1946 EXTRAVAGANZA ISSUE

CARRS
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Remember These
Wed, May 8: Undergrad Supper
Thu, May 9: Procession
Fri, May 10: Captains Ball
Sat, May 11: EXTRAVAGANZA OPENS

With Act III we are in the Never Never Land, where the Little Boys are becoming the loss of their Parliamentary seats through the readjustment of the Electoral Boundaries. Among them is Bottom, the sitting member for Walrus. Enter the UNO trio escorted by Peter.

Peter tells Sir Shamus Sterchey to erect a prefabricated house for the benefit of the Big Three. This house—plus out-house—is a tribute to the properties men and to the architects. Neigh Snorting and Dung. But things are interrupted by the rapid approach of the Opposition, Sidsock of Holland and his Pirates together with the Associated Chamber of Horrors. Peter, the UNO trio and Sir Shamus take refuge in the house where they are bewitched by the Pirates.

The Biggest Burgher
new Guyra Freyerbiger. After the latter has sung his little song there enter a number of obdurate housewives out for the blood of the Mare. Peter attempts to serve them but he is impotent and the act ends with the Housewives hot on the trail of the Mare.

Sweat Without Tears
Despite the fact that he has braved the dangers of four Extravaganza rehearsals to date, your reporter is unable to vouchsafe more particulars than the following: The producer is hound; actors intimidated; extra enthusiasm but non-commital; everybody incredibly active, sauntering to the next act; with no intervening articulate concerning process. Suffice it to say that appearances indicate that this year’s rehearsals are progressing with as much co-operation as is possible last year or any other year. As far as promptness and enthusiasm are concerned the Extravaganza can always be little to be desired, and it will be the fault of neither the cast nor the producer if Extravaganza does not meet with the support it has merited and received in days gone by.

The Extravaganza for 1946 will be foisted on the public of Wellington at the Opera House on Saturday, May 11, and on the following Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Rehearsals of the main show commenced on Anzac Day and owing to the limited time available there will be rehearsals practically every night from new on.

The Extravaganza will take the form of two shows, a short one by the one and only John Carrad (who claims it is his swan-song) and the main show by U Biquitous Anon (who has a lot to answer for). The Carrad show "Ocean Going Blues" is in the old tradition and John has collected some of the old lads who graced his show five or six years ago.

The "Plot" or What Have You
The main show, after a number of false starts, has emerged under the title of "Peter Pan—A Political Concarnea," and boy, is it corny? However, under the capable direction of John McCreary, the show is taking shape and should have the worthy burghers of Wellington in paroxysms of laughter—or tears.

The show starts off with the Electronic Ballet, and not a neutron among them—all with hour-glass figures and completed classification count. Then a couple of hams named Stinkle and Stunk come forward and say their piece. They are the two components of the Platoon Bomb, so named to placate the Prime Minister Mr. de la Mare. From here we are off to the UNO Circus with Windy Bevin, Spitiendus and Rushtinsky. Spitiendus has the Platoon Bomb but the thinky has imitated two atoms to form an Orient. The wives of the Shag are a bevy of Eastern Beauties who sing a ditty to the tune of the Egyptian National Anthem, which should bring back fond memories to all the old diggs. Finally the Russian Spy Ring in Canada tears off the Platoon Bomb and the Terrible Trio are transported by Peter Pan to safety in the Never Never Land.

The "Plot" thickens
Act II opens outside the Royal Soak Hotel with a chorus of barmaids that would drive the most rabid teetotaller to drink. They sing an engaging little ditty, "Time Gentlemen Please." For it is two o'clock on a Saturday afternoon. A group of not-so-sober people are ejected from the pub and after exchanging a few benediction psalms they are set upon by that staunch opponent of strong drink Mr. Flex Gillette, a "hardy perennial." Proceedings are interrupted by the arrival of Lord and Lady Mountbetter, who are accorded a reception by the Old Grey Mare Crapappie. However, as Lady Mountbetter's eyes are short the noble couple depart and the Counsellors, Shirker, Crickke, Monkey Tight, etc., are set upon by the slums dwellers and vicious characters, including the Wicked Cheese, the Shaky Curate and the Poor Little Woking Golf. The slums dwellers become very impatient at the Counsellors' pious platitudes and blood is about to be shed when the pub re-open at four o'clock and there is a mad rush for the bar. Peter and Windy re-enter and are joined by

"Peter Pan" Emergant
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No. 5

(Early this year the World Federation of Democratic Youth sent a delegation to the USSR. Among the British representatives was John Platts-Mills, formerly a VTC student, and now a member of the British House of Commons.)

I SAW the 17 members of the British Youth Delegation when they had just completed their tour of the Soviet Union and arrived home. They answered a regular barrage of questions on many aspects of Soviet life that I put to them on your behalf.

Had Soviet Youth easy access to careers?

John Platts-Mills, Barrister and M.P., answered that one. “Nobody in this country knows the truth about Soviet Youth’s access to careers. They have to pay for higher education, but every student while studying is paid a wage by the State. This varies from place to place, but on an average is between 200 and 400 roubles a month. This is twice the cost of the courses. Each year students receive increases, just as though they were working in a factory.

“Books and lodging are provided free and the only things which a student has to pay for are food and haircuts. The result is an intelligensia which is expanding at a terrific rate. At the moment one can’t see any limit to this expansion.”

Lt. James Callaghan, RNVR, MP for Cardiff South, with four and a half years’ service in the Navy behind him, chipped in with his contribution on the subject.

“Every young man in the Soviet Union really feels that he has a Field-Marshal’s baton in his haversack.”

He told us, by way of illustration, the story of the director of one of Stalingrad’s largest factories.

In 1928 this man was a young labourer digging up the ground and preparing the site of the factory. When the factory opened he obtained a job on one of the machines. He studied and worked his way up, charge-hand, foreman, section foreman. At the outbreak of war he was called up and became a Major in the Red Army.

Then when Stalingrad was being rebuilt he was recalled to take up the post of director.

“‘Youth in the USSR,’ he concluded, ‘has opportunities of responsible and worthwhile work in a way that I am sure no other youth in the world has at the present moment.’”

I explained our readers wanted to know about the spare-time activities of young people. Do they have a good time? The delegation agreed. They were “certain that young people in the USSR have a good time.” “All very impressed at the high standard of recreation available for young people.” “Amazing facilities for sport. Each town has stadiums; boxing gymnasiums, skating, football, etc.” “The right to rest is an important part of their lives. I believe it is even written into the constitution.”

Mary Robinson, leader of the YWCA Central Club, who was nominated by the Standing Conference of National Voluntary Organisations, said: “The spirit of the people is the first thing that hits you.”

Twenty-five year old WAAF Edna Thomas told us that there was no demob problem, and nobody talked about such a problem as they do in this country. All the emphasis was on re-building the country and everyone who came out of the Army had a job waiting for him.

"The Male Animal"

"Salient" takes great pleasure in recommending the book, "The Male Animal," by Morgan, the poet of the American Journal of Science, as one of the most interesting and instructive of the year. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a large part of the male population of the world is, in fact, male.

"Fantasy"

Rimbaud's famous sonnet on "Voyelles" ends with these lines:

"O, the great Trumpet sound in its justitudes, the angry-crowned, the world-crowned O the Omey, the blue light of the Eye!"

The letter O is associated with the sound of the trumpet, the thought of silent spaces, and the colour blue. In "Voyelles" the French poet attempted to solve a great problem of existence, the union of sight, sound, idea and emotion. In the movement, crescendo, decrescendo, the brass unison, the passages; the harps—blue; violins—silver and depicted in primary reds and yellows. Then, in the interpretation of "Aye Man," the trumpet becomes a symbol of piety. Similar negative and positive ideas are historically associated with the symbol of the trumpet.

It is clear that there is no absolute law of correspondence between sound, sight and idea, but, perpendicularly, colour and sound have an interdependence which is expressed in the artistic expression of an idea. "Fantasy" indicates that the film can solve the problem of the union of the senses in a direct way.

* * *

Batu Khan by V. Yan

This Russian novel, translated by Lionel Erskine Britton, is the second part of the author's trilogy devoted to the conquest of North-Eastern Russia in the 13th and 14th centuries by Batu Khan, grandson of the great Genghis Kahn.

In the novel the author describes vividly and with great power the tragedy of the Russian people, helpless before the hordes of Asiatic nomads. The novel is a tale of courage and dying manfully in battle against a numerous and highly organised enemy, which the military and artistic discipline of the Tartars preserved that living force which in the end proved the decisive factor. The author vividly brings home to the reader the suffering of the Russian people, of which the reader does not always escape in the novel.

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V.U.C. STAG PARTY CROSSES NORTHERN TARARUAS

"This is my story, this is my song, I'd like to hobble you too bloody long!"

—Traditional Air.

Easter was spent by Varsity trampers in diverse ways. Of course some were at Tournament, but we believe that the fact that they were trampers did not materially affect the allocation of championship points or the award of the H.G. Travers Trophy. The well-known Mr. Taylor, who spent his time preparing his morning talk on Climbing in the Southern Alps, is a famous tour guide. Congratulations, Mr. Saker, on your retrospective appointment to membership of the Alpine Club. The collection of irresponsible hold-ups, well known to Mr. de la Mare, Jose Tauphnekeau for their Easter orgy. The Tramping Club hereby officially disowns them.

Serious trampers, however, made a successful Northern Tararuas crossing. This is no mean feat—it was first done one Easter in the early twenties by parties, one from the Tararuas Club and one VUC, travelling in opposite directions.

This time, a party of twenty-two travelled by lorry to Adkin's cottage, near Levin, on Thursday night. Some, in fond memory of recent experiences in the Southern Alps, rose on two consecutive mornings at 3.30 a.m., thereby causing some annoyance to the more moderate.

Te Matauwhi Hut was reached during the afternoon—by 5 p.m., it was fully packed, but by regulated breathing and clever head and tail alignment, everyone was accommodated, albeit many slept on the hard, cold, wet, stony, dirty floor. The early evening was spent by the morning band playing before the sunrise from the summit of Pokohutu. The party was formed as the moon, which had covered the range, was on the point of rising. After Barney Butcher and John Scott had made an epic ascent of Taa Lane, Lancaster and Thompson, the party was anxious to make themselves away from the Waibohine Pinnacle and along Tarn Ridge to Gildersleeve. It was during the ascent of this latter mound that the theme song, painted above, was most popular.

Lunch was accompanied by rain and cold, which did not, however, deter three alpine types from setting off in the very early afternoon direction of Mt Holdsworth. The remainder paused on the way back, soon arrived at a base camp on the ridge which they were informed was Mitre. After posing for a photo on this the highest of the Tararuas peaks, they continued along the top to look suddenly confronted by a sheer wall of rock—a good hundred feet higher. Another hour brought them to the Mitre Flats Hut, the floor of which was soon strewn with the bodies of exhausted but well-fed trampers.

Five set out on Sunday for home, the remainder spending the day in such decedent activities as bridge-building, making sausage haggis, roastvenison, playing bridge, discussing the dialectics of pornography and playing chess with the portable set carried by Frank Evinson in a brass-bound box.

In the meantime the three alpine types, Geoff Milne, George Love and Alec McLoud, having made a high summit, were breakfasting in the sun as they strolled along the ridge to Holdsworth. Broken Axe Pinnacles provided an interesting mudclimb, and they were treated to the unique scene of the Waikurupi shrouded in mist while the tops were clear. Powell Hut was reached at 3 p.m., some voisons was bladed, but it was decided to sleep at the Mountaineer House. Next day they rejoined the main party at the truck.

Monday morning, while the main body was being washed down the Wanganui River, Jack Simanski, Bernie Sewelland, and Frank Evinson climbed on to Bulky, and scrambled up a free and easy path to the lorry, guided by rifle shots from the leader. (The rifle was intended for the prevention of fresh meat, but in the hands of the Chief Guide, met with no success.)

Music Makers

The Music Makers' Club gives great opportunity for the amateur musician to try out his or her talents on a sympathetic and not too critical audience. It is a pity more students do not take advantage of the entertainment offered.

Jane Florance was hostess at the first club evening which was held on Wednesday, April 17. An interesting and well varied programme was presented, and the pianists excelled in the high standard as well as in the choice of items. Those who took part were Laura Grace, Pat Renner, Vera Selwin, Jeanen Benwood, Pauline de Schyver and Joan Casserley.

The Music Makers' Club hope to hold a "Music" evening in the first week of the next term—the date will be advertised on the notice board.

New Enrolments in 1946

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In the absence of (name)

Hax in silx

Look out dorsal.

Overheard in Cat:

—It looks like rain

—But it tastes like coffee.
EXTRAVAGANZA WELL UNDER WAY

Peter Pansy in Bud

Extrav.; plenty of sweat, swearing, singing, sitting, talking, laughing, dancing, romancing, eating, imbibing, salubrious, little peace, swot, or sleep, but far more than a mere modicum of the finest fun available at V.I.

Extrav. is a great socializer in the College. Here you meet all the right people and most of the left people. Here you taste the products of the Freshers. Here love blooms (Romance on the first and raspberry on the fifth); and here is some more news culled from various people at considerable personal risk to "Salient" reporters.

Carrad’s Swan Song

Sharing Extrav. evenings and the public accolade with "Peter Pansy" will be "Ocean Going Blues," a one act show by John McCready. Responsible for many of the choice improvisations in the main attraction is the best Carrad tradition.

The part of Fletcher Christian Junior will be played by Paul Taylor. The first time his fine voice has been heard in many past shows and has made many a boy scout swoon in the aisles. Paul will sing some brand-new Carrad tunes which promise to become YUC favourites for many years to come, as have so many of his other melodies such as "Treasure Trove," "South Pacific Sea," "Caroline Bay," and "Wave a Handkerchief!" Bruce Drummond. Sweet little Evelyn Drew in "The Dinkum Oil" in 1935, will play Tillie Tosshak, "an appealing type," a dewy-eyed young thing who has more of what it takes than any of the signatories on the Via Nazionale. Peter Mitchell, Scarlett O’Hara in "Gone With The Wind Up" in 1941, will play Sherlock Holmes, the "Dinkum Doyle." Oom Creed is signed up to out-Laughton Laughton as Captain Bligh, and there will be some of the original High-Steppers among the South Sea Belles who are being drilled by Molra Wicks, who was responsible for the outstanding Can-Can in "Gone With The Wind Up."

All in all it should come up to the expectations of the most ardent Carradophile.

Interval Entertainers

- Brains Trust at Work

In one corner of the gym, during Extrav. rehearsals there is usually to be found under a dense cloak of pipe smoke a group of three rather conspiratorial looking characters huddled together obviously hatching out some plot. One of these schemers bears an unmistakable resemblance to the Dapper Don Tomàs del Fuego, and the other could be his spouse. The third will be remembered from Extrav. days of long ago.

Well now you know what’s cooking. Relating to Extrav. tradition there will be an interval show this year. I have listened in on the discussions at several times now and each time a fresh plan is being considered but since the property may change at any moment ahead we can be fairly sure that the show at present under consideration will have some form or other.

Before the main show commences the Thatch of Beers with his Ramee, the Lill of Kandallah. They are conveyed down the aisle by eunuchs followed by an entourage of commissaries, yogis, snake charmers etc. and will proceed (we don’t yet know how) to the upper box in the Opera House and they will perform en route all sorts of stunts quite unknown to us or even to the Raj himself as yet.

During the interval there will be a command performance given for the Raj. and his party. Perhaps Gladys Concrete and Rosalind Hirsch will give a duet and Charles Guttill will strain his muscles in some weight lifting. The fertile brains of our three stooges are still giving birth to more ideas and we can be sure that their labour will be finished in time for the show.

The property men were heard to ask them if they wouldn’t be needing their props for the dress rehearsal. "Rehearsal?" they asked in disgust, "we, my nyn, are artists.

Procesh ’46

For the first time in many years there is to be a Victoria College Procesh. On Thursday, May 9, 1946, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wellington will be infested by a large number of variously garbed, undergraduates, profs (?) and odd bodies. They will form a procession while sundry other students will cast about for insurance if the owner has fears for the safety of his property (it would be long to inculcate how in case they are accidentally ricked).

Juno and the Paycock

shadowed by the more flamboyant character, especially the Paycock, who played to the gallery a little with charm and humour.

Joker gave outstanding performance, and Don Mclymont gave "It’s a darling way" a memorable interpretation.

Of the supporting cast. Mrs. Tancer was memorable in her small part, and the hush as she shuffled off was more tribute than any amount of applause. Althna Cato took the part, and her make-up, unlike that of the rest of the cast, was suitable to the lights. Edith Campling was her usual charming and restrained self, and her scenes with her husband were notable for their impression of teamwork, though Dick’s mannerisms are a little distasteful. Mollie Beveridge as Mrs. Nadjian was another pleasing cast- die of the show, in his cues, gave a consistent performance.

The production was excellent, making the most of the colour and drama of the play, and the impression that the set was an upstaged room was vivid. The lighting assisted the interpretation though it was a pity that every change of light should be accompanied by violent flickering.

The story is the story of an Irish family, the Bolles, caught up in the turmoil of the post-war civil strife in Ireland. Intervenons is the bale of their life, the divorce and loss of a small fortune, and the love tragedy of their daughter.

Toby Eastbrook-Smith gave a spirited performance as the Paycock, and probably the best Juno (Nellia Milliar), had the strength of character which the part demanded, but was a little too passive, and the voice needed to be more energetic. She should have been the centre of the play, but was over-
DEBATING SOCIETY CONDEMNED AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY

"A clash between opinions already held; scoring of points, however trivial, of the straight basic of argument; selection of material." This is the definition of debate, discovered by Mr. W. J. Scott during his judgment of the debate on Friday, April 5. In spite of this, he found the dialectic standard high, but considered the interlocutors had "an almost pathological tendency to irrelevancy," and that they were "at times argument ad hominem, especially ad feminam." He placed the speakers as follows: Miss Patrick, Mr. Collins, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Falconer, Mr. O'Brien, and Mr. Hume. The audience gave its verdict in favour of the motion, which implies that the present foreign policy expansion was. Mr. Scott thought the affirmative deserved their win.

Mr. Falconer: "Imperialism is no longer acquiring empires by conquest; it is now creating economic, military, and political domination of one country by another." Mr. Churchill, that once held dominion, now the running dog of American imperialism... a foreign policy dominated by the same type of interests as financed Germany and Japan, by Standard Oil, General Electric, Du Pont, and J. P. Morgan. The fact that his speech was received in a climate of high international tension, did not alter the fact that his arguments were provoking some thought.

Mr. O'Connor: "We've heard a lot of truth from the other side." "Interrigent" thereafter referred to as M.W.: "We hear some more now." Mr. Falconer has really been talking about imperialist investment. There has been no interference with the sovereign, rights of nations. In British and French imperialism, the control of the foreign and the occupied is done the opposite, the out-dated GP system, and our present hospital system, and that the BMA intended to maintain this. Thirdly, the BMA has not frustrated the efforts of the government to improve our medical services. He concluded by presenting an ideal for the public health of NZ. Each point he made was logically developed and well substantiated, but it was unfortunately that as opening speaker he failed to point out how the BMA is concerned primarily with the profession as a whole.

Mr. Berry devoted most of his time to criticizing the Government's scheme, and insisted that the BMA was willing to co-operate in any scheme provided it suited them. "The BMA is not expected to sit in any plan which would not give the doctors scope for their best worth." (Voice: On highest fees.) "We must have evolution, not revolution, without encroaching on the rights of the individual." His subject matter was rather confused and he should be careful not to contradict his previous statements.

Mr. McIntyre developed some of Mr. O'Flynn's points, showing that the attitude of the BMA was mainly a negative one. He criticized the present educational and research facilities for doctors, maintaining that the BMA was wrong. Mr. Bernie succeeded in amusing the audience and while speaking with his tongue in his cheek, found it difficult to provide many convincing arguments. "Because the doctors refuse to be regimented," this does not mean they reject the Government's scheme... for some time on the relationship between patient and doctor... There is a certain amount of professionalism in any profession."

-American century... China America's... blantly intervention... Mr. Collins is our pick for Union Prize... Mr. O'Flynn's... indecent design to make NZ the 49th State... monopoly of... the labour service... continued..." Mr. Hume: "Things are not what they appear. But he seemed to be judging the debate." Mr. Ron Smith: "A little pressure from the Green House, and they get no more toothpaste." (Int: "Squeee em") The Chairman, Mr. Nigel Taylor, intervened here, saying: "Some of the speakers are not off their bomb... It's dangerous. Try to listen to them." Mr. Minz: "The atom bomb scientists as usual. Faddism. Science cannot flourish under these conditions." Mr. O'Brien: "A verdit of no proven." Mr. Lottell: "just got up to correct a few facts. I read 'Harper's' and the 'Readers' Digest'." Mr. Minz: "American public opinion is against imperialism, wishes for peace and no foreign entanglements. Government has refused to obtain oil concessions in Saudi Arabia, Mexico has not constitutes American assets." Mr. Minz: "Not imperialist but self-defence... just getting there to forestall a German rebirth in the future time. "Mr. Hume and the Russians in China." During the counting of the votes, a constituent of his was heard to whisper: "You'd be surprised who's on our side."--AND CRITICIZES B.M.A.

FOR OBSTRUCTIVE TACTICS

About 100 students attended the debate last Friday evening. Mr. Cohen took the chair, and Mr. C. H. Taylor judged the speakers. Less enthusiasm was shown than on previous occasions, speakers facing a comparatively subdued audience.

Mr. O'Flynn: "Imperialism is not only a misnomer for the progress of medical services in NZ was not topical, and rather limited in scope, in that many speakers inevitably wasted time on irrelevancies.

With the exception of Mr. O'Flynn, the main points were criticized by their approach as being of material and for their irrelevancies. . . . and so on.

Mr. O'Connor's main point was that if the BMA was not hampering the progress of medical services in NZ, then there must be some evidence to show that they are assisting in it. Mr. Churton made three points only. One of them concerned the subject of the debate. "The BMA should run the Government like all the other unions." Mr. Hume: "Doctors must not be driven to something such as the West Coast mining district, where a strike has been necessary to secure adequate medical services."

Mr. O'Flynn: "The BMA is too orthodox, does not allow revolutionary ideas." Mr. McHardy: "Doctors should be directed to areas such as the West Coast mining district, where a strike has been necessary to secure adequate medical services."

Mr. Jack concurred to make a contribution and earned second place by making a beautiful speech on what others had already said.

In the summing up Mr. Berry admitted that "the BMA was not consistent in improving the medical services in NZ," while Mr. O'Flynn proceeded that the affair was that the malicious people who accused him of ustruths. The notion was then just beginning to die down... Mr. C. H. Taylor then gave his judgment, and criticism of the speakers were unable to provide the importance of the good preparation of material evidence and O'Flynn's speech was pathed with speakers who had to undergo such rough treatment in the hands of debating society audiences. His placing of the speakers was: Mr. O'Flynn, Mr. Jack, Miss Couch, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Hume and Mr. O'Connor.

The Demon Fiddler

A passage ran from street to street where the dirty broken steps gave access to a grey house called 'Gutta Mora.' According to tradition the house: slumped on these steps. As she strolled, she made the mad motion of the devil, and at the same moment the door opened, and the husky, meaning trail of the young maidservant was heard.

In one form or another this legend seems to have formed the key signature of most writings on the subject of Pagani. He has been presented to us as a half legendary charlatan, using every trick of showmanship to increase his personal fame. Behind these legends, there lies another interesting Pagani—a lovely figure struggling through the obscenarian and musical conservations. In Mr. Vinogradov's novel we follow the adventures of this other Pagani, persecuted by the Jews, actively associated with the work of the Carbonier, and impeded in his mission by the very legends which are often presented to us as the real man.

The Condemnation of Pagani" may not perhaps be called a great novel but its pages are never dull, and as we follow through Italy, Austria, Germany, and France, we note the changes in the sexual catalysts of a variety莫斯, Spol, Liast, Paes, Chopin and many lesser figures are used to give variety to the wealth of the legends. We have to wait for the latest aspects of Pagani's life were haunts him. Fifty-six years were to pass, and over a million francs to be raised by his impoverished family before the church would consent to his burial.

"The Condemnation of Pagani," by Anatoli Vinogradov. (Dedicated to the Modern Books, 11/6.)

At a special meeting of the Executive, called on May 1 to clarify the executive's position, the members, in view of the recent election of holding two elections so close in time, agreed to continue in office until the annual election.

I feel that the best and widest course of action has been followed, for the sake of the Association as a whole, and in the light of this action I beg you to be tolerant of my delay in replying to the letter in question.

DAVID COHEN, President, VUCSA.
AIMS OF FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH

To strive for close international understanding and co-operation amongst the youth in the fields of economic, political, educational, cultural, and social life, in respect for the diversity of ideas and national conditions; to make the maximum contribution to the elimination of fascism in all its forms; to render active assistance to the governments in ensuring peace and security, in bringing up the rising generation in the spirit of democracy, and in raising the standard of life of the young generation.

To work for the active participation of youth in economic, political, social and cultural life, for the removal of all restrictions and qualifications concerned with sex, method of education, domicile, parentage, or social status, race, colour or creed, in order to ensure for the democratic youth freedom of speech, press, religious belief, assembly and demonstration, and to assist in the foundation of democratic youth organisations where these do not exist.

To work for good conditions of education, labour and leisure, and for the development of cultural, educational and sports activities amongst all youth.

To do all in its power, in the light of the present lack of unified national youth committees, to bring about the free and voluntary co-operation and association of youth organisations on a national level.

To do all in its power to educate the younger generation in the ideas and responsibilities of world citizenship.

To represent the interests of youth in international affairs and organisations and wherever possible to bring to the notice of such organisations questions affecting the interests of the youth. For example, to further the activities of other organisations having similar aims, and seek the support of people prominent in public life.

China Today

Edgar Snow, Agnes Smedley, Stuart Golder, three war correspondents who have had special assignments in China and have each come out with the same story, that the Kuomintang is corrupt from top to bottom, anti-democratic and semi-fascist. Golder's book is the sequel to those of the other two correspondents. As special correspondent for the "Newspaper China in China. India and Burma," 1943-45, he spent two different periods in China, and made a trip through the Communist-controlled areas. The censorship imposed by Chiang Kai-Shek was so complete that no correspondence was able to get past. His own story of what he saw in those areas out of China. "Wherever correspondence moved he was watched by the Kuomintang secret police.

The book consists of Chinese Communist documents smuggled out of China by Golder, comment by European reporting and working in the country, and a criticism of Chiang's book, "China's Destiny." There is a very important introduction by Golder himself, who is worth of note, is not himself a Communist. It is difficult to choose material which is specially interesting, as it is all intensely so, from the Japanese newspapers which state in no uncertain terms that the major enemy of the Japanese forces in China was the Communist armies. To Golder's comments on the reactionary rate American troops are playing in the Chinese political struggle; from Madame Sun Yat Sen's "There is only one hope for China, and that is a Coalition Government on a democratic basis. This is not a government. It is a dictatorial tyranny." To Golder's comment: "I do not believe that the similarity of this book to Chinese Fascism if they could see it in action. Millions of Chinese, it is said, were poisoned during the Spanish struggle."


A Criticism...

(We have received a criticism of a criticism of a criticism. If any other critics wish to voice their views on this subject, we will be pleased to have them. It is a good sign that "Spke" could arouse such a difference of opinion."

I am a reviewer of "Spke." I did not. I was disappointed, even dismayed. As the first post-war issue with a greatly enlarged format, we could have expected extra space for original contributions. Instead, we got advertisements. There were 56 pages, plus two inside covers, printed, of which 52 pages were ads. In "Spke," the first year of the war, there were 19 pages, of which 4 were ads. So in 1940 we got 75 pages of reading matter, and in 1945 we got 54 pages.

And what was there in this Advertiser's Annual? Not very much.

Some time ago I read a sympathetic study of Prof. Kirk—a study of a gentleman who was also a scholar. But where was his portrait? Of the prose, "There are no Neutrals in Hell," and "Maybe the Army" are best summed up in the words of the latter—and it's all one hell of a muddle. P.S.—Are you sure of your omens to mislead? CHEZ GHIPPIER and the factual articles were good.

Did Tournament teams matter so much?

Poems: Some. But has the brood of poems improved. There are two opinions on free verse. It can be good, but often it is very bad. Lyric is more in the students' tradition than in

SPIKE—1945

free verse. THE NEW BUILDING was timely and well prepared. A poetry judgment that wasn't.

No prose judgment at all. But if the best prose selected, then any judgment could be only a life sentence with "hard."

There was no review of "Sallent," a serious omission, since "Sallent" is the only periodical organ that surveys College now.

Plunket Melial Report was absent.

Cappéniile Report was absent.

The politics column was bag. Seventeen clubs filled eight and a half pages, of which one and a half pages were filled with a black-and-white graven to grave account of SCC activity. Does SCC account for one-sixth of the students' social time?

I am disappointed in the preponderance of advertisements. Unless they were a financial success, I hope so, since they cannot be justified on any other account. But to the reader they are embarrassingly omnipresent, cattyly, one is made to wonder what's that times.

I am dismayed at the literary standard. The maturity of Pam stands out like a beacon above the somnolent baldness of Neil Mount.

I do not like shifting a publication date; this can only mean that last time went—well. But after the months of August, and with one's memory of the previous "Spke" back to 1936 I can still easily declare: "There wasn't much in it."—J.A.A.

Correspondence please adrs.—In future, please enter letters unless otherwise stated. It is also requested that all letters to the above will be confidential to the Editor.
The Cite Theatre was packed to capacity last night, with the, when Otago was marginally superior, counts being six of the seven final round games being played and the non-team with the three Colleges won one final each.

Hastan Wright: Head (ACU) beat Young (VUC).

Frather Wright:—Chambers (OU) beat Young (VUC). After Young had won the first two games for the one count, in the first round, he came back strong, but Chambers asserted and maintained his superiority.

EIGHT WEIGHT.—Gibson (OU) beat Wells (ACU).

Welsh Weight.—Whishart (VUC) beat Armstrong (OU). In a very fast Whishart set the pace, scoring freely with a solid left. He piled up points each round and won well.

Middle Weight.—Foreman (OU) beat Smith (ACU).

Light Heavy Weight.—McKellar (OU) beat Fraser (ACU). McKellar was completely superior throughout the bout and was awarded the right on a f.o. in the second round.

BOXING

Heavy Weight.—McKenzie (CUC) beat the Oxford man who carried the flag to his opponent in the first round using a good left, with plenty of sting behind it, but Roberts came back strongly in the second round. A hard left sent him down momentarily and Roberts over the line reconned, again, sending Roberts to the canvas for a long count. Roberts on rising was sent to the ropes and the referee intervened awarding the bout to McKenzie.

AMERICAN FIGHTING FRATERNITY BREAKS RACIAL BARRIERS

“Freedom is indivisible and in America can proceed only as racial minorities are emancipated. The democratic quality of our society can be determined only by the degree of Jim Crow that shall exist.”

It is in this spirit that every year the progressive American NEW MASSES makes awards to those Americans, negro or white, whose achievements in the arts, sciences, and public life are major contributions towards greater racial understanding, and forward additional information which should be a powerful weapon in the hands of those who fight Jim Crow in the great American democracy.

In the last two and a half months’ fighting in the European theatre, the American forces were somewhat thinned out following the winter of 1943-44, and it was necessary to take personnel from the lines of communication for combat purposes in order to ensure the success of the final assault. When a pull was sent out for volunteers, several thousand Negroes reported for service. Of these, 2,580 were accepted.

Formed into separate rifle battalions, the Negros were offered by whites, and a platoon was superimposed on the normal company complement within the first three months. Once the division went into action, the Negroes killed and died as the whites.

But more important was the reaction of white soldiers. In May and June, 1945, trained Army interviewers questioned 4,167 soldiers of all ranks and in all units. Of these, 2,808 said that the Negroes they had last actually been in combat with Negroes.

1. Did you like the idea of serving with Negroes? 65% answered “No.”

2. After 60 days fighting together, they asked how well the Negroes performed in combat.

To this 84% of the officers and 81% of n.c.o.’s answered “very well,” 16% “fairly well,” 1% “not so well,” and none “not well at all.” In answer to the question: “How did the white and coloured troops get on together?” the results were 75%, 75%, and all respectively.

“Has your feeling towards negroes changed since serving in the same unit?” Not a single man said his attitude had become less favourable, while 77% of officers and n.c.o.’s said that they felt more favourable toward them, 1% “feel more respect for them,” “likewise.”

From a cross-section of those who had never fought with Negroes, 62% said that they would dislike very much to serve with them; whereas among officers, 85% of those who had served with them there was a total of 60% who were favourable toward mixed companies.

We Were Not Last—

THE DRINKING HORN

There is still one event where VUC can hold its own, and it was decided this year that it was the result of the victory. The Tournamant Committee conferred on the winning team, and the students received the trophy from the 1946 VUC Trophy Contest.

This was the first contest held under the new rules, adopted by the Tournament Committee at its Wellington sitting last year. They provide (inter alia) for teams of six, who are required to quaff one after the other, relay fashion, the contents of one standard handle. As “Sallent!” has already pointed out, the popular misconception of the contest is an error, based on M.P.G. (more per gallon) has no foundation in fact.

“Complimentary” Blues go to the fastest six in the NZL University, and the VUC team contained one 1941 Blue, which gave our supporters confidence until Mair showed the free team what work. While we could field good solid men who had gained their proficiency in a true blue club, we lacked the full weight of their training in physiology. Previously our diversions of a new type of paralytic liquid straight down, without a gulp.

The draw was announced: VUC to play OUC in the semi-final. For two or three hands we lived the Southern, but suddenly their “pourers” snapped into action and OUC put up the best time of the day to beat VUC by most of a handle in just over 18 secs.

NOW came a pause while we girded our loins and understood what the lassos of the CUC-AUC contest.

Although CUC had one pouer, our “stem,” they were able to move at the result of the battle, and before we left Tournament Delegate Dick Dennis of the McMickel of Canterbury a wooden spoon, won outright by the CUC team, this is the wooden spoon we intend never to hold.

The Blues selectors met immediately after the defeat, and the CUC scrapy all the Gill Marrittay was to be congratulated on the training that finally earned him a complimentary NSW Blue.

An outstanding win was fittingly recognised by the management, who presented to the OU team a specially printed blue sash commemorating the 1946 Empire Games, and a trophy consisting of 12 quarts of “barley water.” All teams were then entertained by the OU caterers, and the speeches, after a suitably thirsty haka, carried enthusiasm on with what they had been doing.

Male or Female...

Realise Your Potentialities at

CAPPING PROGRESSION THURSDAY

See Athol Huxley—Pix Hurrell

The outstanding point is the additional proof that racial discrimination, to survive, must be nurtured by stimulation, by a positive policy of maintaining customs, laws and propaganda for the sickness, to feed the malignancy of growth. Remove these stimuli, replace them by officially sanctioned fellowship, and the blight withers.

And once again we are driven to the same conclusion: “that there are millions of Americans of wealth, education and power who believe that the necessity of keeping black men from ever becoming a part of the nation is more important than the triumph of democracy in the world.” While the USA has subscribed to the Charter of the United Nations and, earlier, to the principles of the Atlantic Charter, the Ku Klux Klan has been reborn in the South, and Senator Overton and others have re-opened their campaign for the intensification of discriminatory legislation.

The importance of this issue, and its perspective, is made clear by William Henry Hastie, Dean of Howard University (for Negroes)—

“If it were possible to conceive of America by herself, then we might experience a period of very serious spiritual reaction within a short time—though democratic forces might beat it in the long run. But if we do not wake up so rapidly all over the world that it is not a question where America will find herself tomorrow, but where America stands today, and will stand tomorrow. In the past, it has been the custom of the world—we are so minded. If we go over to the side of reaction, it would set the world back a long time—and a bloody time.”

This year’s tournament athletes showed that they were better in their second year of in which a high standard of fellowship and sportsmanship was maintained. Victoria did not match with the times, and relative to other Colleges our tended.

This year’s tournament athletes showed that they were better in their second year of in which a high standard of fellowship and sportsmanship was maintained. Victoria did not match with the times, and relative to other Colleges our tended.

The results of Saturday’s events showed that there were no winners not only on form but several of them were doing better that they had done previously. The CUC records were likely to be broken if the ground improved. On the Monday the ground having dried considerably was no longer slippery and considerably firmer than on Saturday, while the sun was shining and there was again very little wind. This Tournament produced very few surprises and as was expected several records were broken and good times were run in the National Championships at Wanganui broke the mile talk record.

In the hurdles record Gustave took three-fifths of a second off the 200 yd. hurdles record which is not

ATHLETICS

as good as he has done. The high jump record has been broken by the National Champion, Borland of Canterbury, and also Mara of Otago. It is unlikely that many people, including the announder did not realise how enormous these records could be.

Miss Gourley of Canterbury equalled her N.Z. record in the 60 metres hurdles and produced good times in the sprints though Mary Schouler of VUC was not far behind her. Another splendid runner was the N.Z. Junior Champion, Plunkett of Canterbury.

In the javelin throw Errol Appendix looked a likely winner, but Mara put up a winning throw near the end ruling our only hope of a point against the tournament trophy. Tony Munden came in second in the 440 yd. hurdles, but Mara put up a second in the three miles keeping with the leaders, this was the first time for 11 years since 1934 and Gib Bogie came second equal in the 440 hurdles after looking like a second for most of the race.

In the women’s relay Gay Nisano ran in place of Yvonne Chapman, who strained a leg muscle, with Mary Schouler, Julie Fleet and Peg Leamy. The girls were terribly disappointed and felt intensely disappointed after running second to Canterbury in the race.

The final blow fell at the ball on Thursday night when Ernie Drummond, the only VUC athlete to collect a trophy, received the Athletic Wooden Spoon from the hands of Mrs. Tockler.

Canterbury are to be congratulated on winning the Athletic Shield by a close margin. The results are as follows—

Once the Americans realise that the Negroes’ fight is their fight, Vim Cruz will be on the outer.
TOMER TAKES TRIP

In brilliant sunshine representa-
tives of the CUC Memorial Hall for
the official welcome. Mr. McKenzie,
senior Tournament Delegate of the
CUC, welcomed all on behalf of the CUC
Student Ass, and called upon Profes-
sor Allen, who spoke on behalf of the
Professorial Board.

Dr. Allen, apologising for the
absence of Professor Tocker, whom he
stated, had made for the hills on
hearing of the student invasion, gave
a hearty welcome to members from
other Colleges. He hoped the best
team would win and that the contest
would be carried out in that sporting
spirit so evident in University Tour-
naments. On the opening day of the
CUC Zoological Society he presented
to University Tournament a zo-
ological baby, 'a wondrous and
wonderful thing o' wood and rag.'

Mr. Daniels, replying on behalf of
the VUC reps, stated that VUC had
some years ago donated the wooden
spoons which are to be eaten; these
same spoons seemed to have found
their home, in their place of origin it
was to be hoped that they would rest else-
where for the coming year. Other
Tournament Delegates spoke, all
expressing the conviction that the
Tournament Shield would go home with
them.

After the official speeches were
concluded representatives were enter-
tained to afternoon tea, on the lawn of
the Student's Assn. Building.

—in retrospect

The arrival of the a.s. “Walshie” on
Thursday morning marked the end of
the first week of Tournament since the
cessation of hostilities.

Auckland and Victoria Universities
retained together, but we are not yet
return empty-handed. Once more we
return to our Hall the trophies we so
generously donated some years back.
Victoria has disgraced herself rather
more this year than usual this year and it is
rather difficult to excuse—21 points
when Otago can get 31. Is Victoria
hidden under a bushel? If so, isn’t it about
time that light shone forth?

Or is there move to this failure
than meets the eye? We know that we are
only a glorified night school, but
that shouldn’t prevent us from main-
taining a fairly high standard in the
realm of sport. Surely we aren’t all
duds.

Where is our Tournament spirit?
Are people going to Tournament solely
for the purpose of having a good time?
Have we no pride in our College? We
only hope we will learn a lesson from
this year’s Tournament and do better
next time.

Canterbury treated us very well and
we are very grateful for their host-
ality. We hope we didn’t cause too
much trouble and we can only offer sincere
commiseration to all those who were
given notice from flats and rooms, etc.,
for entertaining us so royally.

Otago, the winner of the Tournament,
played a little or no competition
in any field. Canterbury put up
a good fight but fell short by quite a
way, in contrast with retaining the
majority of sports trophies, they also
took the first place in the Horn and bagpipe
tournament for the shortest time.

Well done, Otago! Our congratu-
lations!

ROWERS RUINED IN RACY RIP

Those hardy few who braved the
elemental influences of a Saturday morning
and travelled by train to Lyttleton and
then to Corio Bay via launch were
doomed to be bitten by disappointment—and
severe colds. The weather was cold
and wet and the wind gave sufficient
roughness to the sea to prevent rowing.

Though all crews were prepared to
brave the deep rowing council were
against it and after waiting one
and a half hours in the icy cold the
rowing was abandoned for the morning.

The crews were to report back at 3.30
to see if the weather had improved.
They travelled sadly back to Christ-
church, but others, more hopeful, had
lunch at the local pub and spent the
gentle couple of hours playing a
blasting fire. Late to leave the fire they
finally staggered themselves away to
find the water much calmer and by 3.30
they were able to launch boats and
row the two miles to the start at
Corio Bay. After a long wait the
angry spectators saw them finally
move off. CUC No. 1 in position, OU
No. 2, AUC No. 3, and VUC on the out-
side. Although each crew had a
tremendous opinion of itself—including
Victoria, Otago led the way right from
the first, even Canterbury not offering
any competition; and Canterbury had
to make a final spurt to beat Auckland
for second position. Victoria wasn’t
nearly so far behind as last year. A
well-deserved win, Otago!

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Soccer Club Will Hold Four Teams in Competition

The fourth annual General Meeting of the Soccer Club was held on March 19, and was attended by a large and enthusiastic gathering of players. Since its inauguration in 1943 the club has increased in membership from 10 to 50. In our initial year, only Senior B team was entered, whereas this year we shall have four teams in the local competitions: Senior, Junior A, Junior B, and Third Grade. A survey of our talent shows promise of very strong Senior and Third Grade (under 21) teams, while the Junior teams will be well up to standard. We especially welcome back Ken Johnston and Ted Simmonds, who will materially strengthen our Senior team. Faiz Sherani and Musli Ashraf must have put across some pretty good sales talk for us in Fiji, where soccer is the national winter sport, as they have brought back five local teams on that fair land. Prospects for Winter Tournament are again exceptionally bright, and we confidently expect to see the Soccer Trophy (if someone donates one) reposing triumphant amongst VUC's fine array of wooden spoons.

Mr. A. R. Key of the Wellington Football Association, briefly addressed the meeting, and gave us an interesting and useful insight into the workings of the General Council. The Club offers its heartfelt congratulations to Nev, Swinburn on his recent election by the Management Committee of the WFA. He also was mainly responsible for the passing of the two recent past-forward by the Varsity Club, at the Annual General Meeting of that body.

A pleasant afternoon was had by 18 members of the club, at an unofficial kick-around on Saturday at Te Aro Park, despite the howling of the sun and the extraordinary view of the grass (the existence of the latter being viewed with amazement by members of the Senior B team).

When the football season begins officially we hope to have the use of Kelburn Park for weekly practice on Thursday afternoons and evening from 7.30 p.m.

Club officers elected for 1946 are:

**Patron:** Professor Gordon.
**Captain:** J. Y. Walls.
**Vice-Captain:** R. M. Dickson.
**Secretary-Treasurer:** B. Sutton-Smith.

Hockey Seniors Win First Game

The general impression gained from the practice held at Northfield Park on Saturday, 6th, was that Varsity, in both Senior and Junior, have excellent chances in the competition this year. With 70 to 80 players the committee has had to find some method of selection that will ensure fair appraisal of each player. To this end they have enlisted the "TWO GEORGES." Senior grades, George Macey, and the Senior selector, George Shaw, both members. Further in this connection, the committee will, in future, impress on all players that they have the right at any time to interview the selector regarding promising players.

The Junior play on Saturday showed some promising players, but was characterised by wild, desultory rushes and milling. I would point out to you young players that speed in hockey comes not from wild careering, but rather from quick interchange of the ball between players. Make your game more deliberate. Watch your position, and play it.

The Senior Game.—George Shaw's task is not easy, but I feel that the A team will not be a revolutionised team, and that the majority will be players who have been from last year. The necessity of concentration before playing the ball applies also to players in this grade.

Saturday's efforts were completed by long grass and rain, but it is more necessary under such conditions to play calculated shots.

As a final note: this applies to both grades but more so to the lower grades where the supply of good Wellington is very limited, and those unable to make high grades in their usual position would be well advised to learn this position.

Table Tennis

A record attendance at an Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 24, 1946, when 40 students met to elect officers for 1946, and to discuss table tennis matters generally.

Secretary: Ted Jones briefly reviewed last year's successful season which concluded with Winter Tournaments, where VUC won the NZTTA championship shield and were awarded a New Zealand University Blue.

Officers for the ensuing season are: President: Eric Flavas; Club Captain: Alan Graham; Secretary-Treasurer: Ted Jones; Fixtures Controller: Neil Case; Dorothy Peckels; Selectors: Peter Ralph; Allister Lamb, Ted Jones.

It will not be possible to have an opening night until Extrak, has completed rehearsals and intending players should watch the notice boards and this column for further information regarding the date.

Ted Jones, Box 2601, or c/o Men's Common Rooms. Speculating always hazardous to hear from any players who were unable to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Harriers Visit Massey College

On Saturday, April 6, the Harrier Club held its first run of the season at Massey College. Although the run was not exactly easy for so early in the year, it was enjoyed by all, and the great hospitality displayed by Massey towards VUC will not be quickly forgotten by these present.

The club's official opening run was held from Weir House on Saturday, April 10, by the invitation of the warden after a short trot up to the top of the nearest highest hill—where few members found that harriers do not necessarily run everywhere—an excellent afternoon tea being provided.

The numbers and the keenness of the harriers present indicate that the club should enjoy a successful season.

Cappicide Procession

Thursday, May 9th, 11 a.m.—2 p.m.

420 STUDENTS NEEDED!

As many as possible come to GYM at 7 p.m., on TUESDAY NIGHT

keen were apt to wander out of position. The fullbacks especially on the left were also obvious.

Note: 1st Div.: VUC by default.

3rd Grade. 1st Div.: Lost to Training College 3—2. I am told the Smaller team in a scrappy game and both sides lacked any unified in-field team-work.

3rd Grade. 2nd Div.: v Wellington—won.

Fourth Grade. v Wellington.—3—2.

Fifth Grade. v Wellington.—3—2.

Note:—Thursday evening practice 7-45 gym.
Varsity Tennis Club Supports Drive For Tennis Centre

For some two or three years now, since the conversion of the Miramar tennis courts to cabbage patches, local competitors and championships have had to be curtailed in some instances. The 1945 Christmas Tournament was a good example of the need for courts. The Tournament had to be played on the courts of different clubs, thus requiring an excessive amount of organisation, and causing inconvenience to the public and players alike. Interclub competitions this year required a complicated set-up in arranging for courts on which to play.

With the courts at Miramar there was a feeling that they were too far from the greater part of the city. The courts at Central Park will be more or less in the midst of the city itself and will thus be more convenient for tennis enthusiasts living in the outerlying suburbs of Karori, Northland and Wadestown. The institution of a central area where interclub competitions and where championship and interprovincial matches may be held will overcome these difficulties.

Davis Cup, Pacific Zone

With the construction of these courts it should be possible to give the general public of Wellington and the neighbouring provinces a chance to see the future Davis Cup matches on the Central Park courts. Wellington being the capital of New Zealand, tennis players of the proposed Central Park calibre would be the logical choice.

The Scheme

The courts are situated on the site of the former Military Camp at Central Park. The area provides for 21 courts, of which it is intended that 15 shall be grass and 6 hard.

The estimated cost was first given as $10,000, but this has since been revised and is now put at $20,000. This amount is needed not only for the construction of the courts but for the purchase of the land. The courts will be the property of the Wellington Lawn Tennis Association and not the City Council.

Club Levies

To raise this sum each of the affiliated clubs in Wellington has been asked to raise the sum of $1 per head of its membership over a period of two years. The VUC Tennis Club has promised 10/- per head, but would like to raise the sum asked for if possible. This means that our Tennis Club with a membership of approximately 60, will have to raise $60, and if possible the whole $200. We have at the moment handed in $20, being the profits of the dance which were held some little time ago.

Queen Carnival

The scheme is as follows: the various affiliated clubs of Wellington, including those comprising the Catholic Club Association and Wellington Lawn Tennis League, have been divided into four main groups for the purpose of raising a Royal Famine and raising money. They are Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western groups. The VUC Tennis Club is in the Western group, together with the two Karori clubs, Wadestown, Secyson, Wellington, Education, St. Peter's, Northland, St. Joseph's and Public Service.

The VUC Tennis Club's Part

The VUC Tennis Club has been asked to participate to their fullest possible extent in efforts to raise money. It is realised by the other members of the Western group that so far as actually raising money is concerned, VUC Tennis Club can do little. We can, however, do one thing which is just as important as the above aspect, and that is by giving this scheme the publicity that it is possible for us to accomplish.

Rev. J. M. Bates Addresses S.C.M.

Organised Christianity today has to meet the challenge of the critics. It is said that there is no need for Christianity in this technological age; or that society will become more moral, rendering religion unnecessary. Critics point to the not unblemished history of the Church, and to the impurities gained by knowledge when the thinkers broke from the medieval Church. Christianity is inadequate for the complexity of our time.

But upon this view, what alternatives offer themselves? Fascism is obviously untenable. Socialism and Humanism, while they have achieved much, are also inadequate. For instance, they may suppose that the origin of evil lies in a particular political action or movement, in the Church, in the forces of Nature, or in mere lack of material knowledge. But this does not explain the origin of evil, only its manifestaions. Christianity asserts that the origin of evil lies in the volitional acts of human beings. One of the concerns of Christianity is therefore conscience— that is, the capacity which a person has to form some idea of rightness. It is concerned so to guide this faculty as to make persons' actions more moral—less productive of evil.

Many of the trappings of the different forms of Christianity are out of date. Real Christianity does not depend on churchers, hymns or ceremonies; it is a way of living. The existence of so many sects is a blot on the present example of the Church.

The Church properly so called is an association of people, acknowledging Christ as leader, each person relating to life and to other people in certain characteristic ways. Each member also seeks a conception of the true nature of things material and spiritual. This appreciation of "spiritual truth" is an act of the whole personality. Personal differences in apprehension and achievement make Christianity easy to criticise.

The focal point, however, is that the nature of God may be most clearly seen in the life of Jesus Christ. The true rule of life is shown in a fellowship centred in Christ, in which men live with their fellow men in a Christian way. This is the aim of Christianity, not to be good to get to Heaven. In Christian living is found the greatest harmony of life, our nature, and the purpose for which we exist.

Vigorous discussion and supper followed. —E.R.R.

I might be accused of contempt of court, as you might say." "I'll be courteous and laugh since I'm caught with my pants down," 2
Victoria Reaches Nadir at Easter Tournament

So we’ve got the Wooden Spoons again. And this time I think it really hurts. We’ve licked our previous wounds with the thought of the war—and that’s come and gone and still we’re no better. The question must be asked: why were we so poor in our effort? This is not a complete survey; it is a series of observations in the manner of Walli Ingram—though I hope a little more informative.

Firstly, there seems to be a lack of organized talent. By that I mean that there is not sufficient long range arranging done to produce teams, culminating their efforts in Tournament. I will admit that the Varsity year, particularly for Victoria, is very full, but nevertheless with organisation it should be possible to produce the required amount of form.

Enthusiasm—an old-fashioned word—seems to be lacking, though how this can be rekindled is not a question for real suggestion. It might almost be a subject to be considered by a special committee of the Executive.

The motivation of people attending Tournament is not always open to question. Do they seek to represent VUC, to win for their Varsity in their sport, or is the objective of the Tournament the deciding factor? Unfortunately I consider in all too many cases the latter is the case. There is also no “nursing” for years—all too frequently selection is made for developed talent rather than the time and patience necessary to produce trained competitors.

One of the major factors that is peculiar to it is that the summer athletic season is broken by the long vacation. It is apparent that during this period it is vital that some committee be set up for each sport, together with a general liaison organisation to keep Varsity athletic functioning during the summer months.

Victoria has a reputation—far from, for Tramping, for Debating, for her drinking and, however desirable it might be, it is not something that can allow this to exist. It might be easier if we are to win Tournament 1947.

We must therefore savour our defeat—for it’s good—but we must realise that to win next year it will need a very considerable improvement in our athletic programme.

The greatest rub of all is that we were second best in the Horn Trophy—where in the Maori Club?—A.T.H.

Basketball

 Goes Down Fighting

There descended on Christchurch a team of basketball fanatics bent on wresting the basketball shield from Otago; there returned a team of more than one and a half, with not a single win to show for it—next year, . . .

The standard of play set by the other colleges was too high for our team, who found themselves at a distinct disadvantage. The team had not as yet had so few experienced players. Outstanding during the whole of the Tournament was the brilliant spirit of Victorians displayed; the opposing teams gained nothing they did not earn by hard play.

Peg Moore was the “pride of the side” when the game was won, and the goals that came her way. The defence (Val Berry) was again an asset, both as a man and as a man. G. Nimmo worked well together and handled the ball faultlessly. If you ask how she came to shoot a goal for the opposing side, she will tell you that she was always a formidable threat.

The friendships formed and the experience gained by playing against the major Colleges make us look forward to the next big contest when we intend to win the shield from the other Colleges, who now hold it jointly.

Otago Wins Tennis Cup Easily

The performance of Victoria’s tennis team at Easter Tournament was well below their usual standard, but we did live up to the Combined tournament standard. It is a long time since Victoria failed to collect a title in this event. The first set, doubles final, Goodwin and O’Connor took four games convincingly; in the second set, they never looked like doing so.

The play of the girls was disappointing, being far below that of the other Universities. Nancy and Bevan, however, did well to win the first double but were not just good enough for the Otago sisters who were unfortunate to miss recommendations for Blues. After a win in the first singles Nancy Turner was unable to match the driving of Jean MacGibbon, high ranking Canterbury intercollegiate player.

Avia Reid did not quite seem to stand in the singles in the doubles but she played well in the combined doubles with Jack Walls. The keen and exuberant Misses Iotti and Websly were rather out of their class, but another season’s play may well find these two knocking at the door.

Dismal Shooting

in Morning Rain

The worst can happen and in the case of the Shooting Team at Tournament it certainly did. To say that the weather was unfavourable is an understatement, only factors beyond the Range Officer’s control made it necessary for the shoot to continue. The results have already been published elsewhere and as this report is gloomy enough we will refrain from printing them here.

Otago shot brilliantly and the performance of Valentine, the top scorer with 132 must under the prevailing conditions be rated a “best ever” performance at Tournament. The only other notable performer was that of Auckland who shot well and without any practice.

The shooting team offered no excuses for its failure—we were beaten by a brilliant side and the only regret we have is that while we might not have defeated Otago we feel that under more favourable conditions we would have acquitted ourselves better.

In Cately VUC has an excellent shot who is improving with every shoot. The most unlucky performer was Anson who would have been in the top four if his snap practice had been a little more in keeping with his past performances. Of the rest nothing should be said. Altogether we were unlucky, but with shooting that is to be expected. We have bought our experience at the cost of defeat, but next year that experience may prove the deciding factor.

ask Gove how she came to shoot a goal for the opposing side, she will tell you that she was always a formidable threat.

The friendships formed and the experience gained by playing against the main Colleges make us look forward to the next big contest when we intend to win the shield from the other Colleges, who now hold it jointly.

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Breaststroke Title to Cath. Eichelbaum

The swimming, like the rest of Tournament, proved a sad failure for Victoria. Apart from Cath. Eichelbaum, the women’s 100yds. Breaststroke Champion, our efforts were singularly unproductive. Otago once more swept the pool. Although we had several people in the finals they failed to make the grade and once more we were left at the bottom.

In the 50yds. Women’s Freestyle Championship Pat Cummins of VUC held the title last year, but this year, with more competition from the other Universities, only came third.

The Diving Championship was held for the first time this year and Patricia Young did very well in coming third for Victoria, considering that she had done some of the dives for the first time that afternoon.

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