Debating Society Supports Government on Eve of Election

Each year before the first flush of spring blights the genius of its members, that society for certified intellectuals, the VUC Debating Club, convenes a battle between the Great Men who rule our Fair Land and the Not So Great Men who don't. In the resulting melee few holds are barred and the only practical referee is the audience. For a reason divulged by one of the speakers last Friday night, such a contest could not be held this year, but as an excellent alternative four of the great equations—McCreary, O'Connor, O'Flynn and Benton wrangled over a confidence motion in the Government.

Some two hundred persons were present; speeches were vivacious—at times hilarious. There was little restraint and no judge.

From the outset the audience set the pace. A few orations were pacative, but for the most part the whole was a running battle between the speaker and the crowd.

And it would be inaccurate to say that Gurrig Higgens interjected—rather was he a competitive speaker throughout the entire evening.

Affirmative

John McCreary is not quite typical of the VUC Debating School in that he entertains rather than instructs his audience. On Friday night however he was convinced that "hard cold facts" were necessary to prove his argument to "no intelligent audience." Nevertheless he began with an anecdote, "In 1920 when the police fought unemployed in the street a small boy crouched behind a shop counter." Yells from the mob made him reword his sentence. From that day to the present, the annual wage bill of the Dominions has increased from $60 million to $170 million. Ten years of Labour rule has seen the farmers' mortgages fall £8 million. Future policy included reduction of income tax, the building of 12,000 houses a year and the decentralization of industry.

With equal effect he dealt with interruptions from Gurrig Higgens and the Education Programme. School building, small classes, free distribution of text books and an increase in the number of University bursaries—all were outlined in the schedule he read. "And dental care for adolescents, Mr. Higgins! He issued a challenge to the negative to show him any such programme for the National Party.

Negative

Ben O'Connor never disappoints his listeners. "It is not my job to put forth the clever scheme," he said, "As leader of the negative I can only refute what Mr. McCreary has said." He countered many of his opponent's whims and condemned socialism as a practical system. "The Government has entered into too many enterprises which do it in the end, it function should be merely that of a referee."

Labour Party election platforms still rested largely on the errors of the Coalition Government during the slump. But what had been the record. In a Labour Australia, benefits had been paid at the rate of 8½ in Victoria and 9½ in New South Wales; this against 21½ in New Zealand.

Commodity prices were kept down by paying enormous subsidies. "This is in taxation, when taxation rises..." ("the cold air rushes in"—Higgins). "The inefficient IMD has been sold to the dairy and his manner comic, but his arguments though illogical would have found acceptance in a less astute and less critical audience...

In 1928 a slump committee with a Labour representative recommended sustenance payment for unemployed—nothing more. "We want a little bit of practical evidence. What did Mr. Jordan say in '31?'" ("What did Gladstone say in '83?") (Higgins). Nobody had an opportunity of owning State houses. Glancing at Mr. O'Connor he said, "We might be Nationalists, Socialists, or Communists..." (Cry from whole section of the mob—"You don't look like a Communist."). He continued—"The Government has not socialized the means of production, distribution, and exchange." ("That's not what Grevton. I once worked on a farm..."

SWAN SONG

This is the last issue of our fortnightly "Salient." Next year a weekly will appear, bigger, better and brighter than ever. We wish to thank all those who have made this year's "Salient" possible and cordially invite your contributions in the future.

—Editor and Staff.

Seconders

Frank O'Flynn is a legal luminary, and as such he preferred the money approach. He quoted figures to show that although the national debt had increased from £300 million to £300 million in ten years, the overseas debt decreased at a time when the overseas debt of all other countries had increased. Some people complained about Social Security fees. In 1933 everyone was paying 6d. in the pound for it and getting nothing for it.

New to the Varsity platform in Mr. Benton. His speech was undignified and his manner comic, but his arguments though illogical would have found acceptance in a less astute and less critical audience.

Mr. O'Connor said: "Don't give me that talk, Mr. O'Connor says. Mr. Benton continued with a short note about the productivity of State owned mines.

Floor Speakers

Speakers from the floor were fewer than usual, and the standard set was lower. The audience continued to set the pace.

Toby Easterbrook-Smith: "During the depression the training colleges had been closed and teachers' salaries had been cut." A rude remark broke up proceedings.

Kath Kelly: "Only six knight-hoods—think of it! And motoring is such an expensive hobby." (Cries of "That's the spirit!" and "Dinkum Oil"). "Every privilege has been fought for by the workers," said Harold

Visitors

Visitors were then admitted to the meeting.

"The only thing apparent about the negative was that they were speaking against the motion," said Mr. Griffin. "Labour policy is to the disadvantage of vested interests."

Said Mr. Potterton: "I have not yet had a chance to vote Labour..." (Whispers) "but I've read some of their pamphlets" (Louders whispers). "Planning seems to appeal to them..." (Cries of "Yes! Yes!"

Mr. Arlow: "Now, boys, will you all look at it this way here? Right! Now, are they wearing stockings?" (Higgins: "Yes. And all the way up, too!!!") (Girls: "Are the boys wearing shirts?" (Rude remark from Mr. Wachner.) The idea of this sartorial investigation was to convince the audience that they were stark naked. If they were to be clothed before 1950 they would have to vote National. Who owns the mines? Paddy Webb! Who owns the Canterbury racecourse? Paddy Webb! Who owns the Empire Pub? Audiance: "Paddy Webb!"

The Governments is feeding the its own new. We boys and girls..." (Screams from the back.) Mr. Taylor (chairman): "I must remind that lady that this is not a beer garden." In summing up both leading speakers congratulated everything that each other and everyone else had previously said. A show of hands indicated that the audience were overwhelmingly in favour of the motion.

It was announced that the Union Prize had been awarded to Mr. Collins and the New Speaker's Prize to Mr. Samunj.

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Government and Education

With the coming into power of the Labour Government in 1935 a new era dawned in the history of education in New Zealand. In contradiction to their policy in most other Departments, the Government changed key personnel in the Education Department, and appointed men who were not altogether opposed to their policy.

Five-year-olds were re-admitted, Training Colleges re-opened, and teachers' salaries were increased. Later the Proficiency Examination was abolished, primary education was no longer formal but free, and teachers were no longer graded on examination passes but on every aspect of their teaching. This produced a completely new attitude on the part of teachers and also had the effect of abolishing the means test for entry into secondary schools. Every aspect of primary education was liberalised.

With the abolition of Proficiency and the higher standard of living a new type of pupil came to Secondary Schools and the urgency of liberalising the curriculum to suit new conditions soon became evident. When the Government did at last move in this direction Hansard records that the Nationalists opposed and obstructed the Government at every turn in carrying out reforms long since overdue. In a recent issue of "Salient" the National Party said that it was in favour of raising the School Leaving Age. It would be difficult to surpass such consummate duplicity, as they have always opposed such action. New Technical and Intermediate Schools have been established in an endeavour to meet new conditions and to close the gap between Primary and Secondary Schools.

The granting of University Bursaries on the basis of Higher Leaving Certificate and the granting of boarding bursaries to needy students together with the Government's progressive policy in Secondary Schools are contributing causes to the present overcrowding in Universities. New Zealand is the only British country in which university education has become literally free.

In order to raise the academic standard and to bring the Universities into line with the Primary and Secondary Schools it will be necessary to establish new Technological Colleges and perhaps Provincial Universities. Only a Labour Government would be capable of doing this since, if the Nationalists object to broadening and liberalising the curricula in other schools surely they will sabotage every effort to improve University Education.

The Government has done everything to encourage local industry and this has led to the establishment of new research institutions and accounts for the tremendous expansion of the DSIR. On the other hand the National Party has no desire to see New Zealand industrialised and if they took office, New Zealand would have little room for scientists and technicians. It is not interested in bringing enlightenment and culture to the people but has use for only a few clerks and technicians to keep accounts and to find efficient methods for making more profits for the capitalist class.

* * *

It is not without the greatest difficulty that "Salient" has been brought out at all this year. For the most part issues were overset, even to the extent of bringing out three twelve-page editions that were not budgeted. Next year will see an improvement—staff and paper will be organised to handle the increased material. For the present our greatest thanks go to the printer, whose untiring efforts and goodwill have made "Salient" possible.
Spring Song

Spring is come, and lankhorns all
Frolic and frisk in the morning cool;
We hear the magpie's mailing call
And Topsy's P.M's growl midway too.
Spring is the time for snitking oats,
Time for the ass to feel its oats;
Spring is the time for catching voles,
Time for the Tory garden party.

The poison ivy and stinkweed bud;
The trap-door spider lays its snare;
The bulb-frog breeds in the fertile mud,
With a croak and croak it makes a chair.
The Tory now on every tree
Puts out his leaflets, and thus sings he:
"Come, meet your betters and vote for me—
Come to the Tory garden party."

The blowfly blows, the carrion crows
Go gathering straws and sticks,
And the Tory nest shall feather its nest
And hatch its venomous chicks.
"No come to the feast, you're all invited;
Meet the Squire—he'll be delighted;
We promise you won't be snubbed or slighted;
Come to the Tory garden party."

"So come—there's scones and cakes and jugs
Of babbling lemonade;
Come ye suckers and come ye maggs,
The lice-ridden lads and lolling lasses,
Welched dancers of the wealthy classes,
Smartly dressed with horrid grace—
Come to the Tory garden party."

-H.W.G.

Ezra Pound—Poet or Fascist

Some months ago an article appeared in "Student" upholding Ezra Pound as a poet because his opinions were "sincere." Such an attitude is likely to lay one open to the most vicious Fascist propaganda and is to be heartily condemned.

While we have not the same knowledge of Ezra Pound's works as Mr. Oliver obviously has, there are certain features in his article in "Student" which are important apart from such knowledge, and which cannot go unchallenged.

In the first place it is apparently necessary to put on record Mr. Oliver's assertion that Pound was not indicted as a war criminal for the verse he wrote, but for his pro-Fascist activities during the war.

These activities, Mr. Oliver says, were carried out by Pound because he was convinced that the Fascists had something. He further states that, as a result of this, Pound accepted the lot of the Fascists whether they won or lost. And after making these statements he objects to Pound being indicted! Surely these things could have been said of William Joyce, of Tokio Rose, or Hitler himself. Moreover, in accepting the "win or lose" stand, Pound surely accepts the possibility of indictment as a traitor to his country. He was still a U.S. citizen, and not all traitors, Mr. Oliver, are such only for filthy lucre. But whether "honest traitors" or not, they are still liable to indictment by their own country.

In considering the value of Pound's writings, one must note that the normal writer's development of thought during his life as a writer is reflected in what he has to say. That seems to me to be fairly elementary. Applying this to Pound, this means that he finally accepted the philosophy and programme of Fascism, and was able to trace the development of his conversion to these ideas in his verse. And it would seem that, in view of Pound's acting on his beliefs by joining and broadcasting for the Fascists, would be the most important feature of his writings. They would probably be so for Pound himself, anyway. (As Pound was acquitted on grounds of insanity, perhaps this argument does not apply.) If this is the case, the lack of social documentation in which Mr. Oliver is interested, then he is justly qualified in studying it.

The development patterns of Fascism are obvious enough to anyone who has been interested enough to watch them. In the past twenty years, and it seems to me that the more important thing at the moment is not to discuss apologetics for post-gossameric Fascist but to see to it that Fascism does not rise again.

-KAIWAL

To an Indian Maid

Must thy blushes like the cherry blossom fall
Without a gathering to given the fallen bloom
Is there no basket in which thy blushes may rest
Let it be the heart and unconsouled by the ever-wearing mouth of time
Were I the happy gather of thy blushes, the happy master of this universe of Delight
No precious pearl as rare would fall
No whisper as the magic sound of the mountain breeze
No rose like the upsiding Dawn Shall lie upon the earth of unmembrane.

-OMAR HAMAR

A Sonnet

(Before a high altar)

Nay, Christ! I hear no word before thy throne.
Nor do I kneel and make a moan, and show
My heart with all its heritage, how
To thee whose sorrow equals mine my own.
Nay, Christ! for now I am a man full grown
And take my stand and hold thy God for mine—
My God and Thine—for on thy cross I stood
Despised by thy God... thou darst alone
Some against the sky I held my face.
No mercy do I ask, no hommage give,
But lift my voice and cry thru Time and Space
I have my right to die, my right to live.
And, triumphing, to spew him at the end
Who proved at last to thee so false a friend.

-RO-AND AP POWELL

The Flame of Illusion...

Life follows an un若い flute
Your sweet voice rolls on the memory of the men. The answer: Player the distant note Forever place beyond the human ken. Through thousands and thousands of floods
Our feet do wander in wild quest To the bounding flute that reigns Today's labour. In madenning zest
The scattered waters beneath the manic spell Through countless paths for the Searcher.
And fares to rest beside the eternal shore At the endless shores of Eternity.

-OMAR HAMAR.

The Press Gang

You cannot hope to bring the press, thank God, the British journalist;
but seeing what the man will do, there's no occasion to.

HUMBERT WOLFE.
IS ANTI-FASCISM SUFFICIENT?

They left the Gym and went down the steps across the dark tennis court in silence, each ordering his thoughts and seeking an opening for conversation. They were both impressed by what they had heard, a lecture and film on the International Democratic Youth Movement, and each wished to draw the other out.

"Well, I think I was thinking of that," said Fisher.

Barnes took a moment to consider, then replied slowly, "On the whole I think it's a good idea. It answers a definite need for cooperation and internationalism, but—" he paused. "I can't help feeling that its basis is not positive enough.

"How do you mean? The constitution is pretty definite: fostering of world peace, cooperation between nations, better facilities for travel. They seem positive aims."

"On paper it looks positive. It's an excellent sentiment. But have you read some of their reports, and I'm rather worried by the messages from the various movements to the effect that the chief theme of most of them is 'we must be united against fascism,' which is rather a dangerous word to use. There's far too much emphasis on the negative aim.

"Yes, I noticed that too, and it explains why some people have dismissed it as 'Communist.' Yet I wonder if antifascism is a negative aim."

"Surely. It is against something rather than for it."

"Well, I don't think, "you would agree that we are all seeking the same thing: the recognition of the dignity and worth of the individual human personality. That sounds rather pompous, but it is as near as I can make it."

"Yes, that's about it.

Impromptu Debates

The four teams entered by the VUC Debating Society in the impromptu debate competition at Wellington met with conspicuous success. Besides our teams there were six other entries. University A. John McNeary and Joan Taylor, negatized the proposition "That a Labour Party desired for allied servicemen to marry girls from recent enemy countries" against University C. Frank O'Flynn and Leonard Smusz. The A team won this debate. University B also won their debate against a W.G.A team, when they affirmed "That N.Z. should omit Maoris from the Rugby team to go to South Africa." Nigel Taylor and Maurice Butt were our B team. Our D team, Kevin O'Brien and Freeman O'Connor, were defeated in a debate when they took the negative against a Hutt team on the proposition "That Communists should be admitted to the N.Z. Labour Party." The judge, Mr. J. Meiller, commended very favourably on the standard of debating and on many of the individual efforts of our opponents. In the debate which took place first, our A team was placed first with the 88 points and our D team second with 86 points. Our C team tied with another team for third place. All's well that ends well and it is a pleasant sight to record that another Varsity Club has met with success in its particular field in open competition in Wellington.

Confederation At College Portals

Even a small fire at the College is an event in the generally drab intramural life of students in September. Last Friday "Salient" had an outside in its men an hour off to attend a lecture, and he happened to be right on the spot. There is always a high interest in these talks.

"You know the atmosphere in a lecture room five minutes to the hour. In A.2 last Tuesday, it could not only be felt, but smelt. Arecut increased, until a cry "Professor, this is getting serious!" brought the grousing concessions "I'll give you two minutes to save your lives." While the audience was thus interested in the kitchen door of the "cat."

"Any fires down here?"

"No, don't think so."

"We could smell burning from up above."

"We've only had the caliphorn on."

"Oh well, seems OK. Certainly can't smell anything here bar food."

"Of course, there's a small car on fire outside the window. It's been burning since seven this morning."

"Keen again, they trotted outside. There was the little car burning all right, just under the window. There were about fifteen students there to watch it. And do you think they were just sitting there watching it? You're right, they were."

The new arrivals got to work—it wasn't much of a fire really—and there is a positive factor uniting them.

They walked on, silent. At the door, Fisher suddenly stopped. "No!", he said, "there are basic aims, and they are pretty positive ones: the aim of peace, which is impossible under fascism."

"What about the peace of the grave?"

"It is the aim of democratic government, which is impossible under fascism. It is the ideal of the liberty of the individual, and it is implicit in anti-fascist action. That's the most urgent problem of today. The fighting is over, but the war goes on. There are still fascists in power in Spain, Greece and the Argentine. We must fight them, because we don't want to carry out our aims. It's like controlling a river. What we want eventually to do is to build an irrigation system. But first we must prevent floods which would destroy everything."

"Yes, that's perfectly true, but an irrigation scheme must contain something more than free control alone—you can't stop there."

"But fascism is not dead, and so long as it is alive we've simply got to be united against it. I've never learnt the lesson of the war. It's so much easier to attack a disorganized army than a well disciplined one. Hitler was right when he saw this. If it did nothing but prevent fascism, the World Federation of Democratic Youth should be supported."

"I suppose so. The combating of evil is a good thing, yet it is not a substitute for the achievement of good."

"They went on upstairs. "I only hope they really can get the organisation working on the positive lines as laid down by the constitution."

"Well," said Fisher, as they parted on the landing, "I hope so, too."

J.M.Z. and D.J.B.
American Imperialism

Dear Sir,—May I congratulate you on the progressive character of last week's editorial and also welcome your invitation for comments on such a vital issue as American Imperialism. The latest news from overseas has indicated clearly the American intention of advancing its predominating influence as far as the Balkans and the Black Sea. It would certainly not come as a surprise to hear the U.S. press claiming the latter as "mare nostrum."

No fair-minded citizen will deny Russia's right to secure participation in the defence of the Dardanelles which very conveniently could be used as a spring board for aggression against the Soviet Union. A country that has had 30,000 of its cities destroyed and eight millions of its citizens killed by the Nazi invader surely has not only the right but solemn obligation to defend its frontier. I wonder what Mr. Byrnes' reaction would be to a Soviet claim to participate or decide over the control of the Panama Canal. Let us hope how the defenders of Western democracy staged a local "uprising" in the district of Panama Continente in 1904 belonged to the Republic of Columbia. The local inhabitants declared their independence, the American "tyranny", established a Republic and called on President Th. Roosevelt for help.

Beyond this verbal rattling of the saber is designed to intimidate smaller nations in order to secure concessions for Wall Street money gangsters. Sir, this looks to me like a continuation of the same game so successfully played by Hitler in the thirties. But the outcome of it can only be war.

G. WASCHNER.

Dear Sir,—The editorial can be the most important and influential column in a paper, provided that it is not only significant but that it is simply, concisely and accurately expressed.

Your editorial of August 21 contains informative material, the full implication of which is obscured by a haze of pseudo-journalism.

Cut out this adolescent drivel about "Don Juan," "Raptures of Chinese Exploitation," etc. Stop those showmen jumping with the atomic bomb; bind the article into a coherent whole, and there will give, what many of us want in an editorial, an important commentary on current events from a standpoint not to be expected from the reactionary press of this country.

We congratulate you on publishing important facts and views relevant to a controversial topic. Keep it up; but for God's sake write simply. "S.T.H.S."

Social Studies

Dear Sir,—The news as published in the daily paper that the College Council is investigating the possibilities of establishing a school of Social Studies at Victoria comes as a question of vital importance to students. Many students feel and have felt that their University courses are of too academic a nature, and that they do not tie in with the realities of life and of human experience. Nor is there any cohesion between the different departments of the college dealing with those subjects having a particular sociological reference. I feel that properly used, a school of Social Studies attached to Victoria would be of great benefit. It will of course prove impossible for any lecturers to lay down a readily acceptable norm of conduct owing to the diversity of opinion on the subject, but an attempt can be made to indicate the major schools of thought and the reasons behind the differences involved. The school must necessarily deal with matters in an inductive manner rather than a prescriptive one, but even this will be valuable as it will undoubtedly awake the slumbering social consciences of many students, while it will be at least a valuable source of data for the many who desire to formulate an opinion for personal use, but who have nothing with which to work.

Those students who have in the past discovered a way of truth either from external sources or from the few channels available at the University to seminological sub-editors of organizations will continue to develop as heretofore, but the new school will provide them with an insight into the opinions and philosophies of other groups.

I would suggest that, if the plans of the Council ever come to fruition, the Executive should. better by calling a meeting or some other means, ascertain the views of the students on this matter. I think that this is one of the occasions when the viewpoints of students would be of very great value to the Council, provided that they are expressed in a reasonable and proper fashion.

In conclusion I would like to say that I feel this to be the most progressive step taken by the Council for many years and one well in keeping with our hearty support, the Council itself deserving congratulation on the matter.—R. H. O'BRIEN.

Thallien Thumped

Dear Sir,—I must protest against the rather unkind remarks made in your magazine last week about those brilliant students parading as "Salient." It is obvious that these fanatical morons perform an important function in the life of the college. Their notoriety low standard of morality and associated communist Negroism remain in an ever-growing synthesis of ethical and political views. This penchant for distortion embodied in these affectionate reproaches serves as a fine warning to freshers, besides providing the necessary dialectical contrast for the mature and virtuous! But even more these malcontents provide in their paroxysmal activities company and carthasis for those other obessional neurotics and potential delinquents in our midst. It seems we must tolerate the anarchistic brawlings of this troupe and allow this festering sore to discharge its pus harmlessly on the pages of "Salient."

I would urge them that your correspondent "Weekly Haircut" moderate him remarks about these perverts and realize that beneath this cloud of immature adolescent exhibitionism is at least a rare silver lining of unintentional service to the community.—PRO BOHO!

This cloud of adolescent exhibitionism would make any sub-editor dyspepsiacal.

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FILM AND STAGE—SALIENT REVIEWS “A NEW LIFE”

All life springs from life. As a result of a night club romance, a son is born to Edith, wife of Robert Cleghorne, heir to millions. The conflict and life compared with Edith’s, is the theme of the play “A New Life,” by Elmer Rice, recently presented by Unity Theatre. The cast is to be congratulated on their polished performance. They played to disingenuously empty houses, but even on the last night, when all the illusions that must have vanished, were still able to transform a mediocre play into a delightful and memorable entertainment.

All the action takes place in a maternity hospital at East River, New York. The cold, sterile-blue of the background and the blossoms that completely the hospital atmosphere. Tubular steel furniture would not have completed the set-up. We doubt whether a good maternity hospital anyone would be the image of the public waiting room. Minor points, however, The whole trip was well thought out, and the succession of pregnant women, harassed husbands, comically, and the incomparable few-to-honour-crowned by the very American Cleghorne Sir, completed the effect.

The central figure was another curious. We presume that when Mr. Rice wrote the play, he had some definite aim in so doing. Considered as the American public, he has watered down the fundamental social theme, making it acceptable even to the Vanderbills and their kind. The result is that a lot of this is wasted in talking around the subject without getting down to the point.

Robert Cleghorne was presentable, though somewhat insignificant as a leading man. He was handicapped by his clothes. It is difficult to stratify the stage in the heroic manner, when one’s sleeves and trousers are a couple of inches too short. He suffered from the limitations of his part. We doubt whether Cleghorne Jr. is the type on which to found a brave new world. He is too gullible. A man who can swing uncontrollably from the “American way of life” to some idealistic future can hardly predict inspiration for others.

Convincingly pregnant, Patricia Higett, as Edith Cleghorne, played an all too agreeable role. The little character situations was perfect, and prevented the play from becoming banal. Her ideas, growing with the child and her developing mother instinct, were more commendable than the leading role but nevertheless treating her with a healthy respect that was good to see in an accomplishment, even to his wife, so intolerant of all who dared to oppose him, so loud in his vitupervations of the social misfits. These two provided the chief argument against the capitalist system, and by their efforts rescued the play from the dregs of boredom.

Those students who did not see this performance, a fair number judging by attendance, missed something worth while. An entertainment it ranked high. Even the general public, had it gone, would have been well pleased.

M. G. S. and T. A. T.

THE LAST CHANCE

It was pleasantly refreshing in this film to hear the actors singing in their own languages and not in the usual Hollywood English with the appropriate foreign accent. The flashing on to the screen of the translations was rather disconcerting. At times, we found ourselves missing the translations while studying the scenery or mentally trying to unravel the dialogue which were in French. We wonder whether the dialogue had not been omitted altogether, and the film carried through merely by the gestures and intonations of the voices of the actors. The possibility is interesting. After all, a theory of speech is founded on gesture.

The actual facts of the story have been adequately given in the daily press and further comment would be superfluous.

Strangely enough our most vivid recollection is of trivial details. Did anyone notice that there were only five bullions in all? Without even adding a ghost. Was there a subtle significance in this number? Objectively speaking, there seems to be a strange determination of those refugees who cling ridiculously to their unwieldy baggage. However, we are sure this would have probably done the same. And at the hut, in making that brief speech, the soldier collected for a pint of liquid and yet at the distributing end, came up after the pasture was not in the running. We were extra-ordinary, stationed on the shoulder of the German soldiers about turn on their skis in one neat jump. In fact we have decided that one of our next accomplishments shall be the same. And most delightful too the loveless of feathered ruffles glowing in warm sunlight. These things impressed us.

Essentially the moral is that there is no fundamental bar to mutual understanding between people. Given a sufficiently tangible goal, people of different creeds and nationalities can submerge polemics and differences in a common cause. The difficulty appears to be to define the goal and to approach it in an unprejudiced manner. We are too biased in our outlook, too bitterly patriotic. When we are forced to subdue these primitive emotions and to place others before ourselves we will have progressed.

The end of the film was flat, possibly due to an avoidable lapse in the logic of the plot. With the frontier lousy with sickening, and with practically no cover on the snow fields, the obvious course would have been to cross the frontier at nightfall. Yet, lo and behold, we see the party struggling up the mountain clearly silhouetted against a gleaming white background. Of course, they are seen and of course the German is taken a prisoner. Perhaps the end was too sloppily sentimental for us. At any rate it was flat.

This film has no solutions to suggest, and it offers no constructive arguments as to how tolerance and goodwill can be created. A problem which the writer wanted to left to those who see the film to draw their own conclusions.—M.G.S. and T. A. T.

Springtime... When a young man's fancy turns to what old men have been doing all winter.
Tennis Season
Opens

The season 1946/47 can be said to have been more successful than 1945/46 although we were unable to claim as much fame as the Cricket and Rugby Clubs.

Entirely new competitions were held fortuitously during the season and we had both a senior A and 2nd grade team entered. The results of these matches are not very satisfactory.

The 1946/47 Tennis Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting were:

President: Gilbert Taylor.
Club Captain: George Napier.
Secretary: Ken Prankerd.
Treasurer: Brian Inglesden.
Women's Committee: Julie Flett, Ava Reid, Loris Webley, Suzanne Iott, Shona McLeod.
Men's Committee: Tony Munden, Ben Bliss, Alan Mathews, Jack Wallis, Mike Spiera.

Possibly there is a reason for our poor showing in inter-club play and that reason be simply termed "team spirit." A successful team must not only function as a single team, but must at the same time remain the same team at the end of the season as at the beginning.

Cathedral

Dear Sir,—The letter featured in the last issue contains the best reasons against the Cathedral's construction that I have ever read. The argument is sincere and not unfounded.

My main objection to the cathedral lies in criticizing this as a social action. I am not a Christian, but as Jesus worked, loved and helped the poor people, then our poor Christians could do some real work then clearing the slums. Wellington—the slum city with a fine, successful cathedral. We are to have a new face, so that heritage may still exist. So that people may stagnate in material want. Which is more valuable, human life or the proper sentimentalism of religion?

The building materials and effort could go to partial relief of the situation. Then Christians could look at their work, "We helped somebody." Helping people is supposed to be a Christian precept; it apparently has changed to helping oneself, "by which we hear the cry, "Good old 'Private Enterprise.'"—In disgust: "HALLELUJAH OR HOW THEY DO IT YAI!"

Literary Club

Dear Sir,—I would be glad if you could find space in your columns for the following:

A Literary Club has come into being this year at Canterbury having as objects the promotion of writing and interest in writing among students. As soon as possible after the November examinations we intend to publish a magazine of about 30 pages which will contain original prose and verse of a kind not sufficiently catered for by the "annuals" of each University College. So far as we know there is no such publication at Victoria, or at either of the other colleges. For this reason we would welcome contributions from any of your readers who are interested.

The magazine will probably be printed by the Caxton Press to the tune of, say, 200 copies, some of which will be privately distributed and others sold (?) to the public. There may be a few blocks in the number and for these we would also welcome contributions. The publication is not on a commercial basis. No payment will be made for contributions and any profits that may accrue will be used to prop our own differing finances.

Due recognition will be given to the fact if any work is printed, that does not come from our own club. A tentative closing date for contributions is the end of October.

P. C. M. ALOOK.
Hon. Sec. C.C.Lit. Club.

College Clubs Note!

By this time you will have read the memorandum to clubs which was circulated recently. In furtherance of the Exec's policy for closer co-operation between the Exec. and the clubs, I stated that I was willing to give any assistance or advice with regard to financial and general business matters which club officers required. I urge you to take immediate advantage of my offer, since continuous information of the financial problems of clubs helps the Exec. materially at the same time for annual grants. For those who wish to accept my offer in the spirit in which it is given my phone No. (business) is 42-049, or I may be contacted in the Exec's room on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights at 7 and 8 p.m.

G. A. CHAPMAN.
Hon. Treasurer, V.U.C.S.A.

Sheing at Egmont

For the first ten days of the vacation Bill Te Whiti led a party of 26 girls and boys to Dawdon Falls, Mt. Egmont. We are pleased to announce that everyone had an enjoyable holiday. Some even learnt to ski. If you know anyone who went, you will now know everything that took place, if not, you probably will not be interested.

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Winter Tournament—Victoria Down But Improving

Well, Winter Tournament, 1946, and no doubt you expect an apology. In the usual true spirit of the season we with a win for Auckland, 35, Otago, 22; Canterbury, 193; Victoria, 17; Lincoln, 31; Massey, 3.

Despite the fact that Victoria contrived only to beat LAC and MAC, we feel that our teams put up very creditable performances and that the Tournament was a great success.

Our fencers, greatly aided by the presence of R. H. Cato, won their contest.

Our soccer team carried shoulder-high, 51 points—a greater number than gained by any other team from VUC. The New-Zealand rep. team stated its conviction that had the VUC soccer team played Auckland the next day instead of three hours after alighting from the train, VUC would have gone home with three extra points.

The golf team which boasted a champion in the form of J. D. Nash, gained 18 points. The team got a man back, and had Mr Nash been able to play the final, a further two points would not have been out of reach.

In Men’s hockey Victoria tied with Otago for second place, thereby gaining Victoria three points. This was a good effort inasmuch as a large proportion of the players were selected from our 11 team. Women’s hockey did not do so well, but then, having travelled to Auckland as an advance guard of the multi-Tournament body, they lacked moral support.

Table tennis were runners-up in their contest, but unfortunately gained no points for that honour. Men’s basketball, after a series of skirmishes in the half, would have returned to Wellington their heads bloody but unbowed.

To the harriers probably most credit is due. Unlike the majority of the VUC rep. teams which went to Auckland, the harriers had not the prospect of sitting in some months of serious training. They gave tremendous effort and got ‘hem in the race (a gruelling course of 61 miles). J. C. Hawke gained third place on the half. The harriers did not do so well, but for the other team from VUC they did a magnificent job. Throes in Weir House football jerseys (kindly lent for the occasion) and mud made harriers look like a hakaparty. This fashion, more than any other team which travelled to Auckland they succeeded admirably in providing that spirit which is as much a feature of Tournament as sport itself.

Social activities at Tournament included numerous dances, a vigorous men’s smoke concert, a barbecue in the College-Hall when the weather got very hot, a trip that had been planned to Long Bay, and finally—the pièce de résistance—a big golf match. The latter was undoubtedly the most successful function of Winter Tournament. The weather was so good that the manager of the Civic Winter Gardens (the venue of the Ball) offered its management to us. There were, of course, quite unable to recall it.

Our very sincere thanks are due to Christie Spencer, who so willingly and ably coped with all the planning problems. For Denis Griffin a separate article is really necessary.

Soccer Score Well

This year Tournament honours were shared with Auckland, Otago, each team winning three games and losing one. Arriving in Auckland about 9 a.m., and averaging two hours sleep, the Victoria team had its game at 1-30 p.m. against fine fresh Auckland. VUC played a stubborn game till half time, then leading 2-4, in the second half the pace was too fast, telling particularly in the defence who faced the fast Auckland forwards. Auckland won 5-2.

Next morning saw some fine football in the VUC-Otago game. Gilks, in goal, tossed himself around the goal to save in fine style and his clearances were strong. The unorthodox defence of Sutton-Smith and Dickson with Richardson playing a brilliant defensive centre-half game, had the Otago forwards worried and only once did they look like scoring. They did.

The left and right halves, Spleiss and Johnstone were superior to the opposing halves and had control of the centre of the pitch assisted by Simmonds who worked very hard and Mackie, who made fine solo efforts. On the whole Auckland had the upper hand and Weir moved fast, centred efficiently, one from Weir being nodded into the net by Simmonds who was backing up well. Walls at centre-forward fed his men well and his was a fine shot to give VUC a 2-1 win.

During the game Simmonds’ leg was injured and he was unable to play in the later games, thereby making him a name in the NZU team. His place was taken by Johnstone while Reddy took over at right-half.

Victoria beat Lincoln 12-0 after a light lunch of trho and hop extract.

With Johnstone not available, Piper filled his berth in the game against Canterbury which was won comfortably 8-1. On the same day Otago had an easy win against Auckland, 5-0.

Of those who played in the NZU team which lost to Auckland, rep. forwards, 4-2, Sutton-Smith, Dickson and Johnstone were the best, with Spleiss, Walls and Edwards missing for no apparent reason.

Richardson, first choice for centre-half, was unfortunately unable to play.

The following VUC representatives have been nominated for NZU Blues, 1946.

Men’s Hockey: H. Scott.
Fencing: D. Cato, F. Hampton.
Harriers: C. Hawke.

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Swords Over the Fence

This year the Swords Club has achieved Victoria’s only clear win in Inter-Varsity competition. This win is especially satisfying when it is remembered that the local club is by far the youngest of the four Varsity Clubs and at most one third the size of the others.

The atmosphere surrounding the contest was shown by the fact that there were 170 hits against VUC, 177 against CUC, 175 against AUC and 181 against OU.

At the end of the morning it seemed virtually impossible for VUC to win. They lost the first match to Otago 6-10 and though 4-4 in bouts with AUC, were well down on hits. After lunch, however, they picked up, and catching up the hits deficiency, won on the hits after a final score of 8-8.

During this time CUC defeated AUC 5-7 and OU on lats.

When the third and final round opened CUC had two wins, VUC one each and AUC none.

The AUC v OU match was short in duration and AUC by their victory put themselves on par with OU, one of the runners, out of the running. There were still two bouts to go in the VUC v CUC match and VUC with 9 bouts in were in an unassailable position in the match. They had, however, to get one more to win the competition. The bout score was VUC 23, CUC 22. CUC won the first bout to last bout, making it 23 each.

Excitement was high during the last bout which VUC won on the last point.

The final result was: VUC and CUC 2 matches each, AUC and OU 1 match each. However, VUC with 177 lats gained first place over CUC’s 23 bouts.

In explanation, in event of two teams finishing on equal points, the team winning the most bouts over the whole contest wins.

In a match between two teams there are 16 bouts. Should each team win 8, then the team with the least number of hits against it wins.

Each bout is for the best of nine hits.

The standard attained at the tournament may be partly gauged by the fact that the AUC team, which has been considered by the N.Z. Amateur Fencing Association good enough to enter a team in the N.Z. Championship, was last in the NZU contest.

During the last fortnight a quantity of new gear has been acquired and with more on the way, new members will be very welcome from now on. Anyone doubting the value of fencing as a sport should see those members of the Executive who came along to have a look in Auckland.

Our victory this year is largely due to the excellent work of our coach, Mr. V. St. C. Dickson, who through neither students’ bills nor the insufficient funds put up a considerable amount of his time to show us how it’s done.