THE SPIKE

OR

Victoria College Review.

OCTOBER 1910.

Published under the direction of the Victoria College Students' Association
and printed by Whitcombe & Tombs Ltd., Wellington 1910.
INDEX.

EDITORIAL ........................................ 5
A PESSIMIST'S GARDEN ...................... 8
UNIVERSITY IDEALS IN INDIA AND BURMA .. 9
CHLOES PHILOSOPHY .................................. 14
RHODES SCHOLAR IN THE MAKING ............ 15
TO A REFORMER .................................... 18
THE SEA............................................. 19
IN MEMORIAM ...................................... 20
OXFORD IMPRESSIONS ............................ 22
A RONDEL ........................................... 26
EX LIBRIS ............................................ 27
CONSTANCY .......................................... 29
THE PATH TO— .................................... 31
CAPPING DAY, 1910 .............................. 33
COLLEGE NOTES ..................................... 37
A SHRIEK ............................................. 41
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS ............................... 41

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES—
   Debating Society ................................ 43
   Christian Union ................................. 49
   Glee Club ........................................ 51
   Men's Common Room Club ..................... 52
   Social News ....................................... 58
   Engagements ...................................... 55
   Hockey (Men's) .................................. 55
   ... (Ladies') ................................... 57
   Boxing ............................................. 59
   Football ........................................... 60
   Athletics ......................................... 64
   Cricket ............................................ 65
   Swimming ......................................... 65
   Tennis ............................................. 66

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS .................. 67

ILLUSTRATIONS—
   Students' Association Executive .......... 4
   Mrs. D. K. Picken, M.A. ..................... 21
   Mr. J. W. Joyn ................................ 30
   V.C. Men's Hockey Club ....................... 42
   V.C. Ladies' Hockey Club ..................... 54
   V.C. Football Club .............................. 63
The Spike

...or...

Victoria College Review

(PUBLISHED TWICE IN THE SESSION)

The Editorial Committee invites contributions, either in prose or verse, on any subject of general interest from students or officials connected with the College. All literary communications should be addressed to THE EDITOR, Victoria College, Wellington.

Subscriptions are now due, and are payable to Mr. G. M. Cleghorn, Financial Secretary, Victoria College.

Vol. XI.  No. 2

Editorial.

"It never seems to occur to parents that there may be an education which, in itself, is advancement in life; that any other than that may perhaps be advancement in death; and that this essential education might be more easily got, or given, than they fancy, if they set about it in the right way; while it is for no price, and by no favour, to be got, if they set about it in the wrong."—Ruskin—"Sesame and Lilies."

In an interesting and thoughtful article in a recent number of "The Atlantic Monthly," Ernest O. Sisson, treats of the "Educational Emergency" that has arisen in the United States, and his observations and conclusions must commend themselves to every thoughtful observer of the trend of our University. He shows that all the earlier writers magnify the moral aim of education. "Milton's definition unmistakably declares his view: 'I call, therefore, a complete and generous education, that which fits a man to perform justly, skilfully and magnanimously all the offices, both private and public, of peace and war.' As to the classics he says: 'The main skill and ground work will be to temper the pupils with such lectures and explanations upon every opportunity as may lead and draw them into willing obedience, inflamed
with the study of learning and admiration of virtue, stirred up with high hopes of living to be brave men and worthy patriots, dear to God and famous to all ages. With Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, one ideal is always supreme, that of moral thoughtfulness and devotion to duty; all else is auxiliary and subordinate. . . When we come to current educational discussion we find a surprising change of emphasis . . . far less stress is laid upon the moral element.” This latter statement Mr. Sisson amply substantiates, by a reference to the numerous reports of those commissions on education which have provided such excellent evidence of the trend of educational thought in the United States.

A little reflection convinces us that in our own discussions we have suffered from the same neglect of what is really the main point at issue—the ultimate aim of all education. We have disussed the merits and demerits of our syllabus and the method of conferring degrees, and have to a very large extent left the main question untouched and neglected. The classics have girded up their loins and defended their ancient citadels against the determined advance of science, and the natural science and mathematical subjects have stood firm against the shocks of short-sighted utilitarianism. The battle of degrees has served to add confusion to the conflict and the system of an examining University, and English examiners have been embroiled in the struggle. The dust and turmoil of these many-sided issues have served to temporarily distract attention from the main object of education, an object which has been so clearly and forcibly stated by Milton, and insisted upon by all the educational leaders of the past.

Only the valor of ignorance will contend that the object of education is the acquisition of knowledge. The short span of life is not enough to enable us to take all knowledge for our sphere. Nor will any but the short-sighted contend that specialisation should be our aim. For a specialist, although useful, must remain an exception, and education cannot deal only with exceptions. No! the object of our education—of our University—must be the formation of character, the faculty of seeing and electing to follow what is right and true. In order to train these faculties we must needs cultivate each individual’s power of judgment and decision,
quicken his perceptions, and endeavour to awake his creative power. The acquisition of a certain amount of information as a basis of a large number of our judgments, and as an instrument for the perception of larger and nobler truths is, of course, essential. But this is but the foundation of knowledge, and should be acquired prior to a student's entry to the University. The function of higher education must be to train the judgment and awaken individual observation. How, then, are we performing this function?

Even in New Zealand—far from the hub of the Universe—our life has become too restless, too complicated, and too strenuous. So is it in University circles. The average student often has the opportunity to devote his first two academic years wholly to his studies; but too often chooses to spend these haleyon days in confined drudgery in a law office or school, with the result that his work is neglected, his studies narrowed, and his College course expedited and scamped. This—Heaven save the mark—is specialisation! This is education!

These are the fortunates who have it in their power to achieve—partially at least—the true ideal of a University. They could take an interest in the wider aspects of their work, appreciate its possibilities, realise its advantages, and simply revel in their studies. Alas! they reject the proffered gifts, and prefer "the dusty road along the flat to the braeing air and wondrous view from the high peaks of Olympus." They voluntarily and deliberately join the restless, the hurrying and the superficial. The day's work over, they attend lectures which, perfunctorily taken down, are not remembered or considered until the dread examination days. After lectures—and woe betide the Professor who prolongs his lecture—the student hastens to the work of the social or athletic organisations with which he is connected, and then—oh! hideous word—to "swat." Where is the opportunity for such a one for reflection, introspection or originality? When does he seek an insight into the great moral truths underlying the acquisition of knowledge and its application? What incentive or opportunity has he for attempting to create, to think his own thoughts and give his own expression to his own feelings? It would be better to take one subject, to take one book and appreciate and
master it thoroughly, than to have a smattering of dozens. This would not be specialisation—we do not mean a narrow book or subject—but one of wide range and recognised moral value. Better it is to acquire even a faint realisation of application of knowledge to the problems of life—of a certain amount of philosophic contentment—than a dozen degrees. We fear that at present we tend rather to destroy or weaken ideals and character than to raise them.

A Pessimist's Garden.

"Pessimism withers and corrodes everything it touches."—Amiel.

Four dead roses on one little tree...
That's all there is in my garden.
None of the roses are open in bloom,
They're only closed buds that harden.

One rose is Love, another is Joy;
The other two grow together—
Faith in the ultimate good of things,
And Hope for some gladsome weather.

Never a butterfly comes that way,
Nor a bee, so briskly winging,
Never a bird with quivering throat
Will pour out its heart in singing.

And no one comes to water my tree...
The little tree in my garden.
No one cares for the delicate buds;
They're left to wither and harden.

The sharp winds blow, but the tree lives on,
The ground bare sustenance giving;
A shrivelled, stunted and sickly growth,
What good does it find in living? M. L. N.
University Ideals in India
and Burma.

"The most noteworthy fact in the recent history of English University development is the gradual abandonment of two old ideals, namely, that of the Federal University and of the University which examines but does not teach" is the quotation with which the Director-General of Education in India began his last quinquennial report. He goes on further, however, to show that, though such a state of affairs has necessarily come about in England, the conditions in our Indian Empire are opposed to such a change; in fact, the principle of a Federal University, which examines those whom it has not taught, received a new lease of life by the University Act of 1904. According to this Act the weakest of the affiliated colleges should disappear, and the ties between the colleges and the parent University should be strengthened by a system of University inspection. It further required that the senates of the five existing Indian Universities should draw up a revised scheme for the courses of studies to be pursued. In each case the result has been much the same, and allowing for the essential differences due to national peculiarities, the schemes all tend to approximate to that which serves the University of London and the newer English Universities at the present day. In all cases there is at the end of two years an intermediate examination usually in some four subjects, and after the lapse of a second similar period a final examination in three or four subjects, one of which can be taken as an honours subject. Such is a typical course of study for a B.A. or B.Sc. degree in an Indian University.

The University of Calcutta approximates most closely to the London University, as is seen from the following scheme of subjects for the B.A. degree:—

1. English.
2. Composition in the vernacular of the candidate.
3-4. Two of the following, one at least from Group A.—

Group A includes History, Philosophy, Mathematics, Political Economy, Languages.
Group B includes the Sciences.

For the B.Sc. degree any group of three Sciences, including Mathematics, may be taken. In both degrees any one subject may be taken with honours, when more advanced papers are set. The Bombay, Allahabad and Punjab Universities have on the whole similar schemes, whilst the University of Madras demands more specialisation, requiring for the B.A. degree:—

1. English Language and Literature.
2. One of the following groups: Mathematics, Physical Science; Natural Science; History and Economics; Logic, Psychology and Ethics; two languages.

There is no B.Sc. degree. Honours in any one group of subjects may be taken after a further course of two years.

This brief summary will be sufficient to indicate the position and scope of Indian University education of today. There is yet to be discussed the remainder of the problem, namely, the human side of the question. Practically every student who comes to an Indian University College, does so with the intention of passing an examination, which will enable him to obtain some position in life, either in a private office, or preferably in some branch of the Government service. Most of them aim only at the Intermediate Examination, which generally secures them a clerkship or some minor post. The more ambitious and more highly gifted proceed further in the hope that they will eventually get some position in the provincial Civil Service, with the expectation of rising eventually to a position of dignity and importance. This being the case, it is evident that there is a keen desire at all costs to pass successfully a series of examinations, so that even where there might have been an inceptive desire to appreciate the value of learning for its own sake, this desire has been prostituted by the influence of the surroundings. Yet possibly the Indian student is the victim of circumstances, and a portion of the blame may be shifted to other shoulders. If his school education has been in the hands of incompetent teachers, it is difficult even for the most conscientious and painstaking University Professor to counteract the overwhelming influence of this previous training, and he, too, must inevitably become a portion of the educational machine,
doling out a series of artificially digested facts to be reproduced in the examination-hall with a specious air of understanding. And then, again, a considerable percentage of every professorial common-room has been nourished with the same medicine. The point has been raised whether the authorities could begin to combat this evil by reducing the number of lecture hours. In truth, the average student with his five lectures a day has little time to ponder over what he has heard, let alone even to examine sensibly his dictated notes, which, sadly enough, have not infrequently in places lost their very essence by errors in transcription.

There is, however, another point of view, whether some explanation is to be found owing to some fundamental difference in the workings of an Eastern and Western mind. The difference is elusive, yet nevertheless startlingly apparent, and this conviction becomes more deeply settled the longer one has lived in the Orient. It is a problem for future centuries to decide whether this is due simply to a difference in respect of inherited culture, which will tend to disappear in the course of time, as a cultured class, whose culture is based on European ideals, gradually makes itself evident in India, or whether even then there will remain an unfathomable gulf between the East and the West.

My own experience is limited to the province of Burma, where, though certain national characteristics distinguish the people, nevertheless the main points of difference between the East and West remain the same. I have been struck in the students generally by the extraordinary absence of any sense of proportion, a quality which should result from education in its best sense, and what is particularly noticeable in teaching a scientific subject, the lack of observational power, and I am speaking of students of three and four years' standing. But the psychology of the young Burman's mind, when he is beginning the study of a subject like Chemistry, is rather fascinating. The sudden shock it receives when, for example, there is seen for the first time the colour of a solution changing from blue to red, shatters for a moment the thin veneer of European education and the mind is reduced to its primitive state of jungle superstition. It is extraordinary what a difficulty is experienced in identifying substances by their smell. I have
found students, who, after three years, could not distinguish such characteristic smells as those of sulphur di-oxide and hydrochloric acid. Then, again, they appear to have a great difficulty in distinguishing shades of colour, and this is all the more remarkable when one thinks of the pantochromatic nature of the "Silken East." It might be argued that this and other difficulties might be due to their incomplete knowledge of English; at the beginning of their University career this may be so, but towards the end of their course it should not be such an active cause.

At present those in this province who are interested in education, are being agitated by the proposal to found a University of Burma. But it is pointed out that as long as University studies are pursued merely with the object of securing some Civil appointment, the present affiliation to the Calcutta University is amply sufficient. It is replied that provision must be made for the Burmans to study such subjects as Medicine and Engineering, as it is hardly consistent with the welfare of the Burman nation that all the minor posts of this description should be occupied by natives of India. It is further insisted by others of more idealistic tendencies that one of the reasons for a University should be to encourage the study of oriental literature, especially of the classic language Pali, more particularly in the case of the monks, all the more since the elementary education of a great mass of the community is in their hands. And incidentally it will come as a surprise to many that the percentage of male Burmans who can read and write is higher than in many European countries, ranking, for instance, far higher than in Ireland. It is replied that the monks, nevertheless, are on the whole unintellectual, and that their knowledge of Pali consists of a number of lengthy prayers, which they can scarcely translate into Burmese. But to see them in the public libraries diligently tracing the faint outlines of the words of some Buddhist divinity from a tattered fragment of palm leaf, inlines one to take a more optimistic view. And there is no doubt that among the monks there are many cultured scholars. I may be forgiven for relating the following experience:—

Wandering one day round an old deserted pagoda in a small township not far from Rangoon, I was accosted in excellent English by a monk, who asked me if
like to come and see his monastery. He showed me his treasures, the holy relics of the Lord Buddha, which he had collected in his travels, and his beloved library, where there were books in Sanskrit, Pali, Cingalese and Burmese, and in all of these languages he seemed to be well informed, reading to me with evident pleasure a fragment of Sanskrit verse and an extract from the Cingalese. Surely a strange depth of culture in these strange surroundings.

And, without doubt, if a University could have the object of encouraging research in the classic Pali and in Burmese itself, in whose literature there are many classies, gradually becoming forgotten and lost with the course of time, a University were to be desired. Unfortunately there is an added internal difficulty in Burma, namely, that in Rangoon there are two Colleges affiliated to Calcutta, one the Government College, and the other a much smaller Baptist College, to which the Government has from time to time given extensive grants. There is no doubt that the idea of a Federated University, however good results it appears to give in India, is unsuitable for Burma, as it is certain that University teaching will be centred in Rangoon. The most satisfactory arrangement appears to be to convert the Government College into the nucleus of a University with Calcutta as a model, as far as the general course of studies is concerned, knowing already from direct experience its virtues and its failings, and to give to the smaller college the right of giving lectures in certain subjects, and to its students all the privileges of the University.

The question presents itself as to what constitutes the ideal University. It must be answered that the ideal University is different for each educational community, and that an approximation can be found only by an application of the method of trial and failure, taking advantage of the experience of systems under similar or closely related conditions. But above all extreme care should be taken not to alter too suddenly or too fundamentally an existing institution; where the failure has been possibly only a limited one. It must be remembered that the ideal

*The students are practically all Karens, who are not Buddhists.
University is possible only for the ideal student. But the ideal student does not require an ideal University; which causes the conclusion to be drawn that the best University must be of the nature of a compromise, for the ideal University can not be the best.

P. W. ROBERTSON.

Chloes Philosophy.

Chloe in her toadstool hat
Is a dream of airy grace,
Yet I often wonder at
Chloe in her toadstool hat;
Why, with beauty such as that,
Should she wish to hide her face?
Chloe in her toadstool hat
Is a dream of airy grace.

Chloe in her bottle skirt
Goes her way in flips and hops;
Though she's such an awful flirt,
Chloes in her bottle skirt,
I shall win her for a cert,
I shall catch her as she drops.
Chloe in her bottle skirt
Goes her way in flips and hops.

Chloe in her little shoes
Trips along on tiny toes;
Where's the man that could refuse
Chloe in her little shoes?
But I hold the strongest views
On those droopy-oopy bows:
Chloe in her little shoes
Trips along on tiny toes.

Thus says Chloe unto me,
Answering my present passion:
"You had better wait and see,"
Thus says Chloe unto me,
In a decade you may be
"Once again my latest fashion."
Thus says Chloes unto me,
Answering my present passion.

SARTOR.
A Rhodes Scholar in the Making.

Full many a rose is born to blush unseen.
—Riddiford.

Dear Spike,—

While still a boy I was told to choose a profession. My father favoured law but, being a J.P., naturally knew less about it than most people; my uncle, the undertaker, suggested medicine, but he was biased; my mother wanted me to be a soldier, but my calves were really never intended for putties; I myself favour engineering, but when it took two days to clear our house of water after the installation of my first patent water-tap, I thought that perhaps after all engineering might not be in my line. So I was still wondering whether I should be a sea captain or a bishop, when a friend said to me, "Why not be everything; a microcosmic epitome of all things good; a living Reference Dictionary beginning with a hundred pages on Every man his own Cook, and ending with two pages on the History of the World?" That, dear Spike, is what made me decide to become a Rhodes Scholar. I immediately went into active training for the billet, and this being the busy season for Rhodes Scholars, I ask you now to espouse my cause for nomination from Victoria College.

Mr. Rhodes expressed the desire that the successful candidate for his scholarship should possess various qualifications, and till quite recently I deemed it inconceivable that any human being could combine in himself so many virtues. However, a short course of introspection and self-examination has made me change my mind on this matter, and I have now no hesitation in placing my undoubted claims before you.

First, then, two of the necessary qualifications I have to perfection: to the best of my knowledge and belief I am sane and unmarried. As a matter of fact, I know some quite respectable fellows who are neither, but then Oxford is rather conservative; or perhaps Mr. Rhodes put this clause in his will at the special request of a favourite niece or two who happened to be about at the time. I shall ask Hall-Jones.
Rightly holding that a public school was no fit place for one of my exceptional attainments, my parents sent me straight to the High School, and there were developed to the full those qualities which make me fulfil so admirably the requirements of Mr. Rhodes.

As to my literary and scholastic attainments at school, I enclose a testimonial from Mr. P. J. Girth, headmaster, who said it was a pleasure to write a testimonial like mine. My first intending employer to whom I presented it, said he had never seen one like it, but regretted his office was fully staffed at the moment. I may add that if I did not win any prizes or scholarships, it is only evidence of my unselfishness and kindliness, and the interest I took in my school-fellows. In Greek I was top of the class for three years, but no prize was awarded me, possibly because it was an extra subject and I was the class. Again, for one year I sat next to a Rhodes Scholar, at present in Oxford, and in spite of the fact that I could hardly read his handwriting and the vigilance of the master, our marks were equal throughout the year.

Once more my instincts to lead became apparent, and at a sham fight I led my squad of cadets into a position from which it took a Major and a dictionary an hour to extricate them. It was on the strength of this that I was offered a commission in the Officers' Training Corps. But I anticipate.

My fondness for manly outdoor games was the talk of the school, and it was indeed unfortunate that my sisters should require my escort to their dancing class on Saturday afternoons, thereby preventing me from active participation in the games. However, such self-sacrifice should tell greatly in my favour when it comes to the selection, and I may say that in dancing I am second to none.

At our athletic sports I was a constant competitor, my most regular event being the Consolation race. Indeed, at one meeting I came fifth in the mile Walk, and two of those in front of me having been disqualified and one found to be over age for the event, the second prize was about to be awarded to me, when it was discovered that I had inadvertently started from 250 yards ahead of my mark. However, on leaving school I presented a medal to be competed for annually in this event, an act which would have undoubtedly delighted Mr. Rhodes.
Of my sympathy for and protection of the weak I shall give but one instance. A small and timid boy having purchased some toffee at the corner shop, was cruelly assaulted with intent to rob by one bigger than he. Without hesitation I thereupon relieved him of his toffee, his assailant desisted from a useless attack, and, being bigger than either, I walked away with a clear conscience.

The Matriculation Examination presented no difficulties to me, and on the fifth attempt I passed with flying colours. My masters and coaches for that examination said I was quite unique, and I enclose testimonials from them to that effect.

My University career is too well known to all to need recapitulation here. Suffice it to say that during the seven years I have been at Victoria College, I have taken a lively interest in my own and everyone else’s business, and next year I hope to complete my B.A. My professors hope so too. I have been proposed for almost every position on almost every committee, and the pleasant laugh which greets my name when I am proposed is sufficient evidence of my popularity. If I have not been elected, it is only because my unselfishness, again in evidence, has compelled me to ask my friends not to vote for me.

I have been fourth emergency for the 3B Hockey Team, have refereed in a girls’ match, and joined the Officers’ Training Corps.

Besides all this, I am a valued member of the Anti-Professorial-Derelict Association, Boots-for-Babes Society, Afternoon Tea League, and No-Sox Brigade. Only once in my life have I drunk an intoxicating and spirituous liquor, the claret cup at the farewell dinner to Mr. Joynt, but Sir Robert Stout and Mr. Ostler also drank it. Only once in my life have I smoked, but it was one of Professor Mackenzie’s cigars; since then I have smoked no other.

Now Sir, I ask you, can you imagine any man who more completely fulfils the requirements of Mr. Rhodes? If you can, please let me know, and, casting off the veil of modesty so much in evidence herein, I shall flash upon you in my true and full brilliance. There is no doubt in my mind as to the proper person for the scholarship, but in these days, when true merit is often not recognised, I shall be glad of your valuable support.
For further testimonials, let me refer you to James, our butler, Ah Hop Flee, our greengrocer, and Joe Carter, a valued friend of the family.

Yours truly,
GOODAS GOTTIT.

H.B. (for Kirk)—I am fond of animals. When I go to Oxford my dog remains here.
D.V. (for Richmond)—I never snore.
B.C. (for von Zedlitz)—I am of Baronial descent, Munchausen being one of the family.
A.D.T. (for all the others)—My mother is Scotch on her uncle’s side.

To a Reformer.

After attending a Lecture delivered to the English Class.
‘Tis vain to urge the lofty enterprise;
We turn dejected to our books again
Where, dry as dust each inspiration dies.
It is in vain.

No cool sequestered path brings thoughts in train
For carnival, clad in enchanting guise;
No pleasumee, for our sorrow, doth remain
Where we wander, with enraptured eyes.
Into forgotten hoards with touch profane
The ruthless finger of instruction pries;
And the dread thought that is our yearly bane
Dispels the glamour of our summer skies.
Strive not to start ambition forth again,
Dream not that at thy words our hopes can rise:
It is in vain.

—‘E.’
The Sea.

The ocean tramp is thrashing through the flying salty spray,
The scudding clouds from southward swiftly northwars made their way;
'Cross the harbour-mouth Pencarrow hears the rollers breaking high,
By the seabirds wheeling landwards knows another storm is nigh—
The crashing waves are thumping 'gainst her weather-beaten sides
Her whirling screw is racing as she pitches on the tides;
But she boldly battles onward through the seas, now foaming white,
Till her battered hull is hidden in the falling shades of night.

Below me waves are groaning as they dash upon the shore,
About me winds are howling louder than the breakers' roar:
My restless spirit's troubled with a cloud that will not flee,
How I long to be alone beside the stormy, open sea;
I hate the dingy city, with its fashions and it sin,
I hate its buzz and bustle, and my heart cries out within,
Till I leave it all behind me—seek the lonely, rocky shore,
Where the baulked and reef-barred waves dash high, the Pacific's billows roar.

There the thunder of the rollers gives a peace that few can know,
And the shrieking of the seabirds seems a music soft and low,
To my whare on the seashore calls my heart in times like these,
There from ceaseless toil and troubling my weary spirit flees;
But the restlessness will leave me when the sun comes out again,
And I'll be as fresh in spirit as the hills are after rain.
Then I'll hear the city calling back to bustle and to strife,
And I'll mock the whims and fancies that make our little life.

"QUARE."
In Memoriam.

We print opposite a photograph of Mrs. Picken. By her early death a most lovable personality has been removed from our midst. Although resident less than two years in Wellington, Mrs. Picken had attracted to herself a wide circle of friends. Wherever she went, her gracious presence was felt, and she possessed in pre-eminent degree the gift of drawing forth the best in those around her.

From the first, Mrs. Picken made it plain that the welfare of our College was very dear to her heart. Whether as a member of the Women’s Hostel Council, as President of the Ladies’ Hockey Club, or privately as the wife of one of our Professors, she threw herself generously into every form of useful service open to her. By her counsel, co-operation, and hospitality, she assisted the College societies and strengthened our social life.

In the wider service of the community, Mrs. Picken was ever ready and willing to work in a good cause.

But it was those who were privileged to meet Mrs. Picken in her own home who most fully realised the rare kindliness and true graciousness of her nature. Of many groups of student friends she was the centre, and in all that loomed large in student eyes she took the keenest interest. Thus her home came to occupy a unique place amongst us. Though, indeed, the results of its influence will never fully be made manifest, the passage of the years will reveal more and more its wide-reaching effects.

The photograph now published will be to many a lasting memorial of the sweet and gentle friend all too soon withdrawn.
Oxford Impressions.

There are, it seems, two methods of writing upon Oxford. The first, which is also the most popular in these days of scientific investigation, will pursue the subject after the hard manner of a research thesis, laboriously extracting truth by the aid of statistics bearing on cranial variations, physical abnormalities, and so forth, tabulated and correlated with the examination lists. This method also shows a tendency to enter into the very sordid question of bread and cheese, and the price of College beer. The second method, almost as popular, and much affected by those who trod "The High" as undergraduates some thirty or forty years ago, invests the towers of Oxford with a soft autumnal glow and is informed by the spirit of a tender reminiscence. The first manner would have something to recommend it were it not for the fact that it has already been appropriated by the great American nation as peculiarly their own; the second manner has its charms also, provided the reader is an Oxford man, knowing what allowances are necessary, but it is to be feared that in the case of a man ignorant of Oxford, it would give rise to serious misapprehensions, and produce in the end a totally false impression. As description it is only poetically true; and the colonial undergraduate who builds his expectations of Oxford upon data drawn from the pages of these warmer lovers of the classic Isis, will verily experience the pangs of disillusionment when first he sees Oxford as she is. If he be wise, he will quietly set himself to adjust the delicate balance existing between cold reality and its alluring equivalent in terms of poetry, and if a worthy alumnus, Oxford will readily yield her secrets to him. But if, on the other hand, he be foolish, he will vent his spleen in angry words to be repented afterwards at his abundant leisure.

Oxford affects the undergraduate in an astonishing variety of ways, and it is very wrong to imagine that a man issues from her portals after three or four years' residence a recreated being, possessed of attributes that stamp him unmistakably "an Oxford man." The indolent rich man, for example, will remember his career as a series of pleasurable exploits, the pleasure being enhanced by a wistful recollection of the disciplinary
asperities of his Dean. The idea of associating Oxford with any serious intellectual endeavour will simply never enter his head. He may have indulged in some form of athletic exercise, but most probably his ambitions were circumscribed within the limits of golf and roller skating. It is just possible that this kind may get some good from Oxford in a very indirect way, but in any case, the type is hardly worth discussion. There are many such at Oxford. There is again the undergraduate who makes use of his Oxford opportunities solely as a means towards worldly preferment. The advantages and disadvantages of such an ideal are too obvious to require much comment. The worker, who is nothing more, is not "ragged" at Oxford—he is merely left alone; but the lot of one "left alone" at Oxford can be a desperately solitary one. The enjoyment of an Oxford career depends entirely upon the man. If he has no social qualities to speak of, if he is uninteresting and commonplace, he will find it difficult to gain entrance into College societies. In this connection, it may be noted that mere wealth will go but a short way at Oxford, and then only with certain small and undesirable sets. There remains the ordinary man who passes through without high intellectual distinction, who has indulged freely in the various athletic and social activities of his College, who has made numerous friendships, and on the whole thoroughly enjoyed himself. Undoubtedly he has benefited, though it is difficult precisely to say how, for again it depends so entirely upon the man. Perhaps he has become broader-minded and more tolerant, probably he has contracted a liking for philosophical discussion, but, above all, he has amassed a multitude of recollections that will be passing sweet in the aftertime.

The most valuable element in Oxford life is to be found not in the wisdom gathered from lecture rooms, nor in the strenuous pleasures of the field, but rather in the unexampled opportunity for close intercourse with men of a like age, whose minds and ideals are approaching maturity. Collected about a study hearth in the early hours, a few men will become frankly and seriously communicative; in the cut and thrust discussions of College societies, where there is no quarter sought or given, wits are sharpened and the understanding generously nourished. This is essentially an intellectual pleasure, and, after all is said, the important, the enduring good to be
obtained from an Oxford career is, in character, intellectual. But one may question, without being of necessity taxed with pessimism, whether the majority of Oxford undergraduates appropriate this intellectual inspiration which is, of all things, most worth the having.

There are, of course, many who delude themselves into the belief that they have sought and grasped the elusive good; more still, unfortunately, are content to relinquish the quest after a short pursuit, in favour of the more facile pleasure of College life. It is always well to remember that great nonsense has been spoken and written of Oxford’s magic influences; it is also vitally important to guard against the importation into the University of a withering materialism. It is true that Oxford is undergoing a change; she is no longer the exclusive haunt of England’s gilded youth, the happy hunting ground of our “high-spirited young gentlemen.” She is gradually opening wider her doors to the nation, and assuming a more and more important function in the life of the Empire. Scholarships are fast bringing an Oxford education within the reach of picked men from all classes of the people. Men with scholarships are, naturally, inclined to take themselves and Oxford very seriously. The man desirous of putting his University opportunities to the best advantage for his life’s future, has become commoner at Oxford within the last ten years. All is well if he attains his cherished end, while at the same time submitting himself to the influences of College life. The difficulty, of course, is to harmonise the two aims, and it must be confessed with sorrow that in a majority of cases one aim is sacrificed for the attainment of the other. There is a danger, therefore, that with the wholly excellent popularisation of the University, the less apprehensible but intensely real benefits of College life may be forced out. As yet, the danger has not appeared in any serious form at Oxford, and possibly the admirable compromise effected between freedom and discipline in the Oxford College system will always offer an effectual resistance against its entry.

To a colonial, Oxford offers the spectacle of a strange compromise between what is ancient and what is modern. In the forenoon of term, the winding, mediaeval streets are thronged with undergraduates in motley garb only very partially covered by the ordinary Commoner’s gown;
women students, who in this benighted land are denied not only the franchise but also the right to academic status, flit past the frowning Bodleian unheeding its antiquity, nay, rather defying it, on modern free-wheel bicycles. (But perhaps they are not to blame; they must use bicycles because their Halls lie at such vast distances away from the habitations of man.) A Balliol undergraduate may, by gazing from a study window of the time of the Plantagenets, behold across the street the last word in socks and ties; a few men in Trinity are similarly privileged. The oak panelling of some College halls dates back five hundred years; the very silver mug, out of the depths of which the happy undergraduate drains his beer, may have served exactly the same purpose for some bibulous predecessor of the seventeenth century; but the Don who checks the College accounts and suspends from time to time the "commons" of some luckless defaulter, is imbued with the unrelenting modernity of a patent cash register. The bed on which one's languid person reposes, may have borne the weight of Sydney Smith a hundred years ago, but the scout who obsequiously "calls" at 7 a.m. and apologetically hints at some preparation for the morning's devotional office, is as keenly alive to his own interests in the matter of tips and perquisites as any waiter in a Piccadilly restaurant. Oxford is a compromise, therefore, between ancient and modern.

The normal undergraduate too, is in general, a person of some interest; but more especially in seasons of jubilation. In most Colleges the breaking of glass and the burning of furniture are de rigueur on such interesting occasions. In the morning, stern retribution invariably waits upon these nocturnal exertions; but fines are paid with a charming acquiescence. The Oxford undergraduate is more easily amused than his colonial brother; he also pays more for his amusement. But he is, after all, a most likeable fellow.

There is also in most of the good Colleges a wholly delightful intimacy existing between undergraduates and dons, generally, of course, the younger dons. Such connections naturally presuppose an extremely delicate mutual understanding of the limits within which they are possible. It is, surely, unnecessary to dilate upon the advantages that result from this most admirable feature of the Oxford College system.
But these scattered remarks have already broken all reasonable bounds, and, as such, become amenable to the disciplinary exactions of the Editor. The writer would, in conclusion, claim some slight indulgence on the score of inexperience—it is treacherous to generalise upon a limited acquaintance. One thing is certain, however: the years that are to run will assuredly bring a greater and not a lesser love of Oxford and her Colleges.

A. MeD.

A Rondel.

Her eyes are as false lights that shining gleam,
And luring, beckon storm-tost men with bitter cries
To death: Yet wondrous pure and true they seem,
    Her eyes.

Poor witless wights that wist not that he dies
And leaves his bones a-bleaching by the ghastly stream.
Who trusteth the deep light that in them lies.

Their flame hath power to draw with piteous scream
An angel from the very courts of Paradise,
And yet they might a soul from Hell redeem—
    Her eyes.

L. L.
Ex Libris.

It was brilliant moonlight, and Kirk's dog was howling dismally at intervals. As the clock on the stairs struck twelve, silence reigned throughout the whole College, except in that one place where it never reigns, however much the student pores over his book—we mean the Library.

"What do you think of it all?" asked the Greek Lexicon, in a tone of general inquiry. "Haud scio aut—" began the Latin dictionary, but was cut short by the paper knife: "Don't you really think you could say all that just as well outside? But, frankly," he went on, "I consider all this fuss is just a lot of rot; why shouldn't a fellow say a few words to another fellow, or to a girl, if he feels inclined? Its absolutely absurd!"

"'Ear, 'ear, them's my sentiments"—it was the slang dictionary speaking; "'wot's the good er bein' the slave er yer own rules? 'Sides, they blokes don't make much row, any'ow; it's ther tar—er, er, girls—'ut cause all the trouble."

There was a general laugh at this. "Well, well," spluttered an inkpot, "things are not so bad now. Why, haven't you noticed, even the Greek translation class seems to have given up?"

"Meets in the corridor downstairs," interjected an Aristophanes that had been borrowed. "Ask Von, he knows all about it."

"Don't be rude! As I was saying," the inkpot continued, "things are not so bad; the girls wait till he's out of the room now, then they make the most of their opportunities, and sit tight when he comes back."

There was another outburst of laughter.

"Ah," said the Encyclopaedia Britannica Index, "the girls are not the worst; there's somebody makes more noise than any daughter of Eve I'm acquainted with. Isn't it Polybius who talks somewhere about 'great earth-shaking beasts'?—but rubber heels were unknown in those days. There!"

The law-abiding door, which had been left ajar, closed with a thunderous clang in the draught of the rising northernly.
"Why, I could almost have sworn that was he, though we should have heard from the swing doors first, I suppose. Yes, after all, you can hardly blame the students—they have such splendid examples set them, but of course there are more points of view than one."

A calm, deep, precise voice spoke up from the Librarian's table. "Perhaps I might be permitted to say a few words on this subject. I think I can claim to know something about it."

It was the blotting pad that spoke, and his words were full of absorbing interest. "To begin with," he said, "you must remember that this library is intended, first and foremost, for the student. Now, the great majority of those who attend lectures here are not, and never will be, students in the proper sense of the term. To them the Library is a very convenient place for whiling away an odd half-hour or so (after tennis, for instance, or between tea and Latin); there they can meet their friends without the bother of hunting for them, and, well, a few minutes' conversation is neither here nor there, not, at least, as far as they are concerned. The remedy is plain; let those who don't want to read stop outside, and not interfere with those who do; let those already in the Library go outside if they want to start a conversation. Of course, where only half-a-dozen words are to pass, going outside would be the greater evil, for, goodness knows, there's enough slamming of doors already, but even although the disturbance caused in a single instance is slight, cases tend to multiply, the tone of the room becomes social rather than studious, and the mischief's done."

"Hm!" spoke up a "Spectator" from the English shelves, "I can see that there's much to be said on both sides, but suppose we change the subject. How do you other people like your new quarters?"

Then arose such a storm that—well—the roof of the gym., ever so far away, began to make tracks for the open sea, and the consequent bill for repairs has well-nigh bankrupted the Stud. Ass.

HERE NIKI
Constancy.

Phoebus now doth climb and clutch
To grasp the fleeting moon.
And reaches far o'er hill and down
Futilely until noon.
She, fickle jade, her glories spread
To lure him from afar,
But scarcely has he won his place
Than she, with mocking side-turned face
Forestalls his coming ear.

Yet every month, his blood on fire
With unabated zest,
The aged dupe is tricked again
To follow up the quest;
And thus has Luna led him round
From primal days to this;
But from the ear he's driven in,
Have mortals caught and thriven in
The ardour of his kiss.

On earth this frolic of the god
Has, too, its counterpart,
But mortal sons more blessed are
In questings of the heart.
But if a kiss flung does go wide
And heartache follows thence—
What matter then? Love is not vain;
If thwarted, it is still a gain,
As ripe experience.

"TERRA."
Mr. J. W. JOYNT

Soon he'll be back by the lakes of Killarney,
And giving the colleens a taste of his blarney,
With Kathleen Mayournen and also Kate Kearney,
One on each side of bould Registrar Joynt!
When he gets tired of code-words and marks,
Back to his green little island he harks,
Boycotting daily, and dancing jigs gaily,
And twirling shillelagh—

J. W. Joynt.
The Path to —

The 1911 Tournament.

AUCTOR: On the 13th April next, on the eve of Good Friday, 1911,—

LECTOR: Excuse my interrupting, but "13th" and "Friday" (to say nothing of Eve)—that's an unlucky start surely!

AUCTOR: Away with superstition! Fear not, dear Lector. I tell you, nay, I swear it, that the 13th April will prove anything but an unlucky day for you if you accompany the happy throng of students who will leave Wellington on that day to attend the Tournament of 1911. If you don't believe me, well, when you have an hour or two to spare, ask any of those who enjoyed the attractions of the Queen City of the North and the lavish hospitality of the A.U.C. students during the tournaments of 1903 and 1907.

LECTOR: You talk about "the Tournament" as though there were only one tournament ever held. Explain yourself. To what Tournament do you refer?

AUCTOR: Well, I confess I didn't quite expect that question. When a College student speaks of "the Tournament" he means the N.Z. University Tournament in athletics, tennis and debating (and shall I add dancing?) which has been held during Easter in each year since 1902 at Christchurch, Auckland, Dunedin and Wellington in rotation in the order named. You must make up your mind to be one of V.C.'s chosen representatives next Easter. If you can't be one of the two debaters, you may gain a place in the Tennis team, which consists of four men and six ladies. Failing either of these, have a try at least for a place in the athletic team, which has never yet had its full complement of "representatives," in the true sense of the term. It is galling, for instance, to think that out of all the athletic men at our College we cannot get a good weight putter. If we could get fifty of our most likely men to have a friendly bout some evening I feel sure we should discover one or two men who would acquit themselves creditably with practice. But, alas, all our men are so positive beforehand that they would "be no good at it."

LECTOR: You make me feel I want to try myself; but it's no use growling at me because the other forty-nine
fellows won't turn out. Tell me instead whither is this happy throng of students setting out on the 13th April next?

AUCTOR: For Auckland. The representatives of O.U. and C.C. will arrive here on the Thursday morning, and after an hour or two in Wellington, will leave in company with the V.C. representatives by the Main Trunk train on their nineteen hours' journey. About a hundred students—perhaps more—will be travelling in each other's company for about 400 miles—mostly strangers. I grant you on leaving this city—all rivals seeking each other's scalps, but before Auckland is reached, if the experience of past Tournaments be any guide, many lasting friendships will have been formed between those who but for the Tournament might never have met one another.

To enlarge upon the benefits to all concerned of this meeting with the "big fellows" of the other Colleges, would be to insult your intelligence.

LECTOR: Thank you, Auctor; your eloquence does you credit. But what happens in Auckland after the delights of the train journey are over?

AUCTOR: Well, on arrival early on Good Friday morning, the A.U.C. students will first attend to the billeting of those visitors who wish to be so accommodated. There will probably be an official reception of the visitors on Saturday morning, after which the Tennis Championships will be commenced. There will be a picnic in the moonlight the same day. Easter Monday is devoted to the Athletic Championships, the Debating Contest taking place in the evening. The Tennis concluded on Tuesday, and a glorious dance will follow. Assuming that the Main Trunk time-table remains the same as at present, the return journey will be begun at 9 p.m. on either Tuesday or Wednesday night after Easter.

LECTOR: It sounds like a page from the Arabian Nights. One won't feel inclined to come back at all! At any rate, I feel convinced that I ought to "get busy" and see Dave Smith or Frank Wilson about it.

AUCTOR: Thank you, Lector. I am glad to have met you. A real "trier" is sure to get there. I'll see you in Auckland at Easter, and, meantime, we'll meet on the training field.

LECTOR: Thank you. I shall "get there" if I can. Au revoir.

The Procession.

This year marked an innovation in our Capping Carnivals. For several weeks a band of enthusiasts devoted their time and energies to the preparation of such a students' procession as those which for some years have marked Diploma Day at our sister Colleges. Weird structures began to take shape at the rear of the College, and on the day appointed, a strange and motley assembly foregathered on Kelburne Parade. Mohammed and Mephistopheles rubbed shoulders in the front of the procession, and the way being cleared by an Indian Chief and a mounted policeman, strange, indeed, was the crew that followed. The strains of the Kilties' Band would have roused the blood of any loyal Scotchman (or anyone else's for that matter), and the Drum-major was the envy of all the small boys, and the admiration of all the nursemaids in the city. A group of Territorials (as they ought to be), with uniforms almost as varied as those of a volunteer battalion, preceded a stalwart group of Maoris entrenched in the State coal waggon, jumping down at intervals and dancing realistic hakas. Hard upon their prehistoric heels came a many-footed dragon, of wobbly gait. Pugilists found a Jeffries-Johnson contest in full swing, in which, however, the verbal knocks that Johnson dealt poor Jeffries were much harder than the actual fighting. A Salvation Army Biorama was recording every blow, but the operators were once compelled to defend themselves from outraged members of the real Salvation Army, who were not in the procession. The operations performed by a gang of budding surgeons upon a suffering local body presented all the most gruesome aspects of the operating theatre, and were marked by the frequency and freedom with which they were performed. The coolness and complacency of the charming nurse (her name we cannot tell) were the subject of much comment on the part of the admiring public. A bride with a magnificent Chantieler hat of Brobinagian proportions excited the envy of the female sex. The Chief Justice (smoking!!!), Dr. Gibb, Rev. J. J. North, the Henry-Potts Mission, and a host of other notables added to the representative character of the
procession. We had, however, nearly forgotten one item which excited a great amount of speculation on the part of the crowd, and that was a draped figure bearing some resemblance to a picture of Lot's wife we once saw in an illustrated volume of "Pilgrim's Progress." Some considered that it was symbolical of one of our chief industries, the frozen mutton trade, but were quite wrong, for it was none other than the shade of Napoleon Bonaparte, who, deigning to forego his annual appearance on the platform at the Plunket Medal Competitions, where he has been a source of perennial amusement, mounted a ward to participating in next year's procession.

The motley array wound its way through the principal streets, stopping in the Post Office Square, where a speech appropriate to the occasion was delivered by "Sir Joseph Ward" dressed in the Windsor uniform, which is so inseparable from State occasions. Altogether the new departure proved a success, and we are all looking forward to participating in next year's procession.

**The Capping Ceremony.**

At the last November examinations, Victoria College had again the honour of heading the degree lists for New Zealand. Over three dozen successful graduates received their diplomas at the last capping ceremony. This function was held, as usual, in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall, in the presence of a large gathering of citizens. By the irony of fate, the platform, with the Chancellor, the Professors, and the members of the Senate, was surrounded by a large hoarding dilating upon the wicked joys of "White Cub" cigarettes and various tobaccos. The Chancellor's speech was listened to for a quarter of an hour by the students, and then as a protest they left the hall. The effect of their action was, however, somewhat marred by the eagerness of some of the public who had previously been unable to obtain an entrance, and who now flocked to the seats the students had vacated. Sir Robert Stout neatly turned the tables on the students at the close of proceedings by thanking them for their courtesy in giving their seats to the general public. His Excelleney the Governor made a short speech, excellently delivered, and entirely in sympathy with the University ideals. The most entertaining effort of the afternoon was the "aeroplane" flight of Mr. von
Haast into the "aerial regions" of oratory, which edued the commundrum: "Why is von Haast like the College carpenter?" "Because he's always soaring." Professor Laby (our latest "addition") broke an indignant lance in refutation of several of the Chancellor's contentions, and lent quite a contentious air to the otherwise placid proceedings. D. S. Smith, as the representative of the students, addressed the meeting, emphasising the necessity for the provision of an adequate library for the College, and the advisability of choosing the Rhodes scholar at an earlier age than is at present the case.

The Carnival.

This year's Capping Carnival, held on Thursday and Friday, June 30th and July 1, was in no degree inferior to its predecessors. The capping songs themselves, although they may, from the point of view of wit, have fallen below the average level of some previous Carnivals, fully made up for this deficiency by the brightness of the tunes to which they had been set. The Glee Club gave a few items, including the "Soldier's Chorus" from "Faust," and astonished everyone by the great improvement they showed in their performances. Miss Straack sang Arditi's "Rosebuds," whilst Dr. D. N. Isaac succeeded himself in his realistic rendering of "A Melodrama: In Five Arts and Fifteen Scenes." But probably the best appreciated item of the first half of the programme was J. D. Smith's natural and amusing rendering of the topical song, entitled "Smoking."

The extravaganza, which was entitled "The Bended Bow," was composed by an industrious band of students—Miss E. Fell, and Messrs. A. Bogle, G. M. Cleghorn, S. Eichelbaum, F. A. de la Mare, and G. H. Nicholls. The first tableau showed how the calls to arms was obeyed in the time of the ancient Britons. "Three ancient" ladies, representing the Peace Society, of the existence of which among the Druids we were heretofore all quite ignorant, gained the applause of the audience by their quaint incongruity, and pleased the feminine portion in particular by the originality of their costumes. In the next tableau, representing the call to arms in Roman days, L. P. Leary scored a great success in the Praetor's Song. The third tableau portrayed the arrival of dashing Cap-
tain Cook in these islands, and was enlivened by one of those splendid hakas which are such established features of our Carnivals. The last tableau contained an impressive allegorical representation of the response of the Dominions to Britain’s call for assistance, and concluded with an amusing burlesque of modern militarism:

"And the world must bend the knee
To the famous O.T.C.,
The last and finest product of the State."

On the second evening, as usual, the annual capping dance was held after the performance.

The Undergraduates' Supper.

"Wit and geniality for 'smart' young people are supposed to consist in smashing dishes and glasses and in bombarding each other with the remains of the dinner."—Gleichen-Russwurm—"European 'Society.'"

If the above words be true, this function proved that the smart young people in the ranks of Victoria College undergraduates are in no degree lacking in wit and geniality. The supper, which ought to have afforded an opportunity for a pleasant interchange of undergraduate good-feeling, culminated in aimless confusion, and the speakers were subjected to a persistent bombardment with sugar and cakes. The gathering showed a lack of organisation on the part of the committee, and good taste on the part of many of the students.

There seems no reason why the Students Association should not arrange in future that all the undergraduates (who, after all, form the main body of the students), should be welcomed at the graduates' supper as in time past. It seems to us that the idea underlying the function is that the whole College, and not merely the executive, should entertain and honour the graduates of the year, and in order to do this effectively they should meet together in one hall, and in one body.
College Notes.
"The time has come," the Walrus said,
"To speak of many things—
Of ships and shoes and sealing-wax,
Of cabbages and kings."

Rhodes Scholarship, 1911.
"The Smith a mighty man is he."—Longfellow.

Our readers are all, no doubt, satisfied with the candidate selected as our representative for next year's Rhodes Scholarship. The fitness and worthiness of D. S. Smith for the honour are too well recognised to require any comment on our part, and so we shall content ourselves with offering him our heartiest congratulations and wishing him every good fortune in the final ordeal.

Congratulations.

We are pleased to be able to record the appointment of J. L. Stout, LL.B., to the editorship of the New Zealand Law Reports, and offer him our sincere congratulations.

Women Students' Hostel.

There is an atmosphere of examinations in and around the Hostel, which accounts for the absence of frivolity which has marked the second term. "Swat" is the common occupation, and all who do not swat are quite out of fashion. This serene calm, however, was preceded by a storm, at the beginning of term, when we entertained friends at a social evening and dance. The first part of the evening was occupied by brain-racking competitions, the principal being the representation of a local topographical feature. The prize for the most original was won by Mr. Carroll, who gave a very realistic interpretation of "North-lands." The evening ended with an impromptu dance in the Common Room.

Afternoon tea parties apparently flourish, in spite of the studious air surrounding us, perhaps on account of it; and walking picnics are popular among the more leisureed or lighter-minded. We hope to see this form of diversion culminate, of course after the exams., in a general picnic, when the magnificent views of the harbour and the streets, to be gained by a little exertion, may be enjoyed by all.

Meanwhile, we wish the best of luck to those on whom the fauces Averni are just closing.
Capping Music.

We have to thank Mr. Maughan Barnett as being largely responsible for the success of our Capping Day festivities. For some weeks our authors had been seeking a suitable air for a run-through chorus—naturally a very important matter. In the composition of an extravaganza such as the Bended Bow, we look to the chorus to sum up and generalise the particular impressions left by each tableau. The music must be suitable, and the air must be one that will bear constant repetition. While the composers were still at a loss, Mr. Barnett most kindly offered to write the music. Mr. Barnett also supplied the music for the Peace Society song, perhaps the greatest success of the whole evening.

Battle of the Bays.

Capping Day means College songs, and College songs imply the expression of a College spirit. By their works ye shall know them, and we are very pleased to note this year that the number of aspirants has increased, and the production shows a great improvement on last year's work. The songs were good, and the extravaganza excellent. J. F. Thompson's songs gained the first and second prizes offered by the Students' Association. S. Eichelbaum's "Smoking," written after the entries had closed, was, probably, however, the most popular. The lecture, which has been given this term by F. A. de la Mare, and greeted with enthusiasm by large audiences of students, ought to do something towards increasing the interest of the students in this form of literature.

Annual Ball.

This function had its origin in a very laudable desire on the part of the students to meet and entertain the citizens of Wellington. The idea seemed a good one, and the motives were excellent. Has the institution realised its founders' hopes? We think not. Three annual balls have been held in the Town Hall; two have resulted in large deficits; all have met with singularly little response on the part of both students and the citizens. It now behoves us to consider the advisability of discontinuing the function. Can any serious reason be adduced for
its retention? There are more than enough dances to promote social life and intercourse among the students; and, moreover, the Students' Association is burdened with enough necessary and legitimate calls on its funds without this annual incumbrance. Every consideration seems to demand its discontinuance.

**Men's Common Room.**

The Men's Common Room is gradually taking on a more habited and habitable aspect. Among its recent additions is a set of neatly framed and lettered photographs representing a band of volunteers excavating on the old clay patch. The Club owes its thanks to R. St. J. Beere for this gift, which will remain as a record of our pioneer days, when no Gymnasium then proudly reared its head; nor Common Room beguiled the students into leisure. The Library is but scant as yet, but leaves room for improvement, and with the addition of a few easy chairs, the Common Room ought to become a comfortable haven for the weary and the leisureed few.

**Women's Common Room.**

An enlarged photograph of Mrs. Picken has been hung in the Common Room. It is a fitting and graceful gift from the Ladies' Hockey Club, of which Mrs. Picken was President.

The Common Room is now much improved in comfort, and the nucleus of a small library has been formed, but the committee of management desires to call the attention of every girl leaving College to the fact that there is still room for improvement. It would be a graceful act on the part of any such student, who feels that the Women's Common Room is of use or comfort, to offer a gift, book, cushion, picture, however inconsiderable, which yet might be of value to future students.

**College Reform.**

It is related of a certain Dumfries dame, who was a student not only of the art of (hen) culture, but of human nature, that she named her hens after the individuals whose character they most closely resembled. One she called Lord Roseberry, and when asked to explain,
said "It cackles a great deal, and gaes tae its nest an' stops there, and then comes awa' oot and cackles again, but when ye gang tae its nest ye winna fin' ony eggs." We haven't heard of the University Reform Association since our last issue.

**Student Wit.**

The audience which had come to hear the oratorical contest for the Plunket Medal was evidently determined to have a pleasant time and ready to seize the slightest opportunity for a laugh. The chairman quite inadvertently provided the first opening by stating that the Society trained speakers for the Bar and the Pulpit. The apparent antithesis caused an amused murmur, which increased at every reference to the "Bar," and such references were numerous. R. S. Watson, the first speaker, had, unfortunately, to depict his hero at the "Bar," and his attainments thereat. Thereafter, however, that excellent institution was absent, Cardinal Richelieu, John Nicholson, John Bright, and others having apparently had but a nodding acquaintance with it. The students were not content, however, to let the matter drop, and two excellent conundrums were devised. The first was, "What did Abe Lincoln have when he was called to the Bar?" "Watson's!" The second was, "Why was William the Silent never called to the bar?" "Because he wouldn't shout!" Even Thomas and the aide-de-camp smiled.

**College Greens.**

Our grounds are gradually losing their neglected appearance, and taking on a more cultivated aspect. Outraged Nature has taken upon herself to clothe with golden gorse the erstwhile barren (naked) cliffs that rise sheer on the south. A soft carpet of green borders a neat drive, and is fringed by a garden that promises bright flowers; and the sturdy taupata hedge that borders the wind-swept tennis courts raises a gnarled growth of bright leaves. The turf springs green on the terraces, and altogether we promise to look much less out-at-the-elbows than we have ever previously done. We shall be beautiful in the future—the distant future.
Acknowledgments.

We have to acknowledge the courtesy of the proprietors of the "Free Lance" in lending us the excellent blocks of the two hockey teams which we reproduce in this issue.

We have to acknowledge receipt of the following exchanges:—"Review" (O.U.), "Canterbury College Review," "Kiwi" (A.U.C.), "Waitakian," "Scindian," and "Canterbury Agricultural Magazine."

A Shriek!

On finding Vergil's Eclogues amongst the Greek Historians.

I looked for a book
Where I thought I should find it;
I took a good look,
Searched corner and nook—
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ！！！
My quest I forsook,
To perdition consigned it.
Don't look for a book,
Where you think you will find it.

HERE NIKI.
Debating Society.

For some reason, the attendances at meetings of the Society during the past term have been comparatively poor. Many causes have been suggested; but, perhaps the one nearest the mark is that the speeches given have not been up to the usual standard. The more experienced members of the Society have spoken but little this term, the platform being occupied by comparatively unpractised speakers, who, of course, do not provide a very great "draw" to an audience. In this fact, however, we see the surest promise of a very successful session next year, especially when one considers the remarkable improvement which has taken place in individual new speakers. Owing to the poor attendance at the regular debates, it was found advisable to discontinue the debates for new speakers, which proved so successful last term, but many who made their first attempt there have spoken with success in the main society.

In the District Tournament we won a debate against Trinity Methodist Society by a substantial margin, and in the second round we won from St. John's by default. Our next opponents will be the Catholic Club. R. S. Watson, a first-year speaker, has been chosen to represent the Society in the oratorical contest, and, judging by the good showing which he made at the Plunket Medal Competition, the honour of the Society is safe in his hands. M. H. Oram won the Union prize with an average of 2.5 points for seven debates, very closely followed by G. W. Morice, with an average of 2.4 points for six debates.

The New Speakers' Prize was awarded to R. S. Watson.
On 2nd July the society discussed the motion "That the Lords were justified in rejecting the Budget." H. E. Evans supported the motion in a well-arranged and logical speech, though, unfortunately, he did not have time to finish it. He certainly made the best of his strong position from the legal point of view. D. Smith, who opposed the motion, made the speech of the evening, and dealt with the subject in a manner which indicated that he knew and cared more about his side of the matter than could possibly be gathered by mere reading for the occasion. The debate, following on the Capping Carnival, was, on the whole, lifeless, a fact which was commented on by Mr. A. R. Atkinson, the judge, who placed the speakers in the following order:—Messrs. Smith, Oram, Butcher, Taylor, and E. Rutherfurdf.

The presidential address was delivered on 6th August, by Professor Laby, who discoursed for all too brief a time upon the vast changes which the progress of science had made in the factors which make for national greatness. After the address followed a debate on the motion "That Novel Reading is beneficial to the reader." The debate was led by lady members, and the result was such as to make mere men wonder why there was any need for a separate society for women students, more especially seeing that every one of the ladies gained places. Professor Laby placed the speakers in the following order:—Miss M. Nicholls, 1; Messrs. M. H. Oram and G. W. Morrice (equal), 2; and Misses Currie, Coad and F. Neilson (equal), 3.

On 13th August J. Hogben, seconded by T. N. Holmden, moved "That the French Revolution has proved beneficial to the Human Race." They were opposed by C. H. Taylor, seconded by H. W. Monaghan. In the course of his speech, one speaker apologised for not being an orator of the calibre of Pitt—a somewhat unnecessary course. The judge, Mr. Laurendon, M.P., in the course of a few interesting remarks, placed the speakers in the following order:—Messrs. R. Kennedy, C. H. Taylor, H. W. Monaghan, R. Watson, and P. Broad. The attendance at this debate was very adversely affected by other College functions which were progressing at the same time.

The next meeting, held on 27th August, discussed the motion, "That the progress and prosperity of the Aus-
tralasian colonies would have been retarded by the adoption of the leasehold system." All the speakers except C. H. Taylor seemed to forget that the motion was circumscribed to Australasia, and discussed the abstract advantages and defects of the leasehold and freehold. Mr. G. M. Thompson, M.P., placed the speakers in the following order:—Messrs. L. P. Leary, C. H. Taylor, E. Inder, and E. E. Rutherfurd and T. N. Holmden (equal).

On 17th September R. S. Watson, seconded by M. H. Oram, moved, "That it is advisable, in the best interests of the British Empire, that the United Kingdom should adopt a system of preferential trade with her colonies." The movers mistook the object of the motion, and laid too great stress on Protection, and, even then did not make so much of their case as could easily have been made. One expects from a College platform something sounder in the way of argument than mere platitudes about the Empire and the glory thereof. The opposition, supported by A. J. Luke, seconded by F. Hall-Jones, put up a far better case, quite apart from the real merits of the question. Mr. J. A. Hannan, M.P., gave a short dissertation on public speaking, and made the following award:—Messrs. A. J. Luke, W. J. McEldowney, A. Fair, R. S. Watson, and M. H. Oram.

The last debate of the season, which was also one of the most successful, was held on 24th September, the motion being, "That the standard of the Press is the product of the wishes and the culture of its readers," moved by A. E. Caddick, seconded by G. W. Morice, and opposed by F. Hall-Jones, seconded by T. N. Holmden. Mr. A. Malcolm, M.P., placed the speakers in the following order:—Messrs. W. J. McEldowney, M. H. Oram, A. E. Caddick, A. Fair, and P. B. Broad.

**Women Students' Debating Society.**

The first general meeting held during the 2nd term took place on July 29th, when Miss Currie opened a discussion on the characters of Goneril, Regan and Cordelia. Mrs. Hursthouse, who was present, expressed a wish for us to hold a debate with her society, with the result that the motion, "That the French women of the 17th and 18th centuries are more to be admired than the New Zealand women of to-day," was debated by
the two societies a week later. Miss Richmond, in judging, told us that our debating was of a higher standard than our opponents', so that, although our motion was lost, we had some consolation. We take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Hursthouse for her kindness and for the interest she has shown in us.

The next meeting, which took the form of a "Story-telling Evening," was highly successful. Misses Hursthouse, Fell, Nicholls, Taylor, Tolley, and our President, Miss Myers, told stories of infinite variety.

The debate held on August 25th was prepared at rather short notice, but was decidedly interesting. "That asceticism is antagonistic to the best interests of society" was moved by Miss Butler, seconded by Miss Nicholls. Miss Neilson, seconded by Miss Taylor, opposed.

The only subject taken this term from the syllabus of the main society afforded material for the best debate of the year, when Miss Palmer, seconded by Miss Hursthouse, moved, "That the standard of the Press is the outcome of the wishes and culture of its readers." Miss Park, seconded by Miss I. Neilson, opposed. Miss Neilson and Miss Haldane also spoke.

The last meeting was held on 22nd Sept., when Miss Nicholls opened a discussion on the character of Lady Macbeth.

As usual, four of our members took part this term, more or less unwillingly (in fact, in fear and trembling) in a debate held by the main society. The result, however, was reassuring, all four speakers being placed by the judge.

**Plunket Medal Competition.**

The annual competition for the Plunket Medal was held in the Concert Chamber of the Town Hall on Saturday, September 10th, when Mr. R. Kennedy, the Vice-president of the Debating Society, presided. The speeches made were on the whole excellent, the standard showing a considerable improvement on previous years. We are indebted to the "Evening Post" for the following criticism, with which we heartily agree:—
Among those present were His Excellency the Governor (Lord Islington), Mr. Justice Chapman, Professors von Zedlitz, Easterfield, Laby, Kirk, and others associated with the college.

The chairman reminded all present that during six years the Victoria College Debating Society had undoubtedly occupied the leading position among debating societies, not only those of the Colleges, but those throughout New Zealand. It seemed that Lord Plunket had issued a challenge to the society, and that the challenge had been readily taken up. Mr. Kennedy also referred to the fact that the society felt that it had lost a true friend in Lord Plunket.

Then the speeches began. The subjects and speakers were as follow:—Abraham Lincoln, Mr. R. S. Watson; William the Silent, Mr. H. E. Evans, B.A., LL.B.; John Nicholson, Mr. E. E. Rutherford; John Bright, Mr. W. J. McEldowney; Cecil Rhodes, Mr. F. Hall-Jones; Cardinal Richelieu, Mr. L. P. Leary; Alfred, King of England, Mr. H. W. Monaghan, M.A.; President Garfield, Mr. M. H. Oram, M.A.

The diction of all the speakers was good in varying degrees. In almost every instance it seemed that the speakers had first carefully read up their characters, then written (and as carefully) their speeches, and, thirdly, committed them so well to memory that they were without exception letter perfect. There was a sameness about all the speeches in the treatment of the various subjects, a general "bookiness" and cold narration of historical facts. In only one instance, that of Mr. McEldowney, was there anything like feeling expressed. This speaker became warm rather than impassioned in his utterance, and always at the right place and moment. He evidently sympathised with Bright quite as much as he admired him, and became, naturally, really eloquent at times. Mr. Evans's speech on William the Silent obviously owed much to Motley. It was a rather good biographical summary, and delivered in an easy, graceful fashion. Mr. Watson's speech on Abraham Lincoln should have given those who were judges of the competition much food for thought. It was a well delivered speech, telling at times, admirable for the management of voice and gesture. Mr. Rutherford could have made much of John Nicholson from a literary point of view—he did; although the blue
pencil would have reduced the script of the speech by two-thirds with advantage. Mr. Monaghan's study of Alfred the Great was in most respects satisfactory, but it was also sometimes too much like a paraphrase—that, of course, unconsciously—of a reputable smaller English history. Mr. Monaghan's voice was strong and his enunciation exemplary, but it was not made sufficiently clear that he was on intimately sympathetic terms with the character of Alfred. Mr. Hall-Jones was in real earnest at times about Cecil Rhodes, but he, too, was unconvincing. His speech was an admirable exposition of learning by rote. His voice was clear, carried well, was nicely modulated, and pronunciation was a strong point in his delivery. Mr. Leary, in his handling of Richelieu, waxed very eloquent. He was prodigal of his adjectives and liberal with his metaphor. When he "came out strong" the audience did not take him so—and laughed when it should have been awed. Anxious lest his twelve minutes should expire before his story was reeled off, Mr. Leary was exceedingly rapid—his sentences gushing out with extraordinary rapidity. His subject matter was good, and showed an appreciation of Richelieu's character, and some attempt at an impartial, judicial analysis of it. Mr. Oram, too, had a heavy stock of adjectives, which he seemed anxious to dispose of within the shortest possible time and at much below cost. The speech could have been reduced with advantage. But the conventions of the platform were faithfully adhered to, and the matter was excellent. It could not be said, however, that it was an overwhelmingly powerful speech. That it was thought by members of the society to be the best of the octave of speeches was subsequently demonstrated, the ballot resulting as follows:—

Mr. Oram, 63 marks, 1.
Mr. McEldowney, 59 marks, 2.
Mr. Watson, 45 marks, 3.

His Excellency, in presenting the medal to Mr. Oram, warmly congratulated him upon his address. The other gentlemen, too, were to be congratulated upon their speeches. They had, no doubt, spent much time and study upon their speeches for the competition. It was no place for him to make a long speech. He was almost afraid to do so. After eight speeches of 12 minutes each His Excellency felt the necessity for brevity. He em-
phased the value of competitions of that character. He could not imagine a better. His desire was to associate himself with the good work done for the society by Lord Plunket, whose efforts in its behalf had already born such good fruit in public life.

Mr. Justice Chapman spoke upon the necessity in New Zealand to-day for a right and respectful treatment of the English language, of which the young men were the guardians.

Professor Laby said the speeches showed that considerable thought had been given to the various subjects by the speakers, who had done much to uphold the reputation of their college. He also thanked the committee and its chairman (Mr. Kennedy) for the admirable management of the competition.

The College Glee Club gave some excellent selections, and any time of waiting was relieved by flashes of student wit. The National Anthem concluded the proceedings.

Christian Union.

This term has been one of unusual activity as far as meetings have been concerned. During the first week we had the pleasure of hearing Miss Margaret Walker, B.A., of Christchurch. Miss Walker was one of New Zealand's delegates to the British College Christian Union Conference at Oxford last year, and one felt it a privilege to have something of the spirit of it passed on, and to hear a little of our fellow students in all parts of the world.

During the same week Mr. Lawton paid his visit to the men's branch of the Union. On Saturday, July 30th, the Union held its annual social, which was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. During the course of the evening a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Lawton by Mr. Morice on behalf of the Union, and Mr. Lawton spoke for a little of University life and ideals. On Sunday evening, Mr. Lawton held a special students' service at St. John's Church, and on the Tuesday night following addressed a general meeting at College, taking as his subject, "Loyalty to a Trust." He spoke of loyalty to the trust of work, the trust of
life, but the most outstanding lesson all through both this address and all his work, was the necessity of prayer—earnest and unceasing prayer.

The next general meeting of the Union was addressed by Miss England. One was sorry that more did not take advantage of hearing this address on "The Place of the Bible in the World Literature." Miss England dealt with the contents under their respective heads—history, drama, poetry, etc.—and showed the marvellous skill and genius of the old Hebrew writers. And the facts were driven home by the reading of several beautiful and graphic extracts.

Dr. McLaren, of Melbourne, and Dr. Pettit, of Otago, who were making a tour of New Zealand Colleges on behalf of the Student Volunteer and Laymen's Missionary Movements, held two meetings for students. One on Friday, August 26th, was well attended, about 60 members being present. Dr. McLaren spoke on "Considerations in Choosing a Life-work," and Dr. Pettit on "World Movements, as they affect Missionary Enterprise." Both spoke very earnestly and forcefully, and appealed for a widening of outlook, an increased interest in missions, and a deeper, fuller consecration of life to the Master's use.

On the Sunday afternoon they addressed a meeting of students in St. John's Hall at 4.15 p.m. There were about seventy students present, and Professor Picken took the chair. Dr. McLaren spoke on the "Necessity and Urgency of Missionary Enterprise," and Dr. Pettit on "Leadership."

The next meeting of the Union was on Saturday, September 17th. It was a very wild night, but about twenty-five members braved the elements, and were rewarded by hearing a very practical and helpful address by the Rev. Kennedy Elliot, B.A., on "Prayer."

The annual general meeting of the Union was held on Friday, September 23rd, at 8 p.m. There were twenty-four members present. The Union hopes to have two more general meetings, one on October 8th, which is to be addressed by Canon Stuart, of the General Mission of Help, the well-known foreign missionary enthusiast, and the other on October 1st, by another of the missionaries. It is not often that the Union gets such an opportunity as this, and members would do well to avail themselves of it.
Glee Club.

From good to bad, and from bad back again to good has the pendulum of the Glee Club’s prospects swung this year. The effects of such fluctuating conditions have, however, been counteracted by the persistent optimism of the members.

We commenced the year with reasonable hopes of producing at our annual concert an entire cantata. To the achievement of this end were our energies directed during the first term; but, alas! our hopes were doomed to disappointment. Circumstances arose which forced us to relinquish our cherished project, and with it the results of nearly the whole of the first term’s work. These reverses, however, instead of discouraging the members, only stimulated them to increased activity, and the prospects for the approaching annual concert are once more distinctly good.

On September 7th we paid our annual visit to The Missions to Seamen. The music committee was happy in its choice of programme, and the large audience left no doubt in our minds as to their genuine appreciation of our efforts. Many of the items were enthusiastically encored. We in our turn were entertained by the characteristic sallies of the Missioner, by sailors’ choruses, and finally by an address from Mr. Moore.

The annual concert is at hand, and every effort is being made to secure success. The proceeds from the concert, and the dance which is to follow the concert, are to be handed to the V.C. Cricket Club which, at present, is in urgent need of funds. Delegates from the Cricket Club are assisting in the preparations, and this function promises to afford an enjoyable relaxation to students after the stress of term exams.

It is hoped that the year’s work will not end with the annual concert. Members are looking forward to a trip to Porirua, and to some of the charitable institutions in and about the city. Let us hope that they will not be disappointed.
Men's Common Room Club.

The past term has been a quiet one as far as the Common Room Club is concerned. The Christian Union Social, the Boxing Tournament, the Women's Common Room entertainment, and a postponed debate took up every available Saturday evening in the first part of the term with one exception, when the Club held its annual dance.

The committee did not feel justified, in view of the large number of entertainments crowded into the second term, and of the proximity of terms and degree examinations, in continuing the usual fortnightly smoke concerts.

Consequently, after the dance (which is described elsewhere), the committee, with the invaluable assistance of Misses Fell, G. Saxon, and Thornton, was enabled to devote all its attention to the furnishing of the Club room. We trust the general public is satisfied with the result—it certainly should be. The much-maligned linoleum now has its manifold shortcomings concealed by two handsome squares of carpet, the tables no longer lack tablecloths, even a vase (aliter, a jam bottle.—Ed.) is forthcoming, not to mention flowers, the windows are becomingly curtained, photographs adorn the walls, and, in fact, the whole scene is just 'perfectly lovely,' if we may be allowed to quote an original remark made by one of our guests at the dance.

We did not expect to find the Common Room very extensively patronised during this second and very busy term, and our expectations have been realised. A small and select band knows the delights of "Punch," "Current Literature," the "Windsor Magazine," etc., etc., not forgetting the "Triad" and the "Academy," but these are mostly the men to whom November is just as any other month. The vacation should see a change in all this, and the room ought to prove popular with men after tennis, cricket, or athletics. So when the swat-books are put away, my masters, don't forget the Common Room, and least of all our motto, "It is better to smoke now than hereafter."
P.S.—The Secretary is still seeking the blood of that miscreant who so sensibly left one of the windows open, unlatched, in a gale of wind, with the result that the whole window, frame and all, was wrenched from its hinges. In view of this and similar exhibitions of uncommon sense, the Students’ Association has had all the windows fastened up, and the ventilation of the Common Room has not been improved thereby.

Social News.

The members of the Ladies’ Hockey Club, who had disappointed us in the first term, decided to give a dance in the short vacation, and a great success it proved. The usual scanty comfort of College dances was replaced by air almost of luxury in the decorations, supper table, even the chaperons’ corner, which rugs and curtains helped to transform. It would be a great comfort if the Students’ Association could see their way to line one corner of the room, thus rendering it more or less draught-proof for the heroic chaperons who come up time after time to fulfil their weary task. It is true that “Three cheers for the chaperons” usually follow the “Three for the ladies,” but such a doubtful honour can hardly compensate for four hours’ chill, borne with surprising fortitude, even when the wind whistles through a thousand cracks, and dusty boards fail to cover the latest broken window.

Shortly after the beginning of the term an entertainment was held in aid of the Women’s Common Room, and the excellent financial result was most gratifying to the promoters.

The thanks of all women students are especially due to Miss Tennant, Miss V. Saxon, and Miss Thornton, who ungrudgingly gave up so much time towards the preparation of the very amusing comedietta, which was a delightful novelty in a College entertainment. There certainly were hitches, for the curtain was almost unmanageable, but Mrs. Mountrevor, in the conscious dignity of a smart frock, surrounded by all the elegance of Professor Picken’s furniture, was not one to show any qualms, and the whole thing rattled to a most successful conclusion.

Almost before an exhausted committee had finished disposing of tickets for the Women’s Common Room, the
men set forth on a similar campaign. The small attendance at the dance was a poor reward for their efforts, but perhaps only made it more delightful for the lucky few who seem able to realise when a good thing is in prospect. As both these functions were held on Saturday nights, there is small reason to complain of their interfering much with College work, but now, alas! the near prospect of November, and the horrid doubt of terms, has cast a gloom even over Saturday night; and the College is refraining from festivity for a little.

**Marriages and Engagements.**

"May the single all be married, and all the married be happy."

Since our last issue, the following marriage has taken place:—

V. B. Willis to Miss Vesper.

The following engagements have also been announced:—

Miss B. I. L. Reeve to A. H. Bogle.
Miss M. E. Cox to G. Morris.
Miss V. Saxon to L. Coombs.
Miss R. Johnston to M. H. Oram.
Miss Duigan to H. H. Ostler.
Miss D. Temple Perkins to L. L. Hitchings.

**Men’s Hockey Club.**

This season opened somewhat unfavourably for our Club, but it has closed with unprecedented success. The Club is now in the proud and honourable position of being the premier Club in the city. Its senior team gained the Championship Cup, after a series of brilliant matches.

A most pleasing feature, of which all who belong to the Club should feel proud, is the great popularity of the College hockey teams. The Club has also reason to be proud of its members, namely, D. S. Smith, G. S. Strack, C. H. E. Strack, and B. Kibblewhite, who gained representative honours this year, and also of those who gained a place in the B. representatives, R. St. J. Beere, H. Mona-
ghan, P. Burbidge, and C. H. Taylor. Combining these honours with the winning of the Cup, we have every reason for saying that no other city Club has ever obtained such high honours in one year.

To celebrate the great victory, Mr. Beere, the captain, gave a dinner at the "Grand," at which all were pleased to see several members of the first team to play for College, among these being Geo. Dixon, De la Mare, Skelley, Matheson, Sladden, Furby. All had a splendid time. The speeches and toasts were of a high order, and the one regret was that we were turned out at 10 p.m. Burbidge developed as a sprinter. He came to the dinner about an hour late, but caught up—no short cuts either—in under twenty minutes. You never know what you can do till you try.

The junior teams have been well spoken of by hockey authorities, who say that College will have no difficulty in maintaining its premiership next year if the present juniors train consistently. and although the Thirds did not win the Cup again, the Club must thank those who were sports, and who did not flinch from playing continuously for the honour of our College.

SUMMARY OF MATCHES.

SENIORS.

v. United, 2nd July. Lost by 4 to 1. G. Strack scored. During the first half of this game the play was even, but during the second spell, the College backs were deficient.

v. Y.M.C.A., 16th July. Won by 3 to nil. The game was consistent, and, at times, brilliant. Up till the time that the whistle blew for a change of ends, neither side had scored, but afterwards the College scored, Bogle scoring one, and Smith two goals.

v. Karori, 13th August. Won by 10 to 1. Combination excellent, and forwards, especially the Stracks and Smith, were in fine form. Smith (5), G. Strack (3), and C. Strack (2) scored.

The record of the team is as follows:—Matches played, 9; won, 7; drawn, 1; lost, 1; goals scored for, 40; against, 15; number of championship points gained, 15.

II. A.

v. Gregg’s. Won.

v. Wellington. Drew (1—1).

v. V.C. II. B. Won by 5 to 2.

II. B.

r. Government Life. Lost by 9 to 1. We scored the first goal. For some minutes we led, but were eventually beaten.

v. II. A. Lost by 5 to 2. Cleghorn scored a lucky goal, and was forthwith promoted to II. A. II. B. got on much better after this date.

r. St. Pat’s. Won by default—the easiest win of the season.

v. Gregg’s. Won by 3 to nil. The last match of the season.

III. A.

r. Gregg’s, July 2nd. Lost by 8 to 2. Only six of our men turned up, but these held their own until the second spell, when the week of festivity showed its effect. Fitt scored.

v. Karori, July 9th. Won by default.

v. Wellington, July 23rd. Lost by 7 to 2. Several being away on vacation, the team was again short by four. Those present made a brave struggle.

r. Gregg’s, Aug. 6th. The match fell through, but, uniting our forces with III. B, we defeated what Greggs and Mets we could find by 11 to 9.


v. Government Life, Aug. 27th. Lost by 4 to 2. Our team rallied for this game, and gave the Cup winners a good run for their money. Fitt and Scott scored for us.

III. B.

Owing to the vacation and the consequent shortages in the other teams, III. B. was temporarily disbanded, and, after winning from Wellington by default, was defeated by Government Life by 13 to 1.

At the end of the season, a seven-aside tournament was held, four teams entering, representing Science, Law and Education (2). Education proved an easy winner.

Ladies’ Hockey Club.

Another successful season has drawn to a close. The First Eleven have for the third consecutive time carried off the Senior Championship and have, therefore, won the Challenge Cup outright. The Second Eleven have surpassed all expectations, having finished the season as runners-up for the Senior Championship. They have more than justified their promotion to senior company.

The success achieved by the two teams during the past season ought to result in even greater enthusiasm being shown next year. Let us hope that we shall have a much larger membership and that women students will realise
what immense benefits are to be gained from participation in what is now one of the great winter games of the Dominion.

RESULTS OF MATCHES.

FIRST ELEVEN.

c. Petone (first round). Won by 2 to 1. Misses Kerslake and McIntosh scored. This match was played at Petone in what was literally a sea of mud. Ball often indistinguishable. The College team were without the services of a goalkeeper, but Miss Scott filled two positions most pluckily.

c. Campbell Street Old Girls. Lost by 3 to nil. A return match played at Palmerston North on the 9th July. College were without the services of Misses Scott and Tavendale. The team were not at home on the uneven ground, and did not succeed in scoring. However, they enjoyed their visit immensely, and were entertained royally by their hostesses.

c. Petone (second round). Won by 4 to nil. Scorers were Misses Kerslake (2), Shepherd and McIntosh. College met Petone on a Day's Bay ground for the first time, and the contest was most interesting throughout. The game was one of the best of the season.

c. St. John's. Won by default.

c. Ohakea. Won by 4 to 3. An extremely enjoyable game played under perfect conditions. Miss Scott played a brilliant game at full back. Owing to Miss Tavendale's absence from Wellington, Miss I. Johnstone filled the position of right wing and acquitted herself very creditably. Scorers for College were Misses Shepherd (2), Bisset and McIntosh.

c. Hinemoa. Won by 2 to 1. Misses Kerslake and McIntosh scored. The hot weather interfered with fast play, and appeared to affect both teams. Though College made many efforts to score, they were not rewarded until well on in the first spell. Half-way through the second spell Hinemoa scored, and Miss Kerslake thereupon took the ball up the field and scored the winning goal for College.

SECOND ELEVEN.

(Second Round.)

c. Wellington. Won by 3 to 2. Goals were scored by Misses McKenzie (2) and Williams.

c. Hinemoa. Drew 1 all. Miss McKenzie scored. College were many times in their opponents' circle but failed to shoot successfully.

c. Gregg's. Won by default.

c. St. John's. Won by 8 to 1. St. John's were three players short and College had the best of the game throughout. Misses Williams (4) and McKenzie (4) divided the score.
TABLE OF SEASON’S RESULTS.

(Championship Matches.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matches</th>
<th>Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Played</td>
<td>Won</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Eleven</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Eleven</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Boxing.

The Club has continued its classes regularly this season, and on Saturday, 6th August, held its first tournament. There was a fair number of entries in the light, middle and heavy classes, but only Stevenson and Dudson in the featherweights and welters respectively. Dr. Napier McLean kindly acted as referee. In the lightweights, Salek, Cash and Stevenson remained in after the first round, and Stevenson was left in for the final with Salek, who had drawn the bye. Stevenson had a strenuous time with Cash, and was not fit enough for Salek, who won easily on the points. In the middleweights Brosnan, Riddiford, Dudson and Jackson easily survived the first round. Riddiford and Brosnan were due to meet, but as the former’s eye had struck Jackson’s fist in the heavyweights, he was not permitted to fight. Jackson won from Dudson, but had had too much fighting to continue the final against Brosnan. In the heavyweights, Riddiford and Jackson provided an excellent fight—willing all the time. Brosnan beat Freyberg. The Doctor would not allow Jackson to continue fighting, so the final events could not be fought off. On a later date Riddiford and Jackson had an opportunity of meeting Brosnan, and provided excellent contests, Jackson winning on points, thus becoming the present holder of the Middle and Heavyweight Championships.

It is intended to continue boxing throughout the summer, and it is to be hoped that a sufficient number can be got together to justify an instructor being engaged.
Football.

Another season has just closed, with its victories, defeats, surprises and disappointments, and one is tempted to make comparisons with the results of former years.

Speaking generally, our football has improved. We put four fifteens into the field every Saturday, and each team, though not the champion in its class, has acquitted itself creditably. The first fifteen has undoubtedly greatly improved, and from being the holders of the "wooden spoon," has become a power to be reckoned with. Two of our seniors, Ryan and Curtayne, represented the district, Ryan in A team and Curtayne in B team. As far as can be judged now, our first fifteen next year should be able to hold its own with the best of them. This becomes more apparent when one considers the promising material in the juniors.

Last year our second team, playing third class, won four matches (one by default), losing five and drawing one; this year, playing second-class, they won five by default, lost five, and drew with the Orientals, who were near the championship. Surely this marks a very great improvement. We still suffer from lack of members, for should any of the first fifteen be injured, the effect is felt even in the fourth grade. This year we played the usual friendly game with Canterbury College, on the Athletic Park. Neither College was represented by its best team, and an uninteresting game, the greater part of which was played in heavy rain, resulted in a victory for Canterbury by 5 to 3. Langridge scored for Canterbury, Marekson being successful with the kick. Stainton scored for V.C., but Curtayne failed with the kick.

FIRST FIFTEEN.

When The Spike went to press last we had three wins to our credit, and three games of the first round to play. Of these, we reckoned that two were as good as won, and the third—well, it was doubtful.
Our expectations were not realised, because that wrecker of College sports, the term holidays, happened to come along before these games were concluded, and our record was as follows:—

v. St. James. This game, set down for Karori, was, owing to the wet weather, transferred to Miramar. Even here the ground was very wet and extremely rough. We lost by 16 to nil, after a very ordinary game, spoiled to a great extent by erratic refereeing.

v. Hutt, at Hutt. This game, played on the first Saturday of the term holiday against the weakest team in the competition, resulted in a runaway victory for us, 25 to nil being the score. This surprised the Hutt, and many others, as the Hutt had, on the previous Saturday, put up a strenuous fight against the Poneke, and were defeated by but three points. Despite the fact that our fellows had been frivolling at the Students' Carnival, they played the best game of the season. All played well, but Ryan and Faire excelled. Faire scored three tries, and should have scored another, but the referee's lack of knowledge of the "Laws of Motion" interfered. Faire's fine try was the result of the finest run made by any V.C. footballer. The remaining tries were scored by Phillips (2), Stainton and Curtayne (one each). Only two tries were converted, one by Curtayne, the other by Ryan.

v. Wellington. This game, played at the Athletic Park, was the greatest disappointment of the season. We put a weak team into the field, but were confident of victory. Alas! we lost by 12 to 5.

In the second round we played but two matches, and lost both.

v. Old Boys. We met this team for the second time, and should have won, but after a month's spell our fellows were out of form, and lacked scoring power. We lost by 5 to 3.

v. Wellington, at Miramar. The last match of the season saw us again "biting the dust." The Wellingtons were a much improved team, and we suffered defeat by 5 to nil. Here ended our chapter of accidents, for Faire broke his collar bone.

SUMMARY.
Matches played, 12; won, 4; lost, 8. Points for, 84; against, 88.

SECOND FIFTEEN.
Towards the latter part of the season the Juniors, despite a large number of promotions to fill gaps in the ranks of the Senior team, acquitted themselves creditably, and their record for the season stands as follows:—Played 11, won 5, lost 5, drawn 1. The following games were played in the vacation and second term:—
v. St. Johns. A good game against fair opponents. We deserved the win, and got it. Won 14 to 3.
v. Southern. A poor game against weak opponents, most of whom were pressed into service on the ground, and who had the tired feeling very badly. Won 33 to nil.
v. Selwyn. Lost 18 to 9. A good hard game against a strong team.
v. Melrose. Won by default.
v. Wellington. The match of the season. Played with 11 men against a full team. Every back was equal to two, every forward was a hero. Won 5 to nil.

THIRD FIFTEEN.

The second lap began when the majority of the members of our team were away for the vacation, and in consequence the only match which we had to play while they were away we lost, but only by a small margin. In this match, a team of thirds and fourths were defeated by Wellington (not the reps.) by 3 points to nil.

Since the vacation the teams have not been up to their usual standard, owing to the laziness of their captain and several other members, who had engagements on several Saturday afternoons. Great praise is due to Melody for the way he cared for the team on the occasions. The result of the matches is as follows:—
v. Orientals. The leading team for the championship. We put in a strong team and surprised them, and ourselves, by winning by 9 points to 6. "Major" Dobbie scored two nice tries, and Inder kicked an easy penalty, but failed to convert either try.
v. Wellington College. Great was the fall thereof. We were conceited because we had defeated Orientals, and thought, with our team of nine emergencies, we would win. We lost, and the referee forgot the score after 45—nil.
v. Porirua. Our next courageous deed was to go out to Porirua with ten men and be beaten by them by 14 to nil. With a full team we could easily have won this game.
v. Athletics. By this time we were getting used to playing with less than a full team, and when thirteen men turned up at Karori to play Athletics we were not at all surprised to win by 11 to nil. McConnell, O’Shea and Melody each did their share of scoring, and Melody showed he knew how to convert his own tries.
v. Southern. Our match against this team on September 3rd was one that should be recorded. Sixteen men turned up, and if we could have played them all and a few more Juniors, we would not have been defeated by 12 to nil.

We still have to play Petone, but perhaps it is as well that we will not have an opood one for practice, and a result of this match.

The season has been a good one for practice, and a good one for pleasure, but for honour—!
FOURTH FIFTEEN.

v. Poneke. Won by 11 to 8. Tries were scored by Wood, McConnell and McCormick. McCartney converting one.

v. Selwyn. Won by 13 to 10. Tries were scored by Burridge, Edie and McConnell. Mackay converted two with good kicks.

v. Old Boys. Lost by 10 to nil. Played three men short, which, in conjunction with the heavy ground, tired the forwards before the end of the game.

Athletics.

The annual general meeting, held on Sept. 19th, although not over-crowded, was marked by enthusiasm, and the appearance of several new members was especially cheering. The Report showed that the Club had made considerable progress during last season, for not only had the active membership greatly increased, but the students of the College were at last coming to see their responsibility in connection with the Club, and to realise the important work that it did, in upholding the honour of the College at the Easter Tournament. We are badly in need of athletes in all events, and especially do we need representatives in the field events and the jumps.

The Inter-Faculty Contest, Arts and Science v. Law, which was won last season by Arts and Science, will be held some time in March, 1911. This contest is open to all students who have attended lectures this session, and to men who are going to attend lectures next year, and we here heartily invite the co-operation of all true "sports" in making this fixture even a greater success than that of last season.

The Easter Tournament will be held next year at Auckland, and although for two years in succession we have failed to wrest the athletic shield from Canterbury College, yet the committee is extremely hopeful that next year we shall achieve success.

In conclusion, we would impress upon all aspirants to representative honours that these three are the most important of all essentials to success, viz.: Careful preparation, consistent training, and specialisation, not only in one group of allied events, but in one single race.
Cricket.

The new season promises to open with a healthy membership list, and with the brightest of prospects. Kelburne Park is looking well, and we hope to have a first-class practice wicket, and, perhaps, in addition, a match wicket. The Park is very handy, and there is no excuse for a failure to practise. For the best development of the Club, members should practise hard, especially in fielding. If we are not good in batting and bowling, there is little excuse for slackness in the field.

The Senior team ought to be of about the same strength as last year's, for though Foster has gone, we shall probably get several fairly good new members who, though not up to his standard, will raise the strength of the team. If, as we hope, the Cricket Association will see fit to allow Mr. Saunders, the Wellington cricket coach of Australian fame, to play for us in championship matches, our bowling will benefit—and it needs it. The Club has several promising members, and the training and example of such a coach would be of inestimable value in their development.

The Junior and Third-class teams also show indications of improvement in quality; and, altogether, we begin our second season as a Senior Club with the rosiest of hopes.

(As we go to press we hear that the Club has secured the services of Mr. Saunders as a player.—Ed.)

Swimming.

The annual general meeting of the Swimming Club was held in the Gymnasium on Friday, 16th September, at 8 p.m., sixteen members being present.

Motions were passed at the meeting recommending the incoming committee to hold a carnival during the coming season, to endeavour to arrange for the representation of the sister Colleges at the Carnival, and to consider the advisability of forming a water polo team. The principle
of holding water picnics was also enthusiastically endorsed, and the committee was urged to arrange as many as possible this summer.

The Club is of course unavoidably debarred from taking any active steps until the end of November at the earliest, and races will most likely commence early in December. Last year all events were got off at the Thordon Baths, but in all probability Te Aro will receive its fair share in future, as it is now an incomparably better bath than Thordon, especially at low tide.

The Club has to thank Mr. L. W. Ludwig, one of its Vice-Presidents, who has taken a keen interest in its welfare ever since is formation, for his offer to denote two trophies for competition, an offer which has, needless to say, been most gratefully accepted.

Tennis.

The season which is just opening promises to excel all its predecessors, so far as the membership of our Club is concerned. Even already there are sufficient players up on Saturday afternoons to more than doubly fill our courts, and when the examinations are past still greater numbers will probably avail themselves of the opportunity to play. Intending members, however, need not let this deter them from joining, since it is seldom that one has to wait long for a game. and, moreover, the approach of the various inter-club contests will relieve the crowded condition of the courts.

The committee have decided to level the two eastern courts, which were laid down slightly raised, in order to counteract a depression in the filled-in portion of the courts, which, unhappily, did not eventuate. It has been decided to defray the cost of this work by effecting economies in various branches of club expenditure. One of the directions in which economies have been effected is in the provision of afternoon tea, which is now to be left to individual members of the Club who may be willing in turn to provide it. This suggestion has met with a warm response on the part of the members, who appear not only willing, but anxious to undertake the duties of hosts in the afternoons.
G. M. Cl-g-h-rn.—Yes: Communism is all right as long as everybody has nothing (except, perhaps, brains), but individualism is the only cult for the possessor of a Greek Dictionary.

T. N. H.-lmd-n.—The landed gentry may indeed be the backbone of England, but we don’t agree with you as to New Zealand. What about yourself?

Miss N.-ls-n.—Your dictum that “If you have not a love story of your own, you may as well read someone else’s,” may be a wise saw, but is not a modern instance. The “N.Z. Times” would say, “If you have not a love story of your own, ‘Get busy.’”

J-hn J-hns-n.—Your autobiographical Epie firmly declined. We have no place for Epies. However, we call the following sample for the benefit (?) of our readers:—

“Oh! I, a small child of much guile,
At Christmas with cherubie smile
Said, ‘The puddin’ is nice,’”
And took a tenth slice—
I sought for the cash all the while.”

“I, the man, of the child am the son:
Cruel pain has taught me a surfeit to shun
The moral—’tis clear,
That a novel’s too dear,
When it pays but an ounce to the ton.’”

J-l-s H-gb-n.—No! As you say, the French Revolution could not possibly have occurred in Russia.

Prof. Ad-ms-n.—No, we don’t think so. “There little footsteps lightly tread the ground” could not possibly refer to the Library floor.