

# Student Opinion at Victoria College,

VOL. 2, No. I

WELLINGTON, MARCH 18, 1939

#### SAWS FOR THE GEESE

Freshers are notoriously bewildered when they enter Victoria's portals; and it is "Salient's" duty to guide them and assist them in their first few months. We realise, however, that our capabilities are limited—that there are greater men than our staff, whose advice might be welcomed by

Hearken, ye freshers, to their words of wisdom!

#### PROFESSOR SHELLEY

If I were bold enough to do it and foolish enough to think it would have most lamentable staleness. Remember that you do not attend a Uni- give advice, it is the prerogative of versity—you are the University, and youth not to heed it, so I shall only so far as you identify yourself be content with offering a sincere with it, with its traditions and ideals, its work and play, can the University message of goodwill to those be of any use to you or you to the of Victoria University College University. Bernard Shaw says: "In students who are entering upon Heaven... you live and work instead of playing and pretending.... In Heaven" there is "no other joy but youthfulness and opportunity contemplation"; and much the same are to be envied, and if they might be said of a University. A could have my experience they fresher has the chance of finding his would know the importance of Heaven in a University—he has an equal chance of drifting into a veritable hell. But then-that's the sort did chances that have come of thing Shaw said in 1903, and I can their way. hardly expect the fresher of 1939 to think it is worth more than a passing society to-day will be removed continuing. The fresher must live by the development of better his own life, and no one can teach institutions and by a clearer him how to then with any hope of suc- spoint outlook on the part of cess-all one can do is to warn him individuals. University trained that life has a bad habit of escaping men and women have greater when one thinks to grasp it most securely, like a handful of water when opportunities than most of acone closes one's fist.

may they be as alive when they leave for leadership in the broadest the University as they are now they sense of the term. are entering it.

the number of hours which can be companied by a well-develspared each week for physical and oped social conscience or even mental recreation is just as important breadth of mind. Education is no golden rule but work-steady sometimes appears to and intelligent work is the main in- be very narrow. I gredient for success.

Lack of composure and want of intelligent people confidence in the examination room who have had no are probably responsible for more failures than a deficiency in actual University training knowledge of the subjects. concentrated and persistent study are been worth knowing, essential, the cultivation of a degree of self-confidence is also necessary.

To pursue any vocation in solitude whose great cleverand isolation is at the best a depress- ness and learning ing business, and nothing is better at the beginning of one's University career than to have opportunities of meeting with those who are fired with the same ambitions and aspirations. Success in a profession can best be obtained in the society of those who are engaged or who are likely to be engaged in similar pursuits.

ing examinations is incomplete. The Most of them were somewhat shy and ethical aspect of professional lifeits traditions, its observance of principles of right conduct, its progress in adopting itself to the ever-chang- few interesting sidelights on our alma ing conditions which necessitate new mater were collected:-outlooks, all form part of that education which makes a good citizen. The early instincts which are formed by students of steady application, of thoroughness, and of resource, are the attributes which in their observance will tell in the long run rather than the highest places secured in Then a tail, quiet swain: "It looks to Ditto: "Your main building's all examinations which in themselves do not afterwards always bring that succoss which such early achievements promised.

not be the sole and ending purpose of of "grim foreboding." an education, which should never cease, and in which other things enter waich hastily acquired knowledge in itself never gives. The foundation of iife-in professional and indeed in all A young lady: "Well, it's given, a occupations—is character, and environment in education has no little influence in its development.

# MESSAGE FROM MR. SAVAGE

"Salient" has pleasure in presenting a message to freshers specially written for this paper by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. M. J. Savage. Study this article carefully. It contains more epigrammatic wisdom, more common-sense subtle advice, than any similar message we have

The staff of "Salient," and, we are sure, the whole University, is deeply grateful to Mr. Savage for his pointed and unforgetable remarks.

I appreciate the opportunity of conany enect, I should say to freshers tributing a message to the student fresh—that's the shortest cut to a journal "Salient." Although it is the privilege of age to

The imperfections which mar quiring the knowledge and All good luck to the freshers, and habits of thought which make

May I say with the best goodwill that, unfortunately, the possession of high academic At the outset I would state that degrees is not always ac-

> have known many While at all, and yet have and Fhave met others

were only equalled by their cocksure ignorance of the things that matter.

I cannot imagine any greater quality in man or woman than that of a broad mind always open to new ideas. With al improper suggestions re Victoria that, of course, must go understanding Hostel. He stated that he had watched and exact knowledge. It ought to be

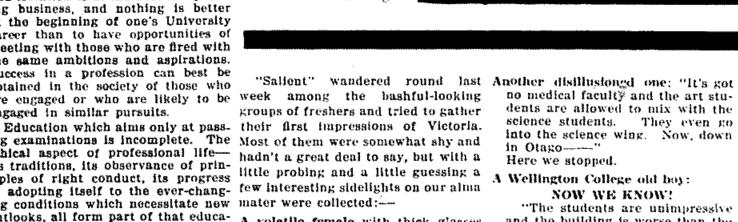
qualities should be acquired this year. with greater facility by those who have undergone a University training.

spect of education is simple and Adamson's lectures. clear enough to be understood in College activities and club functions; United Kingdom and using the licked his lips, and gracefully retired. remainder as an emporium of overseas manufactures.

We are trying to build in this country a better form of society, and we need the help of highly.

M. J. SAVAGE.

Prime Minister.



A volatile female with thick glasses and an academic stoop complained hotly of the lack of signs for freshers.

"Like a lot of lost sheep in a slaughterhouse.'

me like a place of great learning and all the students look very scholarly."

"Salient" endorsed this, but the Young Hopeful: "I think it's got a While it is a good plan to aim at oracle went on to say that it was also success in examinations, this should an unfriendly place and had an air

> Next a disillusioned youth: "Not much good. Sot a patch on A.U.C."

headache. The outside I thought was quite good but the inside is "The building is awful; the climb up worse.'

no medical faculty and the art stuscience students. They even go into the science wing. Now, down in Otago-----Here we stopped.

#### A Wellington College old boy: NOW WE KNOW!

"The students are unimpressive and the building is worse than the West School Wellington College, and that's pretty bad.'

Innovator: "Why don't you have fe- Criticism: "I think it is ridiculous year." male professors-young and pretty ones?

right, but your gym, and other they're not even clean.'

glorious old-fashioned atmosphere of learning about it-it seems steeped in erudition. I think time up hee."

and has a frightfully stale smell. The students all need a brush up and be made to look smart."

the hill is hot and much too long.

and the students are nuts." there.

dents are allowed to mix with the Here's something better: "I find it very friendly and interesting. The students are a fine crowd."

"I hate Gothic architecture, so I don't like the line of your building, but it is much more congenial and friendly than I expected." Terse Comment: "The men's common

room is pretty good, but it's not a patch on their lavatory. The lavatory's the best part of the whole show."

that they should close the common room in the afternoon when there are people here to use it.' "That goes for me too."

rooms over there are frightful, Turmoll: "I'm all mixed up, don't know where to go or what to do, very hot and bumped everywhere. "I'm scared stiff. It's like a museum or asylum or something."

"The library's like a morgue." I'm goin have an awfully jolly Supercillous Head Prefect: "Is this the intelligentsia?"

Home Science? "It's dreadfully dusty Lastly a completely blase Head Prefect: "Well, I think the physiques of the men are awful. You're a lot joint's lousy!"

#### ENTRANCE OF THE LITTLE PAWNS

Price: Threepence

Hundreds of freshers, big ones and little ones, male ones and female ones, poured into the gym, on last Friday night to be welcomed. And they were welcomed, right royally, by Mr. Edgley, Professor Kirk in a dinner jacket, Messrs. Tweedledum and Tweedledee, and numerous entertain-

President Edgley, nervously licking his lips, delivered one of the most enjoyable speeches in his career as President. He started and finished in. a benign and fatherly manner, as befitted such an important person, but what might vulgarly be called the guts of his speech, was excellent. He made a number of rude remarks about the freshettes and horse-troughs and severthe freshettes with great interest since their entry at V.U.C., and was sure reasonable to say that these everyone was going to have a good time

He recommended freshers to beware of the little Professor with an eye-shade who tapped on a typewriter and called lady students "Mademoiselle"; and recommended law students to study The Government's policy in re- Gaelic before attending Professor

The usual injunctions to take part even by professors who have the usual introductions to the old become politically-minded. We students, such as Messrs. Scotney. aim at making New Zealand a Wild, and Hott; the usual hopes that competent nation in all arts and freshers passed their Degrees so that It would be a long time before the crafts instead of keeping it in they would be with us for a considerpart as a remote farm of the able time; a little blah and a magnifi-

Messrs. Tweedledum and Tweedledee, after selling a number of Glee Club song books, led Extrav. and other Development means a full songs'in their inimitable style, and the use of all the talents of the freshers responded nobly. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about the function, which was advertised "for freshers only," was the fact that nonfreshers preponderated.

The old favourites in 'Varsity entertainment then took the stage (which trained and educated men and lacked a curtain) and gave of their women. I would like to close Paul Taylor, looking pretty as usual, best to the assembled multitude. this message, therefore, with delivered "Treasure Trove." accomthe appeal that students should panied by the composer, who later sang equip themselves to v.U.C. numbers. Ron Meek presented "Josephine" and other traditional the fullest extent a mystifying programme of magical for the great tasks effects, including a remarkable demonstration of telepathy with a pack of that will be theirs cards. He was lucky in his choice of in the years ahead. an assistant-none other than Mr. Guy Bliss, who later took part in an excellent humorous sketch.

And then the lower half of the Gym. vomited its contents upstairs; the piano was thumped by relays of musiclans; the usual targe knot of males gathered round the entrances and looked longingly at the blushing wallflowers: the Lambeth Walk was walked

and the Destiny Wasz was waltzed. As we write, the Lagabeth Walk is being danced. A noise of stamping and "ois" is endangering the foundations of the Gym; offe despairs for the future of the dance.

Still, everybody's having a good time.

#### BROOKIE.

"And what do you think of this year's freshers, Mr. Brook?'

"They look a jolly fine lot, I think. We're going to have a really good

"And have you any advice for the freshers, Mr. Brook?"

"They will find me ready at any time to help them as long as they don't step on my toes-and if they do, then look out."

"And the girls-what do you think of them?

"From the look of them it seems as if we might at last get a few ladies in the place."

"Thank you, Mr. Brook." "You're welcome."

Any person under the age of thirty, of weeds. And the girls are not up who, having any knowledge of the to much. All together I think the existing social order, is not a revolutionist, is an inferior.-Bernard Shaw.

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-- "Aspro" Year Book, 1939

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#### AND TOMORROW COMES

In the world of paper and machines that surrounds us, nothing is more obvious than its shabby and wishful thinking.

We live in an age in which values and criteria are in a process of rapid and active decay.

On every hand stand the most blatant absurdities and injustices. We live in a world of human devices. A world thick with vested 👱

interests, where privilege is backed by power. To succumb is easy, to accept things as we find them regardless of the end to which the logic of events must lead.

Today opportunism offers a blood-price as never before...

The need for clear, untramelled thinking grows more urgent

Last year "Salient" adopted a policy of deliberate and active 3. concern with the issues of the world outside the University. And despite its slender circulation did something to make the readers it encountered aware of what these issues were.

During 1939 this policy will be continued.

"Send out, 'Salient,' the swift satiric point To smart the sluggard mind awake. While Freedom anywhere in bonds is pent No compromise with falseness make. Those freed to-day to-morrow forth must leap Some further outpost there to take and keep.

It is hoped that this year, even more than last, students will use "Salient" to say what they think. Let it be said once again that the sole qualification of any article, necessary to ensure its publication. is its readableness. Any well-expressed opinion will be printed.

The University, above all else, should be the home of freedom and intellectual honesty. In the past it has failed more than once. Let us deter i ne that while we are responsible it will never fail again.

TRAMPING CLUB

ably look hot and uncomfortable.

regularly

And yet they always seem to enjoy it.

The best way to become a tramper,

And all those really interested-and

So, if you want to take part in the

Join the V.U.C. Tramping Club!

#### **GOD DEFEND** NEW ZEALAND

The preposterous, the fatuous, the bigoted and the absord are everywhere visible to the "scellig eye." No less, in this Britain of the southern seas.

As every newspaper reader and radio listener knows, some fresh extravagance is met with every day.

It is intended by the staff of "Salient" to collect these lapses week by week (under the heading of "God Defend New Zealand") that others may enjoy them. To pillory and never to please will be our aim, in the hope that too and to enjoy tramping, is to come out much light will dissipate the thoughts of the egregious. If such a scheme as this is to fulfil its purpose, everyone must make a duty of helping. Everyone who reads this is asked whenever he comes across a suitable imbedility to are usually very easy.

And all those really interested—and send it in-without delay.

Strung out below are some examples: —should attend the Annual General

"Lionel Barrymore in his role of the Meeting, which will take place in a crotchety old crippled surgeon with a week or so. The formal business will tongue like a rapier covering a heart take only a few minutes, and then of gold . . .

--- Alec Regan,

Manager, Theatre Majestic, giving an illustrated lantern lecture in an Open Letter to the cinema-goers on tramping in the Orongorongos and of Wellington.

"The constable, who was a member Club during the winter tramping of the London Book Club, selected "The season. Decameron" at random from the shelves of the library in Auckland on learn to ski, the Club will cater for October 14. The book was composed you. At least two skiing trips are held of 100 so-called stories, most of which during the year-all gear provided. were of a very filthy nature . . . we claim It could only have a very most healthy sport of all, and do someimmoral and mischievous tendency thing really valuable in the weekendson readers."

-"Evening Post," 25/2/39.

"Tender advertisements will be found "Anticipating a great demand for and is afraid.

-Columnar insertion in the New Zealand Meat Producers' Board Silence fills the sky

"I know a little bit about Victoria ply red, white and blue crepe paper on and yet, and yet-College. There were communists at Victoria College when I was there, and there are ten times are the trivial sounds of life are here there are ten times are to the trivial sounds of the trivial soun there are ten times as many there now," said the National Party Candidate, Mr. Will Appleton, speaking at We can only examine in respect of tea-spoons tinkling on a copper tray Roseneath last night. "This spirit of the more superficial qualities on Communism is permeating our scholas- acquisitions. We cannot examine for tic system from the professors down," temper, patience, sagacity, daring or Mr. Appleton added. "I have had any of the more vital" and deeper positive knowledge of this. But what characteristics. And so with professordo you expect when the head of the ships-fancy a professorship in any one Education Department, the Hon. P. of these things! If one wanted to Fraser, is an absolute socialist?"

-"Evening Post," 7/10/38. professorship of virtue.

"Now the symbol for the year 1939 Whose looketh into the perfect law a fragrant ton is the materialist or "Fool," indicated by a blind man walking on the edge of liberty, and conmucth therein, he that falls in splence through the of a precipice straight towards the not being a forgetful hearer, but a open jaws of a crocodile, while overhead doer of the work, this man shall be Silence is fear the Sun is eclipsed." blessed in his deed.

-Epistle of James.

#### AMENDE HONORABLE

To freshers, we offer our apologies. Our apologies for the rebuff of the first two or three days-the inhuman emptiness of the halls,

In other years they were bustling with students, old and new, and there right in the doorway, where it should be, was a table loaded with handbooks and helpfulness.

If common-sense and kindliness return what you went through this year will remain peculiar to 1939.

Let us hope that Friday night in the Gym, was something like a compensa-

#### "Salient" Points

The attention of all students is drawn to the following points:-

1. The staff will be available on Thursday evening of each week from 7 p.m. onwards.

Articles and other contributions must be in the hands of the Editor by 7.30 p.m. on Thursday prior to

(Boxes for the receiving of contributions are being placed in the men's and women's common rooms.)

All letters written to "Salient" must be limited to 300 words and must be in the hands of the Editor by 7.30 p.m. on the Friday prior to Issue.

4. Contributors are asked to write on reporters' pads if possible, and to use one side of the paper only.

All articles, letters, etc., must bear the signature or initials of the writer. Pseudonyms are permissible on the literary page.

#### MUSIC

Amongst those newly arrived at the University there must be many who have "a reasonable good ear" in music and would want to keep it. For them the \$2,500 Carnegie Gramophone and its 1,000 records will be an undeniable attraction. In its files they will find sonatas, fugues, symphonies, suites-a selection, protean and catholic, from Palestrina to Stravinsky.

Later in the year, when the Biology Block is completed, a special music room is to be set up.

Till then we must make the most of Every now and then when one is the inconvenience of lecture room respending a quiet Sunday in some citals. To this end a meeting of all secluded valley, one sees peculiar those "sentimentally disposed to harcreatures striding along burdened by mony" will be held on Thursday, March enormous packs. These people are 9th, at 8 p.m. in Room A.2.

called Trampers, and they inhabit all Please make this a matter of persorts of inaccessible places like muddy sonal concern. Unless an enthusiastic streams, bush-clad ranges, cold rivers and energetic roster of students is and snowy mountains. Men Trampers gathered the gramophone and the opperspire and women Trampers glow; portunities it offers will never be and all members of the species invarirealized to their fullest extent.

#### WEATHERCOCK

MOTIONS PRESENTED FOR DIS-CUSSION AT THE UNIVERSITY DEBATES LAST YEAR.

That the British Government's those who are merely vaguely interested Foreign Policy is Pro-Fascist .- Car-That the Professorial Board should

allow discussions on Sex and Religion. Mr. A. G. Bagnall, one of the most That Medical Services should be

prominent members of the Club, is Socialised.—Carried. That New Zealand should institute a System of Compulsory Military Tararuas-the chief habitat of Welling- Training.-Lost.

ton trampers. You will thus see pictures -That the cause of General Franco of places which will be visited by the Deserves the Support of this House.

That Socialism provides genuine And if you like skiing, or want to hope for the future of Civilisation. —Carried.

#### High Noon

Silence is fear fear that lies trembling in the air while silence stands alone fancy dresses, the London office of the

"Dominion" circularised the whole of the retail blue deeps that fade meat trade in Britain offering to sup-into far space beyond all thought -"Evening Post" unafraid:

> and water dripping rhythmic, cool; a girl's slow laugh that falls upon the day unasked, unsought and cracks a thousand memories that lie within the shivering pool encourage vice one should found a of days long past ing days of lucent jade -Samuel Butler. and iet all shadow-lit,

lingering trees . . . and silence is afraid.

a.

The Covent Garden Russian Ballet has come and gone; perhaps now the excitement has died down we can view the performances objectively and without the stage lights blinding our eyes. We have viewed the ballet from the gods and from the stalls; we have interviewed the principal dancers; we have obtained outside opinions on foam-mouthed frenzy of little demathe ballet as a form of art; and we present our readers with our impressions and views.

#### IMPRESSIONS.

lifted; the atmosphere was electric.

leap into the Dress Circle. Its whole Lescaut". body tense, the cat suddenly leapt which Riabouchinska received during believe New Zealand to be ready. "Carnaval."

We were rather disappointed with "Carnaval." The decor, although deitely better—mainly owing to the superb technique of Baronova and Dolin. "Swan Lake" improves vastly on a second view; but the awful model swan which jerks across the stage at the conclusion of the ballet is an anti-climax.

The best ballet was, of course, "Les In no other ballet was Presages." the synchronisation of music and movement so perfect; the groups were wonderfully striking, and the solo dancers-Baronova, Petroff, Riabauchinska and Jasinisky, gave their best performances (although the pas de deux in "Aurora's Wedding" was the best individual item). The Masson décor and costumes were brilliant. although only from the gods could dog with her in her bedroom when she the dazzling formations be properly viewed. The Passion scene went across best, perhaps because it was the story of a pair of lovers with a most effective stage villain.

"Les Sylphides" and "Papillons" were, like the music of Chopin, merely a sensuous moment; "Aurora's Wedding" was a disunited collection of brilliant dances, and, we understand, did not compare favourably with the Dinghileff production of "The Sleeping Princess"; "Schenerezade" and "Cendrillon" were spectacular pantomines; and "Union Pacific," though described in the daily papers' review as "surrealistic," was in truth merely realistic, and perhaps could be placed next to "Presages" in order of merit, mainly because of the lovely discordant Nabokoff music and the scene where the railway line was built up from corpses.

We saw "Spectre de la Rose" four times, and could have seen it forty, grace of movement and line superb, show, but her constant agonised expression More gossip-Sono Osato, the Japanand almost complete lack of personality ese-American ballerina, is married to detracted somewhat from her perfor Jasinsky. mances. Riabouchinska made up for a slightly faulty technique with a most pleasing personality and delightful stage presence.

#### OFF STAGE.

mance.

a man of unbounded energy and the had waited, most of them, for two or mainspring of the company, commented three hours, and were eager as could on "Salient's" suggestions that a be to see the show. National School of Ballet be formed in New Zealand. "You won't be success- dull, except when the great Folkine ful," he said, "All the ballerinas in our and his striking wife watched the show. company have devoted years of study show, to their art; a dancer must be prepared to give up everything for his or her career. Moreover it is essential that Ballet as a form of art? Will the tresses of Beauvais, as . . . but what's only the great dancers be employed to artists of the future express their the use of talking? If architecture is coach all aspiring ballerinas. I possible without charge."

#### HUSBAND OF PAVLOVA.

but better known as the husband of to choreography.

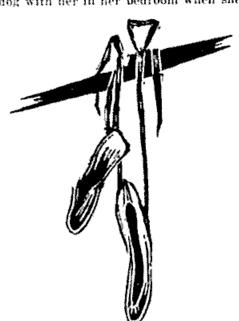
"the incomparable" Paviova. Mr. Cold as a soundless tomb, The whole audience gazed at the Dandre readily recounted many incl. empty and bitter as a whore's caress: left-hand box nearest the dress circle; dents in his life-long association with for I have known the lightning women gasped and strong men the Ballet. He stated that in New and cannot be content with less, blanched; Dorati, about to lead the Zealand few people realised what an orchestra, stopped with his baton up- integral part the Ballet took in Grand Steel-flashing sabres Opera, particularly in London, Paris For the Opera House cat, doubtless and Warsaw. The leading members of Rumbles of drum-fire desiring to emulate Jasinsky's per- this company, including Roman Jasinformance in "Carnaval," which had sky, Irina Baronova and Tamara Grigjust finished, was standing on the orieva, have appeared at Covent Garden edge of the box straining over the Opera House in such well-known operas edge, obviously about to attempt the as "Carmen," "Faust," and "Manon For Spain and the people?

The first three scenes of Act V in through the air; a woman screamed, "Faust" are devoted entirely to Ballet Booming and rending and it landed safely on the edge of the and provide a brilliant setting for a circle. There was a terrific burst of grand climax. With regard to forming Tearing and zooming applause-much greater than any a School of Ballet, M. Dandre did not

#### BALLERINA.

Irina Baronova, looking ravishing in signed by Bakst, seemed shabby and her heavy make-up, was next interviewed by our commentator. She is the cold, blue-veined stone, strangely sweet. inadequate, and the stage was hor-ribly dirty. "Swan Lake" was infin-wife of the Director of the companyor so we are told. She expressed a keen I cannot hide now in the bosom of the School of Ballet. In Paris and Warsaw and nowhere is there any shade from the leading schools are sponsored by the Government. Receiving financial support, they are able to acquire the services of the great masters to coach pupils. Another aspect which plays such an important part in the development of the pupil is the fact that in Europe there is a wonderful tradition, enriched through the ages.

A few words with Tatiana Riabouchinska, whose huge dog goes with her everywhere-(we understand that a certain Wellington Hotel refused to let her stay there because she wanted her



though we should have liked to see was alone)-a glimpse of feathery Dolin in the main part. The leap ballerinas in the yellow "Papillon" through the window was disappointing costumes-and our visit behind scenes Than ever seer-eyed Jinn, (as was the Slave's death in "Schehere- was over. Riabouchinska's dog is a Or monstrous genii knew .-- J.D.F. zade"), but it was Rinbouchinska's magnificent creature-we are told that best role. Baronova could not have while in Wellington she and David taken the part; her technique was so Lichine used to exercise it round the brilliant as to be breathtaking, and her Railway Station each night after the

#### GODS AND GODDESSES.

It was very cheerful in the gallery, lights on please!" which was packed ever night we were there. The atmosphere was entirely different in the circle and front And what are these glamourous stalls; the inhabitants of these select creatures who flit like thistledown localities clapped wery little, and across the stage like in real life? looked terribly bored, and it was ob-"Salient" determined to find out, and vious that the majority had dressed hall. penetrated into their labyrinthian in their strapless frocks and put on dressing rooms just before a perfor their pearls and ear-rings, and come to the Ballet because it was "the Anton Dolin, making-up furiously, thing" to do. The people in the gallery

The occupants of the boxes were

#### A NEW ART?

ideals and emotions in the "plastic frozen music, the ballet is liquid have discovered several excellent art of choerography"? It is easy to music, and it escapes the fixed values dancers while conducting classes here argue that Ballet makes movement of words just as its own quintessence -one girl in Auckland is particularly mechanical when it ought to be spontan- of movement escapes the many hunoutstanding. I am myself going to see eous; that the repetition of the routine dredweights of human flesh and blood to it that she receives the best training steps is in direct conflict with the which produce it." ideals of artistic expression; that the A distinguished looking gentleman dances in Ballet is at present in-entered the room and spoke to Dolin— superable—Nijinsky went mad trying Bird." none other than Mr. Victor Dandre, to find a method-and is likely to re-Managing Director of the company, pel artists who might otherwise turn

#### LET THERE BE LIGHT

For I have known the lightning and the brightened day and the searing flame of flesh, eyes deeper, mind of clay.

Musty mouthings of parchment solici-

dead, aimless scratchings of crabbed clerks. gogues

burbling in mob-haunted parks-

Striving of spears Shricking and lears

"Hic jacet Diego" Who died like he

I am afraid Retrograde.

But I cannot go back nowthere is no possible retreat, not even when the moon uncovers her breast.

the sun, and the night is smoothed darkly over

The oozing crowd

Gyrates to the tones Of leering crooners And saxophones

the sky.

"In the decorated HallA lovely time was had By all"

Hollow kisses Void embraces Leaden footsteps In sunless places.

But I must arise now, eager and cleanlimbed, and sweep forward exultantly like fire, for I have known the lightning and the soft breath of desire.



POEM.

Beholding the blotched fabric of the Box 1536 The gull's articulate parabola,

And sun through cloud straightshafted, We shall restore The blood's fulfilment;

And in the waves' incessant descant. Tugging of wind at vagrant hair, Insidious shift of sand Beneath grain-massaged feet, Shall find more wonder stored,

#### H. G. MILLER ON THE MIDDLE AGES

"And the lamps of civilisation went out all over Europe. The dark ages had arrived . . . .

Would some one mind turning the

We wish to officially deny that two stuffed moas have been purchased by the Principal, for display in the front

#### Continued from Column 2

We interviewed Professor James Shelley, Director of Broadcasting, on the subject:

"The ballet," said Professor Shelley, "like all the arts, is an attempt to escape from the material into the realms of pure expressive rhythm. It is as exquisite as the "Primavera" of And what is the significance of Bottleelli, as lovely as the flying but-

The Covent Garden Russian Ballet art is not "plastic" at all. The diffi- has come and gone; next year we are culty of recording the steps and told they are returning with-inter

> We sincerely hope so. -R.P. and R.L.M.



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#### **SPORTS** *CLUB* JOIN A

We would particularly address those new students known at 'Varsity as freshers. If you are one, lose no time in joining one of the numerous sports clubs at Victoria College. There is very little formality about joining a club. Just see the secretary or a club official (vide S.C.M. Handbook) and you will be eagerly welcomed.

But if you are to be a University man or woman, don't join an outside sports club. Link up with the 'Varsity one and have your exercise and recreation in the company of the students with whom you pursue your academic course. There is no dearth of sports clubs at V.U.C. In summer there are the Cricket, Tennis, Rowing, Athletic and Swimming Clubs; for the shorter winter days, the Men's and Women's Hockey Clubs, the Rugby Football Club, the Harrier and the Basketball Clubs; and then there are the Tramping Club, with activities not strictly seasonal, the Boxing, Shooting and Table Tennis Clubs. Seven of these Clubs send representatives to the annual Easter Tournament, the climax of the sporting year. One can win even fame by athletic prowess, but that is a secondary consideration. The main one is enjoyment and recreation and to provide that for every member is the paramount aim of Victoria College sports clubs. So cast away your doubt or diffidence, and join the club that appeals to you most.—L.B.S.

### **ATHLETICS**

#### PROSPECTS BRIGHTER

enced a lean season in 1937-38, ming sports; perhaps they have just doubles is as set out above. culminating in the annexation of the dabbled in the sport; but every one state of affairs. This season has been of the V.U.C. Swimming Club. marked by keenness in training and If you have read your S.C.U. handconsequent improvement in form. In book assiduously—and you ought to be at least as strong as last year's, inter-club events the letter "V" has have done—you will see that the Club Among the men, Frank Renouf's game, appeared among the placings far more holds weekly evenings at Thorndon in particular, has made a pronounced

pion Pat Boot announced that he will events also — and freshers will be settled down to hard, steady practice, be pleased to turn out for the 'Varsity welcomed at the few remaining and should soon regain his best form. Club. His presence should provide a Wednesdays this season. As these Norman Morrison is probably fitter

visit to Stratford at the invitation of interested make sure of attending all some weeks, he is again playing with a handicap meeting held under flood- club nights. lights. Thanks to a stern handicapper, the only ones to fill places were J. S. hurdles), E. Irving (2nd 120 hurdles), every fresher, whether he enters for and D. R. Serymgeour (3rd 1 mile), any races or not, should make a point But it was a most enjoyable trip, of attending. There will be a splendid nevertheless. Ron Freeman and Jack programme, including special races for McVeagh made a good job of their freshers. co-managership.

#### PROVINCIAL CHAMPS.

Then there were the Wellington Provincial Championships on the 25th February. 'Varsity didn't get a single title but the green and gold were in most cases well up in the placings.

winning the ladies' breaststroke event. Eastwood (2nd) and C. V. Adams (3rd) were so close to Quinn in the 100 after setting too fast a pace in the the keenness has not been as great as who have achieved marked success at early stages. Again he made Quinn last season, it is so substantially in cricket come readily to mind. go hard to win. Black is not quite up advance of other previous seasons that to form yet in the half-mile. He will it is still phenomenal. be better by Tournament, Geoff Annear was disappointing in the mile but should not be discouraged. He knows After heating Mackay the previous players took the courts for the first week in a 3-mile Dewar Shield event, matches in the Tennis Club's popular Scrymgeour had to fill 2nd place to him Freshers Tournament. At about a in the Championship. His time was a fraction under the N.Z.U. Record. Athol Congalton, in running 3rd in this race, showed much improvement. With a little more speed he will be hard to beat at this distance. Irving (2nd 120 burdles and 3rd 220 burdles) should theless and looks like retaining his 70 entries. A gentle breeze tempered high hurdles title at Tournament. J. S. Adams was 3rd in the javelin throw and is steadily improving as a result pleasant. of Stan Lay's able tuition in Stratford.

#### PROMISING JUNIORS.

A promising junior in the club is Dave Muir. For a first season in open company he is performing well in the middle distance events. More will be heard of him later.

beth MacLean, Ruth Singleton and Northey is another junior who is Kathleen Pears, last Saturday's tea was capable of running anything from 220 well up to standard. yards to a mile. He has run with the harriers for a year or so and has built up plenty of stamina. Now he would be advised to concentrate on one or two distances.

States is another Tournament possistering on paper, have performed erratible three successive Easters.

States is another Tournament possistering on paper, have performed erratible three successive Easters.

The club is anxious to field three hurdles. Tossman, one of last year's are the result. Only the selection of teams this year. New players are the result. Despite leaving his training late he should be ready by Easter.

Finally an appeal is made to all who club. have any ideas about track or field and the Tournament team will be Ith batting is particularly strong. F. acquaintance with basketball or netball. 3 Ballance Street chosen largely on performances there. Bett's 276 in a recent match cannot be but of that, more anon.

#### Women's Doubles:-M. Edwards and M. Fletcher. P. Higgin and M. Walker.

Of the team that covered itself with glory at Auckland last Easter by win-

SWIMMING CLUB

held at Thorndon Baths, at 8 p.m., and

The swimming season so far has been extremely successful, despite most

a title at Tournament. Miss S. Henord, if she trains, has an excellent chance of

FRESHERS' TOURNEY

At about 1.25 last Saturday afternoon,

John O'Shea climbed the steps after

Capably controlled by B. W. Brock,

Secretary F. D. Christensen in useful

support, the Tournament affracted over

Not the least enjoyable feature of a

Devine in the final, 26/24.

Manawatu, among the men.

far short of the V.U.C. record.

ning the N.Z. University Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles Championships, only Kathleen Pears, Pat Edwards and Lorna Mete Kingi are missing. The first two were ineligible through lacking the lecture qualification, and Lorna Mete Kingi was not available. Her place as second singles player has been taken by Mary Edwards, a promising left-hander and a younger sister of Pat Edwards. The other newcomers are Pixie Higgin and Marie Walker. Whether they will be Many freshers will be reading this the first or second women's doubles who have been interested in swimming pair will depend on form in the trials at school; maybe they have proudly now taking place at Miramar. Apart If the V.U.C. Athletic Club experi- carried off prizes at the school swim- from this, the order of preference for

Strong Tennis Team

Tournament Representatives

The following team has been chosen to represent V.U.C. at the

N. Morrison and F. Renouf.

B. O'Connor and J. Hartley.

N. Morrison & Miss E. MacLean. J. Hartley and Miss M. Fletcher.

Easter Tournament at Dunedin:-

Men's Singles:-F. Renouf, B. O'Connor.

Men's Doubles:--

Women's Singles:— E. MacLean, M. Edwards.

Combined Doubles:-

N. A. Morrison, an experienced wooden spoon at the Auckland Tourna- of them, be he a good, bad, or indifferent Tournament representative and the ment, it is now out to remedy that swimmer, will be a welcome member cleverest doubles player available, will again captain the team.

Summed up, the team can be said to frequently than for some years past. Baths. At these club nights, handicap advance. O'Connor played no tennis Last week the Empire Games Cham- races are held-diving and novelty before Christmas, but he has now nights are almost the only times when than at this time last year, and has the Club as a whole meets together. Lest none of his still. Of Harriag it can the Club as a whole meets together, lost none of his skill. Of Hartley it can that month a small team paid a we recommend that all those who are be said that, after a lapse in form for visit to Stratford at the invitation of we recommend that all those who are the determination and concentration On Wednesday, March 15th, the that makes him so valuable a matchannual Inter-faculty Carnival will be player.

Similar hopes are held of the women players. With Elizabeth MacLean and Mary Edwards playing well, the singles assignments are in good hands. It seems safe to predict that only an exceptionally good pair will defeat Elizabeth MacLean and Norman Morrison in the Combined event. Marie unfavourable weather on almost every Fletcher proved her worth last Tournaclub night. A. Taylor, of Training ment. The new pair, Pixie Higgin and College, is now the Club's first string. Marie Walker, combine well and they or another representative will capture possess the right match temperament.

## J. A. ONGLEY

Since Victoria College regained The Polo Teams, despite a certain yds, final that a blanket would have difficulty in getting enough members senior cricket status in 1925-26 there covered the three of them. Gorringe was to put two teams in the water, have been many notable players who another finalist in the 100 and 220, have actualy won more games than have come from its ranks, including finishing third in the latter. Eastwood they have lost or defaulted. Although, two who have gained New Zealand was again just unfortunate in the 440 owing to the frigidity of the water, honours. Names of past Victoria men

Now Joe Ongley has become the third member of a Victoria Varsity eleven to gain his New Zealand cap. and members and supporters of the tion of his work.

Joe Ongley is a bat reminiscent of Mery. Wallace, a beautifully free quarter to seven Kathleen Pears and fast-scoring batsman. He is correct, polished and dashing. Joe Ongley should develop into the finest bat this defeating Miss N. Carver and S.

club has produced.

Congratulations, Joe, and good KELBURN TRAM AVENUE, C.1 with Chairman E. G. Budge, and luck!

#### BASKETBALL PROSPECTS

After successive victories in the to make playing conditions very Easter Tournament in 1937 and 1938, the Basketball Club is reaching a pitch Freshers noticed wielding promis- of keenness that might well be emulated ing racquets included Gladys Rainbow by some other V.U.C. sports clubs. and Tavia Turton among the girls, Practices for this year's Tourney have and Cope, a ranked player in the been in hand for a month. In spite of Basketbail's being a winter game!

Of last year's team six are back at Freshers' Tournament is the afternoon Victoria and two other girls are coming tea. Prepared and dispensed by Eliza to practices from country school teaching positions. In addition there are several girls from last year's B ....L.B.S. team who must seriously be considered for places. The selector's task is DISAPPOINTING CRICKET unenviable, but a good combination is Not one of the five teams has cause assured. There seems every possibility to regard its record this season with of V.U.C. doing the supposedly imposreal satisfaction. Seniors and seconds, sible-win the Basketball Shield at

440 yds, hurdlers, is again in the field. Joe Ongley and Arthur Harpur in Well. wanted. Freshers are certain of a ington Plunket Shield has, in some warm welcome and plenty of "keeping measure, saved the reputation of the fit." The new rules should make for faster play and an even more enjoyable REGINALD COLLINS Ted Blacker's social team has pro- winter game. Coaching at Victoria events to raily round. The inter-faculty bably the best record to date. It has caters for those new to the game as sports are scheduled for March 18th won 4 of its 7 matches and drawn 1, well as those who have a nodding Leave a note for Pixie Higgin and watch for notices re the practice nights.

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