THE SPIKE

... OR ...

Victoria College Review

OCTOBER, 1905.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
THE VICTORIA COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Wellington:
Johnson & Sons, Printers, Victoria Street.
1905
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"Yet hear a fellow student; 'tis as though
The blind should point you out the way to go."

—Horace.

The long expected consummation of our hopes is at last almost at hand. For seven years pioneer students have fondly hoped that before they left they would be able to point with pride to their college as one of the show spots of the city—but they have departed with the hope unrealised. During this time the work has been carried on—not without a fair amount of success—under disadvantages such as no other College labours under. Perhaps because of this there has existed a feeling between the Professorial staff and the students which has done much to lighten the tasks of both. The pioneer students too deserve the thanks of the present generation for the fact that a College spirit was fostered and has been growing stronger from year to year. This is no small achievement when one considers that here there are no traditions and
in a sense nothing round which such feelings can gather. Yet in spite of this, and the fact that the College from its separation under various roofs seemed rather a fortuitous assemblage of individuals than an organised society, that spirit has not been absent which in the past induced students to sacrifice time and inclination for the general good. It cannot be supposed that the present race of students is less willing to work for the good of the College than students in the past have been and the cooperation of everyone is required if the social side of the College is to be what it undoubtedly ought to be—an important factor in University life. There is a danger that the few who are willing to take on the duties of office should be left to manage everything and that the body of students become mere spectators.

When speaking at the debate for the medal for oratory, Lord Plunket took occasion to remark that one reason for giving the medal to Victoria College was that owing to the close proximity of Parliament and of the Law Courts it was extremely probable that some at least of the speakers would turn their attention to politics and in their case early training in public speaking was particularly desirable. There is no doubt that owing to this and to the fact that at Victoria College will be the Law School of the Colony, students of law from all parts will in time look to V.C. as the Mecca to which they must direct their steps. It is for this reason that it seems a pity the College Council have limited the benefits of the Jacob Joseph Scholarship to those who have been connected with the College during the whole period of their degree course. As the scholarship is limited to those who pass the LL.M. with honours within six years from the time they matriculate this means that those only will be eligible who can come to Wellington and live here for the whole time. A Dunedin student who was thinking of taking up law would not wish to come here for the first two years, as law does not come in the course at all and lectures on jurisprudence are given at the other Colleges. It would appear that a wider selection would be given if the scholarship were open to those who took the law portion of their degree here. The same remarks may not apply with equal force in the case of those students who take the science degree as they would probably come at the outset to the College which specializes in their particular line of study. But in any case the policy of giving prizes exclusively for our own students does not seem calculated to foster a University feeling and to remove even a
suspicion of provincial rivalry so noticeable in other spheres.

It is to be hoped that the Students' Association will take into consideration the question of improving the Students' Carnival before the next one becomes due. There are several reforms which might be instituted with the object of providing for its better management. At the last concert the want of a stage manager or general overseer was painfully obvious. The parts of the entertainment seemed to have been arranged without any regard for the exigencies of time and though the waits were long the programme had to be cut short. The Spike would suggest that a committee be appointed at the General Meeting or as soon after as is convenient, and that the committee be given power to arrange the programme and call for the Capping Songs some time before they are actually required. It is not absolutely necessary that this should be left to the last possible moment. The committee should recognise that students require at least two months before they can nerve themselves to write. The Spike feels certain of this because even with a month's notice only one Club secretary sent in his report in time. The committee might also be empowered to use the scissors—freely—in the case of performers whose speeches appear to be meant to rival a College Councillor's in length.

It might also consider the advisability of settling the lines on which future entertainments should be run. The other Colleges have more or less settled lines on which they proceed from year to year. A play written by one of our students (there are those in the college quite capable of writing out a comédietta dealing with a question of the day) would, we feel sure, prove a welcome novelty.
FACETIÆ.

(Echoes from School and College Days.)

By an Old Fogey.

WHEN the present writer was a school-boy some thirty—
not forty—years ago, he was frequently called upon by
illiterate domestic servants and others to act as
amauensis and literary-coach for them in love and other
affairs. On one occasion, when in the ex-sixth standard (and
after spending a year at Bryce’s First Latin Book) an oppor-
tunity of seeing, if not his name, at any rate his “hand,” in
print, offered. A small farmer in the neighbourhood got fined
for “keeping a dog without a license.” He, presumably by
arrangement with an accommodating pressman, contrived to get
a neighbour’s name substituted for his own in the press account
of the police-court proceedings. This neighbour, though all
but illiterate, soon got to hear that his name was figuring in
the public prints in connection with the non-payment of his
“dog-tax.” He called upon the present writer and asked him
to personate him to the extent of writing in his name to the
editor of the paper (published some twenty miles away) drawing
his attention to the mistake. The following paragraph was
forwarded and duly appeared:—

“Erratum.—Sir,—I beg to draw your attention to the fact
that a nominal error occurred in your last issue. In your report
of the court proceedings in connection with the non-payment of
dog-tax, the name P— R— should have been P— K—. I am,
yours, etc., P— R—.”

Truly a little Latin is a dangerous thing.

Some ten years later, when an undergraduate, I was
spending my long University vacation in a Highland county.
The head master of the public school, near my place of sojourn,
was suddenly taken ill from influenza, and I was called upon to
act as locum tenens, or “local demon,” as some of them would
have it. One morning a “new pupil” made his appearance,
along with older brothers and sisters, who had been at school
for some time. I asked the oldest member of the family to
bring me a note from his father next morning, with the date of the "new pupil's" birth, etc. On the following morning the necessary information was furnished thus:—"Dear Sir,—At your request John was born at 5 o'clock in the morning on the 6th of June, five years ago."

About the same time a teacher in the same county received the following communication from a parent, who had evidently formed a high opinion of his resources as a teacher:—"Dear Sire,—As you ar a man ef nolegs I wish to inter my sun in your skull."

On one occasion when I was standing near the door of the large examination hall of my university waiting for an examinee friend, freshmen were filing out from their preliminary examination, and though strangers to one another, were making anxious inquiries among their fellow examinees as to how they "got on." A lad of twenty or thereby, who from his woe-begone look, could not have acquitted himself very brilliantly, sidled up to a jovial-looking young man of thirty, whom he took for a fellow-examinee, but who was really the Professor of Mathematics, and addressed him: "How did you get on? You seem to have done well?" "Oh!" was the reply, "I have got done with examinations some time ago." "Lucky dog you!" said the examinee, and passed on.

The seats in the college class-rooms were arranged in tiers. A student in one of the back or higher benches in the mathematical class-room was playing the fool. "Mr. B,—" said the professor, "will you kindly come down to the end of the front bench? I ask you to do so, firstly, because you will be near the board; secondly, because you will be near me; and, thirdly, because you will be near the door."

A student at the end of one of the back benches in the English class-room let his hat fall (on the steps leading up to the benches); it rolled down with a "bobbing" noise until it landed at the Professor's platform. The Professor paused, and looking with a twinkle in his eye at the owner of the hat, remarked: "I am glad, Mr. Blank, to see that something is making progress in this class."

On another occasion—on what was called Essay Day, when students were called upon to read passages from their own essays (previously read and marked by the professor)—a student was called upon to read a marked passage in his essay. The essay was a long one. The professor let the student read for
some ten minutes. The essay was good, and the essayist was frequently applauded by the class. "Thank you, Mr. F.," said the Professor, "that will do. Gentlemen, I will venture no comments. It is rather a delicate matter to criticise a production of my own!" Mr. F., the son of a wealthy ex-New Zealand squatter, had taken his "material" almost verbatim et literatim from an old unsigned magazine article of the Professor’s own!

I was present on one occasion at a "University Liberal Dinner," given under the auspices of the University Liberal Association. This was before the days of Home Rule and the Liberal schism, which gave birth to Unionism. Several distinguished statesmen were present. The Principal of the University was in the chair, and some fifteen Professors of the University attended. At eleven o’clock, after the authorised programme was exhausted, the Principal and the older members of the company withdrew. One of the younger professors was called to the chair, and a free and easy variety entertainment was carried on into the small hours of the morning. In the course of these horae ambrosianae there were persistent cries for a speech from a young professor, who had spoken rather effectively earlier in the night, but who, it was evident, had thrown off all academic restraint and had left some good things unsaid. He was the rising hope of the University Radicals. He rose in response to frequent "calls." "Suggest a subject," he hic-coughed. "Conservative Principles," shouted a student. Then all took up the cry—"Conservative Principles." "Gentlemen," he began, "Conservative principles are principles be— be—" At this point the chairman intervened with: "Gentlemen, I must call my colleague to order. In fact, I must see him home." Immediately came a chorus of student voices: "Vice versa, vice versa!" Exeunt omnes.

On one occasion a fellow-student and intimate friend had fallen in love with a beautiful Jewess, whose Christian (?) name was Henrietta. He was prompted into verse by her many charms, though it was at this point a case of distance lending enchantment to the "inspiration," for he had not got introduced to her. He had but one objection to her—the fact that her name was so unmanipulable in verse or rhyme. His own name was, we shall say, John A. Want. One evening he was bewailing the unwieldiness of the lady’s name to a young but accomplished poet of our mutual acquaintance (whose poetic "remains" have been since edited by Mr. Andrew Lang). "I think I will be able to help you," said our mutual friend, and "rattled off" the following:—
"Woe is me for John A. Want,
John A. Want and Henrietta;
Hear him rave and hear him rant,
And wish to G—d he'd nev'r met her."

Mr. Want was under considerable physiological handicap in prosecuting love-affairs. When a boy he had his nose, which must have stood out, from the first, in bold relief from the back-ground of his facial anatomy, badly injured by running it against a tree while playing blind-man's buff in Regent's Park. The nose was sent considerably off the plumb, and the doctor who was called in to re-adjust it had bungled matters rather sadly. In fact, it became a leaning tower and positive disfigurement. It made him very sensitive and self-conscious in company, and he winced perceptibly whenever the word "nose" happened to be introduced, inadvertently or otherwise. He had, however, practised (presumably with the help of a large mirror) a good profile pose or posture, which minimised the nasal elevation and deviation. When invited to any function, he was always early, and contrived to secure a seat where he could make the least of his "thwart disnatured torment" and the most of the "profile" already referred to. To me, his intimate friend, he was perpetually harping on his nasal handicap, and the "dead certainty" (as he felt) that it would set things all awry (as much aye as itself) in the matrimonial market! I used to reassure him by saying that it was not so very noticeable. He would silence me, however, with something of this sort: "Oh, nonsense! the other day I heard a caddie boy at a street corner shouting to his chum: 'Tommy, Tommy, come here and see this nose coming round the corner.'" On his way to Oxford from Scotland on one occasion, the Jewess (for whom, if she would not jib at his nose, he was prepared to forego his religion, and a good deal more beside) was a passenger by the same express as far as Edinburgh. Here he kept her closely "under eye." She alighted from the train to be received into the arms of a tall, handsome and distinguished-looking young gentleman, in such an effusive fashion that it almost gave Mr. Want locomotor ataxia. He succeeded, however, in making his way to Oxford. After the usual fever-crisis he bethought him of "fresh woods and pastures new," but, before hazarding any further experiments, he determined to visit a London specialist to see if anything could be done to derrick the nose on to its original pedestal. The specialist was confident he could restore the "unruly member" to its quondam site, and remove almost every trace of disfigurement. An operation was submitted to, but unfortunately almost cost my friend his life. All his friends were summoned to London. He recovered, I am
happy to say, but had to spend many weary months in bed in a private hospital in London. The nose, I regret to say, was decidedly the worse for the attempt to lever it into position. He is now a distinguished vicar, and I should not be surprised if his poetry and theology would one day secure him a bishopric. He is still, I understand, in the enjoyment of single blessedness. All I can say of my dear old friend is—

There did go a Christian by,
Would be worth a Jewess’ eye.

Now that his Teufelsdröckhian fever-crisis is over, I doubt very much if even the wholesomely-attempering “speechless messages” of a fair Jewess’ eyes could do anything more than prompt him to write a Petrarchan sonnet to her eyebrows.
The Decadence of Rugby.

"Les règles du jeu de rugby sont assez complexes et, pour les appliquer dans l'ardeur de la bataille, il faut les posséder à fond et faire preuve de beaucoup de sang froid."

—Le Chasseur Français.

There can be little doubt that the public mind is seriously exercised at the present time as to whether Rugby Football—Rugby as she is played—has, after all, that clean and wholesome influence on the life of the people of our country which its proud position as the "national" game gives us the right to expect. Some, indeed, have arrived at the conclusion that Rugby is a game which lends itself entirely to the satisfaction of the more brutal instincts of mankind; that the players are "roughs" who are ever ready to take advantage of their opportunities; and that the "barrackers" are removed only in dress and language from the crowd which thronged the amphitheatre on a Roman holiday. Such conclusions are not likely to commend themselves to us as fair and just, but I am led to pen these lines because I believe that they contain an element of truth and because I believe that unless the truth is promptly recognised by the players themselves there is a grave danger that one of the best of all winter games, New Zealand's national game, will lose its hold upon those whose support alone makes the game worth playing. For there are circumstances in which the best of games may lose its worth and find the wages of sin in death. If football, were to a great extent, in the hands of men to whom victory was dearer than fair-play—if it did excite the baser impulses of the mob at the expense of its finer feelings—the case for its extermination would be complete.

That Rugby is a game which lends itself to the man who is willing to scheme for a mean advantage need not be disputed. It is of the essence of Rugby rules that a player may tackle and throw an adversary who has the ball, and the referee has about as much chance with the man who exceeds the limits of necessary violence as a policeman has with a motorcar. But that is only the other side of the fact that Rugby football gives to the clean and generous player an opportunity for self-control and self-restraint; gives an opportunity for displaying those qualities which—without any ostensible display of generosity—give men
the joy they feel when they are playing with those who would
scorn to take a mean advantage, who play the game because
they love it, because it is healthy, vigorous, and full of “that
stern joy which warriors feel in foeman worthy of their steel.”
This is the true spirit of Rugby—the spirit which makes a
school or college match a dream beside the nightmare of some
of our cup fixtures.

With a game which has its possibilities both for good and
evil, the quality of the game must necessarily depend upon the
character of the players. I do not intend to pile up evidence
to show that the class of men who play now is lower than it
was ten years ago. I am not in a position to make a clear and
satisfactory comparison, though it would seem a fair inference
that other games such as hockey, which have developed strongly
of late years, have deprived Rugby of many players of the
desirable stamp. But the fact that every Rugby union in the
colony has been out on a crusade against “foul” play and
“rough” play tells plainly enough that there is ground for
alarm. A few weeks ago a mass meeting was held in the
Garrison Hall at Dunedin which was described in the editorial
columns of the Christchurch “Press” as “in some respects one
of the most remarkable that has ever taken place in the colony.”
Among the speakers were an ex-president of the Otago Rugby
Union and a vice-president of the Otago Football Association.
The object of the gathering was to appeal in the name of moral
and physical health for the suppression of “anything, such as
gambling, foul play, drinking, that tended to lower and degrade
manly sport.” Thus there is a double crusade inside and out-
side of the Rugby Unions and the fact that such crusades are
necessary is doing much to injure the game in the eyes of the
public.

This agitation, however, may be founded on the actions of
a few men whose actions give a bad name to the game they
disgrace. This is, I believe, the case. But it must be remem-
bered that one or two men can so act that by half-time both
sides are playing with clenched teeth and a reckless disregard
of the weather. One gross piece of brutality or unfairness un-
seen by the referee and condoned by the offending side will
often lend its tone to the whole game. Not that a clean side
will pay back in kind the blows it receives, but the game ceases
to be friendly and mutual distrust and suspicion replace the
confidence which true sport should engender, and everything
that makes the game worth playing, except the endurance and
the skill, is swept away. I should like to know how many men
who have played Senior Cup football in Wellington this year
have gained real wholesome pleasure from one half of the matches. If there are any such I should be inclined to deny their claim to the possession of finer instincts. Is it possible to endure the grumbling which occurs when the referee makes a mistake, the bickering which follows a piece of play the other side does not understand, the talking of the other side, and, bitterest of all, the talking of your own side, and still to labour under the delusion that you are enjoying yourself.

The talk, however, is but one of the expressions of an unhealthy spirit. Even in representative football one sees such a thing as a player deliberately playing the man before he has touched the ball. In the Auckland-Wellington match this year on several occasions I distinctly saw a man on the line-out pushed when he was about to jump for the ball. When the ball is being placed, as from a mark, it is a common thing to see men endeavouring to improve on the position law and good faith have assigned to them. Tripping and other branches of the obstruction game are more apt to be done on the spur of the moment but it is hard to make excuses for the man who screws your neck in the obscurity of a rough-and-tumble.

My contention is, then, that there is in Rugby a class of play which should be exterminated as lacking that so essential sanctum. How is this extermination to be brought about? That is the question which has been often discussed and on which, perhaps, little new light can be thrown. But the question is destined to be discussed many times again before Rugby is regenerated or extinct. My first conviction on the subject is that the “wing-forward” game should be abolished. A good deal of the ill-feeling which characterises some football matches, begins, I believe on the wings. Wing-forwards do not in my opinion add anything to the game as a game, and they give an opportunity for “scrapping” and “pointing” which is almost inevitable in what is at best licensed obstruction.

My next suggestion is based on the conviction that most of the rough and foul play is due to a few men, and that the other members of the teams for which they play could tell, before going on the field, which men would do the mischief on the smallest provocation; which men would play in that reckless spirit which defies skill and merely damages the other side. Now if it is true that these men are few and well known to their own side, is it not fair and reasonable to penalize the side which takes advantage of such doubtful service? There is no need here to detail a scheme, but it seems to me that if, when a man was
warned or turned off the field his side were compelled to lose a fraction of a Championship point, there would be a moral force on the side of reform which might work wonders. It might be urged that if such a scheme were in force the team which won the most matches might not take the Championship. That is just what is wanted. We think too much of Championship points and too little of the game, forgetting that the ultimate and true judgment on football will rest, not upon matches won, but upon manhood achieved. A foul player may escape the referee for a long time and his side may owe much spurious success to his efforts—but the team, if it is fit to play the game at all, should hold itself disgraced by the inclusion of such a man. A true sportsman ever feels the bitterest thrust, not in the foul play of his opponent’s side, but in the foul play of his own.

The question of giving touch-judges the power of reporting rough play to the referee has been much discussed. Considering the fact that both players and public demand a cleaner game and that the cunning of the culprits is most often able to elude the referee, I am inclined to believe that power ought to be given to the touch-judges to report cases in which one player actually strikes or kicks another. Such cases are not frequent, but when they occur they are a public scandal. The touch-judge would not be required to exercise much judgment, but merely to state a straight-out question of fact. The real difficulty in cases of this description is that they often take place when the ball has gone far away and the referee, who is following the ball, has no chance of detecting them.

There is one more suggestion I might make. ’Tis a day of trophies, souvenirs, pots, or whatever they may be called, and they are mostly too expensive. But if there is one branch of sport which has never been encouraged in this manner it is “clean Rugby.” Personally, I would rather have a badge for playing in the team which played most good-naturedly and talked least than for playing in the champion team. There might be much competition for the “booby” if such a prize were offered, but it would perhaps serve the purpose of proclaiming to players and public that the Rugby Union was doing something more practical than talking. It is of course easy to make suggestions and difficult to put suggestions into practical shape. It is easy to overlook the fact that a man cannot be turned into a sportsman by Rugby Union rules. But something may conceivably be done to suppress “Hooliganism,” and if each team could be made to feel its true responsibility for using vicious and reckless men a step forward would be made.
Rough play might be stopped at the outset. Above all, if the teams were to set out with the conviction that the player who played the man instead of the ball, who would take an unfair advantage, was not only an enemy of the opposing but also of his own side, Rugby would still give the old delight, would still be the joy of the "superannuated."

Unless Rugby can be made pleasurable it must decline, its recruits will drop off and hockey, tennis, or association will reap the benefit. For Rugby demands some compensations. It requires the most rigorous training, it demands every energy, and training and energy can be turned to better account elsewhere than in a game which has lost its gamesomeness. The love of championship points may supply impetus enough for some spirits, but they are the bold spirits who want suppressing to almost any extent. Their motto is "win, honestly if you can—only win." It is interesting to know that years ago there was a great fight for the abolition of championship matches owing to their bad influence on the game. While we recognise them as a necessary evil, their evil quality should be borne in mind, and if possible, counteracted.

I have no time to deal with the drinking and gambling which is said to accompany football. If this drinking does follow a match the wholesomeness of the sport is, of course, utterly wasted on the men. To the extent that the gambling goes on the sport is polluted. It may certainly be said that a governing body which allows its programmes to be adorned with advertisements of "Turf Accountants" is not a credit either to sport or society. We have seen the effect of this pollution in other games and every true friend of Rugby will to the extent of his power, endeavour to save the good old game from these too extraneous stains.

I suggested at the beginning that football is sometimes judged by its friends. In truth no game had ever more reason to pray for deliverance from its friends than football in Wellington. I heard an old representative player declare, after witnessing the Auckland-Wellington match this year, that he had seen his last football match. If the game, he said, had that effect upon the crowd, the less it was encouraged the better. And indeed the Wellington crowd—or rather, sections of it—gave an exhibition of ungenerous and unfair and inhospitable partiality which was utterly distressing. Some men were so carried away by their discreditable bias that they hooted an Auckland player when he was able to take the field after an accident. What football wants is not the hoodlum who smokes
cigarettes on the bank and howls down the side he does not happen to support, but the man who has the spirit of sportsmanship, who believes in its highest traditions, and can see the merit of an opponent’s play.

But I have rambled on too long. The game which is played so cleanly and well at our public schools is not destined to extinction though it may have to face troublous times. “There be some sports are painful,” said Ferdinand “and their labour delight in them sets off.” It takes a great game to support the pain and labour of football, and the nation and the race are fortunate that they are not yet reduced entirely to parlour games. Memory is apt to linger on the trials and labours which are past, and among these none are dearer to the veteran than the hard-fought battles of the Rugby field. No struggles are harder or more dear than those fought for school and college. No memories are brighter than those which surround the fields on which we strove for an honour which was not our own. That honour can only remain untarnished and bright by each man striving to maintain the highest traditions of the game. Let our College Club then be one which shall in the future be respected, if not because it is strong yet because it is plucky, clean, and staunch to the referee.
"Mark
How he outruns the wind, and with what care
He cranks and crosses, with a thousand doubles:
The many musets through which he goes,
Are like a labyrinth to amaze his foes."
—Shakespeare.

Now that the season has been brought to a close we can, with a certain amount of satisfaction, look back on our new venture in senior ranks. Those who said we were not ready for the step, and advised delay, are now, we hope, convinced that our position has been justified. Although we have not shone, yet we are not the last on the list, and have succeeded in winning two of our matches. The second team has had a much greater measure of success, winning a majority of its matches. If members during the vacation will do their best towards increasing our membership, we will be placed in a still better position to begin the next year.

Two of our players were picked in representative teams, Mr Hunter against Wairarapa and de la Mare against Horowhenua, but neither was able to play on account of the match with Otago University.

It has long been a matter of wonder to members that de la Mare’s financial resources do not appear to be strained by liberal subsidies to the reporters.

A match was played against Otago University when they passed through on their way to Sydney. The ground was very
soft and with a cross wind prevented a good exhibition. The combination of the visitors was much too strong for us, and their backs frequently indulged in attractive passing rushes from one of which, early in the first spell, Cameron scored. Good line kicking brought the play quickly into home territory and some more passing resulted in Macpherson scoring behind the posts. A. Thompson converted. Victoria College then attacked but off-side play and forward passes lost a good chance of scoring. In the second spell the Southerners continued to threaten with passing rushes and from an opening made by Lomas, Adams scored, Thompson again converting. The game ended, Otago University 13, Victoria College 0.

The first match against Canterbury College was played in Christchurch on August 5th. In the beginning of the game Canterbury had the advantage and Moyes broke away and scored a good try. In the second spell Victoria College did more attacking, and Cooper crossed the line. Canterbury rallied and started a swift passing rush from which Acheson registered a try. Victoria College was improving and now attacked strongly. Shortly before the whistle blew de la Mare took a good pass from King and scored. Cooper converted making the points 8 to 6 in our favour.

In the evening Canterbury College entertained us at a very enjoyable dinner which quickly dispelled all thought of the delights of the return journey.

Nelson College, while on their way to Christchurch, played a hurriedly-arranged match against our second team. The combination of their backs was very good and some very pretty passing rushes were indulged in. Our forwards, though showing lack of condition, still played vigorously. Nelson scored 26 points while for us Heenan kicked his usual penalty goal.

The following is a synopsis of Championship results:

Senior.—Matches played, 9: won, 2; lost, 6; drawn, 1.
Points for, 30; against, 109.

Third Class.—Matches played, 10: won, 5; lost, 4; drawn, 1.
Points for, 54; against, 70.
The following are the results of the matches, continued from last issue:

FIRST TEAM.

(Captain—T. A. HUNTER.)

V.C. v. Melrose.  Lost, 3—13. This was a particularly willing match in which two of our opponents were put off for rough play, and we "squeaked" too much. Seddon scored from a passing rush.

V.C. v. Old Boys.  Lost, 0—10. This was one of our hardest fights although the Old Boys did not appear in their best form.

V.C. v. Poneke.  Won, 9—5. Our first victory. Mr Hunter scored from some tricky work on the line out. Cooper broke away well and sent the ball on to King who crossed the line, and from the blind side of the scrum Goulding scored our third try. Wilson proved a splendid addition to the forwards.

V.C. v. Wellington.  Won, 3—0. Played on a very hard ground with a strong wind blowing which militated against good football. Bogle scored from a pass by de la Mare.

SECOND TEAM.

(Captain—B. W. MILLIER.)


V.C. v. Athletic.  Lost, 9—4. As the team had not played together for more than a month lack of training was evident. Heenan kicked a goal from a mark.

V.C. v. Selwyn.  Lost, 9—3. Opposing forwards were too strong. Heenan kicked a penalty goal.

V.C. v. Wellington.  Drawn—no score. Millier crossed the line but unfortunately crossed the dead ball line also.
THE Society may congratulate itself on having this year a most successful season. Not only has the style of speaking improved, but new speakers have come forward to fill the gaps caused by the defection of some of the older members.

The Union Prize has no doubt caused a keener competition than would otherwise have been the case, and the Debates with other societies, organised by the Union Parliament, have also been productive of greater interest, both in and outside the College.

The Society took part in the debating contest arranged and controlled by the executive of the Union Parliament. In the first round, our representatives, Fitzgibbon, Kelly and Brailsford, were successful against the representatives of the Vivian Street Baptist Society. The question for discussion was the tendencies of trusts as affecting the welfare of the human race.

Our men were drawn to uphold the trust system. The debate was judged by Mr. McNab, M.H.R.

In the second round, our representatives, who were drawn to meet the Y.M.C.A. representatives, and had to speak against the alliance of Britain and Japan as affecting the interests of civilisation, were less fortunate. The debate was judged by the mayor, Hon. T. W. Hislop. Our society on this occasion was represented by Richmond, Bogle and Dixon.

The subject chosen for debate in the first round was hardly a fair one, conferring as it did, a decided advantage on one side. The subject in the second round was, however, much more suitable.
One of the most successful debates held this year was that on the perennially fresh question "Home Rule." This was the first debate counting in the competition for the Union Prize and on this occasion Mr. A. R. Atkinson acted as judge.

E. J. Fitzgibbon spoke on behalf of the distressed country; and evidently spoke from conviction; he was opposed by C. H. Taylor, who directed some ingenious arguments against the position upheld by the mover. F. P. Kelly and R. Mason supported the mover and seconded respectively. Miss F. Smith said she wished to enlighten the poor students who grope in darkness, and proceeded to endorse the remarks of the mover to whom she felt like a brother. By the unanimous consent of the audience, she was granted an extension of time. The motion was also supported by J. S. Thompson, C. Collins, and W. Perry, and opposed by J. Brailsford and J. Hogben. On being but to the meeting, the desirability of granting Home Rule was approved by a large majority. The judge delivered his award at a subsequent meeting, placing the first five speakers in the following order: E. J. Fitzgibbon, Miss F. Smith, C. B. Collins, F. P. Kelly and J. S. Thompson. The attendance was about one hundred and twenty—a record for an ordinary meeting. Though some of the "Irish party" came armed with clubs, no breach of the peace was recorded.

During the short vacation, the meetings went on as usual. At the first meeting, F. A. de la Mare, G. Bogle, R. Mason and C. H. Taylor were elected to represent the Society in the debate with the Socialist Party. On the motion of V. B. Willis, the meeting adjourned for three minutes to celebrate the victory of the Hockey Junior Eleven against the redoubtable United’s. The Chairman led in a haka, which in some degree, relieved the feelings of the audience. The Society’s Journal was then read.

The Editor and G. F. Dixon read contributions on various subjects. One writer advocated that our Women Graduates should find spheres of usefulness at present neglected, such as domestic service. A number of members took part in the discussion that followed, and the Editor replied to some of the criticisms. The proceedings were varied by such interludes as the attempt of V. B. Willis and S. Eichelbaum to sing a duet.

At the next meeting, on May 12th, the Chairman read a letter from Mr. Waterfield, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, intimating that His Excellency desired to award and make provision for the endowment of a medal for Oratory. It was suggested that the medal be called the Plunket Medal,
and reference was made to a similar prize established at Trinity College, Dublin, in memory of the first Lord Plunket, Irish publicist and orator. The hope was expressed that such a medal might prove a link binding the various universities of the Empire. This offer, expressed in terms so flattering to the society, evoked enthusiastic applause. The business of the evening, a debating contest with the Socialist Party, was then proceeded with. Mr. Griffiths, for the Socialists, moved, "That man's incentive to industry, will be greater under Socialism than under the present system of Capitalism." He was supported by Messrs Eagle, Wolstenholme and Lang. The motion was opposed by F. A. de la Mare, G. V. Bogle, C. H. Taylor and R. Mason. The judges, Dr. Chapple, nominated by the Socialist Party, and Mr. A. R. Atkinson, nominated by this Society, decided in favour of the College. They stated the decision was chiefly due to the greater relevency of the College arguments and to their combined treatment of the subject; the representatives of the other side were inclined to argue on the broad ground of Socialism, instead of confining themselves to the particular aspect involved in the motion. The speeches of Mr. Lang, who acted as a substitute and spoke entirely without notes, and of G. V. Bogle, were singled out for special commendation.

The weather was very unfavourable on the night on which the President, Mr. M. W. Richmond, was to give his address, and as a consequence only about fifty members were present. It was a pity the attendance was not larger, as those who did attend could not but be profoundly interested in the important matters shown by the speaker to be underlying the College motto. The lecture was listened to with close attention and at the conclusion, a vote of thanks, proposed by F. A. de la Mare, and seconded by H. P. Richmond, was carried by acclamation.

On the motion "That it is in the interests of the Australasian Colonies to exclude all coloured labour," T. Neave and H. Banks, were opposed to W. Gillanders and I. Davey. G. F. Dixon, G. V. Bogle, E. J. Fitzgibbon and C. H. Taylor took part in the debate. The Society decided in favour of a policy of exclusion by seventeen to thirteen. Dr. Gibb, who acted as judge on this occasion, placed the speakers for the Union Prize in the following order:—H. Banks, I. Davey, T. Neave, F. A. de la Mare, G. F. Dixon. The judge, after remarking on the general high level of the speeches and the difficulty of judging, gave speakers some kindly criticism on pronunciation and attitude.
The question of an alteration of the Rules for the Plunket Medal was brought up at the next meeting, G. F. Dixon moving that they be referred back to the Committee with a recommendation that the prize be awarded on the opinion of three expert judges. Though the feeling of the meeting seemed to be decidedly in favour of this course, the Committee decided to adhere to the original rule and award the prize by ballot. The question set down for discussion was "That early specialization in Technical subjects is inimical to the development of the highest intellectual power." Miss Frühauf in what was undoubtedly one of the best speeches of the evening, led in favour of the motion and was opposed by I. Davey. A. Tudhope and W. Gillanders seconded the affirmative and negative respectively. There was a keen competition to catch the Chairman's eye. Mr. J. W. Joynt, who acted as judge, placed the speakers in the following order:—E. J. Fitzgibbon, Miss Frühauf, H. Banks, J. S. Thompson and W. Gillanders.

In the last debate of the session, C. B. Collins moved "That conscription should be established within the British Empire." He was opposed by E. C. Bretherton. The mover and seconder were supported by E. J. Fitzgibbon and H. Banks respectively. The mover in a speech crowded with figures, traversed the arguments that conscription was more costly than our present system, and pointed out that a conscript army was infinitely more reliable in the case of sudden danger. The opposer urged the need of circumspection and in a confidential manner asked whether the audience had ever seen a cat crossing a muddy road and if they knew what conscription was—the audience answered both queries in the negative in a manner that started the roof beams.

The attendance was smaller than usual, only about fifty being present, but there was more than the usual number who felt moved to speak. F. P. Kelly, A. Tudhope and W. Perry spoke in favour of the motion, and W. Gillanders, C. H. Taylor, T. Neave, R. Mason, F. A. de la Mare, G. G. Smith and Mr. Webb against. The position of V. B. Willis, who was warned by the chairman to be more careful of his grammar, appeared to be somewhat anomalous, as he announced himself as in favour of "compulsory volunteering." The meeting by a large majority, declared against conscription. This was the final debate for the Union Prize, and while the judge was making up the marks of the various speakers; nominations where received for representatives at the Easter Tournament. Eight speakers were nominated and after a close ballot, E. J. Fitzgibbon and
F. P. Kelly were elected, with T. Neave and H. Banks as reserves. The judge, Mr. Black, then announced his award, explaining his method of judging, and making a few remarks on the qualities and defects of each of the first five speakers. His method met with the general approval of the meeting, and his announcement of the award was received with applause. He placed the first five speakers in the following order:—

The judge complimented the society on the high level of the speeches, doubting whether any similar organisation in the City would show such all-round excellence. This award gave the Union Prize to E. J. Fitzgibbon, he having received 24 points in the debates during the session, H. Banks being second with 16. A hearty vote of thanks to the judge and cheers for our representatives, and for the officers of the Society, terminated the business of the evening and brought to a close, what may be regarded as the most successful year the Society has had. We wish our representatives every success at the Tournament, and confidently expect they will put up a good fight for the coveted shield.

"Plunket Medal" Contest.

The scene in the Girl's High School on the night of Saturday, September 9th, 1905, will be looked back to in years to come, not only by those who were there, but (when these have passed away) by silver-toned youths, who shall narrate the mighty deeds of "the late eminent statesman, Edward Fitzgibbon," or "the Demosthenes of the twentieth century, Harry Banks." The occasion was the first competition for the "Plunket Medal," presented by Lord Plunket, Governor of N. Z., to the Victoria College Debating Society. The donor himself occupied a seat on the platform, and round him was such an array of academic personnel (and costume) that must have made the heart of Joynt rejoice.
Our chairman, H. P. Richmond, welcomed the guests, particularly Lord Plunket, and told of the things which might be accomplished by such competitions, in words that showed he recognized the occasion as historical.

The first of the orators was H. Banks. He had the difficult task of setting a standard, and he performed it. He had the voice for it. He said little about Wm. Pitt that had not been said before, but he said it well, and the audience followed him closely. Then came John Graham and "jumped down the audience's throat;" they found it hard to "swallow" him and laughed instead. Napoleon was the subject, and especially his greatness. Was he great morally? No! Mentally? No! He was great in action; and, one could not help thinking, so was Graham. He took two steps to the right—one—two; then three to the left—one—two—three; then sprang to the rear and threatened de la Mare's toe with "abolition"; then he rushed to the edge of the stage brandishing his limbs and declaiming in a voice that would have done credit to an infantry sergeant-major. Then suddenly his voice would drop to a murmur and his attitude would become that of pent-up intensity. It was unique. F. A. de la Mare's hero was Sir Peter de la Mare, first Speaker of the English House of Commons. "Froggy" was in splendid form, but when it came out that he was going to tell the story of his illustrious ancestor, many thought he was going to perpetrate a joke. Doubtless this impression detracted from the speech in the eyes of the audience. Rex Mason's handling of Sir George Grey was not a success, for the reason that he argued the point. His "bull," rocks overgrown with undergrowth," is worthy of record. F. P. Kelly's winning style told its tale. Kelly gets into sympathy with his audience quicker, probably, than any other of the College speakers. He was earnest, too, as any Irishman is in eulogising the great Home Ruler, Gladstone. G. V. Bogle's "close reasoning" faculty stood him in poor stead as inspiring a panegyric on Joan of Arc. Although he told us that he had lost the idea that Joan was a mannish woman, we did not feel that he loved her truly. G. F. Dixon gave a "screamingly" funny interlude, which of course, spoilt his chance of winning. Dixon's hero was Lord Shaftesbury. J. A. Brailsford dealt with General Gordon. He manifestly admired his hero, but nature did not make him an orator. C. B. Collins was cut short in his criticism of E. G. Wakefield. The speech was eminently intelligent, but it was argument rather than oratory. The audience seemed to be sighing for the end, but they changed their minds when Fitzgibbon
began in his impressive style to tell the story of Daniel O'Connell. It is needless to repeat all the truisms that have been spoken about the voice with which Fitzgibbon is gifted, about his natural action and his "presence." The criticism is doubtless merited that his tone tends to become monotonous, and that in a half-hour's test, Kelly would have a better chance of defeating him. But few will disagree with the verdict that Fitzgibbon's was the best speech made that night. Good delivery was by no means its greatest merit; the earnestness of the appeal would have impressed any audience; and there was much thought in it.

By vote of members, the medal was awarded to E. J. Fitzgibbon; F. P. Kelly was second, and J. Graham third.

Mr. M. W. Richmond, president of the Society, moved a vote of thanks to Lord Plunket "for the institution and endowment of the 'Plunket Medal.'" Mr. J. W. Joynt, Registrar of the University, seconded the motion, and referred to his connection with the Historical Society, Dublin. Mr. F. E. Baume also spoke, and the motion was carried with cheers for His Excellency.

Lord Plunket then presented the medal to Fitzgibbon. It seemed appropriate, he said, that the first winner of the "Plunket Medal," which was originally an Irish medal, should be an Irishman. He (Lord Plunket) had presented the medal to the Society for two reasons; the first he averred, was rather a selfish one—to connect the name of Plunket with the College of which he had laid the foundation stone. Moreover he considered that of all debating societies in New Zealand, none was more deserving of encouragement than that one, placed as it was in the midst of Parliament and the Law Courts. Then he referred to the connection which would be established between this medal and the "Plunket Medal" which had long been the most valued prize to be won in the Historical Society, of Trinity College, Dublin. This medal was founded in memory of the first Lord Plunket, orator and statesman. His second reason for giving the medal, said His Excellency, and one that was closer to his heart—was that his ancestor owed a great deal of his success in life to the fact that as a member of the College Historical Society, he was permitted to attend debates in the House of Commons whenever he pleased. He was greatly pleased that so many had come forward to compete for the medal.
Eventful volume! whatso’er the change
Of scene and clime—the adventures, bold and strange—
The griefs—the frailties, but too frankly told—
The loves, the feuds these pages may unfold,
If Truth, with half so prompt a hand, unlocks
His virtues as his failings, we shall find
The record here of friendships, held like rocks,
And enmities, like sun-touched snow, resigned.

—Moore.

The hockey season is now all but closed; at least, interest in hockey wanes as interest in examinations waxes. The Ladies’ Club has been in existence for two years, and we feel that it is now firmly established, not only as a combative factor in the field, but as a social factor in the College. In the natural course of events the older members will retire year by year, and an obligation rests upon the newcomers to fill their places honourably and well. The Hockey Club is the only organising body which has command of the ladies, the only effective means of fostering a feeling of good-fellowship among them. But we need not plead its cause; its influence is its most eloquent advocate; we would merely urge those young students who have hitherto been in doubt and darkness to come forward next year prepared to work zealously for the club’s advancement. A right hearty welcome awaits them.

Some ardent seekers after knowledge may say that hockey would take up too much of their already precious time; but has not the *mens sana* an invaluable collaborator in the *corpus sanum*? Others may be afraid of being styled aggressively athletic or new-womanish. Beware, ye carping critics, into
what company you drag the lady hockey-player. To the ladies I would say, do not be disconcerted when one of these poor half-witted creatures proclaims from the housetops that Joan of Arc was not as one of us; for it lies in the power of the students of Victoria College to uphold the dignity and excellence of hockey, and to remove from prejudiced minds the notion that culture is non-existent in a lady hurler.

We would here like to express our appreciation of the loyalty of present members, and our gratitude to those who generously supported the club in its difficulties.

The Miramar Ferry Company also deserves our best thanks for protecting us from the gibes of football hoodlums by running an early boat, and also for supplying us with boiling water for afternoon tea.

At the beginning of the second term Miss Hales resigned the captaincy, and Miss Roberts was chosen to fill the vacancy.

Miss Morgan also deserted about the same time. She has other matters to attend to, so we let her go. May her happiness be great!

On the 22nd July, the club gave a dance, which was generally pronounced to be very enjoyable. It was unfortunate for Government House that there was a dance there on the same night.

As soon as possible after the November examinations, the Club intends organising a picnic for all who are immediately connected with the College, and we hope that no one will be so ungracious as to stay away.

During the second term several promising players became ineligible for membership, and we parted with them firmly but regretfully.

The following are the results of the matches played:

**FIRST TEAM.**

(Captain, Miss L. MacKellar.)

V.C. v. Wellington Ladies I. Won, 3—0. An easy victory. Miss Tavendale missed the boat; so did the milk. To her honour be it said she walked and carried the milk with her. Miss Seagar received a severe blow on the face from the ball, played by one of our own side, be it known. The ground was under water. Miss K. McIntosh and Miss Roberts (2) scored.
V.C. v. Petone. At Miramar. Won, 5—0. Combination lacking in College forwards. Petone team suffered from the absence of both their usual wing forwards. The scorers were Miss Cox (4) and Miss Miller.

V.C. v. Aorangi I. At Miramar. Lost, 6—0. The game started with College one short; within five minutes Miss Roberts injured her knee and had to retire. Aorangi combination excellent.

V.C. v. Girls’ High School I. At Miramar. Drawn, 1—1. Miss Cox scored. Forwards still lacking in combination. Miss Robertson as full back played well. Miss Scott played well on the wing, but was not supported by the rest of the forward line.

V.C. v. Wellington Ladies I. At Miramar. Won, 2—0. Miss Miller and Miss Renner scored. Played in rain and a howling gale. Miss Scott played brilliantly, and Misses Renner and Johnstone fully justified their inclusion in the first eleven.

V.C. v. Girls’ High School I. At Miramar. Drawn, no score. High School had the better of the game, but several times failed to score owing to off side play. College players need practice in hard, clean hitting.

V.C. v. Aorangi. At Miramar. Lost, 3—0. A good game throughout. The whole College team showed improvement. During the game some valuable advice was received from Mr Bridge, who refereed and coached both sides.

V.C. v. Ngatiawa. At Miramar. Lost, 1—0.

SECOND TEAM.

(Captain, Miss E. Too man.)

V.C. v. Girls’ High School II. Drawn, no score. Ground swampy. High School Girls were faster than College girls, but could not hit hard enough to score. The first eleven missed the boat, and kept all the eatables.

V.C. v. Ngatiawa II. At Petone. Lost, 5—1. Game disappointing, ground uneven, referee incompetent. Miss Scott, our invaluable right wing, was absent. Three scores for Ngatiawa resulted from penalty bullies awarded them for off-side play within our striking circle. Miss Wedde scored for College; Miss Bennett (5) for Ngatiawa. A delightful afternoon tea made up to some extent for the defeat.

V.C. v. Aorangi II. At Miramar. Lost, 6—0. Played one short. College showed all-round improvement. Aorangi had to work hard for their victory.

V.C. v. Girls’ High School II. At Miramar. Drawn, 1—1. Miss Renner scored. Much better combination. Miss Cooke, as centre-half, proved an acquisition to the team.

V.C. v. Wellington Ladies II. At Miramar. Won, 2—1. The Wellington players were kept on the defensive throughout. This was fortunate, as Miss Too man, partially crippled, had to do duty as right back, left back and goalkeeper on the College side. Miss Rigg was absent, and Miss Mellsop was unable to play. Miss Isaacs and Miss Seagar played well. Miss Tavendale excelled herself. She frequently took command of the ball, and twice successfully passed the ball to Miss Ludwig, who scored.
"Some have been beaten till they know
What wood a cudgel's of by the blow;
Some kicked until they can feel whether
A shoe be Spanish or neat's leather."

—Hudibras.

A NOther season—the fifth for Victoria College Hockey—has dawned and died. The summary of results given below shows that the high-water mark, so far, in the tide of College play has been reached this year. But this is merely a foretaste (if we may be allowed to mix the metaphor somewhat) of what is to come. We trust we are not exhibiting too exuberant a hopefulness when we venture to think that the close of next season will see more than one championship shield fall to College prowess.

As an earnest of this much-desired conclusion we point to the fact that no less than three of the North Island representatives were chosen from our ranks, to wit, those faithful and doughty souls, Beere, Ryburn, and Skelley. And further, that the A team came within a very close call of carrying off the third Championship Shield, while the Juniors had a very satisfactory run for the Junior Shield.

This state of affairs compares very creditably with past records, but we do not intend to rest content with "credit" passes. We are only at the beginning of our career as a College, and it behoves us to set a standard for future College teams which it will require their utmost endeavours to surpass.

We congratulate the IIIA team on the marked improvement shown this year. Their enthusiasm and good spirit are worthy of all praise. With a little more science and coolness, we look to hail them as certain victors next year.

We have not had an opportunity of seeing the Juniors at work, but we think it probable that a leaven of the A enthusiasm, combined with a more careful study of the finer points of the game and the use of "tactics," will carry them within grasping distance next year of the coveted shield.
The B team has undergone the vicissitudes common to the estate of the youngest born, and the fact that through all they have seen the season out without calling into requisition the elevated sponge speaks volumes for the future of the individual players.

As a fore-word for next season we would urge on all players to take every opportunity of practice before the season begins. Machine-like precision is the standard to be aimed at, and that can only be attained by concerted practice. Individual excellence is a requisite, but combination is the acme of perfection. To that end we say that practice should not be left until a week or two before the season starts. Until this fact is grasped never shall we arrive at that excellence which shall be the envy of all beholders, and the standard by which all our competitors will measure their performances.

Finally, we would urge on all good hockeyists the necessity for putting their whole hearts into their game. Let "vim" be their watchword, science their method, and enthusiasm the inner power that must inevitably end in the subjugation of that stern goddess Success!

The following are the results of the Championship matches, counting since last number:—

TEAM I. SENIOR.
(Captain, D. Matheson).

Matches played, 10; won, 4; drawn, 3; lost, 3; goals for, 20; against, 24.

V.C. v. United. Lost 2—0. This was more evenly contested than the score shows, but the fine defensive play of Ashbolt and Weybourne prevented the College from scoring. Ryburn was very safe, and Skelly played a fine game. But the halves were too far from the forwards to feed them. This seems to be the faulty tactic in the team's plan of campaign.

V.C. v. Wellington. Lost 5—0. As we had drawn with Wellington in the first round a closer game was expected, but the Wellington forwards seemed too much for our backs. Our halves worked hard throughout, but were too far away from the forwards to be offensive. The College seldom looked like scoring. Smith, Skelly and Ryburn did the most work for College.

V.C. v. Vivian. Won 3—1. The Vivian team played short-handed, but their defence was good, and their right wing frequently troubled our full backs, but Ryburn was very safe. Gower, Prouse and Beere scored for the College.

V.C. v. Waiwetu. Won by default.
V.C. v. Karori. Drawn 2—2. This game was very fast, but the play was patchy. Karori had decidedly the better of the first quarter of an hour, but as the game progressed the College play improved. Two goals in this game were scored from corner hits; Gower hit one, Beere the other.

V.C. JUNIOR TEAM.
(Captain, D. R. Niven.)

FIRST ROUND.

V.C. v. Vivian. Won 2—1. Matthews and Paterson played well. The forwards were well supported by the half-backs, Clouston, Bee and Grundy.

V.C. v. Wesley. Won 7—1. A match in which the forwards distinguished themselves.

V.C. v. United. Won 3—1. College team played excellently. Donovan (2), Paterson (1) scored. This was the only defeat sustained by the United team, which subsequently won the championship.

V.C. v. Waiwetu. Won by default.

V.C. v. Y.M.C.A. Drawn 2—2. Wilde and Matthews scored. Dwyer, as goal-keeper, was very reliable.

SECOND ROUND.


V.C. v. United. Lost 1—0. A stubborn fight from start to finish. Wilde and Donovan almost equalised matters during the final stages of the game by a piece of good play which ended in the ball striking the goal-post.

V.C. v. Wesley. Won 3—1. Wilde (2) and Bee (1) were the scorers. Grundy figured prominently at half-back, while Dwyer and Eichelman showed sound defence.

V.C. v. Vivian. Won 3—2. Donovan, Wilde, and Willis scored for College. A change of tactics in the second spell enabled the forwards to equalise the scores and ultimately to go one better than their opponents.

V.C. v. Thorndon. Lost 3—2. College played one man short. Goals were obtained by Bogle and Donovan. Bee and Niven put in very serviceable work.

V.C. v. Karori. Won 3—2. Donovan, Bee and McKenzie were the goal-shooters. The willing game played by Karori called forth sturdy play from the College team, more especially from Smith, Bee and Grundy.

V.C. v. Y.M.C.A. Lost 3—0. Our worst defeat. Ground slippery. College came within an ace of scoring on several occasions.

Record for Season—Won 8 matches, lost 6, drawn 1. Goals for, 32; goals against, 27.
TEAM IIIa.
(Captain, A. J. Benge).

Games played, 12; won, 9; drawn, 1; lost, 2. Goals for, 46; against, 9.
The team was runner-up for the championship, and was the only one
that defeated the champions, Karori.
V.C. v. Thorndon. Won 2—0. The game, played in Lower Hutt mud,
was not particularly fast.
V.C. v. Wellington. Draw 1—1. Another mud-fight: Martin, in the
full-back line, was in his element.
V.C. v. Y.M.C.A. Won 3—1. College did not get properly to work until
the second spell.
V.C. v. Wellington. Lost 1—3. The first reverse; the opponents’ wing
men caused trouble, and, with the exception of Smith, our men
scarcely reached their usual form.
V.C. v. V.C. IIIb. Won by default.
V.C. v. United. Won 2—1. The muddy state of the “circle” made
shooting very difficult. Stewart played a fine half game, and Mason,
at goal, saved very well.
V.C. v. Karori. Lost 1—3. College played a good game, but our forward
combination was upset by the “four-half” tactics of the enemy.
The score against us was made in the last ten minutes.
V.C. v. Thorndon. Won 4—0. A forward game, won rather easily.
Macmorran did good work on the right wing.
V.C. v. Y.M.C.A. Won 12—0. A very one-sided game, being largely a
bombardment of the enemy’s goal by our forwards.

TEAM III b.
(Captain, W. H. Tustin).

V.C. v. Thorndon. Lost, 8—0.
V.C. v. V.C. A. Lost by default.
V.C. v. Y.M.C.A. Lost, 3—0.
V.C. v. United. Lost by default.
V.C. v. Wellington. Lost, 8—2.
The Courts are dismantled, neglected,
The gates are deserted and barred
And those once so joyful—dejected,
Are doing their "three months' hard."

Up the hill for a term of hard labour,
With a spirit that never was broke,
You will find every man and his neighbour
Each doing the Government stroke.

Each man is the pride of some calling,
A bright and particular star,
From the forcellan, who does all the bowling,
To the clerk—a light of the bar.

And now in variety riggings,
Each a pick and a shovel has brought,
So that when they go back to their diggings
Next year, they'll be not—out of court.

"It is a matter for regret," remarked Neave, meditatively, as he raised his pickaxe for another mighty stroke, "It is a matter for regret that violent physical exercise is (like early specialisation) inimical to the development of the highest mental power."

—Extract from Beere's "Philosophical Conversations."
(British Navy Series.)

"Ours is so young a club," wrote the official recorder in the first number of The Spike, "that this historian has been unable to ascertain that any of its members have attained fame through the practice of moral qualities acquired on its Parliamentary Tennis Court." The day of Victoria College on the Parliamentary Tennis Courts is drawing to a
close. Soon they will be deserted, except for a few wandering ghosts which will ever hover round the sacred spot. But the moral qualities, forsooth! That historian lived to see the old courts deserted by men who were willing to forsake the delights of racket and flannel for the stern hardship of shovel and moleskin. That historian himself wielded a festive pickaxe about the time the photograph was taken on Saturday the 9th September, 1905. When the historian of the future tells of the opening of the Courts on the hill the list of moral heroes will be too long to publish.

The committee which had been set up at the Annual Meeting to watch the College site, the College Council, and things in general, in the interests of the Tennis Club, sought inspiration on several occasions in deep draughts of “Kiosk” tea—and awaited developments. The site of the Courts was raised and levelled at the instance of the Council by means of earth taken from the contract excavations. Before this work was finished, H. Slaaden was on the ground with his theodolite and chain, and the possibilities of the space for tennis courts set out. It was discovered that a good deal of excavation would be needed for four courts, and that even for three a perceptible slice of the hill would have to be cut away.

Now the tennis season was close at hand, and if the work was to be of use for this season something must be done at once. But there were no funds. It dawned on the Committee that if the work was to be done at all it must be done for love. But love, though an excellent thing in itself, does not appeal to building contractors in their capacity as contractors. So it fell that the appeal was made to the more susceptible hearts of the students, and on the first auspicious day thirty-two amateur navvies met to do battle on Salamanca Hill.

THE FIRST SOD.

The Prime Minister had kindly consented to turn the first sod, and shortly after half past two the deed was done. Mr. Seddon made a short, simple speech. It was, he said, appropriate that an old digger should dig the first sod, and though he did not expect that we should find gold that day, he thought our efforts to help ourselves would not go unrewarded. He
spoke of the value of physical exercise, and the University spirit which would rise in the hearts of those who joined in this loving service to our alma mater. Then Dr. Knight thanked the combined Ministers of Labour and Education on behalf of the students and of the College. Mr. Seddon, in replying, said that he had been delighted to hear of the way in which the students of Victoria College had subscribed towards the building. They were there helping themselves that day, and he would anticipate the Public Works Statement so far as to say that Parliament would be asked to vote the £6000 asked for by the College Council.

So the first sod was turned, and so we found gold at the first strike. The Premier wheeled the first barrow load, and then rode away amidst cheers. Now the picks rose and fell in fierce earnest. Professor Von Zedlitz, and with him Dr. Knight, led a frontal attack with such vigour that they were soon able to leave their men in possession of the trenches of the enemy. In the meantime Professor Kirk, Mr. T. A. Hunter (he ought to be a professor) and Mr. Von Haast made a furious onslaught on the right wing, which was maintained throughout the afternoon. A reinforcement under H. P. Richmond did good service at the afternoon tea adjournment.

This was but the first of a series. The ground is slowly being made, though Victoria College is gradually comprehending the wisdom of Mahomet when he decided to go to the mountain. The thanks of the Tennis Club are due to the ladies who have provided our horse-handed sons of toil with the cup that cheers; to Dr. Knight, who has taken a great and active interest in our plans; to H. Sladden, whose surveying skill has been very valuable; and to all those who have helped and are helping in the business of the hour.

Just a word about our plans. When the levels have been pegged it is proposed to form two courts on the space which is at present available. As the ground is all “made,” and will no doubt settle considerably, permanent courts will not be laid for some time. It is hoped, however, that a coating of tar and sand will give a good top-dressing to the clay, and enable tennis to be played this season. This is experimental, but some competent judges consider that the surface will be a good one. It
is probable that the third court will be ready before the other two, if not sooner. But the fourth—well, that will depend upon upon excavations and carriage-drives, and will be a next season's dream; the dream is, however, founded upon a rock, a big rock, but not an impregnable rock; the interpretation of the dream lies in the word "work."

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Tennis Officers.

Owing to the lateness of the last Tennis Meeting, the list of officers could not appear in the last issue of The Spike. The following were elected:—

President: Professor Kirk.
Vice-President: F. A. de la Mare.
Secretary: O. Prouse. Treasurer: S. Eichelbaum.
Committee: Misses L. MacKellar, F. Roberts and M. Cox.
Messrs. R. Beere, G. Bogle, and G. Smith.
Hon. Auditor: H. P. Richmond.
Delegates to Wellington Lawn Tennis Association:
H. P. Richmond and J. Graham.
Christian Union.

"For more is not reserved
To man, with soul just nerv'd
To act to-morrow what he learns to-day."

Rabbi Ben Ezra.

The Christian Union has continued its meetings during the present term, and the addresses delivered, have been interesting and instructive:

The following is an account of the meetings held:

June 10th.—A social was held on this evening, to which members of the C.U. and S.U. were invited. There was a large attendance. A programme consisting of songs, recitations and instrumental pieces was arranged for the first part of the evening, after which games were indulged in.

June 24th.—"How Christ Solves the Life Problem of the Individual," was the subject of an address by Rev. J. J. North. He spoke of man before the time of Christ, showing how he lived for the grandeur of the state, which led to the establishment of an empire of brute force and slavery. Since Christ's advent, no nation could reach its greatest power while its subjects were bound. Christ had attached Himself to the individual and set him at liberty.

August 5th.—Mr. E. K. Mules, Travelling Secretary, A.S.C.U. addressed this meeting. He spoke of the various phases of work of the C.U. and the methods of carrying it on.

August 19th.—The General Secretary Y.M.C.A., Mr. H. N. Holmes delivered an interesting address on "The Social Problems of the City." He pointed out that with the drifting
of population to various centres, there would be found a certain amount of vice and crime which tended to destroy character. In cities were found many men untouched by any organisation, and an effort should be made to reach those whose redemption was possible. The civic authorities were doing their part to solve these problems, but that alone was not sufficient and we, as units in the community, must also face them.

*September 2nd.*—This meeting was addressed by Dr. Gibb, who had for his subject “The Resurrection.” He dealt with the fact of the resurrection, which was witnessed to by experience, a valid testimony, though faith was an absolute necessity to reach certitude. The resurrection made the forgiveness of sin a fact; it completed Christ’s own development. He having done the will of God; and it placed at our disposal the power necessary for holy living.

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**Our Illustrations.**

With this number we complete the series of pictures of the present staff of the College by a picture of Mr. T. A. Hunter. Mr. Hunter was for some years on the staff of the District High School at Port Chalmers, leaving there to attend the Otago Training College and Otago University. He graduated B.A. and Senior (Mental Science) Scholar in 1898, and in the following year M.A., with First-class Honours in Mental Science. After some years as Senior House Master at Waitaki Boys’ High School he was in 1904 appointed Lecturer in Mental Science and Political Economy at Victoria College, and in the same year obtained his B.Sc. degree. Mr. Hunter’s interest in College affairs is not confined to the lecture room: during his football career he has represented Otago, North Otago, and University, and has put his knowledge of the game at the service of the First Fifteen, which is indebted to him as strenuous player and coach. To his energy in the lecture room the class which meets at 7.45 a.m. on Saturday morning will testify.

We also reproduce pictures of the Committee of the Students’ Association, the graduates of Victoria College of 1905, the Ladies’ Hockey First Eleven, the Football First Fifteen, and the Men’s Hockey First Eleven.
Christian Union Social.

On the evening of June 10th, W. Gillanders presided over a social organised by the V.C. Christian Union. Besides V.C. students, many members of the secondary schools' Christian Unions were present by invitation. The first part of the entertainment took the form of a concert, to which the Misses Frühaur, Evans, Dale, Ward and Isaacs, and the Glee Club contributed. Only three men were bold enough to appear in the ranks of the last named, and their voices were, to the weal or woe of the audience, naturally somewhat submerged.

Miss McLean in returning thanks on behalf of the High School girls that were present, said she regarded the V.C. Union as the mother Union, an honour to which the blushing president, Gillanders, in reply, seemed somewhat loth to lay claim.

The evergreen Celebrities brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

Ladies Hockey Club "At Home."

"When you do dance, I wish you
A wave of the sea, that you might ever do
Nothing but that."

—The Winter's Tale.

The V.C. Ladies' Hockey Club was "At Home" on the evening of July 20th. It was quite pleasant to see them "at
home” somewhere, even if it was not on the hockey field. The fact that the Government House Ball fell on the same night, (His Excellency had evidently not been informed that the ladies had chosen it for their “ball”) probably accounted for the absence of that entirely ornamental, long-suffering and comparatively useless array of ladies, who under the high sounding title of “chaperones” are accustomed to look interested on such occasions, from the dance-hall platform.

The ladies at home, under the able direction of the hostess-in-chief, Miss L. MacKellar, who wore a pink taffeta with ruchings à la Pompadour, proved so hospitable, that the guests too felt at home immediately, a fact well attested to by the accurate knowledge displayed of the various coigns of vantage.

Though card-tables, (our Euchre champion had to leave at half-time on account of a previous engagement) and a bagatelle-board were in readiness, dancing was the main attraction of the evening, which altogether proved one of the brightest of the College year.

**Combined Hockey, Tennis and Football Dance.**

“Forthwith from dance to sweet repast they turn.”

—Milton.

This dance was this year, as usual, held in the Sydney Street Schoolroom, which was well filled. It proved as great a success as always, except that there was a slight majority of ladies, who constituted a garden throughout the evening. The hall was decorated with wattle, very kindly supplied by Professor von Zedlitz from his extensive garden at the Hutt, and with the ubiquitously disfiguring photographs of the various teams. A novel feature was presented in the programmes which had been printed in England. These, as well as the supper, were a source of great admiration to all.

R. St. J. Beeve made an efficient M.C. G. S. Prouse, though not on the committee, at the head of a band of workers which made up for its smallness by its activity, spared neither toil nor trouble in preparations, and to him a great measure of praise is due. The invitations were issued by the committee.
"Allowed by order of law, a furred gown to keep him warm."

"I see they're like to have neither cap nor gown."

—Shakespeare.

This year the ceremony on Diploma Day was held in the Town Hall—the last time, we hope, it will have to be performed under an alien roof. The Concert Hall was only fairly well filled—some friends stayed away afraid to face the weather, others perhaps because they had heard they were to be delivered over to the mercies of the eloquent and that their fate was to be unbrightened by any ray of relief from the undergrads.

The Chancellor's speech dealt chiefly with the duties and privileges of the graduates and with University Education in America—the students seemed to consider they had heard something similar before, and some musically inclined patriots at the back, attempted various tunes on their toy bagpipes. The interrupters, after a warning, were silenced by a threat to stop the proceedings and confer the degrees in private. This dire threat was received with applause, and the remainder of the proceedings would have done credit even to Auckland.

After the conferring of the degrees, the Registrar of the University, gave a résumé of the changes introduced into the University system at the last Senate meeting. Dr. Chapple, speaking as a general practitioner of education, urged on students the claims of Mental Science as a study likely to be more useful than the ordinary classics. Incidentally he congratulated "Professor" Hunter on his enterprise in obtaining the promise of apparatus for experimental psychology. Professor von Zedlitz had great pleasure, on behalf of himself and colleagues, speaking as specialists, in demolishing the theories of the last speaker. Doubtless the value of Mental Science was great, and would be more so when the new apparatus was obtained, but the profs. were unanimous in preferring to teach students who had wrestled with the Latin grammar, and as to the inapplicability
of the experimental methods he looked forward confidently to the

time when in our Hall on the hill, busts of Roman worthies, would

on the pressure of a knob discourse Ciceronian Latin with a

Glasgow accent.

Capping Carnival.

"Come fill the Cup and in the Fire of Spring
Your winter Garments of Repentance fling,
The Bird of Time has but a little way
To flutter and the Bird is on the Wing."

—Omar.

Sydney Street Schoolroom proved all too small to seat the

crowd who had come to see whether the students of Victoria

Coll. had been so crushed in spirits by the reproofs of the

afternoon as to be unable to rejoice.

The musical part of the programme was contributed to by

Miss Isaacs, F. P. Wilson and B. J. Jacobs. The latter was

vociferously encored for his rendering of some severely classical

coon songs.

The Glee Club under the direction of F. P. Wilson, rendered

some of the College songs written for the occasion. One

cannot truthfully say that they were given with the vigour and

volume expected in a student song. The men seemed too bash-

ful to lift up their voices—even from the back—though later on

some long intervals between the items was taken advantage of.

It seems a pity that that modesty which is so distinguishing

a feature of V.C. students should have taken so virulent a form
—as the musical director pointed out what the public expects

is volume and any amount of it. The first part of the pro-

gramme ended with "Humouroses." The Land Commission

was shown still sitting in 1930, and various citizens appeared

to aid it in its labours.
A guardian of the law—one who in his size and ferocity of aspect was calculated to strike terror into the boldest desperados—appeared, and between stops for refreshment—informed us in a sepulchral whisper of his travels with the Commission.

The City Coroner related how, hardened by life-long practice—he alone of the original Commissioners was left—the rest, talked to death by the stream of witnesses, had dropped off one by one. Although he admitted he knew nothing about land, or matters agricultural, he felt it would not be right to allow the witnesses to depart without hearing his noble "Ode to a Turnip." The ode recited in A. Tughope's most melting tones, appeared to deeply affect the witnesses.

R. G. Knight (V. B. Willis) on his famous tricycle, discussed with much volubility and confusion, on his chances for the next election—the question of Saturday v Sunday, and his dislike to being taken for a College Councillor. He was followed by another aspirant for Parliamentary honours, J. Hutcheson, who in fiery language, told of his "assassination"; the announcement of his political creed "Up with Jack Hutcheson," left no doubt as to the sincerity of the speaker—Taylor. Messrs Quick and Luckie, perhaps the best impersonations of the evening, were represented by Tustin and S. S. Mackenzie. They told in naive terms of the summits reached and kept by themselves and their families.

A fearsome figure—mainly legs and wings—attired in football costume—appeared next and proclaimed himself in G. G. Smith's dulcet tones to be Jimmy Duncan—the old crock still worth his place in any team. W. Gillanders as member for Wairara-a-pa brought before the notice of the Commission the preeminent claims of his electorate.

The Commission were, at this point, seized with an uncontrollable impulse to vent their feelings more forcibly, and Commission, policemen, witnesses, and agriculturists joined in a haka of amazing vigour.

The second part of the entertainment opened with an innovation, (the fame of which has spread to our friends in the South) a coon song by five College ladies made up appropriately. Much to the disappointment of the audience, some of the College songs in the second part had to be omitted owing to lack of time.

The Concert was concluded by a farce in which the dangers to which "Sarah's Young Man" exposed himself, and the confusion his advent caused in an hitherto peaceful home, were
convincingly displayed. Mr. Moggridge (J. Stout) an elderly gentleman and a victim to the green-eyed monster, showed his suspicious nature to the uneasiness of Mrs. Moggridge. Sam Sloeleaf (S. Grundy) as the lover of Sarah, (John Graham) gave his part such an air of reality as to make the audience wonder where he obtained his training. R. M. Watson as Mrs. Moggridge, and B. Millier as the slim-waisted Araminta, the admired and admirer of Harry Fielding, (W. Perry) carried out in a most natural manner, their amorous roles.

The Supper.

"What needs we tell their feasts and goodly guise
In which was nothing riotous nor vain."

—Spenser.

At the conclusion of the concert, an adjournment was made to the gymnasium, where the usual supper in honour of the graduates of the year was given to Professors, Students and Councillors. The supper must be pronounced a great success, if judged by the amount of enthusiasm and mutual admiration displayed. Speeches were made by Sir Robert Stout, Professors von Zedlitz and Easterfield, H. H. Ostler and W. Gillanders. Professor von Zedlitz replying to the toast of the "Professors and Lecturers," told of his grievous disappointment, when on going to the various profs. after the Long Vacation to find out what was stirring in the University world (he himself had evidently passed the time in study), he found them altogether averse to discussing educational problems. One prof., however, impressed on him his belief in the deep significance and profound truth of the saying "that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world." During the evening the prizes won at the Easter Tournament were presented. A presentation was also made to P. W. Robertson, the departing Rhodes Scholar. It took the form of a travelling bag, fitted with everything requisite, from a needle upwards. When it was seen that, unhappily, the toast list was exhausted and there was nothing left to cheer, those who wished to end a good day well, returned to the hall, where dancing was kept up vigorously till the small hours.
"Release the aging Steed," old Horace cries,
"Ere sinking down, in dust he panting lies":
Yet Colts are few that waiting stand beside,
Or from his Ashes phoenix-like shall rise.

Must Dixosh go, who truly up till now,
For twice two Years has pulled his weary Plough?
Yes, he departs, the stern Laws so decree,
But who shall come to take his Place, and how?

Behold! the Giant calls in accents clear,
"No longer I can cast the hurrying Sphere,
Nor when the Struggle's lost upon the court,
In woeful tones exclaim. "Ah, Beere, Beere, Beere!"

And who from high shall seek undying fame,
Upon the staring Multitude exclaim.
Thoughts richer far than Mines of Westcoastpur,
Yet keeping hid the sources whence they came.

Oh, you who read, regard not with Affright
A game fair played but lost thro' lack of might.
'Tis better far than one that lack of Men
Or spirit, turns to a Loss outright.

The Next Easter Tournament

CHRISTCHURCH will be the scene of the fifth, as it was of the
t first, annual University Tournament, and those who contemplate taking part in the festivities of 1906 can rest assured that they will be heartily welcomed and royally entertained by their fellow students in the City of the Plains. Those who have attended any of the previous tournaments need not have their interest in the matter aroused—no one who has once been present will absent himself from future meetings of choice. There are, however, only too many who have not yet felt the quickening impulse of the true University spirit which permeates these gatherings, and it is their interest that we seek to awaken. The tournament is in no danger of becoming either bankrupt or defunct—perish the thought!—but nevertheless it is in the highest degree
essential that fresh recruits should join the ranks of our representatives every year. Public men, professors, press and the general public are alike in hearty sympathy with the movement. Yet, incredible as it may seem, the great majority of our students remain indifferent as to the personnel of the representative team. Actually, last Easter, when the tournament was held in our own city, we had less than a dozen men competing in the athletic event, though there were places for at least twice that number! This, too, in a College which boasts nearly half a hundred hockey players and about as many footballers! *Verb. sap!*

Lancaster Park has already been secured for the Athletic Sports of 1906, and application has been made for the use of the Cranmer Tennis Courts, on which the Victoria College ladies proved victorious in 1901. Nothing short of hard and consistent practice, however, will enable our ladies to repeat the performance in 1906.

Up till last year three entries were allowed from each College in each tennis event, but experience has shown that this number is too large to permit of the championships being conveniently completed in the limited time available. Now only two entries are allowed from each College in the Men's Singles, Men's Doubles, and the Combined. The entries for the ladies' events remain as before, for the reason that their only chance of representation lies in the tennis, and no one wishes to see the number of ladies attending the tournament reduced. Moreover, if necessary, they can play off a few matches on the Monday morning.

The number of competitors in athletics has also been cut down to two from each College in each event. One reason for this change is that it gives all Colleges a more equal chance of winning the Championship. For example, when the meeting is held in Dunedin or Auckland, it is much more difficult for Auckland or Dunedin, as the case may be, to send three representatives in each event than it is for Christchurch or Wellington, and consequently their chances are very much reduced. Under the new arrangement even the College most remote from the scene of the tournament should have some chance of winning the Championship. This has not always been the case in the past. Next year's innovation should also lead to greater specialisation, and consequently better and more even performances, whilst the honour of representing one's College will be greater than ever.

Next Good Friday falls on the 13th April, so that the dates for the tournament will be the 14th, 16th and 17th April. Our team will doubtless leave for Christchurch on the evening of the 12th and return to Wellington on the morning of the 18th.

Our debaters have already been chosen. There is going to be a great fight among the men for the four lucky places in the tennis team. We hope the athletics will not be neglected as they have been in the past.
"Where go the poet's lines?
Answer, ye evening tapers,
Ye auburn locks, ye golden curls,
Speak from your folded papers!"
—Holmes.

"IDAS TE DILICET UNAM."

(CALPURNIUS, ECOLOGUES IX., 44.)

When you and I are apart (Alas!)
The fairest lilies are dark with despair,
And the roses are pale with grief to the tips.
The imperial purple maragon
Droops wan to the ground that you walked upon:
The myrtle yields no scent as I pass;
Not the faintest breath from the laurel slips
To fill a want in the summer air.

But should you come again, O my heart!
The lilies would sway in their pure delight,
And a flush from the tips of the roses start.
The listless grace of the maragon
Would rise from your feet, and its purple don;
And myrtle and laurel would yield their scent,
Of your own soul-sweetness redolent,
And the blue weather break from the brows of Night.

For Pallas loves the berries filled
Lip-red, with the ripeness bursting through;
And Bacchus, the joy the crushed grapes out-spilled;
Priapus, the tumbling orchard-yields;
And Pales, the stretch of the happy fields:
But Idas,—he knoweth no world but you.

S.S.M.
NELSON.

Thy sun that set at Trafalgar and shed
Glory on England, like a star that dies
Leaving the earth a light though it be dead,
Flames evermore to our believing eyes.
We cannot doubt thee, Nelson; thou hast placed
Thy spell upon the battle-haunted sea
That we have loved, and there thy name is traced;
We cannot love it without loving thee.

Oh splendour of renown where every tide
Floated thy menace to the foeman's shore.
What if the eagle in the dome abide,
Outwatching tempests far below—no more
Than thy great realm his empery; the wind
Bore thy unconquerable thunder far,
Till death that loveth sacrifice was kind
To thee, for ever England's avatar.

Like Wycliffe's ashes thy dear shade has passed
Over the waters of the earth that we
Should find our freedom; we shall hold it fast
Till England is no longer true to thee.
And we her children far upon the main,
Where never any but her cannon call,
Share for thy triumph her immortal pain,
For thee the humblest keep a festival.

—HUBERT CHURCH.
Auream quisquis mediocritatem
diligat tuitus — — caret invidenda sobrius aula.

Horace.

Strike the drum in festive manner,
Wave aloft the glorious banner,
Everywhere let joy be seen.
Wherefore, wherefore, is this wild mood?
Don't you see? In 'ts second childhood,
Horace leads his "Golden Mean."

Standing round are vice and virtue,
Sought too hard they both will hurt you,
Handle both with thick wrought glove.
Money's false, don't try to wed it,
Live so long you can on credit,
Then on poetry and love.

If the "terms" are drawing nigher,
Not to fail's your one desire,
All your time in "swot" is spent.
Don't let life become a burden,
Shun a first-class and a third 'un,
With a second rest content.

If o'er football you're ecstatic,
Don't let speech be too emphatic!
Be not slack nor yet too keen.
Don't go in for maiming, killing,
Just proceed to make it "willing,"
When the referee's not seen.

Do not live above your station,
Take your food in moderation,
Store the wine until 'tis ripe.
Follow then each useful adage.
Live on celery and cabbage,
Varied with a little tripe.

We acknowledge, gentle Horace,
You have done your utmost for us,
With philosophy serene.
You have shown us all your graces,
Never mind the commonplaces,
Let them be the "Golden Mean."
THE second annual meeting of the Athletic Club was held on 28th September last; when the following officers were elected for the year, viz.—

President : Professor G. W. von Zedlitz; Vice-Presidents : the members of the Professorial Board; Captain : F. A. de la Mare; Hon. Secretary : T. E. Seddon; Hon. Treasurer : H. W. King; Committee : the Captain, Treasurer, Secretary, and G. F. Dixon and A. Tudhope.

The Report showed a membership of 21, and a credit balance of £1 6s. 6d.

As the costume of the Club's representatives has hitherto not been sufficiently distinct from those worn by Auckland and Dundee, it was decided that the Club's colours in future, should be "all black," with the College badge added.

One of the chief objects of the Club is "to secure the worthy and adequate representation of Victoria College" at the annual Easter Tournament. No one has denied the worthiness of our representation in the past; it is hoped that in the near future, there will be less scope for questioning its adequacy. With a view, therefore, of encouraging a greater number to seek representative honours each year, the incoming Committee was instructed to arrange, if possible, for an athletic meeting, to be held shortly before next Easter. If this is done, as we hope will be the case, an enjoyable and successful afternoon should be spent if students will only do their best to secure that end. The need for increased representation is very pressing, and those who honestly endeavour to qualify for Easter will find that "training" is by no means uninteresting and unprofitable.
Library.

A copy of the "Life of Mrs. Macmillan Brown" has been presented to the College Library by Mr. A. R. Meek. The Library has also been enriched by a selection of technical works given by the Scranton International School of Correspondence through their agent, Mr. J. G. Smith. These two gentlemen, by their generosity, have set an example which might well be followed by those desiring to assist one of the most important departments of our College.

Gymnasium.

It has been decided on the advice of the professors to apply the money subscribed by the students for the Building Fund to fitting up a gymnasium on the top floor of the new building. Another of the rooms will be converted into a hall—the main hall of the new building being still in futuro. The hall will be somewhat larger than the one at present used at the Girls' College. Here we expect to gather to listen to the eloquence of our future orators.

Students at Work.

The sight of the toilers on the new tennis courts has caused one of our poets to burst into rhyme. The Spike can only afford space for two out of the thirty-seven verses. We would advise the author to print a few copies and send one to the Professor of English to deal with:

Pick-a-pick this the students' stroke
First a pick and then a ponder,
Makes a real live navvy wonder,
Does the students' stroke.

Only ten men to one barrow,
Toilers to the very marrow,
Peeling off their hands the "caro,"
Thus do students work.
They that Walk in Darkness.

In view of the fact that several members of the College Council—among them the Attorney-General and a leading lawyer—were not quite sure as to what "Experimental Psychology" was, or why apparatus was needed, and that the Council decided against regarding Higher Mathematics as a science subject, The Spike would suggest that the Professors might give lectures to Councillors, couched in popular terms to be understood of the people, on subjects coming under discussion by the Council. The editor of one country paper was so moved by the thought of such ignorance in our educational leaders that he devoted a lengthy leader to the discussion of the question. If our scheme were adopted members would come to the meetings so primed with useful information as to render a recurrence of the sad affair impossible. At the commencement of the course it might be advisable to limit the length of each lecture to an hour and a-half, which could be increased as the course went on.

Questions of the Day.

The following question has been propounded by Mr. Hunter for the benefit of his Political Economy class:—

"Examine the argument that Victoria College students should not level their own tennis courts, for by so doing they are taking away the livelihood of others."

We would humbly suggest the following for the students of Ethics:—

"Examine the argument that John Smith, murderer, did good service to the state by removing James Robinson, thus providing a fat billet for one of the unemployed."

A Revelation.

Few students would have regarded George Dixon as a "horsey" man, but the following extract from his "Plunket" speech reveals a secret:—

"Lord Shaftsbury was sometimes accused of riding a hobby horse. Perhaps he did, but if a man has not got a groom to help him, it is a mistake to ride more than one horse. Besides, that horse was a thoroughbred, and it carried him for more than half a century in the Grand National Reform Steeplechase. The horse's name was
Humanity, its trainer was Public Health, and its rider Education; yet that arch-handicapper Party Politics, year after year, placed him on scratch, and gave the limit to an old crock called Ignorance, whose rider was Vice, with the result that Ignorance won every time!

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Farewell to "Robby."

While memory brings us back again
Each early tie that twined us,
Oh, sweet's the cup that circles then
To those we've left behind us.

—Moore.

Moved by the persuasive smile, or, perhaps, sturdy figure of W. Gillanders, our Association's President, and by the deservingness of the object, the Union Steamship Company kindly consented to delay the s.s. Monowai till 6 p.m. on the day P. W. Robertson left us for Oxford. This courtesy enabled over fifty of Robertson's friends, besides the ladies, to come fresh from their athletic glories to bid him farewell. These fifty, being the possessors of a corresponding number of voices, hardened by frequent use or abuse at hockey, football, or glee-singing, it is needless to say that the send-off made up in strength and power what it lacked in tunefulness. Cheers, "Good-Fellows," "Auld Lang Synes" for "Robby," not to mention cheers for the U.S.S. Co., Prof. Easterfield, Gillanders, the chief steward and other celebrities, were rendered in fine style. The ladies' attempt, "solitaire," at "Auld Lang Syne" lacked somewhat in volume, and was reminiscent of the Glee-club, dying before its time. Robertson, in spite of the fact that he was noticeably hampered by the proximity of the boat-deck, took his honours becomingly, but declined the ordeal of another public speech. We learn from later reports that he has reached his destination, and is by now probably well started on his studies.

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The Battle of the Bays.

E. I have a song to sing O.
J. Sing me your song O.

—Yeomen of Guard.

Let the singing singers
With vocal voices most vociferous,
In sweet vociferation out-vociferize
Even sound itself.
The prize offered by the Students’ Association for the best “Capping Song” was this year won by S. Eichelbaum with “Tempora,” J. Brailsford’s “Froggy” being placed second.

It may not be too presumptuous on our part to suggest here that the printing is not the primary object for which a Capping song is written. Either because the music was not easily available, or because they were handed in rather late, several of the best songs were this year not sung (sing, from old Latin singinare — “to whisper out of tune,” a derivation evidently carefully studied by the Glee Club).

We should therefore suggest that for next year a date, say two months before the actual production, be fixed as the latest on which songs will be accepted. This will give ample time for practice, and both author and audience will have greater cause for satisfaction.

The White Peril.

Guy H. Scholefield has an interesting article in the August number of the “Nineteenth Century.” The article deals in an able manner with “The White Peril in Australasia,” and contrasts the Immigration Acts of the Commonwealth of Australia with those of New Zealand, Canada, and the States.
Notes from Other Colleges

"Tho' we are forced thus to absent ourselves
We shall contrive some means
Some friendly intervals, to visit thee."

A FEATURE of the Debates at Dunedin is the Annual Inter-faculty Debate. The subject set down for discussion this year was "That the Modern Conditions of Life, taken as a whole, retard the development of the highest type of Man." This seems a subject wide enough to allow plenty of scope. The Law Faculty represented by B. E. Murphy and L. T. Burnard, were declared the winners with the Miners second.

The Capping festivities at Canterbury seem to have been unusually successful—the only regrettable feature being the failure to adorn the Godly Statue. This was not the fault of the students, who, much as they wished to pay the accustomed honour, felt unable to enter into a contest with the law on the subject. The procession, a gorgeous and motley throng of ancient Romans, Fenians and other strange wild-fowl, was followed on its course through the city by an admiring crowd. During its progress all its members were invited to have afternoon tea at Broadway's. This would seem to point to the fact that more interest is evinced by the Christchurch people in their College than is shown locally. On its return to the College it was welcomed by Mr. Joynt.

Scriba remarks in the Otago Review that it is a pity the Chancellor does not understand that the average undergraduate,
particularly of the first year species being a person of much
salt, little discretion and a firm belief in his own sense of
humour, cannot be expected to behave in a sane and orderly
manner on the occasion of the Capping Ceremony. It would
be a disappointment if he did.

Canterbury College Football Club cannot be said to have
nevered itself with glory this year—the First Fifteen losing all
its matches, the Second securing one draw and the Third also
losing all its matches. That it should have continued to "battle"
in the face of such a series of defeats shows that it at any rate
has the game for its own sake.

It is suggested that the First Fifteen play in too gentle a
spirit, as if they were engaged in a parlour game; perhaps this
is because they do not wish other clubs to think 'Varsity
students can be rough. The aforesaid gentle spirit was not so
much in evidence in the Inter-College matches and the results
were more satisfactory.

A point which might well be noted by the V.C. Tourna-
ment Committee of this year, is the necessity for giving our
debating Representatives a "trial run" beforehand. Last year
he chosen two of Otago met two well-known speakers, and the
practice thus obtained and the hints from veteran speakers who
were judges, proved extremely valuable in the actual contest.

Otago University Football Club's First Fifteen, although
or two matches when their team was on tour it was playing a
second or third grade team, ran into the position of runners-up
or the First Grade Banner.

Hockey is being taken up with characteristic enthu-
siasm at Otago University. This is the first year the 'Varsity has
entered teams, but in spite of this, it is leading in the Senior
competition. The Junior team shared honours with Dunedin
unions, but there were still two matches to play.
A. T-d-pe.—We have been unable to ascertain the name of the inventor of those postcards of which the address side may be used for other matter also. The College letter-rack is, as you say, certainly much too open to the public gaze.

J. G-h-m.—We agree with you that the presence of a melodramatic company at the Opera House, just before the contest for the Plunket Medal, was a fortunate coincidence. You have not yet, however, developed quite the "abandon" of a first-class hero, but show promise of future greatness in that direction.

M-y M-II-r.—Yes, a dose of Woods' Peppermint Cure taken just before lectures will relieve that irritating cough of yours, which always comes so inconveniently in the middle of a professorial sentence. We have had several complaints already about the draughtiness of the College passage ways.

W. G-ll-d-rs.—We are pleased to hear of the formation in our midst of a really up-to-date matrimonial bureau. Your notice in the hall stating that you can "put all applicants in the way of an engagement" proves beyond doubt that the president is the right man in the right place. To judge from appearances your scheme seems already to have proved entirely successful.

Pr-f-r M-z-e.—We are sorry that lack of space forbids us to insert your "Principles of Flea-Hunting—A Philosophical Study in the Manner of Carlyle," which so enthralled the English class.

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EXCHANGES.

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We beg to acknowledge the following magazines:—Canterbury College Review, Otago University Review, Government Insurance Recorder, Napier Girls' High School Magazine, The Wellingtonian, and Nelsonian.

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The Management acknowledges the receipt of the following outside subscriptions:—Miss F. M. Wolters, 1905; F. W. Gamble, 1905; L. F. de Berry, 1905; J. Williamson, 1905; M. G. Bell, 1905; J. S. Haddon, 1905; Miss Ross, 1905; A. J. Thomson, 1904-1905; Miss Brown, 1905; H. O. Stuckey, 1905; J. R. Fleming. 1904-1905.
Vale!

(George MacDonald.)

Death rides apace for Time the Conqueror;
And spurring to the merry Court of Life,
Winds with thin lips the summons of his King;
And straight the candle flickers in the sconce;
The flame falls back upon the hearth and dies;
The poured wine stales unpledged within the bowl;
The minstrel's fingers stiffen on the strings.
High Priest of Celtic Fantasy—Farewell!
Harper who harped the Celtic world awake!
Grief is the keenness of the northern wind;
Grief is a mist among the granite hills;
Grief is the greyness of a raining sky.
The altar of the Star-fire is acold;
The hall is hushed where once the legend ran,
And dark where once the chords rang swept with power.
Wordsworth the primrose sang, and Milton eke
In Lycidas—I humble turnips sing;
And if a freeholder is truly king
Of his allotment, speak, ye muses speak
In agricultural tropes. With doubtful roads
Wrestle in anapests.

French
German
Spanish

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