even more unrestricted in Capping Week.

And there's another point. The public gets an almost unrestricted view of the Student Body in action. So that's what V.U.C.S.A. means, one old gentleman was heard to remark. "What magnificent crop de corps."

But there's more. There isn't room in Salient for a Survey of Extrav Through the Ages. Many readers will remember past shows—yes, and many of those staid professional folk in the stalls could tell a tale or two of their undergraduate antics. Because it isn't just putting on a show. It's the rehearsal, the hours spent trembling and swarming beneath the destructive tongues of irate producers, the nights spent devising props, cadging clothes and furniture from long-suffering families, those Sunday rehearsals in the Gym with tea and savory interludes where flourished that sensitive plant the Extrav romance. Then, after sleepless nights, the Dress Rehearsal, 6 to 11 p.m. (D.V.). And a despondent Producer—Prescient—Oops—Parties—The Haemorrhial Club. It all comes back.

The production, with all the glamour of stagecraft and the very real satisfaction of having put over a good team effort. It was hard work. Yes. But see how many come back for more next year.

Ron Meek has weighed in with his best script to date, and that's saying something. "The Zealous Zombies" has probably made history for speed of production as a full-length show and it certainly makes the headlines as an Extravaganza in the best V.U.C. tradition. Political Zombies, raised from the Graveyard of Reaction by a highly disingenuous dictator, strive for Dignity in Wavynad Undah. They even visit the regionally reminiscent figure, the Minx of the Kremlin. Nor is the action restricted to national affairs. The wider field of municipal politics is also exploited and the Council Meeting is not far from a Marx's Next as one would think. However, the end is up to standard and throughout the Deanics the people's voice will acclaim the Zealous Zombies as the hit of the year.

Extrav Rehearsals—An Impress

Orchestra Recitals

The N.B.S. in cooperation with the City Council has arranged a series of Orchestra Recitals. The next one will be on Sunday, May 7th at 8 p.m. in the auditorium. The orchestra will be W. Lawrence Sagitt (from St. John's Presbyterian Church). His main work will be Vivaldi's "Four Seasons." The first movement of the "Winter," "Spring," "Summer," and "Autumn" will be played.

First two movements of Phantasy-Sonatas (Nos. 12) in D flat (Rhenish) and B flat (Holland). Both are, of course, well known and will be played as a basis for discussion.

Grand Chorale in D major (Guainall at la Huelan). The work is one of the finest in the chorale literature and will be played by the orchestra.

Salute to the Symphonic (Verne). This is the second movement of the "Salute to the Symphonic" (Verne) and will be played as a finale to the concert.

The remainder of the programme will include five transcriptions.

Organ Recitals

The programme will include a variety of transcriptions. The producer of this recital is inviting the audience to contribute to the programme and to give a variety of music in the present of music lovers in the city.


OMMENTS FROM CHISTCHURCH

When I was invited by your Editor subeditors with the word "silence" devoted mainly to Extrav. I was given the idea as an opportunity for expressing a few views such University productions. Un- fortunately being a graduate of C.U.C. and while writer and participant of lack I, I have deep background and tradition of the style I thought of your Extrav. at V.U.C. may be of interest, as far as the pre-mentioned limitation permits, to treat the differences that exist be- tween the shows of the two Colleges.

See Society in Satire

As far as I can see, the predominant mood of V.U.C. Extrav. is that of poli- tical and social commentary and satire. C.U.C. this tendency was generally nearly as pronounced. The differ- ence is probably due to the different outlooks of the student bodies of the two Colleges. V.U.C. seems to lean far more towards the political than C.U.C. The latter (in my case, I guess) was largely a reaction to the special differences between the two institutions and the political in-crowd, whose number counted a big per- centage of scientific and engineering students. It is a well-known and generally well-accepted phenomenon that scientists and engineers do not interest themselves in social and political problems to the ex- tent their scientific and technological abilities and the reactions thereof on their everyday life. I am sure you will agree with me, and I think we should agree with you, too.

Budding Playwrights

The other point I wish to raise is that, in my opinion, it is a great pity that the scripts of the College shows are not preserved, at least in the libraries of the respective Colleges. If a disturbing but nevertheless true that the bulk of original stage-writing com- posed in New Zealand and produced in the local theatres is comprised of the shows of the two Universities, which will provide a reasonable chance at his efforts. It is true, there are many; but not necessarily, they sometimes indicate a lack of appreciation of the country and the technique; "Colonel Blimp" naturally fulfills the degeneracy of the brain, but it is a common complaint in the country; some even think that student shows are the means of saving the country, and expressed. But this must be remembered. No other organization seems to possess

Undergraduates’ Supper

On Thursday, May 11, at 8 o’clock, Varsity is going to expect everyone to show up in the Gym for the historic occasion of the Undergraduates’ Supper. Traditionally, undergraduates are expected to show off the illusory few on the night before their big ordeal. This is your chance to demonstrate an appreciation of their long labours in the Halls of Learning, and to fare well most of them into the bargain. It’s your last chance to see them (and they will all be there as "Graduands Free" in the slogan) before they go onwards and upwards to bigger and brighter things. Undergraduates Supper is part of the tradition of V.U.C. and therefore has its serious and its brighter side—traditional toasts give way to all the various atmospheres—the brighter side is the eating the items and invari- ably also in the speeches the remarks to the toasts, delivered by ancient and eminent members of the Common Rooms, the old Varsity bodies. It’s the one show you don’t want to miss. Tickets (Two shillings) will be on sale in the Exec. Room from 5 to 7 p.m. They may also be obtained at the Canteen.

The King ....... Chairman
The Professorial Board: R. M. Danieli (Chairman), R. C. North, R. W. Eadie, G. B. M. Locke, D. Crompton
The Graduands ... Miss C. Crompton
The Executives .. Miss C. Crompton
Reply ....... M. M. Goldstone
The Executive ... Chairman

Wanted—A Chair of Music

With the formation of the Training Orchestra, the revival of the Socia Can- torum Choir, and of Sunday afternoon organ recitals in the Town Hall, a question has arisen which for a long time the minds of many students of V.U.C.—why is it that we have no Chair of Music in our College? Perhaps the lack of enthu- siasm which Wellingtonians have shown in the past towards things musical can in part be attributed to this very fact; or else, is it purely coincidental that the other two cities in New Zealand which boast University Colleges—of which two Varscan—can also boast active symphony orchestras, a high standard of choral work, and enthusiastic support for re- citals? An illustration of this: A few years ago organ recitals in our Town Hall ceased because of the apathy of the citizens; on the other hand, the Sunday evening recitals by Prof. Gal- loway in the Dunedin Town Hall are one of the highlights of the city’s cultural life: Otago University has an alert School of Music—surely there is an obvious connection between these facts.

Probably many part-time students do not realise that out of all the subjects that part-timers would normally take at a University College in New Zea- land, music is the only one not taught at V.U.C. While it would be essentially a "part- time" College, Music, perhaps the most popular of all cultural subjects, is not taught at a College which should aim to provide the cultural background of a complete education. The evidence is overwhelming: Music plays an essential part in many students’ lives. A Music Faculty is a necessity.

It may not be necessary to provide facilities for completing a Music de- gree, but many students would welcome the chance to take music at least one stage for Arts.

MAJESTIC CABARET
FRIDAY, MAY 12
9 p.m. — 2 a.m.
CAPPING BALL
Subscription - 15/- Double Dress: Formal
Tickets available daily between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. from Monday, May 1st, to Friday, May 5th.
Apply at Executive Room.
A definitely limited number of tickets will be issued.

HAKA PARTY

If you join Salient’s staff and the rest of the hot-pot in the queue to see Extrav from the gods, you won’t mind getting a bit of a load of fun. The show? Why? Because you can always count on a few novel diversions from the Weir House habit as we have a history going back a few years. Whether the bone- raking structure which supports the towers or the silly little bits, they all hold a charm that we have not yet received a call from your show in 1960. Weir House was then going to have a chorus of “We are the hall of the Whitehall.”

The gods of the Opera House hold many treasures for the Wellingtonians and the joint committee, as well as the House Committee, will be taking up a very important function than ever before.

HAPPY TIMES
Amendment of the constitution was the main issue discussed at a recent meeting of Weir House residents. It was shown that there is no room in the House for both a War- den’s Committee and a House Commit- tee, and the deliberations consequently re- sulted in the amalgamation of the two.

In the future, discipline and organisa- tion of the House will be the responsibility of the Weir House Committee, whole.

The House Committee thus taking on a very important function than ever before.

It is hoped that the new arrangement will result in a more co-ordinated House and it will certainly give much more distribution of the work.

The recent House meeting at Weir offered an opportunity for the residents to meet their new matron.

Although Mrs. Veitch has been with us for some weeks now, it was not pos- sible to arrange an earlier official meeting.

The president said a few words of welcome and in extending best wishes to Mrs. Veitch in her new position expressed the belief that she would con- tribute to the development of the College that has been established between matron and students.

The recent return of Mrs. Veitch related to her earlier interest in Weir House and offered to do everything possible for the welfare of the residents.

IAN DICK

The Ceremony

On Friday, May 12th, the all the grades will be capped, and the ceremony is scheduled to be held at eight o’clock in the Town Hall. It is a great moment for the ninety odd grades when they are handed their diplomas in the presence of Principals, Professors and the assembled multitude. All the parper- nalia of learning is apparent—the Pro- fessors sport lots of red, blues and golds in their academic dress and even the smallest Bachelor of Arts is decked out in a pink hood edged with ermine of a kind. It is meant to be a very impres- sive and dignified ceremony, but there are some who do not see it that way but rather as just another excuse for some fine entertainment. These bright sparks generally have an excess of jubilant spirit to work off, and cabbage bou- quets, wier whoops, and backstairs manoeuvres become part of the cere- mony. Those responsible for these things are quite disassociated from the following officials: Professor Gere, who will take charge of professorial arrange- ments; Jack Berr, the Exec. Controller of Capping; and Alan Veitch, supervisor of the flower girls. Its a big thing, so come along and show it all over the place in the Town Hall on Friday, May 12th.
SPORT

Prayer, Profanity and Praise

Most winter sports will have begun the season by the time this appears to grateful public. The blood lust will have aroused our footballers and hockey players to inflect crude barbarities upon their fellows in order to prove that they have a sound mind in a healthy body. Others, inadequately dressed, will prove they have at least a healthy body by running through gorse bushes up and down the local hillsides Hartshill—where, however, retain a firm belief in the cable car for uphill work.

These alluring pastimes require very high standards of physical fitness and team work. No rugby or hockey team, for instance, can hope for success unless its players are fit, and play as a team. Yet there are many players at Varsity who do not train with their team, but who nevertheless become very disgruntled if they are not chosen for the top teams. Fine players though many of them are, they would be infinitely better if they practised regularly. ‘We keep fit to play rugby rather than play rugby to keep fit,’ is a saying which applies equally well to all winter sports—outdoor variety, at any rate. Apart altogether from the fitness angle, what is the use of a coaching spending hours teaching manoeuvres requiring good team work only to see them ruined in match play by some ‘expert’ who does not understand what it is all about. Through long experience we have found it is usually those players who are responsible for the second factor in that most successful of coaching methods referred to above—a mixture of prayer, profanity and praise.—A. O'B.

They Came to Sccff but Remained to Play

The hockey season started off enthusiastically at Karori Park. The keenness of the beginners was particularly noticeable and the indications are that they will emerge from their apprenticeship as proficient players.

Last season we entered three teams. The Seniors showed considerable improvement and were promoted to Senior A grade, where, however, they found the going rather rough. The Juniors' enthusiasm resulted in their attaining a good standard and they finished well up the grade. The Intermediates were hemmed in by their previous year's players and some newcomers, who are by no means up to the game, to the new River. In the half-time we had seldom seen better weather on the top. Lunch on Mt. Atkinson, in the sunshine, with the rushing water in the valleys, was extremely pleasant, and although there was mist on the top of Hector, the rest of the ascent was an easy walk to Field's went according to plan. The next day brought more sunshine, and after admiring the bulk of Mt. Crawford, they all scrambled down to the Forks, and walked the long, weary miles to Otaki.

Another Southern Crossing

When several members of the V.U.C. Tramping Club had announced their intention of going to Tawheratu on Easter, it was not surprising that they finished up at Otaki. Unlike the Tararua T.C., which keeps to its name, the Varsity Club believes in a certain flexibility in its arrangements. In fact, of the five half-drowned trampers that turned up in Tawherawhiti Hut late that Thursday night, only Alec McLeod, who had crossed upstream a week before and admitted he had seldom been seen better weather on the tops, lunch on Mt. Atkinson, in the sunshine, with the rushing water in the valleys, was extremely pleasant, and although there was mist on the top of Hector, the rest of the ascent was an easy walk to Field's went according to plan. The next day brought more sunshine, and after admiring the bulk of Mt. Crawford, they all scrambled down to the Forks, and walked the long, weary miles to Otaki.

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