Sporting Fraternity Departs with High Spirits

Easter 1947 will see the New Zealand University Tournament at Auckland. Nearly 300 students from the six Universities and Otago will gather for six days. The old assumption that a city can stand up to such an influx of students in four years has been discarded—Auckland survived Winter Tournament last August, and has now collected its resources for the second wave of the attack.

Complete team lists are included below. In addition to the usual summer sports—athletics, swimming, rowing, tennis, rifles, boxing and gymnastics—there will be a North-South cricket match. This will not count towards the Tournament Shield.

Tourism is not purely a sporting meeting. It is the only opportunity for most students from the six colleges to meet each other—in short, the only manifestation of the New Zealand University Students’ Association as a corporate body. Greenwich will also attend the General Meeting of NZUSA, to which the four main colleges send three delegates each, and the agricultural colleges send two delegates each.

A separate article on NZUSA will be found elsewhere in this issue.

For your information, we supply a summary of form of the VCC teams. There is a vague possibility that VVC may not join the Wooden Spoon this year.

Athletics


Women—B. Fougere, 75 yards, Relay, and 100 yards; R. M. Gilmour, 100 yards, 150 yards, Relay; J. Norris, 100 yards, Relay; M. J. Henderson, High Jump, Javelin; 60 metres Hurdles; J. Flett, Javelin, 80 metres Hurdles; T. Mars, Relay.

Boxing


This Easter the boxing team will be one of the finest and keenest to go to a Tournament. Nothing will be lost on the score of ability and there is every chance that this team will bring the Boxing Shield back. Ken Coveney has performed a great act in preparing the team with the result that seven very able and confident boxers will represent Victoria this year.

The Bantamweight representative is D. A. Mcleod, who is particularly fast and clever and is a good candidate for the scientific award.

D. A. Mcleod, D. A. Muir, an aggressive, experienced boxer, has won this lightweight class and has every chance of repeating that performance. In the Lightweight division there is a much improved boxer in B. Webb, who fought well against the winner of the Lightweight last year. This Tournament his boxing will be far superior to his excellent previous form.

Another improved boxer is M. Wishart, the Welterweight representative. Winner of this class last year, his subsequent improvement in speed and experience will make him perhaps too formidable to any opponent he may meet at Auckland.

In V. Peters we have a Middleweight who can punch very hard and with aggression and experience gives him an excellent chance in his weight at Auckland.

The Light-heavyweight, K. Adams, is very fast for his weight and has a devastating punch in both hands. Fit and hard, he can confidently expect success this Easter.

K. Roberson, the Heavyweight, is another former representative who has improved considerably on last year’s form, and his size and speed will weigh the balance in his favour this year.

Overall the team is composed of worthy representatives and there is no doubt that they will acquit themselves very well at Auckland.

Shooting


Since the beginning of the term the Defence Rifle Club has practised every Saturday at Trentham. There has been a good attendance on each occasion and much valuable experience has been gained.

From those eligible a team of six riflemen has been selected to represent Victoria in the National competition at Trentham. This team represents a majority of seasoned men together with a leavening of excellent new blood.

It would be foolish to try to predict the outcome of the competition, but we can assure our supporters that not only is this a competent team but also that it can be relied upon to do its best when the time comes.

Basketball

Shirley Cole, Marie Irwin, Audrey Cook, Kath. Martin, Avis Reed, Audrey Inkersoll, Dot Peebles, Geraldine Player, Guy Nimmo, Mary Vincent, Julie Jean, Susan Ferguson.

Swimming

L. B. Piper, Backstroke; Dive and 220 yards Breaststroke; L. M. Murphy, 100 yards Freestyle; J. F. Murphy, 100 yards Breaststroke; D. Downes, 100 and 220 yards Breaststroke; N. Broun, 50 and 100 yards Freestyle; Bic Yound, 100 yards Breaststroke; Gwenda Martin, 100 yards Breaststroke; Hillary Spencer (Massey), Dive and Backstroke; K. Staples, 100 yards Freestyle; D. Work, 220 yards Freestyle; J. Phillips, 220 yards Freestyle; R. E. Smith, 400 yards Freestyle; Marj McKenzie, 220 yards Freestyle.

Victoria sends higher hopes of success with this year’s swimming team than she has done in the last ten years. Our star performer is D. Downes, swimming in both men’s breaststroke events. N. Broun, the 1947 Pock Shield winner, should do well in the women’s Freestyle and 100 yards; likewise L. B. Piper in the dive (she is the Wellington champion). H. Spencer should be placed in the 100 yds. Freestyle. We have no information about Hillary Spencer of Massey.

Tennis

A. Reed and G. Rainboth, Women’s Singles; A. Reed and C. Rainboth, L. Wesley and J. Robbins, Women’s Doubles; H. O’Connor and D. Goodwin, Men’s Singles; H. O’Connor and D. Goodwin, J. Wells and H. Davidson, Men’s Doubles; Miss Y. Chapman and Mr. H. Davidson, Miss J. Robbins and Mr. J. Walls, Combines.

O’Connor and Goodwin, last year’s Tennis Blues, have again come to the fore this year. O’Connor entered for the singles in the New Zealand championships held at Christchurch last Christmas. He did very well in getting to the third round in the singles, but was unfortunate in the doubles, his partner not being available at the last minute.

Davidson and Walls entered for the Wellington University championships and played well to get into the quarter-finals. Gladys Rainbow is also a N.Z. University Blue and has played consistently for the A team during the season.

The doubles combinations have improved on last year’s teams, and if the singles players are on form at Auckland the team will have an excellent opportunity to carry off Tournament honours.

Rowing

S. Gillan, Stroke; K. G. Honnor, Seve; R. C. Cannel, Six; G. Stuckey, Pire; N. Powall, Four; P. N. Taylor, Three; D. H. Thomas, Two; V. E. Donnelly, Bow; G. Ward, Cox.

(*More sports on p. 8.*)
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US Sidesteps UN

March 1947 has been full of political significance for people all over the world. Many eyes have turned to the great bastion of world reaction and imperialism to witness its aggressive acts being put into legal form. Congress and its satellite President Truman have finally dropped the pretense of achieving the peace treaty outlined at Potsdam and Yalta. It has given up the traditional line of foreign policy based on the Monroe doctrine and has exchanged it for one of "intervention wherever there is the danger of the people taking control under left-wing militant leadership."

Congress has set out on its democratizing mission by bolstering up a Fascist regime in Greece which, in the words of Mr. Thomas, M.P., makes the Franco regime look like a Sunday-school picnic. Assistance will also be given to Turkey, which after 28 years of Ataturk-Ismail dictatorship, still lacks the essential democratic rights of free speech, association and assembly. The aim of American Imperialism is crystal clear. With a diminishing home market and increasing unemployment, Wall Street capitalism must "export or die." It must assert its dominance abroad in order to divert the American people's attention from its problems at home, thus paving the way for World War III. By sidestepping the United Nations, President Truman has shattered all illusions of American cooperation in the collective effort of solving the world's problems.

The ink has hardly dried on this shaven-faced document of intervention when Truman issues another equally vicious executive order. This time he follows up his former attacks on the American labour movement by a purge order to the Civil Service Commission and heads of departments. "All totalitarian, fascists, communists and their sympathizers are to be removed." On this assumption we must expect almost the whole of the State Department to be dismissed. However, we know only too well against whom this order is directed. If ever you had belonged to an "Aid for Russia" committee or if ever your wife has knitted aux for Russian children, it will be taken as sufficient grounds for dismissal. The task for American labour and the progressive forces in the world today is to intensify the struggle against the Fascist clique in Washington and not to allow them to impose their rule on either the Americans, on us, or any people which today is subject to their attacks.

Freedom of Speech

The last two weeks have seen a focussing of public attention on to student affairs, through the columns of newspapers which lose no opportunity to condemn students for their occasional lapses, and which neglect completely the value of the university as a force for the community.

John Child's speech at the Otago University Freshers' Welcome was dry, dull and amusing, and refreshingly frank even if it was not really constructive. But the question involved is the right of students' elected representatives to express freely their opinions on all subjects, within the limits of obscenity and libel. We have sufficient faith in family life and our educational system to believe that the students who heard Mr. Child's speech will not, because of it, immediately and without some thought, reject the moral standards they have been educated to respect. The ill-considered dogmatism of those who attacked Mr. Child will do more to undermine the young generation's acceptance of established authority than his own flippant remarks.

It is not yet definite what measures have been taken against Mr. Child. Whatever they are, we deplore them. It is by such vindictive measures that a university loses its dignity and its status as a centre of learning and tolerance.
Phantasmagoria of a Sick Mind

Darkness at Noon is intended to be a novel version of the Moscow trials of 1937-1938. At the outset Koestler accepts the postulate of the Trotskyists, that the confessions of the accused, in reality quite innocent, do not correspond with any real situation. This makes it necessary for him to explain their attitude, and this he tries to do.

An American critic in "Politics" defines the book as "an ingenious use of Marxism for the arrangement of a detective novel." But Koestler asks us to believe that the therapy, being somewhat new, presents no mythical universe, but deals with war, Russia, with Stalin, with the Trotskyites, brought before the Soviet tribunals.

The first clear fact that emerges is that Koestler, in order to describe the Soviet prison, which he has never seen, draws on his experience of fascist prisons. Side by side with facts of technique there is a considerable amount of striking documentation, taken from the diary of his friend in France's gaol (for Koestler's first book on this subject, see Spanish Tragedy). His cells, his gaol, his prison are very real; the prison is that of Sévville, the gaolers are real Syrians, and Koestler as a member of the hands of the Spanish Fascists. It is all well done, and seizes the attention. But as the story progresses and the pages are turned, the reader becomes uneasy. The reporter goes war before the political philosopher, whose analyses are very open to question.

In so far as Roubachov is a prisoner, he is human, unbelievable, likeable. But Koestler constantly takes him in hand to mould him into a Bolshevik, and then his character has the same relation to that of a revolutionary as Eric von Stroheim in Hollywood has to Germans in Germany.

Roubachov, moreover, no longer believes in the revolution: that is his only crime, so far as it is found, it was by his intuitions, never by action.

An American Comment

An impartial observer at the trials in 1931 in the United States, when US Ambassador to Moscow, gave his final opinion on them in "Admission to Moscow. All of these trials, purges, and liquidations, seemed so violent at the time and shocked the world, nor were quite clearly a part of a vigorous and determinate effort of the Stalin government to protect itself from not only revolution from within but from attack from without. They went to work thoroughly to clean up and clean out all such revolutionary elements within the country."

There were no Fifth Columnists in Russia in 1931—but that is what they purport to have cleared the country and rid it of its enemies.

It was unnecessary to repress Koestler rejects this interpretation of his work, but the conclusion presents its parallel. Koestler, however powerful it is through the veracity of his technique, is quite untenable. For the whole novel is based on a mysterious piece of predestination. I have read and reread Darkness of Noon, but I cannot succeed in digesting it. It, I believe, would be the logical plot the intellectual hinge on which Roubachov hangs his simulation of guilt; except in this, that Roubachov's actual guilt is that, for him, the only solution is the denial and suppression of his own convictions since there is no real situation of bringing them to a successful materialisation. Such an attitude can lead to Infinitism, to silence, to death, but not to the parade of treason in which he indulges.

There is another psychological gradation in Roubachov's mind which Koestler allowed to be shown. Despite his passionism and his fatigue, he believes in all her, still believes, and despite his "betrayal," in the Revolution for which he has lived. He no longer believes in it enough to live for it, but enough to sacrifice himself to it. He is no longer an agent for energies to it; but he is willing to give it death.

Difficult in quite false. These are the subtlest, but exhilarating analyses of a sick mind, sick because it has lost touch with the real world, with the living complexity of history. For the terrible weakness of Darkness of Noon is its character of artificial and willed spectacle. The aesthetic and moral condemnation of Koestler's novel is within the book itself. Its relative merit is to make us live with the soul of an artificial being, totally cut off from the world and from other men. —C. R.

College Entertainment

—Drama

Noel Coward is always popular with the critics and general public, but apparently not with students. Not nearly as much attention attended the recent performances given by the Drama Club.

"Private Lives" revived by the VUC Drama Club, contains a good deal of all that is best in Coward. In and out of character, the unerring touch of wit, the vivacity of dialogue, the neatness of plots, and the charm of acting, come through the medium of a domestic row. To satisfy these conventions, situation tends to take the place of plot. Given two honeymoon couples, the Chases and the Pyneys, the difficulty of the play is to make the Pyneys interesting. For two hours, the Pyneys are made rather than the Chases, who are fairly well rounded. Constance Coward is an excellent actress. —H.W.G.

Post War POW

In Königsberg, now on top of Gross Giebner's top.

A bright white handkerchief of sunlight falling on a carpet, dazzling unfortunates.

Long flashy glasses of silver down the slope.

Aber, aber Gott. In cut, steeple step by step.

A car again, towards high Giebner's ceiling.

To turn, content, with token of the mobile.

In edelweiss to decrave your cup?

And then the last pale citizen of day.

The climbing tide of shadow's aura to clain.

To hear within some aura pine-frequented room.

Erlkönig singet—"Ich bin mein Herz, und kämpfe"

A mysterious English wintertide.

And all they born verlenen wort, verber!

—C.A.P.

Film and Reality, a selection of extracts from the significant films of the past, produced by Cavalcanti and purporting to show how the film has become an important realist art form, was screened at the recent AGM of the Society of Cinema. But while the film was interesting, the film was mostly a question of technique which were quite important, but the representation failed to make these points. The comparison between the two movies sequenced contained the only important comment of this kind.

With the material at its disposal, one cannot help feeling that Cavalcanti could have pressed home his theme more vigorously, with more effective use of contrast, commentary and continuity. The sections on the newsreel and documentary, adequately put together, were not sufficiently contrasted with the exotic romantic type. Thus the climax of the film, instead of being a very fine piece of work, was a tame ending to a not very artistically arranged series of absorbing extracts.
Aborigines Caged?

The Annual General Meeting of the Union of Sydney Aborigines was held on Friday, March 14. About forty students attended, as well as some visitors, and the keenness displayed in discussion of the Club's programme promises well for the year's activities.

Satisfaction was expressed with the Club's "Newsletter," of which the first issue for this year has already appeared, and which will be brought out about three or four times each term. Members of the Club have contributed many useful and interesting articles to this Newsletter, the sales of which on the first day were very satisfactory.

"The meeting was the report given by Mr. Alex McLeod on his visit to Australia, where he experienced the whole of the Labor-Labour Federation Conference. It is urged by members of the Union that our Aborigines are the first in the country to the fore in the Labour movement. Any member of the Union who attends the University, Mr. McLeod said I don't know; he hasn't been anywhere. It is interesting to find that even in Australia the white man's sins have not yet been carried on in the twenty-first century style. However, some of the students think the Trade Union policy is not enough in human status. It was pointed out that University students here can do a similar job, in collaboration with the Trade Unions, in dealing with New Zealand's own native problem, that of the Cook Islands, who, after all, are in much the same position as the Aborigines of Australia.

It was felt that Mr. McLeod's visit to Melbourne had been an excellent thing for the Socialist Club, and for University students in general. Valuable links have been established with progressive student bodies across the country, and in future, joint action on many problems will be much more practicable.

The proposed activities of the Socialist Club for the next few months were set out as follows: Next Wednesday night, an address by L. H. Hearnshaw on Industrial Psychology. Meetings following this closely after will be addressed by Mr. Bill McAvan of the Shipowners' Union, and Mr. A.H. Scott of the Engineers' Union. Book-lunch meetings. Sunday evening meetings and weekend conferences.

Extrav Needs Men

Clowns, Too

Once again we are faced with our yearly production of the Extravagance, soon to be shown. In one corner, however, hooligans will soon be going, temps to be found and the whole general subject of trying to organise sixty or seventy students into a show, the paying of actors, etc., has commenced.

The script, once it has been brought up to date and revised (which in itself should be a suitable basis for cleaning and hilarious recital) in which this year's output of stage productions will be two. The cast is still at that hopeless anomalous stage where one knows who does what, but one does not really know who they do with or how they will anything. To those who find this somewhat alarming, let me say that this is the usual position of a student show, which, until the general run-throughs of the complete programme are performed, is typified by those who say, "I'm afraid I find that I can't take part." "But I always go to my hairdresser on a Monday." "Relax on a Sunday, I wouldn't dream of it." "My mother wouldn't like me to do such things." The man next to me in the same has been written out, can I be something else, please," and so on. At the end of a fortnight everyone has a rough idea of all the parts, and then the real organisation will take place, and the whole thing will be refined and argue, sailors, bullets, finally fixed.

To those who find it in them, let me say that you are missing one of the experiences of Variety life. To have passed through Victoria College and not taken part in Extrav, is like having passed through life and not seen the Taj Mahal. The cast is also said to have been rather thin for a few months; they ran out from their friends when the next rehearsal in appeared. The cast, however, has room for good and competent players—roast and tinspaper artists need not apply.

All God's Chilurn

We in Wellington are on the whole unaware of the‘ Inter-University Debating Competition. We have heard of the "classic bar", but on March 14 and 15 the audiences in the Concert Chamber were given an evening of debate. The Debating Society and the students in it are used to the competitive situation and their work for the competition had probably led to this. The Debating Society and the students in it are used to the competitive situation and their work for the competition had probably led to this.

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This brief synopsis of the plot is by no means exhaustive of the interesting situations as presented by Eugene O'Neill. The undeniable influence of Greek drama in "All God's Chilurn" is evident. The plot takes place on a farm in Kentucky, where a group of young men and women are growing up in a rural setting. The main character in the play is a young man named John, who is torn between his desire to escape his rural roots and his love for his family and community. The play explores themes of fate, destiny, and the struggle for identity.

The play opens with a scene in which John's father, an old sailor, returns home from a voyage at sea. John is excited to see his father, but also feels a sense of homesickness and longing for adventure. The play then follows John as he struggles to reconcile his desire for a life of adventure with his love for his family and community.

"All God's Chilurn" is a powerful play that explores themes of fate, destiny, and the struggle for identity. It is a true classic of American drama, and its themes are as relevant today as they were when it was first written.
LONDON LETTER

The Brains Trust last night were asked, "Is there any difference between Fascism and Communism?" and amusingly, they mostly said there was not. Even Bertrand Russell, who is not renowned for his conservatism, could suggest the two had attitudes towards anti-Semitism were definitely different in practice. Dr. Bronowski alone pointed out that though there may be superficial resemblances between Nazi Germany and Russia, the former was a liberal society going through an 'unprecedented eclipse', whilst the latter shows the growth of liberty in an originally despotic state.

The sages might have learnt a lot had they attended the recent Conference of the Empire Communist Parties. This gathering, unique of its kind, offered abundant evidence that this island's vaunted "Christian Liberal Democracy" is not immune from the Star Chamber methods attributed to the label breed. The recent Ghetto Laws in South Africa, the persecution of trade unions in Burma, Malaysia and Ceylon, arrests in India, and martial law in Palestine, is formidable and well documented. The tale of pious talk and underhand double-cross is long and uniform. Even allowing for the bias of people who have fought their rulers for twenty years, the name "perfidious Albion" still sticks. Moreover, the doctrine that Communists are the fifth column of the Red Army hardly stood up to the evident patriotism and sincere practical politics of the delegates, and the unanimous agreement of white, black and yellow, Jew and Arab, European and Asiatic, Metropolitans and Colonials, on the most diverse and controversial issues given the lie direct to the claim that internationalism is dead within the working class movements.

The ban on the weekly journals of opinion, in itself a stupendous piece of government bullying, is either expressly desired or illegalised, had some useful effects. They attained a new and far greater audience. They obtained through the hostility of the Times (Brookley Martin even appeared in the 'Evening Standard') and a special session of the BBC. As a result, they say they have sold out their quota early in the week, and under more normal conditions their circulation would have topped. The session of editors expressing their (or their paper's) views on current events was thoughtful, controversial (far more than Brains Trust) and very open of the importance and intellectual calibre of the daily work. It would make a most interesting weekly feature.

Poor David Low has been in trouble again. He denounced Churchill as Mr. Chamberlain and drew discomforting letters from outraged readers. The "Evening Standard" ran a column for several weeks, printing these letters indiscriminately. They are "educable with Law is, he is not funny." "The great thing about Low is that he is so funny." "Low can't draw." "Low's drawing is superb." "Sack Low." (Dr. Rear-Admiral). "Get an extra cartoonist for admirals but leave out Low." (A naval rating). "Low is just a little Australian (sic) radical who snores at all that is best in the Empire." (Quote from Churchill). "Churchill is just like Low and I shall draw him thus always in future." (Low).

Low himself ran riot with most amusing cartoons saying he had been replaced by one "High" whose politics he then illustrated. In fact, of course, the "Evening Standard," despite their Beaver Bluehens, cannot afford to sack him, as he is worth millions of readers and is a British Institution.

---BAD.

Hell-bent Hophead

The story of the "Lakers Progress" is an old one, perhaps every well known one, has as some time written about the ev, the bouncer, the hophead who, after living a selfish, sensuous life, makes good in some spectacular way. "A Tale of Two Cities" is just such a sad tale to a "Valentine" another. Because the end must also be the hero, he must be made an appealing end, a romantic end, a end through whom you can see shining a suppressed virility that was the daily grind in Vivian in the film shining at the moment.

This story does not, however, lay the blame for the young man's misconduct on original sin; it does make some attempt to show that the social conditions of the time had a share in forming his character. A week-kneed attempt certainly, but it is difficult to imagine a Hollywood production using the easy capitalism of the capitalistic Depression as the final disillusion in a young man's life.

The final scenes those of a complete debouche ending in the fall of a low class bar with an orgasmic dying scene: "There's No Place Like Home" in the background, and pigtails playing duets and drags in his glass. The values of Vivian's world are not such like those which are becoming prominent today. He desires excitement, he drinks a little too much, he does the things a little too much; when he catches them he cannot make his relationship with them fundament or lasting. He has no interest in politics and in general avoids all responsibility. He is a typical example of the who, in the disillusioned thirties could afford to be disillusioned in that way. The cost simply starved.

After seeing the film I could not help asking myself if the general tendencies do not indicate we are moving towards a disillusioned fifties. Is there not a little of Vivian in all of us? No matter what you think of the story—and it had many weaknesses—it is worth seeing for the acting alone. Roy Harrisson plays his part convincingly without overplaying it. Lill Palmer uses a beautiful voice to good effect, particularly in her reflective comments; the direction is good and has some sparkling moments. The change from scene two to scene three I thought good—very well planned. On the whole a good film, not outstanding or soul shaking, but enjoyable entertainment.---JMC.

Literaria

At a foundation meeting of the Literary Society constituted in the College this year, about thirty people discussed the lines of activity to follow. It is planned to hold meetings about once a fortnight. The possibility of lunch-time sessions was considered. Reading, discussion and criticism of original work and other literature will probably alternate with addresses by visiting speakers who have particularly interesting viewpoints to give the Society. Those interested should contact Bruce Weir, the Secretary, 45-012, and watch the notice board.

TEXTBOOKS...

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LANTON QUAY
CONSTITUTION INSTITUTED AT GENERAL MEETING

Dishearteningly few students attended the special general meeting of the Students’ Association held on Thursday last. The president of the Association, Mr. Nigel Taylor, was in the chair.

The agenda of the meeting was as follows:

1. Consideration of draft Constitution of VUCSA.
2. Proposed faculty committees.
3. Proposed compulsory health scheme.
4. Fence Blues.

At the commencement of the meeting it was agreed to limit the number of speakers to any motion to four.

Faculty Committees

It was moved by Mr. Collins that faculty committees be established and that students be given representation on these committees to include one representative from each of Stages III, IV and Honours, and all staff members of the department at which he teaches. Mr. Scoones moved an amendment to the effect that one representative from Stage I be included on the committee. In support of his amendment he pointed out that many Stage I students were not necessarily freshmen but may be doing advanced lectures in other subjects at the same time.

The motion as amended was carried.

The purpose of these committees as outlined by Mr. Collins was to provide a means for co-operative discussion between staff and students of problems arising during their courses. Such a medium already exists in other universities. The success of such a scheme will, of course, depend on the interest of students.

Compulsory Medical Examination

A most significant motion was that of Miss Priest that “every student attending lectures be required to undergo a compulsory annual medical examination.”

Speaking to the motion, Miss Priest pointed out the danger of infectious diseases being spread among students, and also the danger to student health of long hours and irregular meals. A section of students objected to the scheme because of its compulsory nature.

Mike Dryden: “If we will it, it’s done. Interject: “Alcohol or patriotism?” Mike: “It’s the same thing.” The majority decision was that the rights of the individual could well be sacrificed in the interests of community health.

Fencing Blues

The section of the constitution dealing with blues was amended without much discussion to allow the award of a maximum of four blues for fencing during each year.

Support for OUSA

Of topical interest was the motion of Mr. Saker that a letter be written to the Officer University Students’ Association assuring them of the cooperation of VUCSA in upholding the rights of the elected president of their association to address the students according to his constitutional rights “within the bounds of decency.” Although allegedly written to the newspapers, to date no such statement has been released to students.

The constitution was then formally moved that the draft constitution be adopted.

The Constitution

It was moved by Dr. Dowrick that the constitution be formally adopted.

The chairman then dealt with the constitution section by section. A large number of amendments to the draft constitution were moved.

Mr. Chapman, supported by an array of figures, moved that the Students’ Association Fee be fixed at $26, reduced to $27.

Mr. Taylor vigorously opposed this suggestion, pointing out that the Students’ Association Fee was fixed after investigating costs. There were now more students than ever likely to be in the future. “Let’s get the money while we can.”

The amendment was lost.

Mr. O’Brien raised the question of term fees being granted to students without Student Association fees being paid. The president assured the speakers they would not get terms and in addition mentioned that the names of last year’s defaulters had been given to a firm of debt collectors who could be depended upon to extract at least one half the amount due.

Freshers’ Franchise

A major amendment to the new constitution was the proposed granting of the right to freshers to vote at Student Association elections. To vote or not to vote was the subject of much heated discussion.

The arguments in favour of the motion were that disfranchisement of such a large section of the student body was wholly undemocratic. Administrative difficulties in the running of the society, and the lack of freshers’ familiarity with college affairs and with the candidates for elections. Mr. O’Brien also feared that an uninformed body of electors might disrupt matters if insufficient preceded the draft. The motion was carried decisively. The effect of this, it is hoped, will be to draw freshers more closely into the life of the College.

Concluding remarks were:

Harry Easton: “I think this reads quite well.”

Dorrian Saker: “I wish to thank Messrs. O’Brien and Poole for a most ‘deletable’ evening.”

The meeting formally concluded at 1615.

A Freshers’ was getting her medical exam. In 1949 and this conversation was heard:

Doctor: “Have you been X-rayed?”

Freshers: “No, but I’ve been ultraviolet.”

N.Z. USA

Reports and Remits

To most of us, N.Z. USA is merely an idea; most of us have no notion of its part in a number of the activities which concern us all to a greater or lesser extent. The Annual Report is now to hand and it reveals a number of matters which are of general interest.

N.Z. USA selected two delegates to the 1946 Congress of the International Union of Students. Their reports have only recently become available, but a copy is available for perusal at the Executive Rooms.

Rostrum was financially unsuccessful last year, as it arrived too late in the year to be distributed to most students.

N.Z. USA Executive advises that if recommendations for N.Z. USA Blues are sent in good time, the present time lag of eighteen months will be avoided.

The matter of examination fees has not been forgotten, and there is some possibility that there will be some relief in the future.

The President, Mr. Scott, paid a visit to the N.Z. USA Council Meeting in Hobart during January, and it is expected that the contact made was of value to the Association.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held in Auckland in conjunction with Easter Tournament. Victoria will be represented by Mr. Nigel Taylor, Mr. Harold Dowrick and Mr. Alex McLeod. VUC will bring forward several remits at this meeting.

GAS

THE MODERN FUEL

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INTERVENTION AND INTERJECTION

The most significant feature of the Debating Society's inaugural debate for 1947, on the subject "That American Intervention in the Near East will lead to war," was the unwillingness of any speaker on either side to justify the present Greek Government, or the sending of American military supplies to it. The opposition's main argument was the inability or unwillingness of any other power to go to war with America on the issue.

The debate was judged by a prominent exponent of the Society, Rev. M. M. O'Hara, who placed the speakers in the order Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. O'Brien, Mrs. Matthews, Mr. McCreary, Mr. Winchester. His comments on the conduct of the meeting were salutary, for he criticized speakers for addressing remarks to individuals in the audience, and the audience for irrelevant and unnecessary interjections, and for their general silliness and lack of consideration.

Speakers

Mr. Collins opened for the affirmative by reiterating the present situation in Greece, and the effect of foreign military intervention, with its consequences. "This is not a war against Hitlerism," he reminded the audience, but a war against "democracy," which is remarkably similar to the war of the "war against democracy," which was so popular in the 1930s.

Mrs. Matthews, the only woman speaker, opened for the opposing side. She quoted the similarity of German and American military strategy. Her voice was clear and resonant, and her delivery pleasant, but her main argument was based on the importance of the United Nations, and her belief in the official statement that there are no limits to the Greek loan.

Mr. McCreary set out to trace the history of military intervention in Greece, and its roots in the "war against democracy," which he described as an "outbreak of the satanic spirit," and how it had resulted in the destruction of the Greek people. His arguments were clear and well-organized, but his delivery was lacking in emotion.

From the Floor

Mr. O'Sullivan opened with a very important point to put forward. One was his belief in the "war against foreign policy" and the creation of a new world order. He believed that America's policy was to "fool the world into a new world war." His arguments were well-researched, and his delivery passionate, but his main argument was based on the importance of the United Nations, and his belief in the official statement that there are no limits to the Greek loan.

Music—While You Shirk

In spite of the repeated opposition provided by Trapping, Football, and other clubs, the meeting of the evening was attended by the AGM of the Club. Last year's activities were outlined briefly, the aims and objects of the Club explained in detail, and the committee of sixteen elected. For the benefit of those who want to contact the committee in connection with its activities, or the committee itself, the following may be of assistance:

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Men's Hockey A.G.M.
The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, 13th, in the University of Wellington on March 26, 1947, and the following officers were elected.

Patron: Mr. G. F. Dixon
President: Hon. Justice Smith
Chairman of the Committee: Hon. Sec.; Ted Stidston
Hon. Treasurer: Hon. H. W. Mannard
Delegates to W.H.A.: Gil Johnstone, Peter Poonie, Tom Silken

There were a number of items on the agenda, some of which were disposed of quickly and some not so quickly, but at 11:00 p.m. when the meeting finished and the 46 members toiled wearily homebound, everything and anything had been covered.

Among the subjects that arose for discussion was the question of eligibility for N.Z.U. The Club members were smeared for their opinions and Ed. Latham said that efforts would be made to contact every member of the Club for their ideas on this subject.

It was decided to hold another Hockey Dance this year and arrangements will be made to give this function the publicity it deserves. The next meeting was held later than last year.

A report was made on behalf of the Club by Brian Nash, to Archives, who is leaving the Club and Wanganui to migrate to (two hops) greener pastures in Wanganui. Archies has been a member of the Club for ten years and has been an untiring worker in keeping the Club going. With this in mind he tendered his resignation to the Secretary, Ted Bradstock. Archies is the closest to a bus driver he has had to date to help him in the task of handing him for all the services rendered by him on the Executives.

Presidents are particularly asked to turn up to the coming practices and if your name is not yet on the Hockey Club notice, please put it on and join the happy circle. If there is anything you wish explained contact your own President and it can be done for you.

The new committee was elected:
President: Prof. H. W. Wilson
Vice-President: Prof. Gordon
Mrs. Boyd, Mr. Scovell
Chairman: Ken Johnstone
Vice-Chairman: H. H. E. Evison
Secretary: Ted Bradstock

Chief Guide: Mike Murray
Committee: B. O. H. Green, Jean Hawthorn, Gordon McDonald, John McLean

This is the Silver Jubilee of the Club, and plans for its fiftieth celebration can expect another active year. After the business of the meeting, Mr. Harold Doherty—from the Terenure Club—showed some of his own pictures.

Man Wins Oran Cup
Wind ruined an otherwise perfect day last Saturday when the Inter-Faculty Sports were held at Kelburn Park, but it did not prevent some fine performances being registered by young hopefuls striving for a place in the Tournament team.

A running achievement was that of Barbara Fougere in winning the Oran Cup over 1 mile, a new record for the event. Barbara took the lead in the 800 yards and the broad jump quite comfortably, and also took second place in the javelin, and, like most of the athletes, she finished the day with 10 points in her tally and the knowledge that hers was the first performance of the day to be engraved among the list of prominent V.U.C. athletes listed on the Oran Cup.

Miss Fougere was particularly impressive in the broad jump. Her approach, take-off and take-out is made with a speed and determination lacking in many male competitors, and with time and coaching she should appreciate to the 6ft. 2in. re

Tramping Jubilee
An attendance of over seventy people at the AGM demonstrated that the Tramping Club can expect another active year. After the business of the meeting, Mr. Harold Doherty—from the Terenure Club—showed some of his own pictures.

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The Club runs official trips every week, and most weekends alternating with Saturday and Thursday. Wellington is particularly fortunate in having ready access to camping grounds. There are trips of all ages of difficulty, from gentle Orongorongo walks to strenuous tramps to suit the needs of all. Expenses for either are generally low. Two sleeping tramps are run every month.

Hopkins Trip
After months of preparation and happy expectation, the party was in the Hopkins Valley at dusk on December 21st.

The party split into three parties and attacked different areas with varying degrees of success. Some of the members, Wiltshire, McKenzie, Surveyor Col., Myth, Arthur and Pruden were all up to the first ascents, but some fell later, together with two rock knobs on the Newman Range and an unnamed peak next to Anita. On December 31st we all collected at the high camp near the Richardson Glacier before moving over into the Dobson Valley. Though the weather and the snow conditions had been unkind we had all thoroughly enjoyed the experience of the new, wild country and the unusual Christmas conditions.

On New Year's Day we set off unburdened, but with excellent going we were soon at the top reading and eating scratting. After a few words of caution we moved off slowly, in single file in self-organized groups. Without any warning a slip began from the rear of the line and in a second panic in front was swept away helplessly and plunged out of sight. Two—Roy Dickson and Stanley Allen—were dead; nine were injured. The least injured moved down to the Daisy Valley, while others ran for help and the remainder settled down as comfortably as possible. Very soon all the mountain party were back, helping us tremendously, and late the next day Dr. Wells and the rescue party arrived. Forty-six hours after the accident, the last three injured were being carried down. Assistance had been excellently organized and the helpers showed very real kindness and sympathy.

The inquiry, it is said, was not only inadequate, but, as there were no reasonable opportunities for members of the party to present their story, drew erroneous conclusions about the organization, experience, equipment and general conduct of the party. The Club Committee is now pressng for a full inquiry by the Federated Mountain Clubs.

Jiminy Cricket!
Cricket at Tournament this year will be played between two University teams. The Victoria Cup will be awarded for the best performance in any single game, and the match will have been close when Catt's time for the 220 is taken into consideration.

Presiders Rafferty and Duckworth also turned in very good performances. Rafferty won the Horseless Cup for the most improved athlete. Duckworth won the 120 and 220 yds. hurdles with ease.

Outstanding opponents will perhaps be Carr (hammer and discus), Brown (walk), Batten (the new sprint phenomenon), and Beilin. The wonder jumper—from Gingerlin, with Holland, Bostock (hurdling) and Gilmore (shot and discus) from Auckland.

V.U.C. "hopes" are high for the mile walk, Catt for the sprints and Marshall for the shot and discus. Each one is capable of lowering the NZU record for his event—add each one will be up against really tough opposition.

The result should be interesting, to say the least.

To a Pretty Tramp Companion
Bless you slender, almost pony form; I hate a hapy Clippy.

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