

The Magnet

For Men's Wear
144 Featherston St.
Wellington

Salient

An Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria College, Wellington N.Z.

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For all

Sports Goods

TISDALLS

65 Willis Street

WELLINGTON

Telephone 40-859

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING REJECTS PEACE-TIME CONSCRIPTION

As Mr. Milburn said in introducing the first motion of the evening at a Special General Meeting called on 3rd August, the proposal moved by the Minister of Defence to conscript the youth of the nation for military purposes, posed a question of the greatest importance to students. And obviously the students were well aware of the fact. They see conscription as a menace to their University Education and as part of a widespread attempt to stampede the world into another war. So they expressed their opinion very forcibly by rejecting all compromises and carrying by more than 2 to 1, a motion that, "This meeting of the Victoria University College Students' Association strongly disapproves of any proposal for the conscription of youth for military purposes in peacetime."

The Problem vitally affected the younger students, especially the 18-year-olds, who were directly concerned, and had no say in the determination of their future, said Mr. Milburn. The only thing he had learned from his own experience of military training was the underlying fact that "the grosser side of life has its pleasures." The argument that military training did a world of good to young men was completely eclipsed by these negative aspects.

Question of Democracy

The seconder of the motion, Mr. Evison, quoted at length from the "N.Z. Tablet," but when questioned by Mr. O'Brien seemed uncertain as to the difference between a Cardinal and a Pope.

Military conscriptions in peacetime, he said, has always been opposed to democratic thought everywhere. The recruit is not encouraged to think for himself, but to act like a machine. Mr. Evison was not opposed to military service as such. Anyone who really felt that the menace of Russia was growing hour by hour, or that the cause of peace would be materially advanced by his doing so, was perfectly at liberty to join the forces and remain there for the rest of his life.

"Is there any motive behind the fact that those who are to be conscripted will be under the voting age?" asked Miss Searell.

"We Want It But We Don't"

Mr. Curtin (of course) rose to speak. "Are we big enough?" War appeared probable to him, but the rest of his argument was rather difficult to see through the hail of interjections. He thought the balance tipped in favour of conscription.

The pro-conscriptionists were very anxious to make themselves appear anti. Mr. M. O'Brien moved an amendment, the effect of which was that while opposing the principle of peacetime conscription, the Stud. Ass. should co-operate with the Government in such a policy if and when it was considered necessary (by whom?) and if the Government provided adequate study facilities to student trainees (as an afterthought). Mr. O'Brien thought that limiting conscription solely to wartime was an ostrich-like policy. He said he was not trying to rouse feeling against Russia. Who knows that Japan might not be our next enemy? In general, he spent more time in telling us what he did not think than in what he did. Mr. K. O'Connor seconded his amendment.

Mr. McLellan said 18-year-olds were invaluable as cannon-fodder, and so supported conscription. For the rest he was amusingly cynical.

Conscription For What?

"The present scheme for 14 weeks' training for 18-year-olds is the thin end," said Mr. Bernard.

Then Mr. Bell, delightfully informal, referred to the delusion that the only way to prepare for peace was to arm for its opposite. Conscription was the contrary to the spirit of internationalism, which is our only hope. He ridiculed the idea of an army of 18-year-olds "defending the shores of Taranaki against American invaders."

Mr. Edwards raised three important points. Firstly a conscript army under a form of society has been, and could again be used, for beating up striking workers. Secondly the twelve-week period would be inadequate for the technical training necessary for modern warfare anyway, and thirdly the loss of income incurred by full-time students, should they (as they probably would) be in camp over the long vacation, would be fatal to their university careers.

No Compromise

Mr. Hutchings sounded oh so tired of everything, but thought Mr. O'Brien's amendment "the best working compromise." (With whom? No openly or seriously pro-conscriptionists had taken the floor yet.) He declared himself opposed to "Blimpishness."

Referring us back to 1914-18 and 1939-45, Mr. R. Smith said that conscription at this time, 3 years after war had ended, would have a fatal effect on peace morale, and only serve to boost the outlook that regarded war as inevitable, in which a few people have a vested interest. The choice was between peace or war, one world or none.

Mr. Robinson said we should make our views clear to the Government which was only there to serve the people. He was opposed to any wishy-washy amendment.

An 18-year-old, Mr. Temm said he was not afraid to go to camp. He was only too willing to fight (whom?). Other 18-year-olds did not concur.

Red Herring

Mr. Lyons spoke forcibly against the use of the Red Bogey. He had faith in the United Nations, and

sought a conscription issue as a question of whether we were citizens first of New Zealand or the world. In a world which was attempting to put a solution to its problems through internationalism, narrow nationalistic moves like this could only be regarded as sabotage.

Immediately Mr. Lyons sat down the Red Bogey was raised. Mr. Thornton quoted "Pravda" (1928) to prove that the Russians were armed to the teeth, and supported this by proving that democracy in Canada was being undermined by Russian spies.

Mr. Milburn (again): "Now is the time to say yea or nay... there is no force in a compromise." He suggested that Mr. Temm was still free to volunteer.

The Amendment was then put and lost by 38-81.

Second Attempt

On the motion of Mr. K. O'Brien, who vacated the chair for the occasion, the meeting went into committee. Four minutes silent prayer. The meeting emerged from committee. No progress was reported.

Mr. Butchers then proposed a new amendment, not dissimilar to the first. This was seconded significantly by Mr. M. O'Brien, and put immediately, being lost by 31-87.

Then the motion itself was put (10 p.m.), and carried on an overwhelming voice.

Bailing Up Peter

The second motion (moved Milburn, seconded Evison) was then formally moved. Mr. Piper amended it to read thus: "That this association would be strongly opposed to the conscription of 18-year-olds for military purposes as suggested by the Minister of Defence in the House of Representatives on July the 14th last."

(Continued on Page 2.)



In the Instituto Fisica, Bologna, a group of students who have no homes, live in a converted laboratory, repaired after bomb damage. They live, study, eat and sleep in this room.

ISS and Shakespeare

Students in many countries are working for ISS. Students at Victoria are doing very little, but the following may give some ideas that we could try here.

Massey, early this year, ran a Work Day in the same way as we did here, but with this difference, that with 300 students, Massey raised £65, whereas Victoria, with 2,300 students, could manage only £64.

Otago has raised money by Work Days and "Penny a Week" campaigns.

Oxford students have probably the best outlook to ISS. Apart from the usual money-raising efforts conducted at Oxford as at all other universities, Oxford has a compulsory levy. With his students' association fees each student has to pay 2/6 per term for Student Relief.

Australia is holding a National Beauty Contest. (This is quite apart from the cow story. The cow is an entrant for a separate contest being held at Melbourne, also for Student Relief. Each Australian University is backing a number of entrants who are individually sponsored by Clubs. The Clubs who are supporting Melbourne candidates, The Jewish Students' Society, Liberal Club, SCM,

Rhythm Club, Commerce and Science Societies, give an idea of how widespread is the interest of students in their counterparts in other countries.

A word for the staff:

Auckland—At the College Hall, Thursday, 10th June.

FOR THE RELIEF OF NEEDY STUDENTS OVERSEAS AND THE DELIGHT OF THE CHARITABLY DISPOSED, SUNDRY TALENTED

MEMBERS OF THE

Auckland University College

Present

Their Version of The Immortal Wm. Shakespeare's Tragical History and very Satirical Comedy

TROYLUS AND CRESSIDA

Excellently expressing the beginning of their loves, with the conceited wooing of Pandarus, Prince of Licia. Lechery, lechery, still wars and lechery, nothing else holds fashion.

THE PLAYERS' NAMES

Include Five Professors and Sixteen Lecturers.

How about the staff of VUC following their example? Surely Wellington students would pay well for the privilege of seeing such a performance, and Victoria's ISS contribution would thus be greatly increased.

Salient

The Organ of Student Opinion at Victoria University College, Wellington

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1948.

BAN "THE IRON CURTAIN,"

MR. FRASER

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of 26th October, 1947, I wish to inform you that the release in New Zealand of the film "Indonesia Calling," which presents a very tendentious viewpoint on a complex and delicate question, is considered unjustifiable on the grounds that it is likely to cause ill-feeling between this country and a friendly nation.

Moreover, the film constitutes an advocacy of the undemocratic principle that minority groups may arrogate to themselves the right to conduct the foreign relations of a nation, whereas these can only be the responsibility of the Government comprising elected representatives of the people.

Publicity encouraging support of this anarchic principle cannot be acquiesced in, for to do so would be to permit a gross abuse of the freedom of expression which is vital to our system of democracy.

For these reasons it is not intended to permit the release of the film for public exhibition.

Yours faithfully,
P. FRASER.

"Advising every New Zealander who loved his country and the British way of life, the Minister said it provided ample evidence of the organised treachery on the part of the Soviet Union to undermine democratic institutions."

—Evening Post quoting Mr. Semple speaking on a preview of "The Iron Curtain."

"... previewed and wholeheartedly approved by the Hon. R. Semple."

—Dominion, August 4th.

To libel Mr. Fraser or Mr. Semple for their above statements would be wrong, for they are two different people in nearly every sense and are both entitled to their own opinions.

It would be no surprise to find that Mr. Fraser did not agree with Mr. Semple's views on "The Iron Curtain," since he has refused to make any comment on the film and has not allowed any interviews on the matter.

But one man's reticence and caution have been met with another man's timely action to produce the incongruous policy of a Socialist Government supporting the platform of the American film industry, and denying the right of expression to Australian workers.

"You might just as well fall flat on your face as lean too far backwards."

B.M.

Building Fund Work Days

The Women's Hockey Club is running a work day (or days) in aid of the Building Fund. The money will be an individual contribution from the student who will be responsible for handing it in to the Building Committee.

Those students wishing to work for a few hours, or who know of work available are asked to put their names on the list on the noticeboard or contact Doris Thorogood at the College Office (46-546).

Please advertise this amongst your friends.

(Continued from Page 1.)

as such conscription would be a serious and unwarranted handicap to the education and technical training of the youth of New Zealand. This general meeting, therefore, instructs the Secretary of the Association to write to the Prime Minister requesting that he receive a deputation consisting of the four returned servicemen members of the Students' Association Executive, to ascertain the Government's policy in the matter."

Mr. Piper said that we must bail up Mr. Fraser (and milk him—interjection) and receive a definite assurance that conscription would not be introduced.

The amended motion was carried and the meeting was closed at 10.20.

Appeal for Hungarian Children

Yes, another appeal! The Women's Charter Association is trying to help the 30,000 registered homeless children and the others whom the government has so far been unable to assist.

Clothing is desperately needed, especially warm garments, sheets, blankets, boots, shoes and so on. They would be grateful for wool from which clothes could be made. If you can't rise to these, money or stamps to assist with the postage would be welcome.

This matter is urgent.

If you can help, get in touch with

Mrs. J. Hunter,
3 Kennedy Road,
Wellington.

Jubilee "Spike"

Closing date for entries of original work is extended to February 28, 1949.

Prizes are offered for original creative work.

Entries to—

THE EDITOR, JUBILEE SPIKE,
R. W. Burchfield,
Department of English.

WRITE FOR SPIKE!

PUBLIC APPEAL FOR BUILDING FUND

The official Association Building Appeal Organising Committee has met and decided on action. At a meeting held on July 29th, it was decided after some discussion that the public appeal for £30,000 for the new student union building should be held this year.

Since the Committee first met last February, a considerable amount of fruitless debating has been held on whether or not it is possible to get the general public in a state of mind sympathetic to the students of Victoria College, and it is therefore a matter for some gratification that the appeal will go forward this year.

It should be understood that this Appeal Committee is distinct from the Committee responsible for the present student appeal in the College, which has been accompanied by the well-known atmospheric and barometric disturbances in the main hall. The official Appeal Committee consists of Mr. H. R. C. Wild (chairman), Sir Thomas Hunter, Professor I. A. Gordon, Messrs. T. D. M. Sout, J. M. Iltott, R. Bradshaw, W. G. Rodger, M. J. Mason, K. B. O'Brien, H. C. Evison and the Rev. Martin Sullivan, and is the committee responsible for a public appeal which is expected to provide the bulk of the building fund.

An experienced full-time organiser will be appointed shortly. He will plan the final details for a three-months' appeal, the opening date of which has been fixed tentatively at 10th September.

The enthusiasm with which present students will be able to offer assistance in the large amount of routine organising and publicity work involved in a public appeal such as this, will be an important factor in its success—and on its success our hopes of a new building must ultimately rest.

ENROL NOW FOR CONGRESS

"A nice idea" was perhaps your comment on the last congress article in "Salient." "Must think about going," you thought when you saw notices about the College. But, do you realise that applications close on September 1st and that our quota is limited to thirty-five. Applications are coming in rapidly and you must make your decision now.

The Congress Committee is at present arranging final details of programme and organisation; refer to your last "Salient" for an outline of the programme. Here, however, are a few answers to your questions.

What is to be the basis of selection of Victoria delegates? The question of selection has been left to the discretion of executives in each College, and at Victoria the selection committee consists of those Exec. members who are also members of Congress Committee. The aim of this committee will be to select a delegation which is representative of faculties, student activities and student opinions. It would be impossible to lay down a set basis for selection, but these are the kind of factors which will be considered.

1. Experience of student administration and club office.
2. Breadth of interest in student activities.
3. Faculty; academic interest and knowledge.
4. Length of student life. (We need freshers as well as hardy annuals).
5. Personality—students who will contribute socially and intellectually to the Congress.

These factors are not placed in any order and no one factor will count overwhelmingly. No precedence will be given to early applicants.

How much will Congress cost me? For the full term—January 21st-30th—it will cost a Victoria student £5 10s., of which £2 must be paid before September 1st. This £2 will be refunded only if a student is not selected to attend.

If you would like further information about Congress, material is available at the Exec. Room, and the VUC Congress organiser will be there on Thursday evenings, 6-7.

Workers and Conscription

VUC students no doubt are in complete agreement with the result of the Special Meeting, or are we? As a member of that College, I, for one, should like to place my disagreement in your columns.

It appears as though your columns are biased, too. It's a pity that some people don't think before they write. (All right, I've thought.) Your columnist says: "The old men, the psychopaths, the property owners, the fanatic nationalists, etc.," are aching for war, and people the world over are succumbing to the craze for "war research." PROPAGANDA OF FEAR and HATE. You are dead right, chum, Russia has fear and hate.

Russia fears British and American Democracy, for it works without unnecessary compulsion and constitutes a threat to M. Stalin who, if the truth be known, is scared of losing his position of dictator and murderer of innocent peoples. Do we in N.Z. murder Opposition Members?

Russia Hates—Here I must make a digression. When I say Russia I do not mean all the Russian people, but their LEADERS. If truth was allowed to penetrate into Soviet States many of them would hardly credit the fact that Unions are there for the use of employees. In their country a union is the method of forcing workers to speed up production. Let's see how a so-called union works.

There is a system known as the "triangle of factory control." Firstly there is the manager who is responsible for the direction of the enterprise. Then there is the Party Cell of Communists and lastly the Factory Committee representing the Trade Union. (So far this system stinks of capitalism.) But the so-called trade unions are not for the workers to lodge complaints with (perhaps there are no complaints), but for the organisation of "shock brigades" to speed up production. Some of these "brigades" are more ruthless than the OGPU! So much for the workers' "freedom."

From "each according to his needs" to "each according to the work performed." (Isn't that the system under capitalism?) The only difference being that there are no communist cells or shock brigades. (Thank goodness.)

But back to fear. Stalin is frightened of the atomic bomb. He has to wait until his German scientists (funny; I thought that Russia had a war with Germany) and secret police (found in Embassies) have unearthed the secrets. Then the war begins and we poor mugs will be caught with our pants down and what a thrashing we will get. All because Victoria University College decided it wasn't going to fight Communism; it was going to defend Workers' Rights. It would do far better if it turned itself to the task of Study and Logic before it attempted to influence world politics. Then it might find that there are more peaceful methods, and more successful ones, of creating harmony between employer and employee than Dictatorship and Force.

"Students of the world, unite." Fight for British freedom; Fight for the Workers; Fight for the Preservation of Peace; Resist Communism; and its challenge to World Peace. Then, and only then will we know what Peace is. Vote protection.

—J. F. Little.

Election Research

The Political Science Society has decided to organise a research group to study the 1949 elections.

Research will be divided into a large number of groups. One group will study public opinion, another the historical aspects, another economic factors, and so on.

The Society realises that such a task entails much hard work. It is the first attempt of its kind in New Zealand, and a further step towards relating the University to the Community. The Society also realises that psychologists, historians, economists and others will be needed.

Those interested should contact Byron Lumsden or Maurice O'Brien.

FORMULAE FOR POETRY

Poets slowly resolve themselves
Into a word
And express
A thought so rich in meaning
That it would help the lonely world to live.

Now there are necessary formulae
Which you must follow energetically
To achieve a resolution
Into expression.
You must wear corduroy
Which you
Can do too
If your hair suits you.
Now take a pen
And write a word.
Then halfway across the page
Write "multiramous"
and stop.

Next recall all those horrid things
You laughed about behind the desk
As small boys sniggering at school.
Look up an Oxford Dictionary
And find a multisyllabic word
That means something you would not say.
Look into your garbage bins
And make a list of what you see.
If your stomach does not churn
At this,
Read your last attempt to write.
Now, from the compost heap
Of your own thoughts,
Select the most dry-rotten
And write them down—scattered—.

Pour
Your beer into your pipe,
And smoke from the cold-water-tap,
(upstairs).
If you can turn straight
From an incomprehensible giant
And slide swan-like to a graceful end,
Perching on a chimney stack,
And now before you leave your art,
You too will be a poet—yet—.
Take a look at Eliot,
Seize a word out from his lines
And keep it safely in a box.
Search about in Auden's work
Till you move in numbers to an inverted clause
section.
And pressing hard upon the metred line,
Ease out what you want
And put it in your box:
With you pliers insert these in your poem
(Don't worry what it means
We must lose reason in momentary servitude).
Squeeze them in an arch
Of your most senseless line,
And be a poet's prototype,
A long-haired, highbrow, arty type,
A sea of bitter passion
Without
rhyme.

—AMANGLE DEBELSH.

GIRL AT THE PHILOSOPHY CLUB

My downcast eyes the guerdon hold
Like the radiance of falling rain on the bright
pavement
And the bright elusive perfume in the dust it raises.
Like the radiance of one who receives a gift,
And the quick remembrance of a new-found friend.

Your reasons shall not gain the guerdon,
But something in the intent for which you say them
To which I raise my eyes—not to your words
But with the first blush of spring
And the first warmth in sunlight suddenly near.

Not that the swarthy care of phrase
Nor the frowning eagerness of the young.
Nor the quiet smile of the woebegone
All these are void and trembling air,
While sweetly here the guerdon still I prize.

My downcast eyes the guerdon hold
And it is lost and utterly foregone
When from the light of your innumerable senses
You turn to that practised phrase, which calls
For only words from me of an old world.

—P.S.W.

SONG FOR A STRIKE IN WINTER

The skyline reveals
The chimney-pot maze
The glut of roofs
The narrow ways.

Cold grey stone
And cold grey slate
Rain-running gutters
Clouds in spate.

Clouds atumble
And roofs awirl
The winter sky
Is a hungry girl

With shredded hair
And eyes afire
Where the wind-lapped streets
Bog down desire.

The works are silent
And the bus-lines lengthen
And the sirens are stilled
The picket-lines strengthen.

With night snow flurries
And helmets of steel
Rifles menace
The truncheons wheel

But the winter sky
In a spasm of mirth
Laughs a thunderclap
And salutes the earth.

K. J. HOLLYMAN.
Paris, July, 48.

THE CITY ALLEGORY

Past city towers, grey parapets of stone,
Through wide streets that lead by the water's edge,
I took my way, down by the city parks
And grassy furnishings by empty walks.
My thoughts the doves, grey wings of felling
And posturings, and cooings and sudden beauties
All the quiet Sunday, day of rest
In the covered halls and tapestries of mind.

And she sat on the bench in the Sunday sun,
Her face pale and her black hair blown in the wind,
The city girl in her bright Sunday colours.
The doves gather by her feet—they are mine no
more.
She looks past at any minute interest
To hold her still while things shift and return.
Go away and back to her in adoration.
The perfume-point, impenetrable locus of feeling.

Distance holds no features; innocence
Lives just by impressions; the death of rest
Has no sights to show the habitually curious.
Even a city Sunday is not forever.
But the herald of death comes from away off
Bringing the new vision and the new truth,
And never more than the distant figure away
At the end of the hall, always approaching towards,
Moving behind tomorrow's new life.

P.S.W.

SAFEGUARD

All the sky was filled with frost-blue light
from the staring moon
where the far cold stars were drowned,
and through the luminous chill mists of night,
stark branches pierced the air
in brittle beauty.

Around the slumbering hills
winking yellow lights shone out
and lit the late hour with their friendly glow.
The sleeping city held me close, secure
against the limitless and hostile upper air
where in the cold eternal light
great worlds grew faint and vanished.

—A.

TO ABSTRACT THOUGHT

List not, oh berated idol
to effusions of apostles
following your padded paths.
Smile, imp, at the hooks
tangling with their leggings
and borne away in triumph
out of the blossoming wreckage.
Laugh cynic, at their looks
concentrating on a nothingness
that they make meaningful.

I wandered through your dim bowers
slowly, sadly, living the lie;
for only leathern soles crushed the flowers
while my eye roamed wildly in the sky.

RALPH UNGER.

POEM

Poet where are you, for Dawn has come to greet you
and pay homage?
She has brought in her basket of the First Flush of
Dawn a new Hope;
Come, for she is a faithful guest bringing gifts to
your door.
The village has already come out to welcome her
And the spring breeze has strewn flowers about her feet,
The jasmine and the Night Queen have perfumed her feet,
Come poet, and welcome the messenger of God!

—Len Samujh.

This poem is one of an anthology by Mr. L. S. C. R.
Samujh, a poet of the Indo-Anglican school. This must
be understood in interpreting the poem.

END OF AN ERA

No time to sing of lips and eyes
No time.
The towers are crumbling and the girders bend;
Pretty and plain are starkly one
Under the shattered dust
Or fused into the stones at Hiroshima.

No time to rhapsodize
No time; here
At this turning point of the sphere
We run against the escalator
Strive with the metronome
Wrestle with the bells in phrenetic calculation.
"Give us but time but time but time!"

No time to pass, now, by the bridge of sighs,
The decking riven in London
And in New York the bolstered piers shuddering.
No time,

In Paris the corroded cables fall away;
In Moscow an impression of solidity prevails—
The recast anchor from Treves and the new planking—
But an era ends, the rough flood flows
Tumbling the tangled wreckage.
Not time piled up on time
But this relentless moment shall decide—
The wind's thin fingers stroke an idle skull
An empty planet spins a vacant course,
Or with a voluntary sloughing of old skins
A cataclysmic knocking together of old stagnant heads
We force a reasoned splendour from our world.

—Bruce McLeod.

"The School of Physiology at Melbourne University has asked the Commonwealth Employment Service for a contortionist," says the Sydney "Morning Herald." "The successful applicant will be required to put on an act for an hour to enable specialists to observe the muscle action of persons whose joints allow contortion." They should try Jack Lang.

Even been to a cattle fair? If not, you can just catch the atmosphere if you stand at the foot of the main stairway about 5 o'clock.

The Argentine flag-bearer "apparently forgot" to lower his flag in salute when passing the Royal box at the opening of the Olympic Games. Last time this was done was by the United States in 1906, says Wallie Ingram. Strike you as odd?

Professor Gordon's plea for an Empire exchange of young students is timely—can't recall anyone putting it into words before. I'd like to see concrete proposals brought down and acted upon.

DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS PRIESTLEY TIME PLAY

J. B. Priestley's "I Have Been Here Before" was a better choice for a major production than they have made for some time. It should have had a wide appeal, but owing to the philistinism of most students of this college, and of the general public, it did not. I do not mean that it is a good play. I consider that a dramatist should be completely familiar with the material of his play, which is not possible when he uses a borrowed idea which he does not like himself, and he says as much in his introduction.

"I Have Been Here Before" is about Ouspensky's theory of circular time, and the interest is centred too much in the theory, and too little on the characters and situation. Under these circumstances the dramatist falls back into the role of craftsman. However, Priestley is a highly skilled dramatic craftsman—probably more so than anyone else writing in English today—and as such he knows how to dress up unpromising material in all the dodges of clever stagecraft which make a successful play. He contrives to arrange his characters in all the possible combinations of twos and threes to show the idea of the play from many different angles, and he knows that it is easier to put across an unconventional idea if you use conventional characters. He uses the same device as Emily Brontë did to prevent a mystical plot becoming too unreal to the audience—he makes two of the characters solid, earthy types, who form a bridge between the unreal world of the plot and the real world of the audience. There is no nonsense about Sally and Sam, and they are unchanged and almost unaffected by the action of the play.

Production and Players

Dr. J. Kahn produced the play, and he did a very good job with the relatively inexperienced cast and extremely small stage. Some very clever groupings helped to overcome the latter difficulty. The decor was appropriate but not exciting.

Lindsay McDonald's performance as Dr. Gortler was most convincing—so much so that at times I forgot that he was Lindsay McDonald and the worried little refugee professor really lived. Sam, the landlord, was handled well by Pat Hutchings, although sometimes his North-country accent was a little too thick to be completely audible. Baska Goodman, as Sally, his widowed daughter, gave the best performance of the evening. As an anxious mother, who is also a busy, rather officious landlady, she combined sympathy with an air of matter-of-fact self-confidence.

Walter Ormund, hard-working, hard-drinking company director, was played surprisingly well by Arch Barclay. To show the failings and misgivings of an obviously strong character is difficult, and his handling of the fluctuations of mood was realistic, especially in the scenes with Dr. Gortler.

Betty James and Paul Treadwell have both given outstanding performances in the Society's productions this year, but I was rather disappoint-

ed in them in this play, although I suspect the fault may be largely due to their lines, and to the fact that the behaviour of Mrs. Ormund and Farrant is the most improbable thing in this whole unhappy melodrama. With this handicap, Betty James played the disillusioned wife with commendable sensitivity, and Paul Treadwell, the skeptical schoolmaster with a natural assurance, but how could these two find so much attraction in each other? Surely, even in a time play, people do not fall in love without having better reason than the fact that they have done so before.

FILM REVIEWS Battle For Music

This film was not what it was cracked up to be, a great pity for the idea was excellent, that many people could and would appreciate good classical music, Grieg, Beethoven, etc. The final success of the London Philharmonic Orchestra has proved this theory true. Unfortunately the lack of acting knowledge on the part of members of the orchestra gave one the impression of over simplicity and un-naturalness: This vanished as they took up their instruments, then the film became a reality, and here one saw its great possibilities.

The scenic background curiously provoked images of a Greek Tragedy, with lofty pillars giving way to open skies, with curiously contorted clouds. No doubt a genuine artistic attempt to portray the thoughts imagined when listening to classical music! The composers, I am certain, would be flattered! At this stage perhaps I should mention that the film must be regarded as documentary. It has no dramatic appeal, no passionate love scenes, but having only the bare and essential facts. Unless a film fan has a decided liking for classical composers, he or she (or combination) should stay at home (unless the stars have a greater attraction) for disappointment will reign.

The central interest to music lovers in New Zealand will undoubtedly be the conducting of Warwick Braithwaite. His recent appointment is another "feather in his cap" and further proof to faint-hearts that NZ is capable of producing the very best.

Teheran

J. Arthur Rank Presents—One Dramatic Play, One Obscure Plot, and One Classical Ending. The result—One Mess.

But, ladies and gentlemen, let me say this, that the most dramatic scene was the singing of the "Vulgar Boatmen," by a chorus of distinguished Britons! The traditional smashing of glasses was executed with the precision of a Russian steam-roller and the broken fragments represent the plot, hence the mess.

The plot revolves around man's inherent weakness for the opposite sex, and the almost impossible scrapes he manages to get into (and out of) are a tribute to ingenuity. Yes, the ingenuity of Derek Farr in his character sketch. His acting is very good and must not be sacrificed for a comical plot. Marta Labarr also gave a credible performance.

By the way, the plot begins in Rome, in the mighty Opera House. A BBC War Correspondent wanders into that empty house, hoping to provoke memories of a long-lost love whom he took a liking to in pre-war days. Then the fun begins; we are taken back to see what has gone before.

The history is divided into two separate parts (the meeting, in Rome, the second meeting in Teheran). The Teheran episode is dreadfully complicated, it ends with an attempted murder of President Roosevelt and the last-minute save by members of the Russian (all apologies—SOVIET) guard, a very dramatic ending—but it hasn't finished yet.

The finale is so obvious that it simply leaves you cold. (That large empty space—Brrr—Brrr.) Suddenly stalking across the emptiness of the hall is seen a woman. She doesn't say, "I've been here before," but follows the action of Mrs. Ormund and Oliver Farewell (there I go again, always get excited at such soul-stirring scenes) Brr—Brrr, it is cold.

As a parting shot. Have you ever tried to go through a locked door? Believe me, it's easy done the Rank way.

The October Man

J. Arthur Rank presents—this time, an absorbing drama in the guise of a mystery. The mystery is grand and the suspense is held throughout the film. It could be said that the plot is obvious, but this can be overruled by the fact that the audience gripped their seats to the end.

The title, "October Man," is rather misleading. It is strange that the murdered girl (she was the "June" girl played by Kay Walshe) should find out that he is the "October Man," and this is the only reference to October. Why should this come into the plot at all? I rather suspect that Eric Ambler is interested in the study of astrology and the like, but it still leaves one in the air as to the reason for its inclusion. Thinking a little further into the plot we can come to the possible solution that October is destined to become lucky as the stars foretell.

The plot simply revolves around a nervous condition produced by a severe accident. The world appears aggressive (is it not so at any time?) and Mr. Ackland several times has the urge to commit suicide by jumping in front of a train.

The small details, one of which is the knotting of the handkerchief, helps to prove effectively that perhaps Mr. Ackland did commit the murder.

The facts leading to the finding of the real murderer were a little vague though good dramatically.

The acting of John Mills was good. He never slipped at all, and was most impressive. The facial expressions

Salient, August 18, 1948.

combined with the photography made it seem as though Mills was really going through the agonies of a man faced by insanity.

Eric Ambler has adapted well to the screen, and his theory is put over well, even though it may be a much-worn one.

Extrav Band Dance

Stomachs full of coffee and supper, and a few pounds towards the Building Fund Appeal were at least two results of this enjoyable "Function" on Friday night (August 6th), emceed by Johnny Waldegrave. But the success of the show was due in no small measure to the music supplied by the band itself, which has kept up some practices since the Extravaganza.

No one will claim that the band showed polish, but the dancers didn't mind the ragged edges and an occasional breakdown. On the other hand, many who came with an attitude of benevolent tolerance towards the band's efforts were no doubt surprised to hear some good playing—easy for listening as well as dancing.

Even when they got down to the level of such delightful ditties as "Jingle Bells," "Hey Jig-a-Jig" and "Banjo On My Knee," everyone in the band seemed to be having a good time.

When it came to playing in hot jazz style, the standard jazz tunes such as "Blue Skies" offered scope for some good solos. For rhythmical swing and improvisation the old "Twelve Bar Blues" proved the medium for some really exciting playing, with the drums doing all sorts of tricky rhythms and the saxophones working in well with the jumping trumpets. If the music did sound a little jammy at times we must remember that it was necessary to help them stick in the groove.

As to the personnel of the band, the staple diet was the rhythm section, of course, who played really well. Barbara Holm held the band together with her finished pianistics, assisted by Marie Le Comte.

There was no difficulty in hearing the brass section, Dick Steele blasted out some solid high-powered solos. At times Hugh Dixon stole the honours for playing straight clear melody a la Dizzy Gillespie; once or twice his vibrato became a bit sickly, but this defect was soon forgotten with his superb trumpet versions of "After You've Gone," and "Dark Eyes" (the latter displaying the pyrotechnics flying in "Anthropology" fashion!).

The saxophone section also made itself heard in the person of its nifty alto man, clad in a blue sloppy joe (Ken Hall), who blew hard, usually on the melody. The two tenor players, Frank Foster and Richard Rainey, were more subdued, but gave a good harmonic backing occasionally bursting forth into solos.

Apart from supplying dance music there were signs of musical talent in the Extrav. band. It would be a healthy sign of VUC encouraged the efforts of the performers, perhaps with some further practice a more ambitious venture could be staged—not only for dancing but for listening to the music. If the band get round to running a jazz concert they will be sure of some genuine interest and support from the college.

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SOCIALISTS — DEMOCRACY CHRISTIANS — LITERATI

With Scotney, with the SCM, with the Lit. Soc—the College's left wing has been busy since our last issue. These reports show that the Soc. Club is no less voluble than it was when Victoria was full of Rampant Reds.

And Never the Twain Shall Meet

Democracy means basically the same thing all over the world. It means the fullest possible participation by the people in their own government. The difference between Democracy in Eastern Europe and Democracy in the Great West is chiefly that in the latter it remains a matter of theory. This was the core of a most provocative talk delivered by Bonk Scotney (M.A., Dip. Ed.) to over thirty members of the Socialist Club on Tuesday evening, 27th July.

There could be no effective democracy where money and power are concentrated in a few hands, where the news of the world is constantly distorted to suit private interests, and a reign of more or less open terror suppresses minorities and those who would challenge this set-up. Yet this is the general picture in the United States today. Mr. Scotney quoted from Loomberg's book, "One Thousand Americans," and Seldes' "America's Sixty Families," dwelling especially on the close tie-up between financial, industrial and newspaper concerns—the former dominating all. Such widely distributed periodicals as the "Readers' Digest" and "Life" were, he claimed, notoriously unreliable and patently subservient to the interests by which they were indirectly run. He quoted a remark that Colonel McCormack of the tractors, and the "Chicago Tribune" which has control of a vast section of opinion was "the greatest mind of the 14th century."

With this, Mr. Scotney contrasted the vital democracy that is being built up in Bulgaria. Here were secret elections, universal suffrage (not a catholic feature in the U.S.) and all the other concomitants of "democracy." But they lacked the private cartels and banks which were such an essential part of the Western way of life. This absence at once made possible a far more vitally democratic government and a far freer community life. He illustrated his picture of Bulgaria by constant references to articles written by a British Labour M.P. who had recently been investigating conditions there.

Soap-box and Pulpit

On Thursday, 5th August, the SCM and the Socialist Club "got together" under the chairmanship of the Rev. Martin Sullivan to discuss Socialism and Religion. Harry Evison spoke on the theme that Socialism contained the core of Christian ethics, and quoted Marx to the effect that "only under Socialism can the principles of Christianity be realised." He felt sure that Socialists and Christians could reach a synthesis on a practical programme for the betterment of society. The Dean of Canterbury, Dr. Hewlett Johnson, was quoted as a serious student who had himself found such a synthesis. Improving the individual was a hopeless task without the improvement of the society.

Jim Battersby said he felt that while the material was important, too much emphasis should not be placed on it at the expense of the spiritual. This was, after all, the core of Christianity. But still, to avoid the accusation of being an "opiate," Christianity should take a lead in material matters, and here no better programme was offering than one of practical social improvements. Here was common ground for Christians and Socialists. But for the Socialist this material betterment might tend to be an end in itself: for a Christian this was but a means to a spiritual end.

Discussion was diffuse, Mr. Brown apparently thought it a heresy to put such importance on things practical. The teachings of Christ were, he said, but an accretion of Christianity. The core of Christianity was the mystical union of believers in the person of Christ Himself. This is not a line of argument advised to convince Socialists.

The common ground for co-operation was stressed by many speakers from both SCM and Soc. Club. This was the main theme of remarks made by Messrs. Miller, Robinson, Moore, McLeod and Piper. Christianity claimed to cover a wider ground than Socialism, but where the two claimed to cover the same ground, they should join hands.

The net result was, as Mr. McLeod said, and as Mr. Sullivan also said in summing up, "We should cease to distrust each other."

The Reds and the Literati

George Turner (M.A.), addressing a joint meeting of the Lit. Soc. and the Soc. Club on Tuesday, 11th August, was uncertain as to whether his aim should be "to convince the Literary Society that they needed some Socialism, or to beat some literature into the Socialists."

The materialist conception of history showed us that literature was like every aspect of history, ultimately determined by the socio-economic changes. Thus, although directly Socialist literature was still small in volume, nearly all current literature reflected the great political movements of our time. This gave the lie to the isolationist line of T. E. Hulme that the world of the mind was quite divorced from the world of life.

Mr. Turner referred to the pseudo-socialist intellectual poets of the 30's—Lewis, Spender, Auden and company. Not one of them was a Socialist's toe-nail; Socialism was then sufficiently remote for them to play round with it. Today its uncomfortable reality has exposed these "hollow men" by driving them openly into the camp of reaction.

A Socialist literature had to be in a language all the people could understand and appreciate. Many modern writers, he claimed, attempted to avoid the topic of man's social responsibilities.

Despite the small attendance, discussion was lively.

Everybody who is Anybody in the NZ way of life today was at one stage not too shook on bullets, and once lectured on the art of dodging them, even to the extent of wearing the broad arrow. These same democrats, while still evincing no particular interest in bullets, will soon pass laws to make someone else go down the road and collect a few.

Here's a film vilifying our ex-ally about to be shown throughout the country, recommended to all lovers of our way of life by the Hon. Semple. Here's a Houseful of politicians and the R.S.A. beating the drum for conscription. Here's a recruiting campaign, Operation Whitebait, to get us into khaki. Isn't there a UN Agreement, signed by New Zealand, by which all Governments agree to ban war-mongering?

Pleasant reading, that bit in the papers about "grim" pictures of the bullet-smashed face and head of the Chinese Communist leader Lau Yew, slain by police recently, being displayed on leaflets dropped by the RAF in Malaya as part of the Government's "psychological offensive." Offensive is the word all right. Makes you wonder if callous Communists really monopolise the technique of sadism.

NOW THEN!

By the Scribe

Of course, Communists cause all the trouble in Italy, same as elsewhere. Their leader, Togliatti, conspired to have himself shot at just so the workers could have a general strike next day.

You've seen pictures in the paper of 88-year-old taxi-driver J. Streek, the original for the sailor on Player's cigarette-packets, being presented with a food parcel. Here's a man who's been the means of advertising and selling this cigarette for years, yet what did he get for it? We don't know, but when we realise that at the ripe old age of 88 he has to drive a taxi to keep himself we draw our inferences.

The change from verbal to written questions in the radio Citizens' Forum was made because the submission of written questions enabled a more balanced presentation of opinion, according to the Minister of Broadcasting. Let there be no talk of censorship.

The Soviet won the world chess tournament; but you'll never convince some people that it wasn't done by white-anting and terror.

No good saying one thing and meaning another. Someone at the special screening of "The Iron Curtain" reckoned the film wasn't in line with facts. For this remark the Free Press (Evening Ghost) labelled him "obviously a Communist sympathiser." Next thing these boys will be saying freedom of speech is a great thing. So it is: Freedom of truth, not freedom of lies.

LEAD, KINDLY SOMERSET

The Student Christian Movement were the guests of the Catholic Students' Guild at St. Patrick's College for a very interesting and successful meeting on August 25th. The meeting was held to give members of both groups the opportunity of meeting the other and discussing common problems and matters of common interest. The guest speaker was Mr. H. D. Somerset, whose subject was "The Education of the Community."

Mr. Somerset immediately aroused the sympathy and interest of the audience with his reference to the answer of little boys to the hackneyed question—"What do you want to be when you grow up?" "I want to be alive." "The stark reality of that answer was a summary of the whole purpose of education. Education was life. If we want to have security and safety and a satisfactory world, we must get rid of ignorance," said Mr. Somerset. "It is significant that Christ should have pleaded for mankind because of the ignorance that overwhelmed them—Father forgive them for they know not—." He described the function of his work in Feilding Community Centre as an effort to fill in the gaps in education—to break down the ignorance that was at the root of our failure to do good all the time. "The ideals of life are so various," continued the speaker, "that it is difficult to define education, but perhaps the best definition is—the nurture of the Spirit." The progress of education in any society is complicated by the fact that education modifies the community and the community in turn modifies education.

Education is the widening of consciousness. We daren't have failures in living—there is no room for resignation and complacency. Unfortunately our education has never passed the stage of immaturity. A few of us can "enlarge our coasts" at university, but what of those whose schooling finishes at fifteen years? Any community is, in a sense, a crossroads on the lines of communication—economic, cultural, social. Society caters to our economic and social needs, to some extent, but it has failed to ensure that the more profound and important matters "get through." Community education, as has been carried out in Feilding, has enabled people to keep up with the growth and development in the world of ideas. Mr. Somerset stressed that university students must not reduce their standards when they go out into the world. "Give the people some idea of what is going on in the world of the spirit, and the arts and beauty."

The effect of Mr. Somerset's address was as much due to his personality and genuineness as to his subject-matter. In moving a vote of thanks, Mr. Battersby hoped that this success would encourage more such joint meetings.

We remark, in conclusion, that only a man of Mr. Somerset's personality could have drawn a hundred people from their firesides on such a night.

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PROBLEMS OF PEACE —AN ECONOMIC SOLUTION

A hungry population is a dangerous one, said the Minister of Finance, Mr. Nash, in his recent address to the Political Science Society, and the solution to the problem of peace is therefore economic rather than political. The engines of war have made an "awful mess" of Europe and in addition to the physical destruction the whole economic system has been disrupted. To illustrate his argument Mr. Nash proceeded to outline an economic tour of the world, "I have seen lots of other countries—at your expense," he said.

He began by quoting production figures ("I like figures") for the various countries of Europe. For Europe as a whole, production in 1945 was 59 per cent. lower than it was in 1937.

Mr. Nash then visited Asia. In China, he said, there are no statistics available, the population has never been counted, but we do know that there are about 500,000,000 people, of whom 300,000,000 have never had enough to eat, yet the Chinese government voted 80 per cent. of its budget for war and preparation for war. He repeated, "a hungry people is a dangerous people." Japan has about 40 per cent. more land than has NZ, but her population, at present between 74 and 78 million, is increasing at the rate of 900,000 a year. But for every 100 units of production in 1937, there were only 24 in 1947. There could be no solution to the problem of Asia until Japan was back in production.

In Java there was a similar decline in production and Mr. Nash quoted an Indonesian spokesman at Havana who stated that the comparative rates of pay for an Indonesian and a Dutchman engaged on equal work were 10 cents and 3 dollars respectively. Before leaving Asia, Mr. Nash said he questioned the morality or the ethics of any one group seeking to improve its living standards at the

expense of another group on a lower standard.

The speaker's tour now led, via the Middle East and the Balkans, to Europe. Here the major issue to be considered was, of course, the Marshall plan which, in his opinion, is a good thing in that it will aid in restoring production in the non-producing areas. It is also quite useful as a method of disposing of surplus production in the United States and preventing unemployment in that country.

Mr. Nash then visited the United Kingdom and he spoke of the tremendous contribution made by Great Britain during the recent war. Her internal debts amounted to £26,000,000,000 and her external debts were over £3,000,000,000. NZ's policy of selling goods to Britain at a price lower than she could obtain them elsewhere and buying from her at a price higher than would have to be paid to other sources was one small contribution to her plight.

There are in Europe over 1,000,000 unwanted people; countries such as New Zealand have a moral obligation to assimilate some of these people, but excuses are found to keep them out. As long as this attitude persists it is sheer hypocrisy to speak of World Government and World Co-operation, said Mr. Nash.

EXPECTED ARRIVALS

On Tuesday, 24th August, to Gilbert Johnstone, producer for the VUC Drama Club, a play "Though Storms May Break" . . . both well.

This is what we hope to see in the Christchurch papers following the Inter-varsity Drama Festival in conjunction with Winter Tournament. This year the Drama Club has had the good sense to enter a team in this fairly newly established competition.

However, in usual varsity fashion, though we find there are only six days left in which to rehearse, nothing daunted they are going ahead and we hope they will sweep the boards. We note that last year OU did not enter the competition as they only had three weeks in which to practice!

After that minor digression, we will get back to our own play. Blushing beneath that title there is of course that lively play of Mr. Harry Evison's (reviewed last week).

The cast is as follows: Hank (the student who would rather play Beethoven than (figuratively) take Quebec)—Paul Treadwell; Sue (his girlfriend for whom reality is more compelling than ideals)—Baska Goodman; 1st Revolutionary (another visionary)—Gilbert Johnstone. Other odd bods in the piece are Joan Mattingley, Ralph Unger, Bill Sheat, and Chris Pottinger.

Otago is entering a play by Eugene O'Neill, "Ile," while no advice has been received from AUC or CUC.

The stage is set, the cast is ready, and on Tuesday, 24th August, there will be produced in the Radiant Theatre, Christchurch, a healthy child of VUC imagination which will (we hope) outweigh anything so far seen at Winter Tournament.

JOYNT SCROLL

This year marks the beginning of a new era for Joynt Scroll. At the behest of an investigation committee this contest is no longer to be held at Winter Tournament. Instead, this year, it will take place on September 11th at Massey. VUC is taking the negative of a subject—as yet unspecified—against Lincoln. It will be recalled that last year Otago took the Scroll and it is to be hoped that this year Victoria will deprive them of it.

Ben O'Connor and Jim Milburn, who have been selected as our representatives, are already well known about the College—Jim at least has either his dictums or his face in most issues of "Salient."

Ben O'Connor is a winner of Plunket Medal, and was Vice-Chairman of the Debating Society in 1944. He won the Union Prize some years ago, and since then has used his debating and oratorical prowess at Special General Meetings. Ben's knack of being able to think ahead when speaking, has made him seem rather like his namesake, Abu, who, according to Leigh Hunt, found his name to be the first on the list.

Jim Milburn is a member of the present Exec. and was last year's winner of Plunket Muddle. He has

probably debated consistently this year, despite the fact that his breathing is often audible at the back of the Hall. The somewhat startling elevator-like tonal quality in his voice caused one judge to remark that Jim should do well advertising a fat lady at a circus. There can, however, be little doubt that he and Ben will constitute a strong threat to Otago's hope of retaining the Joynt Scroll for 1948.

Cross Country

Tournament

Although we cannot pretend to have a potential Olympic team, nevertheless the runners should not be as spread out as was the case last year, and all the team can be depended upon to do their very best.

Clem Hawke.—Needs no introduction. Is a favourite to win the NZU title, and will have had the valuable experience of a run over the course in the national competition.

John Holden.—Has run well all this season, without the irregularity of his performances last year. This will be his fourth NZU appearance, so he lacks no experience, and his recent deer stalking should stand him in good stead if heavy going is encountered.

Peter Whittle.—Almost jet propelled. Has recovered from his injuries at Masterton, and should have a good chance of filling one of the first six places.

John Mawson.—A dogged and determined but not outstanding runner. His favourite course is over hills and rough country.

Max Clift.—Impressed with his performance at Masterton, and with his long "Russian Boots" stride, should do well over flat country.

Paul Keesing.—Finished fourth in the B grade race at Masterton, and he too has the long stride suited to the flat.

Steve Osborne.—An energetic runner who deserves his place and at times produces some excellent performances.

Des Kelly.—Just recovering from an injury, but the rest has probably done him as much good as anything.

Shooting

This year Victoria is entering a team which on its present performances should have every chance of success at Tournament. The team includes the following:—

Hardwick-Smith, R.
Thompson, G.
Henderson, D. V.
Howarth, A. T.

Hardwick-Smith has been shooting exceptionally well and has an imposing number of possibles to his credit. Henderson holds the distinction of having shot the first double possible recorded in the club. Thompson is a shot of above average ability and experience, and may be relied on to give a good account of himself. Howarth although a little inconsistent so far should be capable of producing a good performance at Tournament.

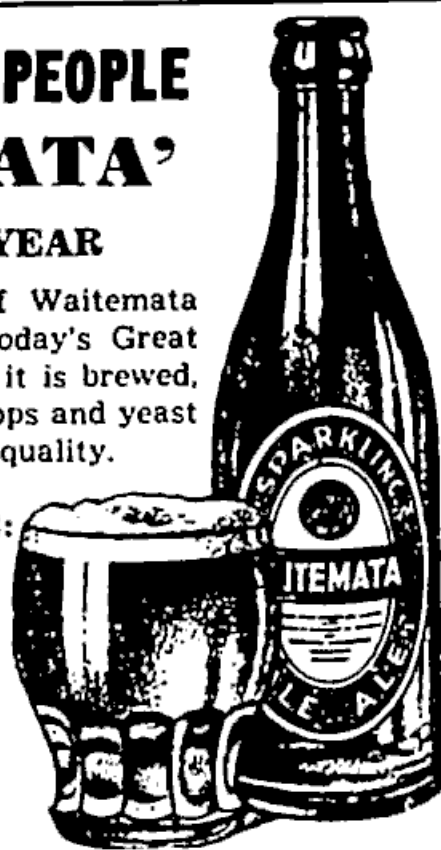
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WINTER TOURNAMENT LOOMS ON HORIZON

August 23rd will once again see the beginning of Winter Tournament. This year it is to be held in Christchurch, the place where beer-swilling students were sent down—for a period not exceeding one week. It is perhaps just as well for us that our sojourn will be a brief one. Others more fortunate have escaped with a mere ducking in the Avon. On the green grassy flats of the garden city many fierce (?) and surely friendly battles will be fought. The whole of the city from Sumner to Papanui will probably resound with the raucous screams of students fighting their way from pub to pub. The battling barmen will have the opportunity of adding to their score of scalps of young Varsity braves.

This year for the first time ski-ing will be an official Tournament sport. Again this is to be held in Queenstown, but although isolated from the "madding crowd" I feel sure the twenty-odd bods will manage to get that spirit which adds so much to every Tournament.

Best of luck to all Victoria entrants and although there is no Wooden Spoon, there is a Tournament Cup which would look very nice at the bottom of the stairs.

T. KEIHA, Sports Ed.

Ski-ing

The Tournament team this year is essentially weakened by the loss of Roy McKenzie, last year's slalom champ. However, with a more balanced men's team, and a full team of girls, we should not be too far behind Otago on points. The advantage of having a ski-ing ground within a reasonable distance of Dunedin gives our southern opponents a decided advantage, and if the Geology department would oblige with Mt. Ruapehu in place of Kime, we would be most indebted.

Tony Latham has had little practise this year, but did well to come fourth in the Ruapehu Ski Club's open champs. He has skied in the N.Z. champs and this experience should help him to turn in fast times.

Even Christie came seventh in the R.S. champs and has been away ski-ing most weekends since, so he should be at the top of his form for Tournament.

Malcolm Mace skied for VUC last year. He has had little practice this year but is considered quite an expert at breaking skis. Needless to say he will not be using club skis.

Michael Benge is last in the men's team. His ski-ing has improved immensely and lack of racing experience will not count for much against a person of good technique.

This year we have a full women's team of four, and although lack of experience is more marked here than in the men's team, there is no doubt that it will be overcome by the girls' keenness and dash. So it is with high hopes, but little else that Val Lockwood, Kath Goulding, Colleen Dent and Gay Nimmo leave for Queenstown.

Women's Hockey

With Tournament almost upon us the women's hockey team has been madly rushing round Kelburn Park for the last three weeks. Otago, who won the hockey last year, are reported to have an even stronger team this year and we feel that we can only beat them if they get winded before we do. Apart from Otago we stand as good a chance as any college of winning the Pember-Reeves Stick.

The team is as follows:

Jane Florance (goal) a reliable player from the Senior Reserve team.

Pat Sleeman (left back) has more speed than most backs, which she uses to advantage.

Margot Spiers (right back) one of the mainstays of the team who always produces her best.

Isla Ashton (left half) is a stickler who always rattles the opposition.

Paddy Summers (centre half) played for Training College last year. She ably fills this key position.

Jane Munro (right half) has a clean hard hit which makes many openings for the forwards. We have hopes of at least one goal from Jane.

Joe Francis (left wing)—a fresher who until a few weeks ago had never played left wing before, but is now having considerable success in this difficult position.

Betty James (left inner) combines well with the left wing and centre forward.

Blee Young (centre forward)—team captain—shows the best stickwork in the team and has been responsible for most of our goals this season.

Thora Marwick (right inner) very quick on her feet and can adequately fill any forward position.

Hilary Spencer (right wing). A 1947 Massey College and N.Z.U. representative. We are fortunate in having such a fast and accurate player who is expected to score many goals.

Emergencies—all from the Senior Reserve team.

Doris Thorogood (half) an energetic centre half who backs up the forwards well.

Helen Drummond (half) a promising fresher who will also be able to play full back if necessary.

Betty McDonald (forward) gave a good display against Massey earlier in the season.

Table Tennis

The team for this year's Tournament is perhaps not as good as last year's team, but this year we have a Wellington rep., Doris Johannesson, playing first in the women's representatives. She will be partnered by Valerie Jones, a very promising player, in the women's doubles, and by Brian Phillips in the mixed doubles. The men are not as good this year, the only player who has been to Tournament before being Brian Phillips, who is the rudest boy I have met since 1945. Tony Holland the second man is a fresher this year and has played consistently well. Incidentally, Tony won the Wellington Association F grade handicap tournament last year, and has improved considerably this year, through his experience in our B grade team.

Soccer

Last week the Seniors gave a very creditable performance by beating the hitherto unbeaten Tech. O.B. team by 5-3. The recovery of the team has been rather late and the Tech. O.B. team will now attain Senior A status. Congratulations to Sutton-Smith, Jack Walls, Ken Johnstone, John Stone and Mick Spiers for being selected to represent Wellington against Wanganui on August 14th. The exclusion of Colin Richardson, our star centre half, came as a surprise to all who have watched this clever exponent of the round-ball code in action.

Tournament Prospects

B. Sutton-Smith, goalie, Wellington Senior B rep. Has done well to be selected for the rep. side, in his first season as 'keeper. Rep. VUC and NZU 1946 and 47 as full back. NZU Blue 1946.

K. Johnstone, left back, a steady and versatile player. Wellington Senior B rep. NZU blues 1946-47.

K. Bliss, right back, possesses a strong boot and is magnificent on defence.

B. Reddy, right half, has represented VUC 1946-47 without glory or ignominy. Has been out of action lately due to an injury.

M. Spiers, centre or left half, best left kicker in the team. With a solid head. Wellington Senior B rep. VUC 46-47. NZU 46.

K. McLeod, left half, a splendid dribbler, and throws well. CUC rep. 46-47.

S. Spiers, a fast right wing with a forceful boot. Rep. VUC 47.

D. Bateup, a cunning inside forward, good on defence and attack.

E. Simmons, a goal getting centre forward with an accurate head and kick. Wellington Senior B rep. 47. VUC 46-47.

J. Walls, a stocky inside left, capable of making plenty of openings. Wellington Senior B rep. 47. VUC 46-47. NZU 46-47.

T. Edmond, a capable left winger. Rep. VUC 47.

Reserves

G. Robinson and R. Mahabir—both excellent dribblers and kickers.

Men's Basketball

It is not often that Victoria goes to a Tournament to defend a trophy—but it will be happening with basketball. Unbeaten last year VUC again hope to capture the W.T. Basketball Cup.

The team is practically the same excepting an addition in the defence line with Des. Deterte and Peter Tarrant and Fred Duckworth replacing Stan Murphy and L. Crewdson in the forwards.

Backs

Pat Anderson—vice captain—solid in close play, been off with broken hands for a few weeks—O.K. for Tournament.

Brian Beecroft—capt. Wellington A grade rep.—NZU blue—big advantage in height, sometimes erratic with long passes.

Des Deterte—played for CUC last year — Canterbury rep. — named

player of the week" a month ago) a very constructive player, occasionally dribbles too much.

Pip Piper—Wellington B grade rep.—reliable guard clears ball to forwards well, inclined to slow up game, often to advantage.

Forwards

Noel Hayman—coach—Wellington A grade rep.—NZU blue—brilliant on attack, reliable goal getter.

Masks On!

This year, for the fourth time in its existence, the VUC Swords Club will again send representatives to Winter Tournament.

Though both the men's and women's teams are very reliable, the men's team is not as strong as in past years, partly because only one of them has had any extensive Tournament experience. The others, however, have shown excellent form all the year; and in spite of the published vauntings of other College teams (see "Critic," etc.) they have a fairly reasonable expectation of repeating their successes at the '46 and '47 Winter Tournaments. The standard of the women's team is higher than that of last year's—twelve months' more training having worked wonders in giving them fighting experience, and in improving their style.

The teams are: MEN: Peter Hampton, Wyn Stevens, Fane Flaws, and Ian Bennett; WOMEN: Juliet Burrell and Alison Keys.

By the time this paper goes to press, team members and other club members will have been "blooded" in the provincial championships to be held in the weekend preceding Tournament. We wish them luck in both encounters, but principally in the Varsity Tournament (naturally). But succeed or fail, the teams will certainly do their best to justify their choice as College reps; and to prove that the time and energy they, and coach Mr. Dickson (to whom grateful thanks) have expended, is worthwhile.

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EXEC. CHECK ON WFDY PEDIGREE

Is WFDY a blind for Communist propaganda? Is it Communist dominated? Is its attitude partisan? "No," answered Mrs. Bailey. She hit back hard at the allegations with "The Federation is fighting for the common needs of youth—it is the only international organisation which is prepared to get what it needs for youth! Naturally it meets with opposition. In Algeria, in South Africa (Mrs. Bailey forgot God's Own Country) anyone who is progressive enough to ask for reforms is branded as a Communist. No wonder WFDY has red herrings trailed across its militant path.

Though Miss Lamburd, who attended the Prague Festival as a Young Conservative, failed to come up to her recent form in the "Dominion"; though the Exec. didn't decide one way or the other at the end, it was obvious that Mrs. Bailey's barrage of facts and corrections had her opponent down early in the fight. The match went to Mrs. Bailey on points.

WFDY came under fire from all angles at the Special Exec. meeting at which Mrs. Bailey and Miss Lamburd had been asked to attend. The Beyer Pedersen affair, the constitutional set-up, the attitude to conscription, its affiliated members—all these came into the light.

The constitutional question seemed fundamental. Mrs. Bailey explained this carefully in answer to Mr. O'Brien's question. Beyer Pedersen was suspended by the secretariat who had been appointed by the WFDY council, and their action was later ratified by that body. Under their authority to see that the Federation runs smoothly, the secretariat had suspended a secretary who, contrary to his pledges to further the unity of youth, had been advocating in Scandinavia, the formation of a separate federation. She stated that even before the Prague meetings, he had attempted to influence Anglo-Saxon delegates to work against the unity of WFDY. The organisations which he represented had also to be suspended.

SCM Attitude

Precisely why the British SCM had disaffiliated and its Penny Jones, a WFDY secretary, had resigned, didn't seem quite so obvious. The way to make an organisation work, remarked Mrs. Bailey politely, is hardly to resign, but to pitch in. Only active membership can justify criticism of WFDY organisation. To say, as the British SCM did, that WFDY can no longer be salvaged, is rather short-sighted. By a simple process of elimination, if everyone except the Left Wing gets out, WFDY will become a political organisation.

Such critics as Jones, Pedersen (no names mentioned!) should have made their remarks at meetings; to adopt the agenda wholeheartedly there, and then to criticise at home, seems rather a strange procedure. Communist-dominated? The majority of the Executive, as Mrs. Bailey pointed out, is English or American, there being one Russian member; the President is French. The aims of WFDY are to get equal pay for both sexes, free education, cultural and recreational facilities, the right to jobs, and to union organisation, for world youth. "We must judge WFDY on its actions, not what its critics call it." Its agenda is being put into action by its executive; opposition to these aims is to be expected in some countries.

Some Corrections

The fun was expected to begin when Mrs. Bailey answered Miss Lamburd's newspaper statements. Unfortunately, by the time she had disposed of these, corrected sundry mis-statements, misapprehensions and Miss Lamburd—all clinched home with such a bland smile—Miss Lamburd had little to say.

Mrs. Bailey corrected some of the impressions which Miss Lamburd had confided to the "Dominion"; that 90 per cent. of the British delegation were Communists (327 Communists and 250 Young Conservatives out of 1244), that Benes had viewed the final parade (Gottwald, as Benes was in Switzerland ill), that the "Iron Curtain" prevented entry to eastern European countries (many reconstruction brigades from western Europe are working there; 22 youth delegations of all political colours have



"Mrs. Bailey has told us what we knew only partly."

visited Russia; Americans are kept out of Yugoslavia, not by Tito but by the American Government.)

Miss Lamburd declined to say that WFDY was in fact, communist-dominated, though she did say that the Young Conservatives were treated with scorn by the other delegates, and failed to get an adequate hearing. She pointed out, however, that she was there unofficially, and couldn't know as much as official delegates. In answer to Mr. Milburn's grilling on WFDY policy, she could produce nothing to evidence Communist domination, though Mr. Milburn himself hammered home at the WFDY policy on conscription, which he thought might be partisan. The Exec. considered that WFDY should be asked to make a statement on this matter; Mr. C. Macleod read shaggy dog stories instead, to relieve the tedium of the discussion.

In answer to Miss McKenzie's question, Mrs. Bailey gave thumbnail sketches of the exec. personalities—M. Guy de Boisson, the President, Mrs. Hookman, Mr. Williams, Mr. Jones, Miss Daymond, secretaries. Though she had worked in WFDY's Paris Office, she hadn't met Mikhailov, the Russian member.

Conclusions?

The exec. wouldn't commit itself then and there. Certainly there didn't seem to be enough evidence to support any charges of WFDY being Communist-dominated, or a "blind for Communist propaganda" (as Miss Ilott thought). Its policy is being implemented by the executive, which is fighting actively for world youth; certainly everyone in Prague and Victoria, thought that the information service could be improved, but there didn't seem to be any other major criticism.

As Mr. O'Brien said (HARK!), "Mrs. Bailey has told us what we didn't know, corrected any misapprehensions we had, and filled in what we knew only partly."

STUDENTS AND TRAM FARES

The Stud Ass AGM had given the Executive a very definite line on the proposal of the City Council to increase tram fares. This line was, despite some cynical opposition, unequivocally ANTI. Accordingly, our Secretary, Harry Evison, with the invaluable assistance of some statistical experts, drew up submissions and evidence to lay before the Price Increasing Tribunal when the matter came up for their judgment.

Thus, on Tuesday, July 27, when Mr. W. E. Leicester, in best Plunket Medal style, was expounding the case for higher tram fares before the Tribunal (Mr. Justice Hunter, and Messrs. Holloway and Munro), our Secretary was present, awaiting his turn. First we heard Mr. Leicester, smooth and confident, reading frightening lists of figures. His witnesses, the manager, accountant and engineer of the tramways, were not so confident, especially under the cross-examination of the Price Control Division.

This body was represented by its Director, Mr. Wise, who gave their submissions next. These were for a slight increase in fares, but placing more of the burden of increased expenses on the large sums at present being deposited annually in Reserve and Accident funds. Mr. Leicester had argued that this was a most unwise policy, since he envisaged "a tremendous accident in the near future, in which some lives would be lost." (Not a very complimentary comment on the efficiency of the tramways). Mr. Wise's submissions, together with the statements of subsequent witnesses, suggested that some of the Council's long lists of figures, so skilfully presented, were most deceptive, and did not justify the comparatively large increases in fares applied for. Furthermore, it appears that the Council seeks the unprecedented course of making good capital expenditure out of the revenue from increased fares.

A ROUSING SPEAKER

Numerous bodies were represented in opposition to the increase: the Karori West and Miramar North Ratepayers' Associations, the School Committees' Association, the Trades Council, the Rongotai and Wellington College Parents' Associations, and the Communist Party, as well as the VUC Students' Association. Our spokesman was called first—towards 5 o'clock. The Judge was not one of the rising generation; the room was hot, and it was getting on in the day. He saved himself from the arms of Morpheus by suddenly enquiring: "Where are you getting all these figures from?" Mr. Evison pointed out that they were on the sheet he was reading, a duplicate of which was in his Honour's hand. His Honour was most apologetic for allowing his attention to wander.

The burden of the Stud Ass submissions was that the Cable Car was run at a large profit, and its pas-

sengers should not be victimised for any loss incurred on the rest of the tramway service. Students' living was hard enough as it was, without bumping up transport costs. Special reductions for students had been refused before, without any helpful explanation.

OPPOSITION STANDS FIRM

Cross-examined by Mr. Leicester, whose whole aim seemed to be to make him contradict himself, Mr. Evison stood to his ground and refused to be brow-beaten. Mr. Leicester treated all witnesses from the floor as potential rogues, liars and conspirators against social stability. As many as he cross-questioned, reacted very well, especially Mr. Evison.

Whatever the Tribunal decides, the Association and the general public of Wellington owes a hearty vote of thanks to Harry Evison and to the other witnesses, for the fight they put up against this further link in the chain of rising prices.

Rationalist Club

Freethinkers, Rationalists, Atheists and Agnostics, and in general, people dissatisfied with, or opposed to Religions, are invited to a meeting to be held in A.2. on Thursday, 19th August, at 8 o'clock.

This meeting is being called to attend to the formation of a Club, the framing of a constitution, the election of officers and other general business. THIS IS IMPORTANT—BE THERE!

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