

V.U.C. Abroad

Charlie Plank in the U.S.A.

U.S.A. and the War in Europe.

This subject is causing considerable anxiety in Europe just at present. If there is war in Europe, will U.S.A. come in on the side of the democracies; or will she stay neutral and supply the sinews of war; or will she just remain completely aloof? Charles Plank, former V.U.C. student, is at present in the U.S.A. and his views on the situation are printed hereunder:—

"You ask about the ideas over here so far as war is concerned. Well, I think from general observation that they think that war is not imminent at the present time. It is thought that as long as Hitler only talks then that is alright. Furthermore it is considered that the recent statements of Roosevelt indicate that he is in favour of helping the democracies, and Hitler has realized that. I have talked to a lot of people here about the entry or otherwise of America into the next war. Taking everything into consideration I think that America would be into the next war within three months or say six at the outside. Most Americans are definitely in favour of maintaining their neutrality but they are getting jittery about what will happen if England and France lose. Furthermore their desires and ideas on their traditional neutrality are not so positive as of old. Also a recent scientific poll conducted in the States indicated that about 18 per cent, of the people are in favour of fighting for the European democracies. Now if that relatively high percentage is in favour of fighting when we are at peace, how many more people will favour it when London and Paris are in ruins and the papers are starring those terrible atrocities which can be dug up in any war Then again how many influential people over here are Jews, and you know how they love the German top dog just now. Personally I think that Roosevelt has realised that the American nation cannot permit the democracies of Europe to go under. America has got a lot of worries so far as the nazification of Central and South America is concerned, and a nazi England would put U.S.A. in the soup properly.

The columnists in the "New York Times" and in the "New York Herald Tribune." especially Dorothy Thompson in the latter are specially worth reading and they should be in the Wellington Public Library. Dorothy Thompson wields a tremendous amount of influence throughout the States as she is very popular, coming next to Mrs. Roosevelt in a recent nation-wide poll, and her articles, which are published in a very large number of papers, are all pro-British.

But when you read American news you must first determine whether the paper is a Republican or a Democratic one. In interpreting what you read this is most important.

New York's World Fair.

Charles has been to the World's Fair. Here is his description of it.

"One of the attractions of New York is the World's Fair which is . . . now in full swing. I've never seen anything approaching it in beauty, interest, or size. Most of the buildings are modernistic in design but coloured in pastel shades. The displays of the various nations are very fine and notable among them is that of Russia. Some 5,000,000 dollars has been [*unclear*: spent] on it and they have made a wonderful job. The British pavilion is quite bright and its main theme is Britain's prestige (if she has any left now). There is a family tree showing how George Washington descended from King John and several of the barons; and there is, an original Magna Carta on display."

Snippets about America Gleaned from Charles.

"After being over here I'm more socialistic than ever before and I'm an ardent new-dealer and supporter of Roosevelt. Fancy there being twelve million unemployed in a country with all the gold in the world, and with their enormous potential resources."

"Talking about girls, I've never seen a better looking lot than the American ones. In general they look

attractive, and are tall and slim, and they take great care of their figures and complexions; and what's more, make great jobs of them. Lots of them are very disappointing when they talk, however, as many have rotten accents, and others use their heads only to keep their hats on."

"Living here is about twice as costly as in New Zealand, but everyone is paid proportionately more. The majority of girls continue working after they marry and they marry very young—just after they come out if possible—when they are about 18 years old. When they have babies, which isn't often, they just take time off."

Overseas Oddments.

A. T. S. McGhie, well known to his many friends and enemies at V.U.C. not so long ago as "the McGhie" has succumbed at last. He was alternatively an immovable object and an irresistible force in debate, but the citadel of his indefatigable heart has been stormed by two eyes as soft as two bunches of violets in the spring (or something like that.) His engagement was announced several months ago and news now comes that he is to be married on July 22nd. They all fall in the end; the bigger the harder! Our very best wishes to Mac and the future Mrs. Mac.

John Hatherly is returning to N.Z. shortly after an absence of two and a half years, spent partly in South Africa as assistant master at a Johannesburg Boys School and partly in England. We prophesy that his views on Nazi Germany will be sufficiently interesting to warrant a talk to the Free Discussions Club on the subject. He lands about the middle of August.

Jack Aimers informs us in a letter that they hold dances in hotels in Australia. No charge is made for admission as the proprietor hopes to make up for this in additional bar trade. We think he probably would.

Henry Abraham has left the University of Melbourne and is now a member of the Melbourne Observatory staff. He now spends long periods of time star-gazing and enjoys his work very much.

John White has been having a very interesting time in England. He has done a trip over to Ireland and has been through the Courts of Justice, both in Eire and in Northern Ireland. Just at present his attention is concentrated on Wimbledon where he is the New Zealand Lawn Tennis Association delegate.

Janet Grainger has recently completed a tour of France and Germany. She is now back in Scotland and intends to do a trip round England very shortly.

Bill Combs, who is at St. John's College, Cambridge, on a post-graduate scholarship, has been awarded a first class pass. In Part I of the Modern Languages Tripos, a College Scholarship and the Wrights Prize.

Pat Kelly worked his passage to England and is now doing theological work at St. John's College, Durham.

Don McElwain is now lecturing at the University of Western Australia. He is playing wing-three-quarter for the University 1st XV.

Student Spirit in China

A general effect of the war has been to force the Universities to move inland away from the war zone, so that the students may continue their studies. The Chinese Government, fully expecting to win the war, hopes that, when they again enjoy peace in China, Unnecessary leadership for the reconstruction of the new China will be found among University students.

Interesting educational developments in China just now are four cultural centres at Chungkiang, Chengtu, Yen-an and Shanghai respectively. The first three are distant about 1,500 miles from Shanghai, which distance most of the students have had in walk.

Of the four educational developments mentioned, perhaps that at Yen-an is the most interesting. Yen-an is the headquarters of the Eighth Route Army, and to Yen-an are marching young men and women from every province in China. Yen-an is in North Shenai, 300 miles from Sian, and is reached in three days by car over one of the worst roads in the world. All along the road, nine stages by foot from Sian, go the processions of students, trudging along, carrying a heavy load of bedding and personal possessions.

The Sian office was, at one time, receiving 700 students a week, giving them 30 cents a day for food, and starting them off on this arduous "first lesson" of the University course.

Many have tragic stories to tell, of homes destroyed, and relations killed; some cannot study because family business has been ruined, or the family lands ravaged by the war; some are too restless to go on studying, or can find no school to enter.

However, China, with her veneration for learning, her great need of technical experts for the future, and her unlimited man-power, cannot afford to lose her student class. Several of the Central China provinces have schemes for setting young people to do work of importance, and the Generalissimo has formed a youth corps,

in which young educated men are called to enlist.

Life at the Universities is very primitive. At the North Shensi Academy, the students live in caves which they have dug themselves out of the hillside. In bad weather, moving about the "campus" along muddy, slippery paths is decidedly unpleasant. There are no chairs or tables: the students eat out of doors, squatting on the ground about two mess tins, one containing millet, and the other vegetables. For lectures, they each carry a small square of wood, on which they sit, taking their notes as best they can. They wash and bathe in the river, going down in squads at dawn and sunset.

Discipline is maintained by groups, each group of ten being responsible to a group leader, who takes roll-call, checks attendance at lectures, presides over discussions, [*unclear*: and] holds meetings of criticism and censure on any delinquent member.

Three-eighths of the students are girls, dressed like the men, and living under exactly the same conditions.

The course lasts only three months, and at present the number of subjects studied is few. The textbooks are lithographed locally, and there is no other equipment except a number of books, pamphlets and magazines in the library. Plenty of time is allowed for reading and discussion, but there is no practical work. Over seven thousand have already taken the course.

Much more could be said, but there is sufficient to show that the Chinese students are proving their ability to rise above adverse circumstances and to carry on a University under conditions which would probably daunt the average student—an object-lesson to the "civilised" West!

—C.A.W.

M.A.C., in a Radio Debate on Friday last, tried to persuade A.U.C. "That science has done more for mankind than literature." The judge Mr. W. P. Rollings, thought that they succeeded and placed the order of speakers—(1) A. A. Dunlop (M.A.C.), (2) Miss D. Fowler (A.U.C.), (3) A. I. Guild (M.A.C.).

The Two Camps

The principle we have now decided to adopt in regard to political articles, etc. in this and the next issue is that they will not in general be accepted unless they are definitely of more interest to students than to other sections of the community, even the educated ones. However, we received quite a large number of such contributions, and we publish the following as more adequately (in our opinion) expressing a point of view put forward in at least two other articles, and as being especially of interest to V.U.C. in view of the motion recently carried by the Debating Society, "That Russia is the Spearhead of Modern Civilization."—Ed.

The stock-in-trade of many modern writers on the world situation contains one assumption larger than any other item in their mental outlook. It is the assumption that the world is divided into two camps. In one entrenchment lie the powers of liberty, as summed up for us in the title "Democracy Under Canvas"; in the opposing faction are the totalitarian states of Italy, Germany, Portugal—the bad wolves that menace our cherished traditions of democratic freedom. Fascism and Nazism, in greater proximity to the democracies of the West, are ogres that scare the children of liberty, and lend Victor Gollancz and his "private enterprise," the Left Book Club, valuable assistance in his laudable endeavour of making money out of the world danger of Fascism. "Fascism" has been selected as the shibboleth. If you are not persuaded that the world needs a strong dose of Communism for its cure, you are a Fascist. If you breathe a suspicion even, of some sneaking idea that in some respects Democracy does not function well, you are without the pale—you are a Fascist. So there are two camps—Fascism and Democracy (note that Russia gets in here).

A Side-Step

Russia escapes her due classification among the Totalitarian states. In that happy realm where the Don and the Dneiper [*unclear*: now] so peacefully, where the worker drives to his palatial factory in the same motor car as Stalin; in that blissful classless state where all work the same hours for the same wage, where all are accorded the same fine living conditions, surely there must be some sacrifice asked [*unclear*: of] the individual. Surely the State that gives him so much must ask something in return. He is obliged to sell his soul to the State. Pardon, that is an unfortunate way or stating it, for souls are out of date in Russia. Each man belongs to the masses; he exists for the sake of the race. For the sake of the masses he submits to the tyranny of a few men alleged to represent the masses. In a land of so many millions there is but one mind. It is the mind of Stalin. There is but one will. I'll give you two guesses—whose? Liquidations, and "liquidations or the liquidators" suggest that it is perilous to have a private mind, more dangerous to reveal it; that it is purgeworthy to fail in any duty assigned by the State, and most un-Russian not to confess, when tried, that you are guilty, and

traitorous not to plead for punishment. Even Mr. Gollancz seems to have a vague suspicion of the existence of the O.G.P.U., for in a speech before the Left Book Club at Caxton Hall, London. November 8, 1937. he is reported: "In the U.S.S.R. prices are falling and salaries increasing. It is true that in England we enjoy certain things. We have more liberty of speech and of propaganda than in the U.S.S.R." We can draw our own conclusion about liberty in Russia, when even he, in the transport of ecstasy, occasioned by being "caught up" to the Workers' Heaven, noticed that liberty was circumscribed. Democracy demands freedom in politics. When this is absent the whole box and dice belongs to Cæsar—to Sawdust Cæsar, to Swastika Cæsar, or to Cæsar of the Hammer and Sickle.

A Hold-Up

The regime of the present Communist Party supplanted Democracy in Russia with the overthrow of the Kerensky Government in 1917. The millenium was to sweep the world. A halt was soon called to the European Journey, for once the seductive promises had been promulgated, and the mob incited to violence as in Italy and Hungary; once popular government had been threatened, as was the German Republic in 1919 by Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, then the middle class generated an equally violent reply to threatened spoliation and extinction. "Like cures like," and because the violence of Communism could only be staved off by an equally violent antidote, then Fascism, Nazism, or any other "-ism" that counters Communism, does not operate along lines of soft persuasion. Communism is cosmopolitan. International and anti-national, and has as its most distinctive slogan—"Workers of the world, unite." But the Nazis and the Fascists each glorify their races as special stud-farms of thoroughbreds. More differences than these could be outlined, but let us get on with washing-up, rather the dishing-up, for you are going to get all three on the one dish.

Three Men in a Dish

Messrs. Mussolini, Hitler, Stalin, all boil down to the same thing as far as Democracy is concerned. All are antagonistic to democratic government: to organisation into parties that vary in political creed. They are opposed to freedom of speech, freedom of the press and freedom of public meeting. All or them are authoritarian, dictatorial, cruel, ruthless, unscrupulous, warlike. All of them demand and produce a passive, servile character. Reds, Browns and Blacks submissively swathe themselves in uniforms, march in squads, shout slogans, block cars, lift hands, and smash opponents heads. Freedom and individuality are swept away. The Duce, the Fuhrer, the Leader, the Dictator—each captains a nation of puppets; each winds up his slavish automata and sets them off to work his will.

New Religions

Communism, and in their various forms, the totalitarian States as exemplified in the National Socialism of Germany and the Fascism of Italy, are all systems that deny one of the fundamental principles of human liberty as stated by Christianity—all men have the right to freedom, because they are all equal in dignity as the children of God. Communism, Nazism, Fascism, all deny the separate personal dignity of man, which is the only foundation of the liberty which is the essence of Democracy. They are religions that call on man to sink his individuality in the mystic urge of serving the race of Germans, the race of Romans, or the classless race of world-workers. Lumped together, they are the "New Paganism," and their quarrel is with Christianity, which asserts the individual dignity of each man. When Christianity refuses to hand man over to the God of State it fights for the very basis of Democracy—the separate personal dignity of each man.

There are two camps, but the contending forces are not Fascism and Democracy. They are Christianity and the "New Paganism."

—G.J.H.

Definitions

Socialism.—You have two cows. You give one to your neighbour.

Communism.—You have two cows. You give both to the government. The government gives you the milk.

Fascism.—You have two cows. You give the milk to the government. The government sells part of it back to you.

Nazism.—You have two cows. The government shoots you and takes both.

New Deal.—The government shoots one, milks the other, and pours the milk down the drain.

Capitalism.—You sell one cow, and buy a bull.

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This issue of "Salient" has been produced entirely by Mr. W. S. Mitchell and a staff appointed by him. As many readers are aware, this position has arisen from an offer to hand over the editorship made by the Editor at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, which offer was accepted by Mr. Mitchell.

I desire to make it quite clear that, in acting thus, the Editor was taking a step which has already been discussed and approved by the Publications Committee. Mr. Mitchell is the guest Editor of this paper for a short period only through the courtesy of Mr. Freeman.

In company with officers of the Association, I have every confidence in Mr. Freeman's ability to conduct "Salient" in an efficient and unbiassed manner, and I point out that the action of the Executive in allowing Mr. Mitchell to assume control for an issue in no-way reflects on the extremely thorough and satisfactory manner in which this paper has been conducted by Mr. Freeman and his predecessor.

(Signed) N. A. MORRISON,

President, V.U.C.S.A.

The Attack

What we don't attack:

- Competent judges have described "Salient" as the best set-out periodical a New Zealand University College has ever had. We believe them.
- It can also safely be said that the College has never had a staff which has expended so much time, effort, and enthusiasm on its paper as this one has.
- No staff has ever had to face such tremendous difficulties, due to the almost complete lack of support from the College as a whole. Contributions have been almost non-existent in spite of almost superhuman efforts to secure them; assistance has been almost entirely lacking for routine work like proof-reading and setting up, and so the Editor and his literary staff have had to do this themselves.
- The literary merit of the contributions has been unusually high.

But unfortunately:

While it is true that the absence of virtues of this kind can nullify the highest excellence in matter and ideas, is it not also true that their presence is completely useless when the matter is grossly unworthy of them?

We believe that a great deal of the matter that has appeared in "Salient" is unworthy of its technical excellence and the effort that is put into it in two fundamental respects: firstly, its viewpoint is utterly in conflict with that of the majority of those who should be its readers; and secondly, too many of the articles expressing this viewpoint abound in assertions as objectionably provocative as they are utterly unproved.

Support for the truth of the first charge should be forthcoming in the articles which we are publishing in this and the following issue. In making the second we have particularly in mind the report under the caption "Glory Road" of the Rev. J. A. Linton's address to the S.C.M. published in issue No. 3, and that of the Debate on Religion in No. 6; but very many consider that it applies also to most of the political articles and some of the verse. The fact that one can hardly be expected to prove things in a piece of verse scarcely makes it any the less objectionable if it brutally tries to trample underfoot all that so many of us hold most dear.

It has been pointed out by the "Salient" permanent staff—and let us say now that, contrary to what has been asserted, we never doubted their word—that except for the letter now published in this issue, which they alleged was not relevant to the subject under discussion, no contributions or letters contrary to their expressed views were received. But that by no means indicates that nobody wanted to write. For it will be recognized that unless a reply to any point appears the week after the offending article, it loses all topicality for most readers. It was no use therefore replying to anything in No. 6 which many subscribers were unable to collect until four weeks after it came out. Again. "Salient" appears on Wednesday and letters must be in by 7.30 on Friday. What hope has the part-time student, to whom every minute counts, if he cannot get to the University on one of those days? All part-timers have practically to choose between "Salient" and swot, and who can blame them if the latter wins? Not much can be said in defence of many of those who are up here all day; but there is the fact that, quite groundlessly perhaps. A paper so one-sided in its views as "Salient" has shown itself is hardly thought likely to accept anything contrary to the prevailing tone. Thus, as letters take time and energy to write, the would-be contributor confines himself to verbal indignation, and turns to one of the many pleasanter ways of passing one's time. In these matters the die is always heavily laden in favour of the aggressor.

—W.S.M.

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The Annual General Meeting

The full statement of our reasons for opposing the motion which led to our attack of "Salient" is being held over until our next issue; but in the meantime we are publishing at once the following letters arising out of the meeting.

The Editor. "Salient."

Dear Sir,—At the recent meeting held on Monday, June 26th, I made the statement that the paper was worthless. As it has been pointed out to me that this is a personal insult to the members of the staff. I wish to withdraw it unreservedly. My statements were not intended as a personal matter at all, but my objection to making "Salient" subscription compulsory still stands.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Ewen Cardale.

The Editor. "Salient."

Dear Sir,—May I congratulate your reporter R.L.M. on his excellent, interesting, unbiassed and very truthful report of the proceedings at the Annual General Meeting last Monday night. In my opinion this is the best report of a College function that has appeared this year although it is, as R.L.M. says, devoid of personal views, and R.L.M. is to be felicitated on its excellence.

Yours faithfully,

F. D. Christensen.

Mr. Mitchell's Letter

As quite a large part of Mr. Mitchell's case against "Salient" was based upon the non-publication of two letters he wrote to that paper, and as his arguments upon that score were said to be invalid because (a) one of the letters was "irrelevant to the point at issue, and (b) two other letters in opposition to the article in question were published." "Salient" is publishing this letter so that readers may judge for themselves as to its relevancy. It might first be pointed out that, as readers may verify for themselves, only one reply, that of Mr. Linton, was published.

Dear "Salient." The report, written by H.W.G., of the Rev. J. A. Linton's recent address to the S.C.M., and more especially the third paragraph of Mr. Linton's reply, might well leave the impression on some of your readers that all Christians repudiate the idea that reason can lead man to God. I should therefore like to point out that this is certainly not true of Catholics.

The Catholic holds. It is true, that reason usually cannot take man the whole way to God. The gift of Faith, which comes from God alone, is also necessary. In fact, it often happens that a man is fully convinced by reason of the justice of the claims of Christianity, and yet cannot bring himself to enter the Christian Church, purely for want of this supernatural gift of Faith.

Nevertheless, Catholics know that their act of Faith is in no way in conflict with reason. Reason shows (vide St. Thomas Aquinas or his more modern exponents) that there must be a God, and only One; reason shows from history that the Man Jesus Christ proved Himself by His miracles, and above all by His Resurrection, to be God, and left behind a body of teaching which has been infallibly preserved by His Living Church to the present day and will be preserved for all eternity. All these facts are established by history and reason: and reason will inevitably lead us to them, If we can only shake ourselves free of the mass of irrational prejudice with which we are surrounded.

I hope I have shown, then, that Catholics emphatically reject H.W.G.'s contention, with which he says the Rev. Mr. Linton is in agreement, that "Religious belief is utterly unscientific and logically groundless."

Yours truly,

W. S. Mitchell.

P.S.—Should you be unable to publish this letter, I should be obliged if you would let me know. A note in the rack would be sufficient.—W.S.M.

No note was received.

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Chemical Society

Dear "Salient,"

May I, as one not a member of the V.U.C.S.A., be allowed to remark on certain matters related to the A.G.M. of the V.U.C.S.A. I was not present at the meeting in question, but have read the report in "Salient," and have heard various accounts from those who were present. I should like to call attention to some confusion which appears to exist in regard to the V.U.C. Chemical Society.

(1) The report in "Salient" leads one to believe that this Society regarded the fact that it did not receive a grant as a "grievance"—a wretched word. This is not so. No grant was required or expected by that Society. What certain people have objected to is the fact that no written reply has been received; other societies have expressed dissatisfaction at what they regard as a lack of efficiency on the part of the Students' Association in this matter.

(2) Mention has been made of the Chemical Society balance sheet. The Hon. Auditor has remarked on a lack of vouchers for the sum spent, 2/11. We saw no necessity to produce receipts from H.M.P.O., nor did we

pick up receipts from Woolworths' floor. I might remark that any comment in this respect is out of place considering that the V.U.C.S.A. balance sheet bears similar remarks, though not so humorous. As the sums involved in this case are much larger, perhaps the Executive could have supplied the necessary evidence by grovelling in the dust and dirt on the floors of railway carriages in search of tickets.

(3) The Chemical Society Committee has at the moment only one part-timer, and he is here two whole days of the week, and is then available for committee meetings.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) E. P. White.

As two members of the V.U.C.S.A. who were present at the meeting, we entirely endorse the correctness of the above statements. There is no need to comment on Mr. White's qualifications to speak on the subject.

(Signed) P. A. Ongley.

N. D. Jamieson.

Editorial Policy

Editor, "Salient,"

Dear Sir.—I was not present at the Students' Association meeting held recently, but I am informed on reliable authority that at that meeting very strong criticism was levelled against the editorial policy of our paper. I am told that Mr. Mitchell charged the Editor with unfairness, because a letter written by him on a religious issue had not been published. He, however, was not prepared to go to the length of moving a vote of no confidence in the Editor.

Mr. Freeman. In answer to the allegations of unfair editorial management, I understand, invited Mr. Mitchell to move a vote of no confidence in him as Editor. Mr. Mitchell, I am further advised, declined to take this course, whereupon Mr. Freeman, on behalf of the editorial committee, offered Mr. Mitchell the opportunity of editing "Salient" himself, for two weeks, an offer which Mr. Mitchell accepted.

This is how the matter was represented to me, and if it has been faithfully represented. I consider Mr. Freeman, unthinkingly, did a foolish thing. By the arrangement entered into between him and Mr. Mitchell, no finality regarding the good or bad conduct of editorial policy can be obtained. Finality on that point is what the Student Body desires, in my opinion, and I think Mr. Freeman by his action temporarily abdicated a position which was morally unassailable. That was weakness.

The responsibility lay with Mr. Freeman to force Mr. Mitchell to go on with the motion of no confidence. Even, if need be, arranging for the pro forma moving of the resolution in order that it could receive the overwhelming defeat which it merited. After the resolution had been defeated. Mr. Freeman's offer to Mr. Mitchell could then have been made, when it would have been a gesture of bigness.

J. P. Lewin.

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In Reply:

If Mr. Lewin refers to the report of the Annual General Meeting in the last "Salient" (which, of course, was not available to him when he wrote) he will see that the only charge that I made that may be taken to be an allegation of "unfair editorial management." was "That contributions to 'Salient' which expressed different views from those held by the staff mainly responsible for "Salient's" production were deliberately withheld." Those who were at the meeting will agree that the only contributions I was referring to were the two letters I sent in. In the light of the explanation which Mr. Freeman has since given me I now admit that they were not withheld because of their views. The first was not published because the appropriate parts of the paper were filled before it came in; and the second was deemed to be irrelevant. (See page 2). Hence I now withdraw any part of my charges which might be considered to imply "unfair editorial management."

I did not wish to move a vote of no confidence because I considered at the time that there would have to be a prima facie charge of unfairness before I should be justified in doing that, and I was not satisfied even then that such a charge could be made. I might have maintained in support of a no confidence motion that the paper

through the nature of its subject-matter and its failure to give representative points of view does not conform with the ideas held by the majority of the students as to what a University paper should be: but proof of that was not then available, and it then seemed doubtful in view of the failure of the said majority to come forward with its views whether the staff could be held responsible for their non-expression.

Mr. Lewin goes on to criticise Mr. Freeman for his action in issuing the challenge. I shall leave it to Mr. Freeman himself, if he thinks it necessary, to reply to that part of the letter; but I should like to question Mr. Lewin's assertion that the arrangement cannot lead to any finality regarding good or bad conduct of editorial policy.

Already the abnormally large number of contributions received for this issue (enough to fill the paper much more than twice over) shows that the guest-editorship has achieved what has hitherto been impossible: it has bestirred many of those opposed to "Salient" to write; and we ask that now they have started they will not quickly leave off.

Next week we mean to do more. Our main feature will be a "Symposium on Salient"—a symposium of the opinions of representative students on "Salient" as it has been up to now, and on how, if at all, it could be improved. If that furnishes no ideas on editorial policy the fault will be entirely with the students.

—W. S. Mitchell.

"Stage Door"

Art critics assembled in the Gym. on Thursday, and more importantly on Friday, to review the "Stage Door" presentation by the V.U.C. Dramatic Club. They showed early signs of being seduced by the feminine charms displayed on the stage, hence their beautiful clear critical faculties were benumbed. The charms, we must admit, were somewhat self-consciously displayed, but nevertheless we hope everyone enjoyed the evening after the play. If you wish to advertise, if you want friends—or more friends—go on to the 'Varsity stage.

On this stage there are always two types—the out-and-out University type, which is in everything and is, of course, out of place on the stage, but which, because of the out-and-outness, gives us pleasure; and the type which is mercifully able seriously to lose its identity once behind the footlights. This is, of course, the true stuff.

The honours went to both types on Friday night. Margaret Freeman as Terry played the lead. As one of the audience said, "You're got something there!" Certainly Margaret was the only person from whom the shell of University completely fell. In her acting there is just a hint of subtlety which we find far from commonplace, a certain gilding over that is necessary. Although not sensitive enough, a more introspective glance at her part next time may accomplish a great deal for her. Because complete self consciousness is the beginning of art. However, we do not believe that the University stage is becoming as serious as this.

Helen Reay as Jean managed to pull off a glamorous part quite successfully, although she bordered on hysteria now and then. There was another thing that struck us as unpleasant—the voices. Towards the end nearly all became hoarse and strident. Whether or not this was due to the effect of affecting the American twang we do not know, but we imagine it to have been a huge effort and the play to have been better without it.

It was obvious that the most elementary rule of the stage, i.e., sitting with the legs correctly disposed of, had been carefully attended to. But we noticed an inordinate and vulgar desire to bustle through the love scene. Also the kiss was nursery-like—it smacked. This bustle, however, was not manifested in the bedroom scene, where they were inclined to dally! The feat of issuing undressed from behind a wisely-placed screen was magnificently and simply accomplished, without any clumsiness whatsoever. We learned one lesson from this and various other similar scenes; that satin is the ideal material for all night wear. . . .

Others who pleased us were Ngaire Carver as Kaye, with a bit of heavy weather stuff to play; Irene English as the inevitable Mattie in a dustcap, and Geraldine Kean and Helen Maysmor, mostly because they had something funny to say. There were various vocal parries and thrusts cleverly executed.

The men were definitely not at home with their women. . . . However, perhaps they had become badly shuffled up. Keith (Ian Allan) had a pleasant stage presence, while the great [*unclear*: Gretzl] (Malcolm Grey) although taking his seat as if he had a tail between his legs, showed promise with a certain vigour.

Whole-heartedly we thank the producer and the cast for a splendid show. And we rejoice to find, breaking through it all, something, in several individuals, permanent and true.

The dance held after the show on Friday night was equally a success, and most of us stayed until the end of a very enjoyable evening.

—L.C.A.

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Modern Drama

On Wednesday last, Mr. Ralph Hogg delivered a very interesting talk on Modern Drama to the members of the Phoenix Club.

Mr. Hogg gave a concise account of the evolution of modern drama, and the rapid progress it has made within the last thirty years; of the effect the technical side of the stage has had on the artistic; and of the change from the use of verse to that of prose. He thinks, with Somerset Maugham, that there will be a return to verse because of its greater emotional power. Mr. Hogg outlined briefly the differences between the plays which make you think and those which make you think you are thinking; the type of play which presented modern problems which were solved by the "deus ex machina" method, and those which attempted some solution. In the discussion which followed, the usual American-British comparison arose, and the mind of the British public was once more shown to be incomprehensible. The merits and demerits of the plays of W. D. Auden. Granville-Darker. Somerset Maugham, and Noel Coward were discussed intelligently and freely.

This talk and discussion was informally informative; the dullest would have been interested, and the brightest could not have been bored. Yet the attendance was very poor.

—W.B.

N.Z. under Labour

It may be of interest to the readers of "Salient" to make a review of the effect of the policy of Labour in New Zealand. As Labour at the present time is at the cross-roads, it may lead either to far-reaching changes in that policy, or to the eclipse of the Labour Party.

One of the most discussed results of Labour policy has been the disappearance of the overseas funds. Labour has stated that this is mainly due to "unpatriotic Capitalists" removing their moneys from the country. The opposition stated that this "flight" was due to the heavy spending of the Labour Party on unnecessary public works. In the writer's opinion, what Labour has given as the cause is really only one of the effects, and the Nationalist contention cannot account for the complete drop in funds. It seems curious that very few at this time remember some figures which were published at the time of the recent elections, and were, it is believed, compiled from the New Zealand Year Book.

These figures showed that out of the total population of New Zealand, one-third was supported by the remaining two-thirds, or that approximately only one million of New Zealanders are engaged in productive work. In a small country such as ours, such a state of affairs must mean economic instability. It appears to the writer that even had Labour successfully evaded the present situation, a crash would have come sooner or later.

Turning to the effect of the Labour Policy on the workers themselves, it can be reasonably stated that the indebtedness of the average worker has increased in proportion to the rise in both wages and costs. It is admitted that an article generally costs him more, but his increased wages have also given a false sense of security, with the result that the hire-purchase system of buying goods has grown out of all proportion to the worker's wealth. The average worker will be able to keep his head above water if the present standard of wages is maintained, but a country such as ours cannot hope for ever to hold its wages higher than those of the countries which are in competition with us.

An effect of the increased buying, as well as of the recent social laws, has been to decrease the amount put aside for old age and dependants, which means that the average worker to-day has no reserve to fall back upon in case of depression, or if the present social laws, for any reason, do not come into operation. As a result, though the workers at the present are better off. Labour's policy may lead them to disaster.

—E.C.

"Farsity Fables" No. 1

Once there was a Young Varsity Student Who Wanted to be a Big Noise in Student Affairs. So a Meeting of Students was called and He Was Appointed a Candidate of the Full Time Students for the Forthcoming Student Elections. Also He Wrote Hundreds of Words to the College News Organ, and Wore His Pants Back to Front in order to Attract Attention. Finally He Became Such an Extraordinary Phenomenon that One Day the Executive Noticed Him and were Terribly Upset about it. So They Put "Grievances of Full Time Students" on

the Agenda for the Annual Meeting. Now the Young Student was Caught on the Hop by This, because though He Had Talked Grandly of the "Many Legitimate Grievances of My Constituents" He had Not Expected that He would have to Name Them. So He Thought Furiously, and Read "Truth" Carefully, and Finally Decided to Say that the Executive Were Fossilized Shell-Backs; that a Drinking Fountain should be Provided for Those Whose Mouths Could Not Fit the Taps; that All the Lawyers and Accountants on the Executive Did Not Know What They were Doing.

However, the Young Student was Only a Geologist and His Talents and Training were Confined to Fossils and Shells and Grisly Relics. Hence He could Not be Expected to Hold His Own in an Argument with a Lawyer, an Accountant and a Journalist; and Since He did Not Verify His Facts Before He Came to the Annual Meeting He Was Blown Out Thereat Almost before He had Opened His Mouth. This was Very Unfortunate for His Figure because Every Time He Said Something He was Very Soon Compelled to Swallow His Words; and thus He Became So Full of Wind that He Closely Resembled an Inflated Sausage Skin. At This Point Someone Stuck a Pin into Him and When the Air had Cleared after the Explosion there Remained Only a Wrinkled Mass of Thick Hide Flattened Out on the Floor.

Moral. Do not Rush in Where Angels Fear to Tread.

—Æsopht.

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Sport

The Old, Old Story

Once again this year 'Varsity has just failed to get there. Beaten in football, cricket, hockey, basketball—in every sport where team-work plays an important part! Is it, then, in a lack of team-work that we find the reason for our repeated failures?

Every follower of University sport will tell you that the players are above the average in ability, experience, and enterprise. Yet, as all who saw last Saturday's Senior football match will tell you, time and time again, they are beaten by an inferior team.

It seems, then, throughout University sport, there is a lack of that co-operation and willingness to place team interest above all personal ambitions, that means the difference between Defeat and Victory. It is, however, a fault that can be remedied, provided the players are willing to think of themselves, not as individuals, but as part of a team—to work as a team, for that team, and an ideal.

—S.N.B.

Rugby

Senior A. V. Oriental.

Lost 8-9

After a great victory over Petone last week it was confidently expected that the Seniors would settle down and produce the form that carried all before them in the opening game of the season against Eastbourne. The most consistent feature of the team's play has been its amazing inconsistency, and such proved the case again on Saturday. Reversing their usual custom of enjoying the "Varsity loaf" in the second half, the forwards seemed tired and sluggish in the first; but after half-time, an orange, and Jim Parker, put some much-needed devil into their work. The result was a complete domination of the Oriental scrum. Burke and the two Shannons were in everything that was going, but the backs individually were too much inclined to "play the whole team on their own." The essence of good Rugby is team work, and it was the ignoring of this factor which cost the side a win on Saturday. It has proved an expensive lesson, however, as a win next week against St. Patrick's Old Boys might well have meant promotion to the "Bix Six" for the second round.

Junior A

Junior A had a convincing win over Technical Old Boys by 15-6. This is a particularly well balanced side, and with a little more determination in the forwards, and a sharpening up of the service behind the scrum will have a very fair chance of winning the grade. The pack is fast and weighty, Smith, Webb, and Corkill being slightly more prominent than the others. With plenty of speed in the three-quarter line, the backs are a solid lot and should prove more than capable of holding Bryers and Co. of Training College. The meeting of those teams promises to provide first class football, and would make a splendid curtain raiser for Athletic Park.

Junior B.

A fairly strong side on paper. Junior B has so far failed to give the results of which the team is capable. Individually the men are good, but in typical 'Varsity fashion, team-work and combination have been sadly lacking. The pack is solid but, with the notable exception of Gordon Duncan, lacks "devil." Duncan impresses as being one of the most promising forwards in the club. Big and fast, he possesses a good pair of hands in the line-out and his rucking and scrummaging are first class. Hood, McLernon, and Austin are others who have been playing good football this year. Of the backs, Saxton has developed into a good three-quarter and fully deserved his promotion to the Junior A's on Saturday. Fitzpatrick has been invaluable at half, and first five-eighths Doug, Gerrard is very safe. The loss of Hay at full back has been a severe handicap to the side, but if a suitable substitute can be found, the team will undoubtedly turn on those improved performances of which it is fully capable.

Junior C.

The social team continued on its winning way on Saturday, and is rapidly developing into a side well up to the standard of the best of its predecessors no mean praise, as V.U.C. "socialists" in the past have produced some splendid teams. The scrum is solid and hard-working—an unusual feature in this type of team, Halpin, one of the most improved forwards in the club, is playing great football this year, while Moore, too has been prominent of late. Campbell at half has made some fine solo runs, and Feltham and R. Jeffs are also going well. It seems a pity that Palmer, ex-Hawkes-Bay-Rep., and last year's senior five-eighth is not taking his football seriously this year. A young player, with years of good football in him, it is to be hoped that next year will find him training once more with the senior XV.

—O.J.C.

Men's Hockey

Playing on sodden ground against a side that made not the slightest pretence of sportsmanship, the senior side thoroughly deserved its win on Saturday, and even at this stage of the season, seems assured of regaining its place in the first division.

With two experienced players in sharp and Hobson absent, the team nevertheless showed a marked improvement. Much of this is due to the efforts of Whitham at left half who despite his inexperience, shows more ability and enterprise than most of his older team-mates. It is to be hoped that he will remain in the side as he is undoubtedly the most promising of the younger players. It is most unfortunate that this year many of the players in the lower trades are being overlooked—mainly because of an unwillingness to dispense with the services of older players, whose play no longer warrants their inclusion in the side. The club would be well advised to adopt a better method of team selection next season if it hopes to make any progress.

The Senior Reserves I is a side that deserves better success than that achieved for it has a good

combination, and an excellent team spirit both on and off the field. At goal, Olive was invaluable, and his departure is very much regretted—he is a sterling sportsman and a great wit. Sandford and Walker are playing well at full backs, but stronger hitting by both would be a recommendation. Good, Whitham, and McIntosh make a formidable half line. They should however pay more attention to positional play and avoid bunching. Crisper hitting would also improve their play. In the forwards, Renouf and Bryan have been playing consistently well, while Williams has been invaluable in the wing. The team has good material, and "Salient" wishes them "good shooting."

Women's Hockey

There is one thing that is admirable in any sports team—the ability to be beaten and still come up smiling. It certainly cannot be said of our girls that they have been wanting in that respect.

It is indeed regrettable that they are playing in a grade obviously not in keeping with their experience, and they would do well to profit by the example of Canterbury College by building up their strength in the lower grades before competing with teams who have had years of practice, training, and team work behind them.

The Victoria girls, however, deserve the greatest praise, for they have all the essentials of team work and enthusiasm that, with a little help from the right quarters, would develop them into an efficient team. We cannot speak too highly of the way in which they have stood up to the most trying conditions, when outplayed in tactics and stick-work, but not in courage and tenacity by the strongest teams in Wellington.

Keep to it, girls!

—S.N.B.

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Ilott News

Jack sent the following telegram to Mr. Edgley intending that it should be read at the Annual Meeting. Unfortunately he was misinformed as to the date, and the wire arrived late, but we print the text to show that "Jack's the Boy."

"Edgley, Students' Association University, Wellington. Best wishes for successfully controversial lively Annual Meeting Stop To incoming Executive felicitations. To unsuccessful candidates commiserations. To outgoing Executive congratulations Stop My apologies for first non-attendance in five years but pulling wethers out of snowdrifts only allows time for impassioned addresses to animal rather than student audiences Stop Regards to all from the Good Shepherd. Jack Ilott."

Table Tennis

Should a Dramatic Club have preference over a Table Tennis Club? That was the all-important question raised when a certain member of the theatrical clique interviewed the Table Tennis Club Committee vainly endeavouring to persuade them they should relinquish their rights to use the gymnasium in favour of a production which was evidently so far behindhand that it needed every night for two weeks, regardless of the interests of any other club.

The mere fact that it had the use of the gym every other night was not sufficient. No! The production would not go across unless it had it every night. No! They would not be met half way. The D.C. interests must come first, and they could not compromise. Was not this mighty production eagerly awaited far and wide in the University world? Would not these countless numbers of enthusiastic play-goers be doomed to disappointment if Mabel or [*unclear*: Maisie] crossed her legs in the wrong place? What were the rights of a few more table tennis players where the all important Dramatic Club was concerned?

But it was not to be. Club night went on as usual; and the pleasant sound of bat meeting ball mingled with the voices of actors and actresses on a curtained stage.

And it all goes to show—the need for a bigger and better Students' Building where the requirements of all can be catered for.

—S.N.B.

Basketball

Congratulations to Alison Stewart of the Senior B team who has been selected to travel to Christchurch with the Rep. Team; and to Marie Walker who is one of the nineteen from whom the Senior A Reps, are to be chosen.

Varsity Senior A upset several forecasts in the Tournament played under International Rules last Saturday.

With one round still to play, the University seven are equal with Kia Ora, both teams having suffered only one defeat. Despite unfamiliarity with the rules, our girls appeared to adapt themselves admirably; or was the rain the cause? The accurate shooting of Joy Osborne helped. It is only to be hoped that the team will continue the good work in the final round.

The Senior B team suffered defeat from Training College. This was disappointing, in view of their recent improvement. Unfortunately, there still seems to be difficulty in getting the ball into the goal third.

The Third Grade team is more settled at last, holidays and illness having been serious handicaps and it is indeed pleasing to see that they are playing more up to standard now.

Harriers

Who was the harrier on Saturday who caused a bystander to exclaim. "Gawd! He's lost his pants!"? We would hasten to assure readers that he hadn't and that everything was quite all right, that time.

With chilling showers, and bitterly cold temperature, conditions were far from pleasant for the eight mile run from Berhampore to Island Ray last week-end. Perhaps, then, it was the inducement of a cheery welcome, and a hot cup of tea at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Scrymgeour that resulted in so fast a pace being maintained. In the fast pack. O'Flynn and Morpeth were always prominent, while Irving, better known in the Athletic Club, showed surprisingly good form in the medium pack. Cumber, new to the club, was well to the fore and should be seen in the fast pack in the future.

Another prominent member was Harry Bowyer, whose place of fifth for the club in the Dorne Cup was all the more meritorious in view of his newness to cross country running.

This year, New Zealand University Championships will be run on August 19th. Already the keener members are training strenuously. For the others, there is still time to start, so what about it? Wednesday evenings at Weir House, 7 p.m.

Au Revoir, Ted Blacker

Saturday night saw a gathering of the clans to farewell a stalwart of the Football Club, and "Father" of social cricket for footballers in the College. One of the best forwards in the memorable 1928-29 teams, he repped when only 17. His unbounded energy and enthusiasm was invaluable as a member of the Students' Executive; and for this alone he will long be remembered. It is indeed fitting that a proposal to nominate him as life Member of the Club should be carried with the greatest enthusiasm ever accorded a recipient of that honour.

"Salient" joins with the Football Club in wishing Ted all the best in his new position and a speedy return to Wellington.

What about Golf?

It is time that something was done about Golf in the University of New Zealand. There is a considerable number of players in the six colleges comprising the University, but no organisation exists to enable them to play as University Students. Overseas, golf is played extensively in the Universities and, in fact, a team of Oxford University golfers has toured the U.S.A. Let us therefore do something about New Zealand.

It has been suggested that golf should be included in the Easter Tournament, though this seems impracticable for three reasons :—

- The billeting list would be bumped up by at least 18. It is very difficult to arrange 180 billets at present, and the further burden would probably crush the billeting officer.
- The tournament committee would probably go nuts trying to run a tournament which is already almost too unwieldy.
- So many other important tournaments are held at Easter that it would be hard to attract our scratch players to participate in our own Tournament.

Nevertheless, a New Zealand University Golf Tournament run separately from the Easter Tournament, at some time later in the year, would indubitably be popular. The holder of the title of "New Zealand University Champion" would need to play very well to gain this honour and I am sure our champion would be regarded with respect on any golf course in New Zealand. At the present time, to be N.Z.U. Champion one would have to beat Graham (V.U.C.). North Island Champion, and Gibbs (O.U.). runner-up in the New Zealand Amateur Championship last October.

Organisation.

First, a club should be formed at V.U.C. This does not imply that we should rent a course, or do anything expensive, but it would give us an official position in our negotiations with other Colleges.

Secondly, a meeting should be held, attended by representatives of all colleges, for the purpose of forming a New Zealand University Golf Council. which should be affiliated to N.Z.U.S.A. and the N.Z. Golf Council.

In my opinion, the first job of the University Golf Council would be to institute and successfully establish a N.Z. University Tournament. This in itself is sufficient to occupy the golf brains of the University for a year or so. Once established, the tournament would, we feel sure stay; but many matters must be investigated and considered carefully before a tournament becomes an established fact.

Inter-Varsity Match.

We suggest that an inter-Varsity match could probably be played concurrently with the tournament. V.U.C. could this year field a good team, comprising such players as David Graham (scr.), present N.I. Champion; John Graham (2), Feilding Club Champion; Rex Burnard (4); G. T. Rapley (5); T. A. Tarrant (5); and Manley (6). Such a team would give the other colleges much to think about, and we hope that something is done very soon to give them such a headache.

—F.D.C.

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1939 N.Z.U. Rugby Blues

New Zealand Blues were gained this year by Burke, McNicol, and Hansen. In a forward side that literally overwhelmed Canterbury on the King's Birthday, the inclusion of this trio is some reflection of the general excellence of all the packs in the club. McNicol has further strengthened his chances as an All Black prospect for next year by his slashing game for the Wellington reps, against Taranaki last Wednesday. Mac has already represented Wanganui and King Country, and a little improvement on his present form should at least carry him into the trials in September.

Over the last three weeks, Burke's form, both in his all round forward play and as a hooker, has been well up to representative standard. His lack of weight does not detract from the all-round quality of his game, and it was unfortunate that Lambourne was not in the Petone scrum last week, when the merits of the two men could have been definitely decided. Hansen, better known perhaps as the skipper of the V.U.C. Rowing Eight, is a good solid forward whose hard work in-the tight, and rugged determination in the loose should carry him to higher honours in the next year or two.

—O.J.C.

Here and There

Playing brilliant football for the Hawkes' Bay Representatives is Phil Reid, V.U.C. five-eighth of 1936. He will be a strong contender for next year's All Black side. Remember the brilliant game he played for the Bay against Wellington last year?

In the Badminton world, Eric Roussel has gained fresh honours. This time it is the N.Z. Team to tour Australia.

Another ex-Varsity man has also gone "Onward and Upward"—C. E. Malfroy whose defeat of H. Lee ranked eighth in English Tennis is particularly meritorious.

C. G. "Fat" Rae has been playing brilliant football this year behind the Senior scrum. Repetition of his sterling displays against Hutt and Petone will make him a strong contender for a place in this year's rep. side.

Malc. Mason, who fractured a rib while playing for the Social team, is up and about again. The "Socialists" will miss his powerful voice and "shrewd" tactics.

A. R. Gibson: Ballerina and star crooner of John Carrad's shows. "Gibby" has recently transferred to Palmerston North. A Weir Committee-man and organiser of its social team, he took a prominent part in the social side of University life. His re-union with Brian Turnbull in Palmerston North should prove a memorable affair.

J. P. Eastwood, N.Z.U. Rugby three-quarter and 100 and 440 yards champion has returned to Masterton to join his brother K. E. (N.Z.U. 440 Champion 1929) in his accountancy business. A fine track man and a brilliant footballer Eastwood was recently described as "Rugby Glamour Man No. 1." If Jim takes his football seriously, his chances of going to Africa must be extraordinarily good. Best of luck anyhow, Jim.

Last year's Senior B lock. "Tiny" Armour is playing good football for the Wairarapa Rep. side this season. Congratulations, Alex.

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Things to Come

- Biological Society Films.—Physics Lecture Room on Friday, July 7, at 8 p.m.
- Fancy Dress Ball.—Training College on 7th July.
- The Ascent of F6.—Training College on July 13, 14, 15.

Next Saturday

Rugby.

- Seniors v. S.P.C.O.B, Athletic Park. 1.15 p.m.
- Junior A. v. Training College, Kelburn.
- Junior B v. Institute, Wakefield 2.
- Junior C v. Petone. Wilford School.
- Third A v. Silverstream, Silverstream 1.
- Third B v. Athletic. Wakefield 6.

Harriers.

- To meet at Evans Bay Bathing Sheds, 2.15 p.m.

Basketball.

- Senior A v. Wellington East O.G., Mt. Cook, 1:30 p.m.

Hockey.

- Seniors v. Karori 2, Hutt Park, 1.40 p.m.
- Senior Reserves 1 v. Petone, Karori 2, 3 p.m.
- Senior Reserves 2 v. Taubman's, Karori 8, 3 p.m.
- Juniors v. Warriors, Karori 3, 3 p.m.
- Thirds v. Wesley, Hutt Rec., 1.40 p.m.
- Fourths 1 v. Wesley, Karori 3, 1.40 p.m.
- Fourths 2 v. Hutt 2, Karori 5, 3 p.m.

Unfortunately no Tramping Club news can be published this week. Take it whichever way you like. It has been suggested that we form a Badminton Club at Varsity. Can it be done? Any further suggestions are only too welcome.

Wanted: A correspondent to report mid-winter activities of the Swimming Club. No "pikers" need apply.

Lost: One waterproof ground-sheet; Friday night in vicinity of cemetery or Botanical Gardens. Finder please notify Tramping Club.

The Week's Pun.

"Much has to be sunk in ships in order to transport goods over long distances." Dr. Heine

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