DRAMA CLUB
One Act
Play
July
In the Gym.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TONIGHT

SALIENT

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington

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“Abolish Philosophy Department” says Education Graduate

First I would like to make it quite clear that the purpose of this article is primarily provocative. It is addressed especially to students in social sciences and philosophy. (1) That there is an evident lack of a general orientation in our various university courses, i.e., the various disciplines proceed their own segmented and esoteric ways irrespective of the need for a broader sweep of knowledge. (I am concerned that all students enter the university with too much of “inert and lifeless facts.” They are traditional bodies of knowledge rather than vehicles of content directed to the solution of pressing contemporary problems.)

This far many readers will agree, though, of course, there will be a number still bound to those scholastic traditions, alternatively termed the “Arm-chair” or “Ivy-Castle” modes of thought. With these I am not here concerned. In time the attested stench of that corpse will blow by completely. Meanwhile, however, the two accepted propositions await solution. It is my purpose in the rest of this article to suggest such a solution. In the hope that it will arouse others, especially from the Philosophy Department, which I propose should be abolished.

Orientation

Generally, proposals to meet the first need outlined above centre round some sort of “common-core” suggestion, that all students entering the university should be required for a year or two to follow some prescribed course of study which traverses the major fields of human knowledge, i.e., the social sciences, natural sciences and humanities. In an elementary way the recent changes in New Zealand secondary schools follow such a pattern. The defect with such a procedure, as I see it, is that as far as the University is concerned, such a wide coverage of subjects may be considered to be superficial. Imagine, for example, the knowledge one would gain by taking all the Stage I options at Victoria; nothing but an inadequate idea of a whole series of subjects matters would result. Still worse, the orientation courses in the various fields would not be planned as a preparation for further work, as such surveys complete themselves. Gross oversimplification may well result. (It is, however, a debatable point whether or not such simplified knowledge might possibly be better than the vacuum that exists at present.)

In any case it seems that the saving factor would arrive when the student, having carried on past the “orientation” course into his specialization, in the light of this, could look back and revise his previous elementary sketches of knowledge.

“Learned Ignoramus”

At this point we must consider our second proposition. What guarantee have we in any case that such an orientation course will be little more than another example of academic ignorance? Even if our graduate does look back to the broader sweep of knowledge, will he be so conditioned that he is not to create in them relevance to the concrete problems of his present living? Before answering these questions we will consider again the propositions above. They are indicated as follows.

First, orientation. From what has been said it will be apparent that I believe this can only be attained when if approached through some specific angle, i.e., the economist must see the world as an economist, the historian as a historian, and so on. Without the special viewpoint there is no enduring frame of reference, yet on the other hand, without the general orientation we have that which dominates the twentieth century, Ortega y Gasset’s “learned ignoramus”—the specialist.

But, secondly, as the questions above suggest, such an orientation lifts us little above the mere “academic” if it has some definite relation to life in the concrete, the urgent and the immediate. The solution of these problems of orientation and relevance lead us quickly to the business of abolishing the Philosophy Department. A proposal guaranteed to shake its very foundations, from the minors fascinating themselves with that great new twentieth century science, “Psychology,” to the more dignified elders communing with Berkeley, Kant and brother muses on the top floor.

This abolition of the Philosophy Department is calculated to help us as follows. From henceforward every other department will consider the philosophic implications of its study. Who else is more suited to do so? The attempt to develop philosophy in this century has necessitated a study of some special, previously non-philosophic field, particularly one of the natural sciences. (Concretely, for example, the work of Russell and Whitehead.) It is my contention that by demanding that the various concrete bodies of knowledge make a sophisticated development of their own philosophic aspects, gradually the isolation between the various departments will be broken down. Thus will orientation be effected.

But this is not all. If there were a department of sociology it would also have to be abolished. Thus it is demanded of each sphere of knowledge that it develop its social aspects and implications as well as the philosophic. In this manner, besides the orientation, a more realistic connection with contemporary life would be established. At present, to my knowledge, the only department in the College admitting of a sociological course is the Education Department. But here, God forbid, it is treated as a somewhat mysterious and unrelated imposition involving little more than a set of arbitrary definitions imposed on a mass of common knowledge. The explanation is probably to be found in the fact that the philosophy section of that department most fittingly serves the sociological as well as the philosophic aspects of education in relation to contemporary problems.

Psychology

Psychology naturally is included under philosophy. Our historian could make his studies more relevant with a little dash of psychological insight; likewise the economist and politician. In fact, some of the best recent studies in these fields have come from the hands of psychologists who, by happy accident, happened also to have the specific knowledge. If the sociologists, psychologists and philosophers protest, the recent history of their own subjects is the best evidence against them. Sociology began with the grandiose claims of Comte and Spencer, has degenerated into the philosophy of such as Tonnis and Simmel, and been completely captured by a host of new studies that have grown up round delinquency, leisure, the family, and so on. The traditional speculations of philosophy have been vitiating by the advance of modern science and it has retreated-like the bad women of Timothy Shy—into the same sort of slumber as well be taken over by the English Department. Psychology, after plagiarizing all the other social sciences by popping in and out of the instinct theory, is still largely a body of confusion rather than knowledge (though I hear that “causal behaviorism” is just the latest word). What is valuable in it can be best be used by departments such as Economics, in the light of whose practical concerns it takes on relevant meaning—in this case industrial psychology.

Conclusion

The orientation I am proposing, then, is that which arises when the various areas of specialization—and this applies equally well to the natural sciences and the humanities—realize that they have a common body of problems—the sociological, psychological, and philosophical (Proposition 1). As each area grapples with its own problems as relevant and urgent points of consideration and bodies of information to be developed, themselves will be both brought into line and concern as in the past. This, as I see it, is the only realistic way of bringing our universities into line with the needs of today. To create just another subject, namely, the “Philosophy of the Social Sciences,” to solve this problem, as the sociologist Huntington Calwra has suggested, is, in my opinion to perpetrate an “Americanism.” It creates more problems than it solves. To the philosophers I am apologetic, and suggest that they should not be misled by that certain nostrum for the traditional ways of thought, but rather should accept their demise with philosophic resignation. After all, philosophy, often considered the most concrete and unrelated of studies, is at last to be placed in the most important position of all—in the forefront of importunate day events (this way of the consolation).
CORRESPONDENCE

.... not a proved theory

Dear Sir.—Under the heading "Education or Dogma" "Salient" once more repeats the error that the broadcast complained of was making. In the words of the article, "to deny the process of evolution is equally futile": this is a repetition of one of the implications contained in the "Listener's" summary of the first six broadcasts. The fact is that Evolution is not a proved scientific theory. It is still a theory.

The approval of Professors Ford and Whittard is not sufficient to guarantee its accuracy. There is still a lot of disagreement among scientists as to the validity of the theory. How Things Began made no concessions to any of the widely differing views.

I have no wish to deny that Evolution with modifications from the pure evolutionary theory of the last century is reconcilable with Christian teaching. As it is the series was most competently presented and children are inclined to accept that type of programme together with the approval of teacher as dogma. Education is not the presentation of an unproved theory as important as this one.

"Solely a matter for the teachers to decide" seems to me almost as dangerous as your ignoring the real nature of the anti-evolutionists' complaint. It is no reflection on teachers to say that the responsibility is too great for them alone.

The suspension creates a dangerous illusion, but at least it demonstrates that the authorities are willing to concede that reason is often reasonable.

MAURICE F. MCINTYRE.

1. "Salient" may express opinion. If readers accept this as dogma, that is their business.

2. The theory of evolution is still a theory, which better fits the facts than any other idea so far advanced. The approval of Professors Ford and Whittard concerned the scientific approval of the facts presented.

3. "Solely a matter for teachers to decide" referred to the previous sentence, which read: "We wish to em-

phrase that no school is compelled to take the broadcasts, but each year increasing numbers do so."

4. The authorities conceded to the vociferous protest of a small minority without consultation of teachers or anyone else, without explanations and reason, and most certainly without a consideration of the case on its merits.—Ed.

The Building

Dear Sir,—The announcement that net profits from the 1947 Extravaganza amounted to approximately $2000 must be welcomed as a gratifying result for the efforts of those concerned in making Extrav an unprecedented financial success. I expect that this sum will now be transferred to the Building Fund which was established some years ago with the object of the erection of a new Students' Building. It became known last year that the "Government was willing to subsidize this project on a two to one basis with a maximum of £12,500. On this basis the sum to be collected by the Students' Association will amount to £25,000, £22,500 of which is now available. Assuming that profits on Extrav in future years will remain at the 1947 level (a highly improbable assumption) it will take another ten years before tenderers may be called.

Two years ago the Executive prepared a list of past students of this College with the object of approaching them to contribute individually for the fund. I may add that the Principal completely concurred in this plan and recommendations were then passed to the incoming Executive to go ahead with the job of approaching past members and other potential contributors. The present Executive of our Students' Association has given a grandiose display of inertia in this matter. Nothing has been done during the past year. No meeting of the Building Committee was held. Apparently the view is entertained that the efforts of students during Extravaganza are sufficient to obtain our goal of £25,000. I know that I am speaking for many hundreds of students, past and present, who were recommending the incoming Executive to tackle the project at an early stage. It can be done; tanks of a similar nature have in the past been achieved successfully. This is not the time for complacency and eloquent, meaningless apologies.

G. WARNER.
BOOK REVIEW

Poets and Pundits

For those of us who build what beliefs we have upon a basis of solid facts, this book of essays and poems by Hugh F. Pausset may come as a little too bitingly honest. In his preface he clearly states the purpose behind this apparently miscellaneous collection. "They have a common underlying theme, that 'destruction of the negation and redemption of the contraries' which I believe is to be the task which humanity is called now, as never before, to undertake, if it is not to destroy itself."

Those, however, who see in this purpose little worth of or practical value may be reminded of the words of Gerard Hopkins:

"O the mind, mind has mountains;
Cliffs of fall.
Prightful, sheer, no-man-fathomed.
Hold them cheap.
May who can hold them.

That the realisation of an inward integrity seems a theme particularly suited to Mr. Pausset is amply illustrated not only by his personal convolutions but by the way in which he presents his arguments. "All critical analysis," he says, "is not to be intellectually arranged, and the machine, the primary sympathy, a desire not to destroy but has set it to work on the impulse and the toll of the writer who has failed to achieve offer and to what he has not understood." And in this presentation of the doubts and fears and hopes of what is now meaning the word of man's philosophies, the sympathy which he has undoubtedly achieved brings him, to quote his own words, "Into a communion of spirit and even a communion in the labour of expression" seldom realised by a reviewer.

As the title suggests, the book, apart from three addresses, is divided into two sections. The first deals with poets and their poetry, because, as he writes in Hopkins, "They are the first in their time to define the darkly moving, mysterious currents...they make known, like true prophets, the deep motions of the inner thoughts of the collect." The following essays in this section are "Denne's Holy Sonnets," "The Hidden Tenantry," "The Death Theme in Rilke's Life and Poetry" and "The Cult of Symbolism.

The second section, called "The Realm of Spirit," includes among others essays on "The Poem of a Time," "The Meaning and Method of a Poem," "The Poetry of Rilke," "The Poets of the War," and "The Poems and Pundits of the War." The division, however, is merely one of convenience, and as he writes of Hopkins, who "could not grasp peace; of Donne, who "to reach the heart of reality, to rest in it, needed a passion of faith which he could not summon;" of Kierkegaard who "could never himself wholly compass that leap out of the self-consciousness into the self-consciousness into the arms of God," he is conscious of the similar problems which face those who have the courage to admit that "an aspect of the difficulty is only by reconciling the contraries of mind and senses, life and death, body and spirit, the sense of finiteness and infinity, that we can then, in the effort to approximate the whole, then can we begin to understand reality."

The theme of "Poets and Pundits" is not a new one. Most of us are conscious of a need for some sort of inner reorganisation in our lives. The charm and meaning of the book is that it is redempted in the hands of subjects with which he illustrates the theme: men and women who, though as in Professor Weekley's in his recent collection of word-biographies, "The Poets of the War," and in "The Meaning and Method of a Poem" by Murray, (1944), he points a notion in his use of words, his preoccupation is with the death and Bolshevism," and indulges in many octogenarian reminiscences, and his understanding of the historical romance of his chosen words. He makes biographical lives out of what used to be, and succeeds, it must be said, in conveying something of his own enthusiasm and interest.

In the first chapter, a la Plutarke, he deals with the established histories of words such as beerfester, bourgeoisie, gossoon, plebeian, soviet, and, in the second he goes into a little original research on words like drossen, demmur, and def. Many of the biographies are controversial, and his understanding of the philologer must amuse himself in enfilading this god of the world of tongues—for instance, and the evidence for the vicissitudes of "plot" too unconvincing.

The book has been written both for the purpose of entertainment so solid fact is interlarded with a scholarly invective and, with which, even if it seems to be accompanied by so old-fashioned a modism, helps to make the whole work an entertaining experience.


Laughing and free, you have sold your soul,
And now did you know? you are not 
Step by step, minute and second, each
A tomahawk set with cool decision.
Progression multiform in convolutions
Graceful, doubting, overflowing—
Plucking leaves away
Torn and folded, but hear the river
Departing.
No more will eager rain fall heavily silver,
Nor will the ocean waves creep dying to your feet;
Only strange rielsects, intersecting things Will secret come to draw your midnight pain.
Or are your midnights each a blossom Overripe with wishfulness?
Stand in the dark, the wind's long arm
Heart! Who are you? Who are you?
Resting in the window pane of inu- awareness—
The axis of your symmetry un- known.
Leaves open spaces wide, where fear will not descend.
Through all your affections to meet you.


If I were King

If I were king I'd knock beside thy feet
And place there treasures that all men seek;
I'd pack the room of a summer even
And dress thy very neck with sapphire steep.
I'd set thee on the musty of Thracian
With sleepy lightning of the sorrow town.
From golden noon-blooms shalt thou bloom
And thus shall sip the finest wine
For all the heavens and earth is thine.

If I were king the world would be my guest
And as a man shall grant them that
If I were even to traverse from star to star
Yours shall be the treasures from afar.
Beside thy door I would contrive the hill
And there I would chase the darkness from the sky.
In crystal deserts shall thou bathe at warm
And thus shall live, the hermit of the save.

For all the world is yours if I were king.

-Omar Hakim.

Active Literary Society

Since its formation at the beginning of the year the activities of the Literary Society have been varied and considerable. Each of the four study groups is flourishing, and the only general meeting to date was very well attended. The only discouraging feature is the lack of spontaneous criticism—the only meeting held for this purpose was poorly attended.

The less satisfactory side of the Society's activities was revealed by a meeting held for the sole purpose of criticising material in the Broadsheet. The small attendance can be partially accounted for by the failure to circulate the Broadsheet sufficiently, but entirely. Those present were vigorous enough in their criticism, but three times the attendance should be observed was a great interest to students, and a successful meeting is expected.

Monday, June 20, the next meeting will be held, with the works of Robin Hall for subject matter.

Since the inaugural meeting only one general meeting has been held, when Professor Gordon duly discussed "The Prose of Homer."

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 25, the second general meeting will be held, when Mr. Barnard will speak on the poetry of W. H. Auden. The subject is one of great interest to students, and a successful meeting is expected.

The faculty of criticism is an essential part of the Society's business, without which the study groups and talks will be valueless, and if this can be done with locally-produced work, both writer and reader will profit. Another issue of the Broadsheet will be forthcoming in July, and a meeting will follow, in the hope that a more lively response will be the result.

So far things have been going pretty well, but there is room for more people in all activities. The Society aims at reaching as many students as possible.
Sir Thomas Outlines Probable Development of the University

On Sunday evening, June 18, Weir House residents heard Sir Thomas Hunter speak on "The Future of the University" in the first of this series of distinguished lectures.

Sir Thomas began by outlining the history of University Education in New Zealand. He showed how the present system was largely built upon accident and compromise, and how the lack of any clear purpose had hindered its development. Few of his audience had much idea of the switches in policy, the provincial jealousies and the animated debates which preceded the establishment of the present system.

Future development, said Sir Thomas, would probably be towards the increasing independence of the various Colleges with its possible conclusion in each of the four Colleges becoming a separate University. The future development of Victoria College is a matter of great interest, as the land available would be sufficient to provide adequate facilities for students. The number of students who would probably desire to attend a separate University in the future.

He would like to see these various problems overcome by a long range policy that would include Victoria and Massey as one University. It would then be possible, when the development at Victoria required the duplication of staff, for that to be classes in Wellington still open to part-time students and classes at Massey, where there is ample land, to be established, and the degree of the University.

This would also benefit Massey, which is at present suffering from the lack of general University education and research. The present site of Victoria would continue to serve as a University for part-timers, for which purpose it is excellently suited in its proximity to the city.

Buildings and better facilities would be required, but the land available would be sufficient. The process of duplication would have to be gradual, but the determination of the history of the University should be bold enough to say that it is time that the University has an exact idea of what is wanted and work towards it; not to drift into makeshift arrangements.

Answering the question about the possibility of obtaining another large site in Wellington in the same way as Auckland had acquired Tamaki, Sir Thomas said that it was now impossible to obtain land close enough to the city for this to be practicable. The nearest possible site would be inaccessible to part-timers, but the establishment of a full-time residential University at Massey and the slight extension resulting from the proposed alteration in Sianamar Road would leave the present site adequate in size.

Following Sir Thomas's talk there was a discussion concerning a wider range of subjects, but although the little dimension from the basic idea he had outlined.

TO JEAN Mc

Thou child of beauty, knocent not

Hence on drugs, thou eannot be

And hence from the common city,

Ness whose toil will one day be

All others in darkness of thy shop she

Art thou a child of a sculptor's

Thoughts? Realised in perfect symmetry

Such vision in hungry dreams are

To play the world through eternity.

Art thou a prayer of some forgotten

Whose life has ended before a shadowy

In vain pursuit must others suffer)

To see thee once is pain divine.

OMAR HUMAYUN.

Within my soul a tree of longing

O hungry rooted tree! Your roots down hang

Are twisted and entwined with sorrow

Twice to the winter of the earth with yours.

With fallen leaves to chill the silence

Of that head bent, and bowing hung

Grief may start through the twilight days

Unknown, unseen, beyond awareness here.

—H.

COMING EVENTS

July 4.—Socialist Club.
Mr. W. McAla on "The N.Z. Federation of Labour." In the Gym at 8 p.m.

July 4.—Tramping Club.
Hawkesbay Valley and Palliser Bay.

July 11.—Drama Club.
One Act Play Evening, in the Gym.

July 15.—Combined Tramping Clubs Ball.
At 8 p.m. Majestic Cabaret.

Notice for Club Committees

If you want your club functions advertised in Things to Come, hand the information in to "Sullen" Room not less than a week before the publication date, i.e., a week after the appearance of the previous issue.

Shakespeare

"The Taming of the Shrew"
Rollicking Comedy
Upstairs Parlor
Presented by The Thespians (Inc.)

CONCERT CHAMBER
28th July to 2nd August

SIGMA.
MOSCOW UNIVERSITY

More than forty foreign correspondents attending the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Moscow visited the Soviet Union's largest university, named after its founder M. Lomonosov, a great Russian scientist of the eighteenth century.

At a Press Conference arranged by the University authorities, Professor Ilya Galkin, Rector of the University since 1942, was bombarded with numerous questions regarding the system of education, fees, bursaries, teaching staff, etc.

In answering the pressmen's questions, Professor Galkin said that in six years the University will celebrate its 200th anniversary. The University accepts students from all over the USSR and today has 8,200 undergraduates of 48 nationalities. In addition there are more than 1,000 post-graduate students and 1,700 taking correspondence courses.

About 20% of the students sitting the entrance examinations get into the University. (The examinations are conducted on a competitive basis). This does not mean that others who passed the examinations cannot get higher education. There are 'thirty-four similar universities in other cities of the Soviet Union, apart from numerous institutes and other places of higher education.

The Rector explained that students were admitted irrespective of their social origin, party membership, nationality and religious convictions. The only document required of a student was a high school graduation certificate. Those who graduated from high school with a gold medal, i.e., "honours," were admitted without sitting any examinations.

There are 1,300 teachers and professors at the University, 420 of whom hold doctors' degrees. Professors are selected by secret ballot by heads of faculties and professors of chairs.

The University has eleven faculties. The most popular are the faculties of biology, history, physics and philosophy. After the war there was a swing towards the humanities. All students must pass a full five-year term of study. The professors there believe that Mr. Vissotsky had graduated from this University, and at one time was its Rector.

More than two-and-a-half thousand students of the Moscow University are veterans of the war. They are receiving their education free of charge, and get bursaries that cover their living expenses, plus pocket money.

The annual tuition fee is 400 rubles. But children of pensioners, war and heroism casualties, and of parents with large families, are educated without any charge whatsoever, on about 35% of the students attending courses at the University pay a tuition fee. One-third of the students are children of intellectuals (non-manual workers).

All students of the Moscow University receive a monthly bursary progressively ranging from 250 rubles during the first year to 450 rubles during the last year. The bursaries are calculated from the students' cost of living. Those who get first-class marks get their bursary increased by 25%. There are also 425 special scholarships, each giving 500 rubles a month.

Some of the correspondents could not understand why students received bursaries from the University and at the same time paid back a small sum for tuition. The Rector explained that this method put a certain moral obligation on a student to study better.

At the end of the war half the undergraduates were girls, as compared with the pre-war figure, which was only 35%. The entrance age is limited from 17 to 35. The majority of undergraduates are in the 17 to 20-year-old group. One-half of the undergraduates are the inhabitants of Moscow and its suburbs, the rest come from different parts of the USSR. All boarders at the University are lodged without any charge whatever (there are no mixed hostels). All students receive workers' ration coupons and buy their food at special "closed" stores or have their meals in "closed" restaurants where prices are much lower. The same applies to clothes. Every year students have a two months' summer and a two-weeks' winter vacation. The University has its own sports club and has competitions with other universities in various forms of sport. Sport is also a part of the curriculum.

After the press-conference, the correspondents went on a tour of the University. Some of the buildings were badly damaged during the German air-raids in 1941-1945. The students took a very active part in restoring the buildings, so that today hardly any signs of the bombing are left. The pressmen interviewed some of the students in the corridors.

The correspondents were shown the University library, which contained over two million books, half of which were on foreign literature.

There was a lively discussion between the students and the visitors in a room of the Biological faculty at a lecture on "Darwinism." Each side was allowed with questions on current affairs, students' way of life in the Soviet Union and in foreign countries, exchange of students, etc.

The students were surprised to learn from the correspondents that the teaching of "Darwinism" was forbidden in some of the American States. In vain the correspondents tried to prove that Truman's help to Greece and Turkey was not directed against the Soviet Union. The students considered that this help extended to Turkey, which did not take part in the war against Germany, and was directed against all progressive democracy all over the world. The correspondents were pleased with the discussion and expressed the hope that the students knew their subjects as well as they knew politics. They promised to write "favorably." To that the students replied: "Do not write about us favourably--Just write the truth."
Extravaganza

Dear Sir,—For some years it has been the policy of the Executive to provide something in the way of Extravaganza programmes. Victoria is the only University College in New Zealand to provide fare of a higher standard than that of a glorified school concert; and the public have shown its appreciation by flocking to the Opera House each year in increasing numbers. Now that the tumult and shouting has died on another successful Extrav., I should like to put forward a few ideas regarding next year's show in the hope that it will provoke further discussion.

During the period from about 1951 onwards it has been felt that the lead numbness and wild expectancies of students fortiied for the occasion, and the burlesque. That the public has made this commitment, that is in little doubt. In the last year or two, there seems to be a tendency to rely on laryval humour, rather than the type of satire so ably handled by Redmond Palmer as and later, by Ron Meek and the "Seven Pillars of Wisdom."

Now comes the question of the length of the show. I am rather of the opinion that three short shows are preferable to one long production. The only two-and-half hours Extrav. I have seen which really old sustain which at this time was Ron Meek's magnificent opus, "Peter in Blunderland," and even parts of this show tended to drag somewhat.

I hope John will be on stage, at the piano, cigarette with cigarette and "next year next year."

Now for the peace of resistance of an Extravaganza, namely the Extravaganza itself. This should include topical references, caricatures of politicians, and other notable people, a presentable plot, and a selection of good songs and choruses, but it is not much use introducing songs if they cannot be reasonably well sung. Better to cut them out and let the character speak the lines.

A word about the opening chorus. This is generally believed to put the audience in good humour for what is to follow. However, unless it is a Good opening chorus, it is doubtful whether it does anything else but hold up the action. Compare a badly sung opening chorus with, say, the "New World" suite, and you will see what I mean.

This, together with excellent acting, each a spell over the audience will be broken. Had this scene followed an "opening chorus" the effect would have been appalling. I mention this to illustrate that an opening chorus is not a necessary part of an Extrav show and that in some cases may be detrimental. It is also worth noting that the use of a similar effective opening in the "Zelous Zombies" and introduced the Zelous Zombies, Peter in Blunderland," and even parts of this show tended to drag somewhat.

The scheme I would suggest is similar to the earlier system:

(1) Satire,
(2) Interlude (with men's ballet),
(3) Main Extravaganza

The scheme should be modelled on the lines of such sterling works as the "Book of Bob," "Hell's Belles," and "Adam Hana and the Forty-Leagues." Ron Meek, writing some years ago, which I think is still relevant:

"In view of the well-deserved success of "Bob's Belles," the idea of a "Common Room" in the Common Room" it would be absurd to set this up. It would be indeed, to do, to be justly, considered an affront to the authors of "Common Room."

And now to the Interlude. This has always been well received by the public. It also provides the ideal position for the introduction of the male ballet. The idea of attempting to sandwich it into the main show does not appeal to me.

I should like to see John Carrad write another Interlude. John has produced for the best Extrav. tunes—witness the songs that are always sung at Extrav. Reunion, and elsewhere, where Varetry types gather together—and songs like "Trews by Tree," "The Governor of North Carolina," and "South Pacific Seat," will be sung for a long time to come. Ron Meek makes the following comments about the Interlude:

"The Interlude, so long as we have the inimitable Carrad, should be on no account be omitted. The men's ballet and the bright, original music are essential."

Ralph Hogg, in surveying the 1957 show says, "The Interlude was received by the best audience of the evening, the male ballet most effectively directed and done with some most effective stepping. Let's

Finally a word about a new Extrav. innovation—the Interval Entertainers. This appears to me one of the best successful innovations of recent years and Ray Hannan, Jimmy Winchester and Mike Mitchell deserve to be congratulated for building it up to its present high standard.

To know that intelligently planned, clever entertainment is proceeding in front of the curtain during a major scene change is very comforting to those back-stage. I do not see any reason why Extrav. "Bells of Hell" should not take over this branch of Extrav. activities in future years, and it would be better for them to expend their energy in a constructive manner, and not in a usual purvey of dramatic, theatrical, and toilet paper throwing. This may amuse the mighty Weir House intellects, but the audience, unable to appreciate good, does not respond very favourably.

I do not suggest that the Haka Party be abolished. It does a very efficient job of the publicity angle, but I think if the Weir House people took over the responsibility of organizing an interval entertainment on the lines of previous years, it would be beneficial to a step in the right direction.

The first impression of the audience, as they arrive, to a large extent set the tone of the evening, and in this connection I remember Ron Meek made the following remark to me when we were both the setting of the scene in Blunderland," which I think would be worth

"Never is a bunter more blatant, never is a good effect so effective, as at the very beginning of the show."

HODGSON, WILSON.

Dear Sir,—I wish to draw your attention and that of students to the report debate held on April 18 last, at which, it will be recalled, a resolution was presented by the present foreign policy of the Soviet Union was moved by me and, after being supported by a number of speakers from the floor, was eventually adopted by the meeting. Three issues of your journal have since been published, the last on May 7, some weeks after the debate, but it has received no mention in either.

I am sure many of your readers, like me, will find it puzzling strange to read in a Journal which professes in its name to be "An Organ of Student Thought" that it is not the AGM at which the opinion of the whole student body is at last roughly gauged and given expression. I have been at the College since 1936 (with the exception of one year) and call no other occasion in that 12 years when such an oversight has occurred.

I deliberately refrain from drawing any inferences from the omission, as both I and the students seem justified in pending any explanation you may care to publish.

LETTRES TO THE EDITOR

I must, nevertheless, observe that the incident gives the air of remarkable coincidence to what at the time I regarded merely as a minor instance of poor reporting, regrettably common, but otherwise of no significance, the connection between the events of the first debate of the year in your issue of April 2. On that occasion I was reported as making two points, viz., a distrust of American foreign policy based on its attitude towards Australia and Palestine, the former of which countries I referred to only very recently, in the national press, and the latter of which I did not mention at all); and secondly, that America, in boasting a reactionary government, was inviting opposition from all progressive countries (which may, perhaps, be forgiven for reminding readers that the Judge that evening found the points which I actually made, whatever the faults of the speech, at least clearly presented. They were, first, the danger of a blind application of ideology, whether of the "right" or the "left," to questions of foreign policy, in dis suspicious; and I gently chided the official affirmative in a blind application of Communist ideology to the question, but pointed out that the American intervention in the Near East was likewise had, being inspired by equally blind anti-Communist ideology. Secundenly, I drew attention to the danger of the affirmative speakers to refer to what was surely the most important point of all, the fact that an American politician ran counter to a U.N. decision on Greece and represented himself to the U.S.A. on a matter on which the United Nations had asked for concealed action.

(Continued on next page.)
Improvement on Hockey Field

Although no team has played the same number of games as the 16 days, individual members of the Hockey Club have improved their handicap down to their games. If the happy day arrives when every team plays the same combination as was fielded the previous week, a string of successes can confidently be expected.

Saturday, June 7. - Pouring rain cancelled all games save senior and senior grade. Senators v. Petone, drew 5-5. Hutt, hindered by the heavy ground, the absence of Gill Johnstone, and the absence of the Massey trip and Cupping Ball in the same week, the Seniors did well to draw. A feature of the game was the defensive play of the ubiquitous Ivec Lawry, who broke up forward attacks repeatedly. Once again the lack of scoring forwards deprived the teams of certain goals, while left and right wings, who took a lash in the inner circle, proved equally ineffective.

Saturday, June 14. - Senators v. Karori, lost 0-2. Ivec's goal was scored by an open play created by some splendid pitching. The drawing of games by the heavy ground, the absence of Gill Johnstone, and the absence of the Massey trip and Cupping Ball in the same week, the Seniors did well to draw. A feature of the game was the defensive play of the ubiquitous Ivec Lawry, who broke up forward attacks repeatedly. Once again the lack of scoring forwards deprived the teams of certain goals, while left and right wings, who took a lash in the inner circle, proved equally ineffective.

Women's Hockey

After five weeks of fine Saturdays the first postponement of games occurred on June 7. All games set down for that day were played last Saturday on heavy grounds. Most players do not seem to be as fit as they should be at this time of the season.

The Senior A team, after being surprised out of their lethargy by a goal scored by W.W.C.A. after five minutes' play, went on to win with determination. Vis Rich, very much on her game, scored three goals, ably backed up by B. Yeung, who also contributed one and C. Simmons one. Lack of co-ordination between the halves and the forwards was offset to a great extent by the very effete stilework of M. Spiers, full-back, who stopped many breakaways by the speedy opposition wing forwards. The game ended: Varisty 5, W.W.C.A. 1.

Of the Senior Reserve game much could be said. Enough that it was spoiled by poor refereeing and undue roughness. Varsity's only goal came from a melee in the circle, the goal being scored by combined effort. Better combination is now being shown by this team.

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PROFITS RETURNED TO MEMBERS

(Continued from page 6.)

I was, therefore, both amused and pleased to observe, Sir, that you yourself had not shared the inability of your reporter to grasp at least the second of these points clearly, for your leading article in that very issue was headed "U.S. Ridesides Up," and went on to elaborate the matter to which I drew attention. This but serves to emphasize the value of full and accurate reporting of proceedings at debates from which it seems that the tests of some more proper orators may occasionally be drawn with advantage.

I hope, therefore, that this letter will serve to prevent a recurrence of the regrettable lapse of which I complained. P. D. O'Flynn.

I should like to quote two clauses from the concluding paragraph of "Salient," drawn up at the inception of the paper, February, 1936. I quote because they are to be criticism and comment rather than reporting.

That the paper depart from the usual reporting of local University news and adopt a more cosmopolitan attitude.

We have been attempting this year to break away from the corresponding space to club reporting, including debate. Some club reports have been printed, but these have all, except the debating report mentioned by Mr. O'Flynn, been spontaneously written by club members.

If the debating Society feels that its meetings are too closely "Salient," and if it has any person competent to do it, we would be prepared to publish these reports. We agree that debating reporting in "Salient" has been biased and inaccurate. This is a further reason for discontinuing them. —Ed.

Soccer Needs More Pep

With the South Africans at our back door it's time we took a more realistic view of the incompetentFoot-swalling that goes under the name of Soccer at Victoria. The fact that the Sefiori Eleven have won their last two games, the first against Hutt Rangers 2-0, and the second against Marist 2-0 is probably about the worst thing that could have happened to this bloated pack of self-satisfied pseudo-footballers. Somehow the team has to be made to realize that its game is about 5 per cent. of what it could be. The heading and passing are downright shocking. A ball thrown in should go to the foot of the player, not into the air; inside forwards should know how to pass with direction, and a few beefy barged goals are no exonerating compensation. But it would be invidious to mention names. The victories, generally obtained in the last few minutes, are preluded by almost two spells of aimless meandering. Yet when it is decided that activity is urgent it is possible for the team to make their opponents crumble hopeless. Surely it is no compliment to score victories over the cripples and pensioned that constitute such an opposition.

The Thirds have beaten Upper Hutt 2-1 and lost to Seaton B 1-2. In both cases they played short, owing to the defect of certain miserable individuals.

The Seconds, though having lost both their last two games by small amounts, are the most heartening 8-factor in the club life. Here there is no pretension to skill, but there is invariable enthusiasm. These players will be glad to note the field practice now to be held regularly on Kelburn Park, Wednesday afternoons, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The elite mentioned with disappointment above may likewise gain some benefit if they would consent to drag their oh, so tired bodies along.

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HARRIER'S MAJOR SUCCESS
IN SHAW BATON RELAY

On Saturday, June 14, under perfect running conditions, Victoria College Harriers won for the first time in its 15 years of existence the Shaw Baton Relay, which comprises six laps of one mile and three hundred yards each. This race is mostly over road but there is a little strenuous country. The Varsity sextet took the lead early and won the race 14 sec. in front of the second team, Hutt Valley.

John Eccles was the first man to run and he was responsible for a most surprising performance. He is a confident fellow who had the right idea when he set a blistering pace from the start. He has competed for two seasons only and used to play hurling and steeplechasing in front of the 16 beat A. H. Glen (Brooklyn), one of the best runners in the country. Eccles, who has plenty of natural ability, covered the one mile and 300 yards in 5 min. 45 sec., only four seconds slower than that recorded by his club-mate Clem Hawke, whose time in the last lap was the best of the day.

Alastair Hall was next to take on the baton, but Eccles had given him a forty-yard start. Hall, a newcomer to the club (and has been doing remarkably well), not only maintained the lead but increased it and completed his lap in 5 min. 1 sec. From there the race was continued by Peter Whittle, who handed over to John Hunt. At this stage it was doubtful if Varsity could hold their lead much longer. Hunt ran against Bill Smith of Hutt Valley, a polished runner who

![Photo: Evening Post]

notwithstanding his running into a camera at the commencement of the Masterton Relay finnished at the end of that lap second to Hawke. If Smith caught Hawke before half of the lap had been completed but Hunt at the end of the lap had not only caught up to Smith but increased the Varsity lead.

John Holden, who is a fortnight previously in the Masterton Relay put up the fastest time for the lap from the summit of the Rimutaka to after running their laps. This was in marked contrast to other teams and speaks well of the training the members of the senior team have done in the past month.

For the first time in many years Varsity also fielded a junior team in the relay. The team finished fifth in the junior event. Mason and Kelly, who have been doing remarkably well and junior must be commended on their exhibition. Still feeling fresh after their exertions in the race these keen youngsters went off afterwards and had their usual training run.

In the past the VUC Harrier Club has produced some notable individuals in relays like the late Ross Seryngour, 1. C. MacDowall, G. Bagnall and P. D. O'Flynn, all who won N.Z. University Blues, and Clem Hawke is well up to their standard. Collectively the club in its 15 years existence has never revealed the strength displayed this season. The placing in the Wellington-Masterton Relay indicated that the team's possibilities and chances of winning the Shaw Baton cannot be regarded as an exacting test of cross-country, at the same time it is one where speed is the essence of the contract. Our club sextet adequately demonstrated that they possess this necessary qualification by beating Hutt Valley decisively. However, a more reliable guide to the team's ability will be provided by the Anderson Rally and the Dorne Cup, which will be held in a short while.

RUGBY

Fine displays by the Senior A team against Old Boys, the Senior B's against Eastbourne, and the Third's against Plimmerton are the only results of note since the last set of notes was written.

Two events of the future, however, should be noted: the North v. South Varsity match and the game NZU v. Canterbury College, to be played at Christchurch on July 16 and 19 respectively.

The Senior side, after giving a very fine display of wet weather football to beat Old Boys, fell away last Saturday and were beaten by Athletic by 15-5, after a most uninspiring game. The forwards in particular were not nearly up to their best form.

It was a pity that the Senior B side lacked the little finesse necessary to finish their advantage against Eastbourne, a very strong team, and lost 3-18. The forwards, in particular, played their best game of the season.

The Junior A side got home from Mangoreo by 6 Ford and from Te Tai Arora by default, which leaves the team with the creditable record of four wins, two losses and a draw.

The Junior B side has made great strides, and on Saturday, players according to all reports, 'the kind of football the crowds like.' beat Marist by 8-3.

The Third A side has yet to be beaten, though a depleted team only managed a draw against Wellington, a powerful combination on Saturday. It is hoped that the fair name of the side will not be sullied by a recurrence of this incident.

The Third B grade had an excellent win against Plimmerton, but were beaten by 14-0 last Saturday.

The Third C side, although recently depleting the other side, is suffering somewhat severely from the raids of the senior grade and has lost some of its players to other teams, but should nevertheless be capable of good things.

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