ORATORY STANDARD LOW

Plunket held in Concert Chamber

This year’s Plunket Medal Contest was held in the Town Hall Concert Chamber last Saturday, September 30. There were nine entrants, one scratching. Judges for the contest were Sir Harry Batterbee, British High Commissioner in New Zealand, by lack of Catherine Forde, herself a Plunket Medallist. Unfortunately the Rt. Rev. Lord Bishop of Wellington, our third judge, was taken ill on Saturday, but we were fortunate that Mr. Eaton Hurley, also a Plunket Medallist, kindly consented to fill his place.

Proceedings opened with a presentation by the Music Makers Club Orchestra of “Pallière” by J. C. Faber and “Suite,” by PEARL.

Mr. Brendan O’Connor, in the chair, remarked briefly on the various merits of the judges and of oratory; the former, we were told, were well qualified for their task, the latter should reach—“even sublimity”—we sat and waited in hopeful anticipation.

Mr. Roy Jack faced several disadvantages—he was first, the doors of the hall were opened to admit late comers—and he spoke on Winston Churchill. Churchill is a great man—if we hadn’t heard of him before we would have been convinced by his achievements. Mr. Churchill was far sighted (1936 statement on Hitler Germany), honest (blood, tears and sweat), and he had faith (in God, Queen and Country). The speech had consummate oratory—“He speaks the English language like an organ”—and then with “Hitler lying in his Norectic lair” Mr. Jack out-Churchilled Churchill in his scaring utterances.

Mr. Jack Williams, speaking on Albert Schweitzer, began well with a clear picture of a musician, a follower of Bach, with a wide circle of admirers. Strangeways, with three doctors to his name, he goes out to French Equatorial Africa, for “Lazarus suffers in the tropics” and renders medical aid to the natives “to pay back a little of the white man’s debt.” This is his cross. Mr. Williams’ voice was light but he used it well, his infections pleasant and flowing, and his choice of words colourful, he reached sincerity with neither pomp nor affectation.

Mr. Kevin O’Brien spoke on Field Marshal Smuts, “one of the greatest of living statesmen.” First we were told of his life “Home, home on the veld” and later of his career, of “service before self-interest.” The account was fluent and his manner pleasant and earnest, the conclusion was telling: “Happiness is freedom and freedom is courage!” Mr. John Ziman next spoke about Pasteur. Pasteur did worthy things, chief among them were his saving of the wine and beer and silk industries of France—we thought the former very worthy; he also followed Lister and cured rables, he had genius—the infinite capacity for taking pains. Pasteur once said “Science and peace will one day triumph over ignorance and war.”

Mr. Stan Campbell took Horatio Nelson as his hero and into his speech packed the quintessence of the British Empire. He ranged from the Vikings to Winston Churchill, from Dunkirk to the River Plate; the Nelson spirit was key to it all. “Nelson’s work did not finish in the Navy,” declared Mr. Campbell with fervour. Lady Hamilton was not mentioned.

Mr. Brian O’Leary spoke on Thomas Manary, founder of Czechoslovakia, liberator and poet. He gave a scholarly speech, without fire but with grace, his emphasis was on the character of Manary, his treatment sympathetic and his story clear. The climax, while not dramatic, was sincere, gaining him a sympathetic hearing.

Mr. A. Duncan, with a “magificent” voice and occasional lapses into the Churchillian inflection, spoke on William Eberhart, Prime Minister of Alberta. The speech lacked colour in that it dealt with principles rather than with human beings, it was, however, better knit than many of the others.

Mr. Vincent O’Kane spoke of Peter Bar-Jons, a simple fisherman. The speech was strongly built, and, whether by design or lack of confidence, more contingency in his argument would have held the audience better.

The judges made their decisions to the accompaniment of violin and cello solos by John Davis and Arnold McKee with John Money at the piano.

Sir Harry Batterbee announced the result of the contest:

First: Mr. J. C. Williams.
Second: Mr. A. Duncan.
Third equal: Mr. K. B. O’Brien and further inquiry.
Special mention was given to Mr. J. Ziman.

Sir Harry gave a brief definition of oratory, stating the four chief ingredients as thought, language, voice and sincerity. He stressed that neatness in pronunciation and enunciation was the basis for oratory and gave the opinion of the judges: that there had been no real oratory in the whole evening, only speeches.

Miss C. S. Forde emphasised the need to build up to a climax and to develop speech rhythms.

Mr. Eaton Hurley assured the audiences that he shared their disappointment in the absence of his age mates were briefly pointed out to those speakers who had failed to grip their audience’s attention. The decision rested largely because they had failed to remember their audiences.

Mr. John Ziman presented the medal to the winning speaker, and a vote of thanks was passed to the judges.

HOURS STILL SHORTENED
Cr. Gaudin States Library Case

In an interview with Councillor Gaudin, Chairman of the City Council Library Committee “Salient” learned that there is no official optimism regarding an extension of library hours to the old standard in the near future.

The library now shuts on Sundays and after eight on week nights; these restrictions naturally affect students, particularly part timers.

“Salient!” reporters found City Councillor Gaudin of the Library Committee affable if vague, when approached for reasons of the recent curtailment of hours at the Public Library. He stated “There is no hope of opening for full hours until after the war, or such time as there are sufficient staff available.” Over forty employees have recently left the library. We asked what in his opinion accounted for the librarians leaving—“Irregular hours are the chief reason,” said Mr. Gaudin.

Librarians, he told us, work for thirty-eight hours a week, and previously there was a roster for night shifts and Sundays. As this did not appear to us to be sufficient cause for such a grave shortage of staff we made further inquiry into the conditions. Wages are awarded on a grading basis and £250 is the maximum for a branch librarian. The majority of those who leave are fully trained and seek jobs with better working hours—and, we thought, perhaps for the better pay.

“Would it not be possible,” we asked, “to raise the wages to compensate for the irregular working hours?”

“We are bound by the Corporation staff,” answered Councillor Gaudin. “It is difficult to differentiate, and to raise wages in one department would affect two thousand other employees. The Council acts in self-defence in order not to jeopardise the whole system. I admit the primary importance of the libraries as an educational factor, but you must realise that the Council has the matter well to view.”

Here we could not but feel sceptical: by what vivid stretch of imagination could one see the girls on the trains objecting to a rise for the underpaid girls who work in the library?

Of the two possible solutions to the problem it seems that the Council should have chosen the one to benefit the public, and this would have been to better the conditions of the librarians.

Robert Wood

We suggested that students with library experience might be willing to assist in relieving the staff shortage. We were told, however, that similar offers had been made, but that the Council and management were not enthusiastic, preferring to keep only permanent employees. If, however, it were to be considered, temporary librarians would receive the starting wage of two pounds a week.

The present situation is obviously unsatisfactory to public and librarians alike. While we were received with courtesy, we do feel that the attitude of the Council on this matter has been neither constructive nor co-operative.
EDITORIAL

It is perhaps over ambitious for any student paper to claim a clear cut policy or to attempt any guiding influence on the writings of its staff and contributors. For this reason—the mechanical difficulties facing a part-time student staff, already engaged in full-time jobs and degree work, are considerable; the difficulties of accurate reportage, careful layout, of obtaining illustrations and blocks and soliciting contributions are very great, in fact sufficiently so to tend to squeeze out considerations of policy.

We have, nevertheless, attempted the following things in "Salient" this year. Firstly and within the limits imposed by journalistic experience and lack of time, we have adhered to this page of view fairly closely to that of the Executive, with a knowledge of background and of future prospects. We have also attempted to obtain articles and interviews on topics both controversial and of student interest, particularly from outside contributors, but also from members of the staff.

This policy demands three things—some standard of journalistic ability for the staff, a sufficiently large circle of student subscribers to make selection possible, and a circulation which will keep the paper solvent.

During this year, as in the past, staff members have been forced, largely by reason of their small numbers, to cultivate the arts of over-work and late nights rather than those of journalism; similarly most of the articles have been from the nucleus of people who organise student activity and not from the readers as a whole. This, perhaps, brings us to the root of the trouble—too few readers and a lack of interest in the paper. This again is coupled with our heavy financial loss. "Salient" is at least as great a liability on the Executive as the Cricket Club. We are faced with a demand for a higher circulation figure, which means a lower price and a better product. To satisfy this we hope next year to defy the tradition of five years and devote one quarter of our space to advertising. This should not only halve the subscription rates but also allow some margin for blocks and photographs. Further to this a regular, large layout should make it possible to delegate authority to staff members and to allow for a greatly increased staff; it is also hoped that the number of outside contributions received will continue to increase.

For "Salient" '44 we might claim an attempt at a live-wire student paper, an attempt which should come to fruition in '45. The thanks of the Editors must be extended to the staff, both literary and distribution, who have put a great deal of time and hard work into "Salient" this year, and to all students and staff members who have contributed articles and reports. Without these people there would have been no "Salient." In conclusion we must thank the Printer, poor devil, who has had to much to contend with.

A Soldier Writes.

While visiting an R.N.Z.A.F. station hereabouts recently, I was yogaing with Neville Green (ex-Victoria), now an Air Force education man, who produced from the litter of scholarly junkee on his desk a battered copy of Capigli's "41. While Green explained to me the illustrative dope, I scanned the illustrations (it being impossible after many months on various islands for me to read anything more difficult than "Look" Magazine). You may recall a "Lister" article contributed by various people (among them Prof. Gordon) which advised us on selection of a certain number of books to take on an island. Today I received a copy of the new edition of the Oxford Book of Verse and my feeling was akin to being at a particularly boring chatter-party and suddenly hearing someone make a sane remark. I live in an American camp, a patchwork of backgrounds in a large cross-section of the "Melting Pot," but they sell the "New Yorker" regularly in the post-exchange whereby I share reviving laughs with my tent-mate, Bill W., a Harvard Ph.D., studied for eight years in Rome, Paris and London. He, the New Yorker, the Oxford Shakespeare, Gargantua and Pantagruel and Everydayman's "Modern Humors"Native, I hope, prevented to present a pre-occupation with the more material things on these islands.

—DUNCAN MCPHEE.

D O G  F A T S  D O G

Salient Reviews Spike

It is not without difficulty that I am reviewing "Spike" for "Salient"; the only too apparent weaknesses of the magazine this year are a reflection not merely on the editors, but on the college itself. Only those students who contributed to "Spike" are in a position to complain of the weakness shown.

The cover is unambitious but not offensive, the printing by Caxton is good and unostentatious—all though the minor defect of three obvious misprints. The plates lack of character; the verse is perhaps remarkable that over half the entries that reached print were transliterations. As one contributor points out, translation is an art. But in this case I cannot but feel that the lack of original thought is an indication of the failure of the editors to stimulate students to think about and write of problems with which they are familiar.

True, it is notorious that in any college, particularly the ones in which the friends of the editor are likely to be in evidence and that is largely the fault of everyone else: but it seems to me that the publication of the Spike will affect the publications of our college will suffer. Spike '44, does not go beyond the arts faculty—perhaps not even the realm of "pure literature." It is hoped that the editors will take into consideration the motivating aim of the magazine is no indication of success. On looking through Spikes of the past I have been impressed by the impressive selection of material from different faculties. The college has so many points, from which I must conclude that editors of previous years have either had no friends and so have accepted contributions from the hot potato or else that they have had a wide circle of acquaintances who have submitted material. There is the unhappy suggestion in this year's Spike that "outsiders also run.

Of the photos there appear to have been too few worth printing and certainly "Radiatorograph" is a beautiful bit of work.

On College Clubs

In view of the fact that Spike tradiitionally ran the annual record of the college clubs, the failure to include a record of the sports clubs is to be deplored, and the inadequate "write-up" of the and the inadequate "write-up" of the cultural clubs disappointing. On looking at the far less beautifully printed but more lively and comprehensive notes of bygone years I cannot but sigh for the past.

I would not say that the writing in this year's Spike is inferior, certainly both the verse and prose is on the whole smooth and well constructed; in the main it is well informed and indeed, often erudite. But frankly I not only do not buy the art aesthetic parade, but think the "broken bell" is not the fact that for Mr. Hayman—"England was Fifth" and, although, like the Caxton Strike, I have read the winning poem "Invasion" on two occasions, I cannot presume with this year's Spike that I have read it.

In conclusion let me say this—I am grateful for the privilege of reviewing Spike this year, but if I turn red for a moment or two under the electric light, harh harh it is, perhaps, that I feel that Victoria could do better.

—B.T.R.
Films and Stage

by Whui

Reviews in this issue contain dirty cracks at just about everything and everybody. The doldrums are with us again in films, and the stage is uninviting. Whether the drought is caused by the quiescence of summer, the dust, the heat—all the things his camera saw his pen recorded also.

As for the two things Mr. Andrews’ camera did not see, and in his written words only occasional glimpses of—well, of anything—the man who was looking for battle pictures—and missed all the important to us who were there. His camera could have explained our physical hardships to home fronts and perhaps

Guadalcanal

impressed them. But because he came from outside, a visitor under officers’ conditions and free from a daily threat to his life, he could not help becoming absorbed in Mr. Andrews’ book.

As for the place he saw and the almost exactly similar places I have and have known, the dust, the heat—alld the things his camera saw his pen recorded also.

But there were other things Mr. Andrews’ camera did not see, and in his written words only occasional glimpses of—well, of anything—the man who was looking for battle pictures—and missed all the important to us who were there. His camera could have explained our physical hardships to home fronts and perhaps

Photographic

When amateur photographers in Wellington hear the name of H. Farmer Macdonald they recall a series of striking photographic pictures that have been hung in exhibitions over the past few years. Many of them. Photographic Club were very pleased recently to examine some of his character studies and hear Mr. Macdonald’s own comments about them. Working from the classic example of the snap of the girl friend in the garden, he pointed out many of the traps for young players. Look out for trees growing like antlers from her hair, and for horizontal lines that will appear to decapitate her or amputate a graceful limb. A fairly low viewpoint, not so close as to bring about distortion, will provide the ever-interesting sky as a background. The early morning and the late afternoon are the times when the sun gives the most suitable illumination. For general indoor work, take pictures of objects as similar to those outside as possible, one fount and a single spotlight being definitely preferred.

Question time brought out some useful hints on the setting of the scene, the development of expression, and the elimination of undesirable features from pictures. Mr. Macdonald told how he had made his discourse as entertaining as the setting itself.

Watching the notice-board for details of a proposed visit to Perry’s Studios.

The only competent film critic in this country for many years has been Gordon Mirams, of the “Listener.” His name is not on the public roll, but he has, in a quiet, unpretentious way, covered the entire country and is, at the time of writing, working on what promises to be his longest and greatest series yet. This is the treatment he has given the “Lifeboat.”

G.M.—Lifeboat

And so, knowing that “Lifeboat” had a terrific publicity campaign overseas and that GM had given it a stand-up cap, I was a bit sceptical even before I saw it. Well, “Lifeboat,” to me, was just another quite ordinary picture. The whole plodding campaign that the acting were very good and the atmosphere excellent, but it has the same sort of story as all the other films I’ve seen. It had neither the sincerity of “San Demetrio, London,” nor the authenticity of “Gallant Kane.” It relied on “the magic of Hitchcock” and the genius of stickleback rather than its own good qualities. Steinbeck, who “hugs Hollywood,” tried, I think, to create another Daniel Lanier in German U-boat captain. Although it didn’t work out, we were left with the conclusion that this is a far better man than the poor old negro, and is responsible for his historical nigger amongst the whites.

A Mouse

Mind you, I realise the difficulties Hitchcock faces. Firstly, it is a brave thing to make a full-length film with a small boat for its only locale. There can be little action and there must be fine acting. And all this effort seemed to be lost on Hitchcock’s most recent film, a well-constructed, intelligent picture, to be sure, but still a mouse. Canada Lee, one of the best Negro actors, made a fine job of his rather difficult role. Tallulah Bankhead, a few years many on the New York stage, proves herself still in the top flight of movie actresses. Because the cast was so small and so static the playing had to be good.

In fact, it was a very good film. But, not I, think, a great one. And surely our highest awards must be reserved for those films which are truly great—the “Our Town” and “Green Pastures” and the “Pygmalion.” There are the films that do something to us—they are not just films we go on a Saturday afternoon. And they include all the high-grade films that just don’t make it, then we can plead with the museum to give them for the one or two a year that do that.
VACATION WORK RETURNS

Psychology Division Analysis
— concluded from our last issue

Sixty-four per cent. of the students who sent in returns found their vacation work on their own initiative. The jobs usually had to be confirmed by the man-power authorities, and a not too attractive job was sometimes chosen for fear that man-power might direct to an even less attractive one. On the whole students who found their own work came off better, at least avoided the worst.

Hours and Fatigue

While in general hours worked by students were not unreasonable, a minority had to work, or at any rate did work, excessive hours. Six hours a week can be taken as a rough guide to the upper desirable limit for continuous work. The most serious cases occurred in domestic work. Some girls were working up to 9 hours a week. One third of the girls engaged in domestic work were either completely exhausted or very fatigued by the work. The close personal relationship to the employer in domestic work, and the fact that the employer may herself be working just as hard, makes it difficult or a girl to say "no" when she is asked to carry on after she has done a reasonable day's work. Domestic work did not entail such long hours (up to 60 hours only), but the work was hard and three-quarters of the girls' work was more than slightly or temporarily fatigued.

Wages

More students were satisfied with their wages than with their hours. The returns, however, brought out the extraordinary trivaltiton of our student wages structure. Wages of 266 students ranged from 1/6/- for skilled engineering students paid at first-year rate (I have not two students who received no wages, only letters of thanks. I assume this was their fault!) to £4 a week for unskilled labour. Wage anomalies and inequalities were not unnatural and inequalities were not necessarily a source of some dissatisfaction. For instance, in some cases a student of 18 (male) could earn £5 a week; in another garden a man of 19 might get only £2 2s. 6d. a week. This seems to be due to Justice that men on similar jobs got (wages as much pay for less work) men and women work more definitely.

Freezing Works

Some 10 per cent. of cases of excessive hours occurred in freezing works. One student worked a 13-hour day for two weeks, the day being 2.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is not surprising that he was "thrown in."

The second case was an 11-hour day and a man sometimes more for 15 weeks. His wages of "loss of weight, a great drop in physical efficiency, mental depression and lack of sleep." 36 out of 153 students employed in meat works had at some time to their employment to work over 60 hours a week. In only 19 of these cases, however, were the long hours continuous. Perhaps a sixth of the students employed in freezing works had to work longer hours than desirable.

Fatigue was nearly universal in dairy farms. This was due to the strenuous nature of the work and adverse working conditions rather than to long hours. A number of medical students in dairy farms were employed. The dairy farms were not as relatively fatiguing as in the dairy farms. It is only fair to add that most of the students went into dairy farms of their own accord and presumably realised the disadvantages. At some freezing works the accommodation provided was poor and the food unsatisfactory and apparently near inedible.

General Observations and Advice

As students are likely to be required for vacation work during the coming summer the following points may be worth keeping in mind.

1. If students cannot get work closely associated with their vocations it is much better that they should leave or, in particular on farms, is likely to give them the greatest satisfaction.

2. Work in dairy factories is unsatisfactory. Student labour is a very gruelling for persons not accustomed to hard physical labour; the working conditions are trying (steam and wet) and are likely adversely to affect the health of a student who has been indoors all the rest of the year. The pay is low — impossibly low if board and lodging have to be found out of it and there will certainly be nothing over for the coming year's expenses; the accommodation for casual workers in rural areas is likely to be bad. Avoid going there if you possibly can.

3. Some jobs in freezing works where very long hours are worked are likely to be exhausting. The same applies to some domestic jobs for girls. Make careful inquiries before taking up work of this variety. Unless you are exceptionally robust it is wise to work regularly in poor working conditions for only 40 hours a week and not 50 involving effort or concentration. By working 56 hours or less you will be adversely influencing the war effort. Since researches have shown that working efficiency and output increase when longer hours are worked.

4. Stand up for your rights. One student put the matter well: "There were cases where students have been imposed on while working during the vacation, but surely they should have something to learn to stand on their own feet, and to seek redress through the unions for any wrongs suffered. Object to students being treated with any distinction from other sections of the working community." Needless to say the right to object if unfairly treated implies the obligation to look after your weight when decently treated.

5. Your jobs may not be interesting to yourselves, but they can provide a valuable opportunity for studying working conditions and methods, types of workers and housing and human problems. You can learn a good deal if you open your eyes, open into the general life of the factory, make friends with the staff, and form student cliques. If you can record your impressions and experience accurately it will prove a useful exercise in "Mass Observation."

6. How to Spend Vacation

Provided there is sufficient support a vacation sub-committee of the Executive can arrange for an outing every few weeks, starting December 2, with the Idea of keeping local students together.

The tennis and other sports clubs will be especially interested, as this sub-committee can arrange with them to gain new members amongst prospective freshmen. Watch notice boards and notice columns of the Student for details of excursions to the Moonlight and Alps. The farmers will provide a special sort of "dunce" vacation. The National Agricultural Exhibition can be considered as a certain.

groups were addressed at factories business premises. Parliament, schools, colleges, the Chamber of Commerce, the University, in theatres and in the open air and throughout the subures of Wellington. In the factories alone, from Monday to Friday, about 1,500 people were contacted each day and in every case a cordial welcome was given by the speakers.

Let's take a look at the results briefly:

1. The essential unity of the Christian Church is demonstrated. Eight branches of the Church shared in the week.

2. In the main, people were keen to listen. That between 800 and 1,500 men attended the railway workshops and invited the speakers to come back, is striking testimony.

3. The women, during the week is still going on and will be continued. In some factories groups are being formed to continue discussion on Christian Order. In some districts men's Chellships and women's study groups have come into being.

4. The Christian Order Week made clear that the Christian way of life is not for Sundays only, but for every day and for the whole of life.—23.

Social Committee innovations at the informal dance on September 15th included the entertainment of "Mystery Person," "t he MysterY Vocalist," Pat Wilson, Fat Wilson, Pat Wilson, Fat Wilson, Pat Wilson, who can handle a light touch reminiscent at times of Dibah Shore. He was the "Mystery Vocalist," "Mystery Person," "Fat Wilson," "Phil Wilson," "Phil Wilson," "Garon Wilson," "Jonalio for modern arrangements of "The Old Mill Stream."" Such diversity is an innovation, but not an innovation, equally pleasing was the splendid supper, including hot savouries fresh from the skilled hands of Mrs. Shillson.
THE FILE OF "SPIKE" CONTAINS MUCH FASCINATING MATERIAL FOR A FUTURE HISTORY OF CLUB ACTIVITY AT V.U.C. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SKETCH EVEN A SINGLE OUTLINE OF SUCH A HISTORY OUT OF A CURSORY READING OF THE "SPIKE" MATERIAL.

Sport

The most obvious fact is that sports clubs have been by far the most successful of student societies. The only sports clubs to fail entirely have been the Fencing Club: two attempts to establish the elements of fencing in the college, in 1910 and 1914, were short-lived. The Defence Rifle Club (pre-First World War O.T.C. with 78 members) under various names had an unbroken existence from 1921 until war conditions in 1940 forced its temporary retirement. Every other sports club has proceeded and prospered from its first beginnings. The Hockey Club, indeed, not content with prowess in its field, went on to organise ping-pong contests, hockey games on skates, and picnics.

Our religious societies have not been called upon to suffer persecution or martyrdom. The Latin Club, under the present name, the S.C.M., claims the first Spike of 1952 to be the senior student society. It is the oldest student society, and the inauguration of the College itself. The Debating Society's counter-claim, however, can be upheld on the ground that this was the first affiliated club of the new Students' Association. The Evangelical Union and the Catholic Students' Guild, formed in 1933 and 1944, now belong to the same group. Only an offshoot of the S.C.M. the Social Service Club, was founded and founded.

Science societies concerning themselves specifically, for example, the Chemical, Biological, and Maths.

V.U.C. CLUBS SINCE 1952

History as "Spike" Reveals It

In the 1950s, apart from the melodious ringing of the bell of the increasing interest in the Gramophone Club, music was little patronised by the student body. At present three music clubs in the College, all increasing in activity, contribute to establishing musical activity and interest at a higher level than ever before.

When I hear the word Culture

Liturgical and cultural clubs, on the other hand, have a depressing history and a non-existent present. If we except theLiturgical Society, 1931, Phoenix Club, 1937-40, 1942. Society for Closer Relations with Church (C.R.S.), 1941.

There was, of course, the Chess Club, founded in 1914 "to provide another hand on the musical efforts of students," and showing signs of life again this year; and the Photographic Club, now off to an enthusiastic third start and promising well. The Phoenix Club strenuously in Spike, 1945, give what seems, in retrospect, a just epitaph for its approaching decrease by writing: "Under its auspices gathered the enthusiasm of the e-devant Literary and Photographic Section. The Phoenix Club was a mistake, for the meetings rapidly assumed a political role (a delict to the general, was a general, or else a greaser). Last year, probably as a result of the activities of the Student, politics deserted the club, and the club declined."

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S.M.A.R.T.

Eager to dust forgotten skeletons the Debating Club recently unshelled the Irish Question, three impassioned wearers of the green, Messrs. O'Connor, O'Leary and O'Brien defending the shamrock from the onslaughts of Messrs. Quinn, Quirke, and the Student Body. That the Irish, by remaining neutral in this war, have acted in the best interests of Eire, was provided.

Miss Crompton dealt with the matter from a more rational point of view and while admitting Irish scepticism of the British pictured the goastilities of an enslaved Ireland under German domination. The only safety valve for unemployment has been in England, she said. Speaking on the same side Mr. Campbell stressed the importance of the psychological factor. The Irish missed the bus in not having the courage to fight with England.

The contest was very ably judged by Mr. Howard Wadman, who criticised the speakers in some detail. The audience had not been hindegrated, probably due to prejudice on the part of many speakers. In the general holding of one speaker reminded him of a Sunday school teacher; and as for the speakers on this side, "Miss Crompton was the only one who spoke with fire." Miss O'Flynn was a close second.

This Club has had the name—teaching, administrative, or literary—liberal to the point of license, and within that world of being the most successful of all student societies. It seems strange, none the less, that 45 years have shown cultural clubs unable to exist without political justification.

So far as the liberal clubs themselves are concerned, we have more reason to be proud if none to be complacent. In 1912 the first-born of them was delighted with the following heading an imposing list of midwifes: Patron, His Excellency, the Governor; President, Professor von Zedlitz; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Trinity Adelaide, Hunter, and Laby; Chairman of Executive Committee, Professor Hunter; Secretary of the Executive Committee, Professor Zedlitz.

The Dublin University Periodica was founded in 1934 at its meetings it was to be discussed. Art, Fiction, and Religion. Professor von Zedlitz expressed the hope that the club would "galvanising down the Avenues of Posterity."

Its galvanising met with an un

litely and unexplained end in 1914, but in 1916 the Free Discusions Club, professing similar aims, came into being. It was, however, the strongest and best supported of all College clubs. Then, again, for no recorded reason, it collapsed. During these twenty years a Historical Society blossomed, the temper of College society in 1914 was founded in 1934. This club was in the same tryst that the Free Discussions Club, but concentrated on the study of political philosophy. It founded an offshoot, the Anti-War Movement, but both clubs had disappeared by the beginning of 1956.

The years of this war have seen the emergence of the International Relations Club, now getting its second wind, the only political still-born Society for Peace, War, and Civil Liberties.

Wildoria!

The most colourful of all clubs was probably the Men's Club, the Haeretic Club. It was founded in 1918, went into retirement in 1925, was revived between 1937 and 1955, and made a brief reappearance about 1959.

"Wit, hilarity and good fellowship" were the passwords of the club, and its tastes ran in the direction of smokes, riotous theatre parties, Cappuccino proceedings, the fostering of high-

ly individual versions of whatever huckas the club could lay hand—and foot and voice. Robes and Sticks, KC promotion of College life. Pledged to pursed, the Haeretic Club went further than similar organisations such as the Vic-

toria Clubs (1925) the Haeretic Club (1944) and Weir House, and are discussed. Art, Fiction, and Religion and a hell of a good time generally.

E. & O.E.

Records Officer.

B. M.E.N.'S COMMON ROOM COMMITTEE

Proposals made to the College authorities at the end of last term to grant the Committee a further length of time in the long vacation. In the meantime studen-
THE STORM AND THE STRIFE

"CRUX ANSATA"—For and Against

Readers will remember that in our last issue there appeared an attack on H. G. Wells's recent publication, "Crux Ansata." We have received three letters taking the cudgels both for and against Mr. Wells. They are presented without alteration.

Anti Fra Muto

Dear Sir,—I have just read Fra Muto's open letter to Mr. Wells. I hope some kind person will send Mr. Wells a copy—his amusement will be immense.

Nevertheless, this matter involves the name of my college, perhaps I may also be allowed to express an opinion. In the first place this letter appears to me to be a gratuitous exhibition of uncouth undergraduate insouciance—an annoyance to an student of an academic dignity at the ends of the earth seething with frantie impotence, because Mr. Wells has dared to affront his particular ego-identification. Since he puts such waspish venom into his letter text, I must assume that Fra Muto is effectively involved with the Roman Catholic church; by his vitriolic patronising style and the puerility of his vocabulary, I should naturally assume that he is an undergraduate—a young one.

But enough of Fra Muto. Let us consider this letter objectively. It commences with an emotional appeal to the reader, "For and Against Cooperation!" When did the Roman Catholic church display "religious tolerance and co-operation?" Is it not for the lack of these very qualities that Mr. Wells arraigns it? And, incidentally, would not "tolerance" by a better word, even at the cost of that impressive extra syllable? "At least you have some new ideas"—this is really comical. Oh, the patronising of half-instructed youth! I shall not dilate on the enormity of the change from the second person to the third in the next paragraph, but I should like to point out that Mr. Wells's reputation as a scientist is capable of withstanding a far more dangerous attack than the one under consideration, and that more than one of his scientific textbooks in use in even first-rate secondary schools. Apart from which, what influence does a position in an English secondary school have as a measure of intellectual ability? Can it be that Fra Muto is a teacher?

I have "Crux Ansata" before me, and find it difficult to see on what ground Fra Muto is attacking it. He makes a number of wild statements, but he, not so far as I can see, attempted to answer one of Mr. Wells's arguments. Furthermore he fails entirely to achieve the scientific detachment and objectivity of that writer, and merely makes himself ridiculous by a display, which while doubtless is very satisfying to his greatest admirer, should be admitted as reasonable argument.

He has not, for example, attempted to point out that the figures which Mr. Wells quotes in support of his argument on the subject of illiteracy, he openly charges the Roman Catholic church with persistently allied itself with that Fascism which is so much a part of its own international organisation. He has not shown any reason why any church should be permitted to meddle in politics or to intrigue for power.

Finally, Sir, I would remonstrate with Fra Muto that irony, though it seems such a crushing weapon, is definitely not one for the "precious hand" of power when that hand trembles with emotion.

I have read "Crux Ansata" as the open letter to Mr. Wells, and I can see no reason for using it. There is a reasonable reply I shall read that also. In the meantime, I am neither seeker after truth, and one who would have appreciated Fra Muto's letter far more had it contained some spark of intelligent argument.—I remain, etc.,

NIHL OBSTAT.

V.U.C. HANGS ITS HEAD

3½% of Students Contrive to Loan

With the memory of last year's spectacular "loan-out" drive still fresh in the minds of the College Community, confidence that last year's total could be topped set the quota modestly (they thought) at £1,000. To satisfy the less pecuniary the executive instituted an instalment scheme by which it was hoped to have every student investing in the Loan. At the end of the seventh and last day the total stood at £1,184—yes, one thousand one hundred and eighty pounds from the students to the Victory Loan. A really magnificent effort—until we analysed it.

Closer scrutiny of these figures, however, leaves us with a very empty feeling.

They show that £150 was subscribed by five people, nine students availed themselves of the executive instalment offer, and twelve students purchased a £1 bond each. He who subscribed ten bonds, which were raffled off that the whole amount was subscribed by forty people. Forty is not eleven hundred! This is indeed a brilliant effort, for which the executive should be preserved a verum clap, for a group of apathetic.

Cafeteria

Mrs. Shillion has asked us to apologise for the disorganisation that has occurred during the last few weeks as a result of the activities of two members of the permanent staff. We feel, however, that if any inconvenience has been caused to students it should make them wake up slightly, if this is possible. It must have been quite obvious to anyone who had to wait for his meal until the alms was cleared that the kitchen was short-staffed, but it was until Stan Campbell made his stirring appeal six times a day that any offers of assistance were made. A stand-up clap goes to those who helped in the Caf. Throughout the year and a sit-down one to those who are now realising their responsibilities, but those represent a very small number of the two hundred odd students who eat in the Caf. Regularly, many of whom show more contempt than consideration in their dealings with the staff and voluntary assistants. A special mention of thanks goes to Mr. Gerry Strawbridge for the way he carried out on some of the decrepit equipment.

The Cafeteria will remain open right up to 5 o'clock. The final tea of the afternoon tea will be served as usual and cold meals and salads will replace the hot meal. That's real service for you.

Neither

Dear Sir,—Mr. Wells's "Crux Ansata" has called forth just the challenge he hoped it might. The great supporter of the "still rather formidable edible" stung to the quick by some home truths about his pet obsession, has dashed into print. Whatever may be Mr. Wells's scientific capabilities (and his "Science of Life" does not negate them) he is at least an experienced and by all accounts agreeable fellow. Fra Muto has neither disproved nor denied his well-documented assertions regarding intolerance, uneducation, celibacy and anti-socialism of Roman Catholicism. Instead, he has mentioned Mr. Wells, then knocked down the straw man of his own creation. I agree with Mr. Wells. The church has never been more progressive or more liberal than at the present time. The countries where it is the official religion are more backward than they might be. Some of the most natural and scientific cultures. What do I find unworthy of a cult? The Greek, the Roman Catholicism. It is a true, intelligent and uninteresting to see in every Catholic a fanatic and in every wort a gullible

DISCIPULUS SATANAE
HEALTH SCHEME
First Reports

It is not intended here to give a full account of the Health Scheme. This is not possible, since the doctors who subscribe to the scheme have not had the time as yet to prepare their reports.

A small attempt to give a brief survey of the results to hand so far is made, hoping that a full account will be available for publication in the first edition next year.

First, it must be said that the number of students availing themselves of this great opportunity was disappointing, and reflects rather badly on the spirit of the College. Out of the 231 students enrolled at V.U.C. for lectures, but excluding Training College students, only 321 (just over one-third) completed the examination.

WE ARE NOT ALONE
Bear Ye One Another's Cudgels

Dr. J. C. Bagshale, in a symposium on "Salient" conducted in 1939, remarked that the noise of battle which surrounds "Salient" is a healthy sign. The noise of battle which surrounds "Salient" of 1944. In fact this same noise is heard today. The battle seems to be carried on in almost every University. It is therefore no surprise, on looking through student papers from other countries, which no one normally trouble to read, that students everywhere are thinking in terms of civil liberties and the great issues concerning themselves with the wider problems of society. The partisan students of Yugoslavia, who had to fight through German lines to hold a student Congress recently, and the University Labour Federation in England, whose members are active clubs, do not tolerate opponents, not holding themselves above it in Ivery Towers as we do, are excellent examples. Movements such as this promise well for the rebirth of an International Student Federation after the war on the lines of the now defunct C. I. E.—The Circule Internationales des Etudiants.

The vociferous protest made throughout New Zealand during this war has brought us into the public eye in a fairly favourable light. Three Australian Universities have been in the public eye also—not so favourably.

The stories of the riots caused by students in Sydney and Melbourne (on two occasions) have been fairly well covered by the daily newspapers. We do not wish to associate ourselves with either of these so-called "causes. One concern, and that is the spirit of developed students championed the right of industrial magnates to criticise a War Cabinet. The other was an exhibition of extremely bad taste during the presentation to American servicemen.

At Melbourne and in Western Australia, however, students have been acting in a manner which will benefit not only themselves but their fellows everywhere. Let us examine their actions in more detail.

Civil Liberties?

It may be necessary to restrict individual freedom in wartime but in cases of major political issues, the public (this is not only confined to College students) are at least entitled to hear both sides of the question without the presence of paid protagonists. The referendum recently presented to Australian electors was quite justified. Accordingly, the ISP Students of Teachers' College, Melbourne, invited Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Laurie (Yes) to present their views on the referendum.

Laurie happened to be a Communist and his appearance was banned by Hollaway. The ISP then put up their own platform and the teachers held a protest meeting and their case was supported by Melbourne University Students' Association. Hollaway, commenting on this, said the University was a nursery for Communists, and that Communists had all its facilities at their disposal. Another meeting followed and the "yes" case was presented to the students by Dedman, a man without a thought about the clash of interests involved. The meeting was an exhibition of extreme bad taste during the presentation to American servicemen.

The disputes in Western Australia was on a more material issue. The Western Australian University is a growing college in a growing state. It is understaffed, in short of cash, and has no student representation on the Senate. This year the Senate became so acute that the present staff could not cope with the increased classes.

A special meeting, however, succeeded in pressing the Senate into activity. These august gentlemen were so impressed that they arranged to have the state grant increased—instead of lowered—an increase in the teaching staff. However, it seems that Western Australia is all too eager to take the jay from the hands of the teachers.

E. S. Andrews, adventure-loving author of "Close Up of Guadalcanal," has the observing eye of the expert scientist. He is employed in the Government Film Studios at Melbourne, Wellington.

The Cricket Club set out on its annual pilgrimage early this month, despite the rain. There was a good deal of amusement, some unorthodox procedure, one or two awkward moments, but with the right amount of humor. For weeks they came in pairs every Tuesday and Thursday.

Perhaps the results are due not so much to apathy as it might appear, but to the time of the enrolment. Perhaps the students decided that the examinations were begun. It was unfortunate that they could not be carried out at the time of enrolment. Perhaps the enrolment was done too late.

We hope this may be the case in 1945.

DASI B. FILMER.

CRICKET

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SOME SPORTS PREPARE FOR ACTION

TENNIS

The annual general meeting was attended by more than the usual number of enthusiastic tennis players. After a brief discussion on the balance which was not sufficiently large, and new committee members for the coming season were elected. President: Bert Foley, Chairman: Myles O'Connor, Treasurer: Brian Igles- den, Secretary: Rebecca Strinage, Librarian: Don Beale, Coach: Mike Jones.

Opening Day Tournament: Contrary to all expectations the day was ideal for tennis and at 1.30 p.m. (almost), under the capable management of Ken McNaught, 78 players found themselves involved in a complicated handicap Yankie tournament which continued shortly after 2 p.m., the winners being Rae Turner and Graham Pearson. October, a very successful day—new tennis balls, a perfect day, and a most enjoyable afternoon tea.

Though many students will be away from Wellington during the holidays, the tennis club looks forward to a very successful season.

ROWING

The Rowing Club has just managed to get on its feet again. Last season it consisted of a mere nucleus of four active members, who managed to keep up the standard of rowing that was anticipated.

However this season a little more interest has been shown by a few students after, let us say, stimulation by a few veteran rowers.

A cutting was held last Saturday afternoon on the river. There is quite a lot of water under the expert coaching. The general opinion resulting from the conditions was more fun in rowing than met the eye.

It is hoped that after the exam season more students will be interested in the sport. The prospect of having to study will wander down to the Star Boating Club on any Saturday afternoon for they will then encounter the overflowing jollity of off the slideways in their various boats.

The Rowing Club has always and will always be noted for the pay and healthy time which it offers to its members. So all students who wish to take up a fine summer sport should make immediate inquiries regarding membership. Remember the Rowing Club has a lot to offer: both on the sporting and social aspects.

ATHLETICS

Numerically a most successful annual general meeting held Wednesday night. The club's famous pot, safe to say, was passed on to Mr. Dixon, was presented to Mr. Daniel. Mr. Daniel conducted the meeting in his usual quiet manner and the club showed commendable initiative in relieving itself of its unwieldy superstructure of vice-presidents, secretaries, etc., etc., etc., six. Mr. G. F. Dixon was again elected president, and the two-man committee, Mr. Newman and McDowell was elected club captain.

A good idea last year, which has been put into execution again this year, is the inclusion in the club committee of men who do not compete for the athletics. Their function is that of handiapping, starting, judging—generally making themselves useful. Messrs. Bennett, Clancy, and Kurwicki were elected in the management capacity because they made a good job of it last year, and Boyle and Goldrich were elected to remain on the committee.

The election to the position of secretary was keenly contested. The contest being one to escape election, the loser was elected. The loser was J. E. O'Connor, manager of thanks to last season's secretary, B. E. Barr- clough, was passed. Mr. Daniel, al- though not an enthusiastic swimming club, is still interested in the athletic club; his departure for the swimming club is already, according to Mr. Barrclough, mainly for a change. The delegates to the Centre are MacDowell and Barrclough.

Club meetings begin on Monday, November 13, the first Monday after finals, on Kelvin Park at 6.30 p.m.

SWIMMING

The annual general meeting held last Thursday was attended—half those present were women. Club officers were elected as follows: Captain, B. B. Hands; Deputy Club Captain, R. M. Daniel; Women's Club Captain, Miss E. Beattie; Secretary, G. B. Goble; Committee, W. H. McCullum, D. C. Milne, H. B. Cutler, P. A. Josephson.

It was decided to begin club nights at 4 p.m. on weekdays after final Ball, if the baths are available. The club activities include club nights, swimming nights,混杀and what-have-you, water polo, picnics and a little serious swimming.
SPORT
Easter Tournament

At the time of writing there is no definite news regarding a Tournament next Easter, but the Auckland Executive, whose turn it is to hold the baby, are making hopeful noises.

With the prospect of a return to the full card next Easter we must set our affairs in order, that we may give as little trouble as possible to our hosts. Club secretaries are reminded of the following points:

1. All arrangements, teams lists, dates, billeting lists, railway bookings, etc., are made by the Executive.

2. It is essential that the Executive have a full list of club officials for those sports represented at the tournament, viz., tennis, swimming, boxing, athletics and perhaps basketball.

The preliminaries of the Winter Tournament at Christchurch were an object lesson on how not to run a sports gathering. If a similar muddle is to be avoided at Easter it is essential that clubs keep in close contact with the Executive's tournament delegates, who are:

R. M. Danieli; phones 46-084 (bus.), 44-504 (home).
I. C. McDowall; phones 47-258 (bus.), 54-349 (home).

SEASON WINDS UP
Summary of Team Activities

A reasonably satisfactory season's football has come to an end, and after the Region shield match on the 22nd the club will go into recess for the summer. Perhaps the two most pleasing features of the season have been the play and championship position of the Third Grade "A" team, and the keenness and spirit shown by the Third "B" side.

The following is a summary of the various teams' activities:

Seniors.—Finished fourth in the Hardham Cup competition, having played one less game than the other teams. Vacation interfered considerably with personnel, but the side should have beaten Upper Hutt, Seatoun and Miramar.

Juniors.—Were tenth in their competition. Failure of the backs, in the early part of the season, to find form commensurate with that of their forwards, was a large cause of their non-success. The other great cause is to be found in the deprivations of the Seniors team.

Third A.—This team finished third in its grade, one point behind the second team, but well behind the leaders. The loss of the first three matches created a handicap which it was hard to overcome. This team owes much to the generosity of the Juniors' captain and coach, who refused to break into the team when it was doing well, and consequently weakened their own side.

Third B.—Although finishing twelfth in the competition, the Third B had a season to feel ashamed of itself, if only because of the spirit and enthusiasm with which it played. The club thanks are due to all of the side. Even Drummond, whose energy, keenness and co-operation have done the major part in holding the team together. It is worth while mentioning that this is the first time since 1914 that a Third "B" team has survived the season.

Victoria v. Canterbury.

Travelling to Christchurch for the final Inter-College game of the season, Victoria were able to defeat Canterbury College severely by 25 points to 6. They had the upper hand for most of the game, but were unable to settle down for the first twenty minutes, so that the movements lacked the finish that would have brought trials. Later, however, the forwards, playing with excellent cohesion and vigour, found their stride, and the backs began to function extremely well. Goodwin, as full back, was first class, especially on defence, and Matala, on the wing, besides kicking magnificently, more than held his own against McIntyre, the Canterbury rep. winger. The forwards, except perhaps in the Navy game, have seldom played better. Corrick was outstanding as a loose forward and Kurtovich played an excellent all-round game. In this latter, in scoring his two tries revealed a very tricky sidestep and we are pleased to hear that he is willing to impart this secret to the Weir House backs for the forthcoming Ruru Shield game.

Altogether the game, played as a curtain-raiser to the North v. South Island match, was an extremely good one and the team is to be congratulated on its efforts.

Scores for Victoria: Matala, Kurtovich (2) and Lewis scored tries; Matala converted one and kicked three penalty goals.

For Canterbury: Doddice and Goodsell scored tries. The W.I.C. team was as follows: Blakesley, Leveridge, Lewis, Matala, To Punga, Goldwin, Ryder, Crambeck, Girling, Butcher, Grayburn, Deebon, Brian, Creed, Kurtovich and Cutter.

BASKETBALL

The Basketball Club has now concluded a successful season. The Senior A team finished high up in their championship matches, and although the Senior B team was not so successful, they derived much enjoyment from their weekly matches. The highlight of the season was of course the trip to Christchurch, which was enjoyed immensely by all taking part.

Grateful thanks are due to every club member for her enthusiasm and cooperation. The club committee should also be congratulated for their untiring efforts in safeguarding the interests of the club.

It is hoped that more students will join the club next year, in addition to those who are already members. The main attraction is the prospect of participating in an Inter-University Tournament and its associated social functions. V.U.C. Blues are also awarded each year to those girls' games proficiency in basketball, and who take an active interest in the club's affairs. N.Z.U. Blues, which are coveted honours, and which have not been awarded for several years past, will probably be awarded next year.

BOXING

The year draws to its end. The studious dig in the library, the ungodly resign themselves to another year. Now there is a moral to all this. Boxing is one of those occupations which has neither time nor season. The boxing club looks forward with confidence to next year, when this year's labours will come to fruition, for next year, with travel restrictions off and a brighter world in sight, we hope that Tournament will be on, and with it bigger and better bouts for boxers. Don't forget, also, our programme of tournaments with other gyms and so on.

Next year we hope to see a boom in College boxing in keeping with the encouraging revival of amateur and professional boxing in the city. You can help along now by turning up in the gym at 8 o'clock on Mondays to partake of expert instruction from our capable coach. Come along, all! Keep fit and keep fighting!

TUATARA

Each year, under the name of "Tuata" the most flourishing club of the college—the Biological Society, publishes eighteen or so pages of botanical flossom, zoological jottas and biological witticisms and puerility.

The reurns of trips and lectures which are so attractively set out in this journal will be interesting to those not thrilled by the study of Biology.

Look out for this mighty magazine which will be thrust upon you in the last week of term, watch the notices for date of sale, and hang on to it, as your membership of the catering members of the committee, begin to appreciate the value of Biological bits and pieces.

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